

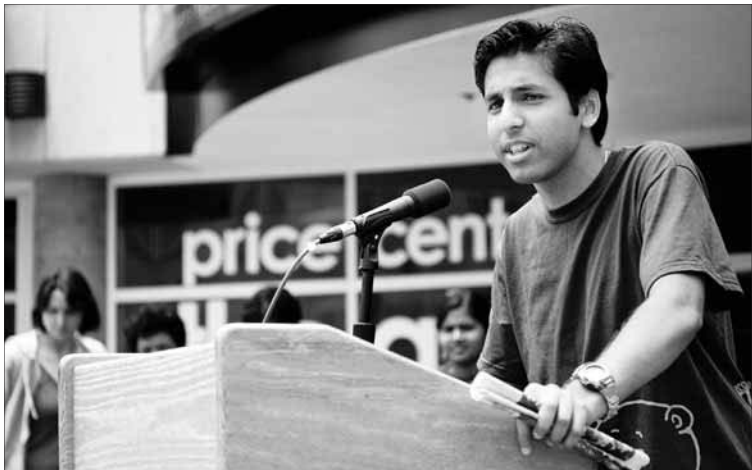
A.S. Council Begins Budget Talk

Gupta presents spending, saving proposals a week in advance; council to approve final plan by tenth week.

By Jesse Alm
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The A.S. Council's annual budget talks got off to an early start last night, when new President Utsav Gupta proposed a structural overhaul that would delay most financial allocations until Fall Quarter and modify the council's savings plan.

Traditionally, the council approves the president's allocations to events, programs, enterprises and student organizations during ninth week of Spring Quarter. But Gupta said last night that these decisions are always based on estimations, since campus enrollment figures and the council's financial carry-forward are not final-



JOSEPH HO/GUARDIAN
A.S. President Utsav Gupta touched on plans for his 2009-10 budget at a press conference in Price Center Plaza May 18. His proposal includes additional savings and the delay of allocations.

ized until fall.

Not to mention, he added, three weeks in office does not afford much time for deliberation.

"Oftentimes, we just copy and paste the old budget because that's

convenient and it's all we have time to do," Gupta said. "That's not the smartest way to allocate."

His solution is to limit spring allo-

See **COUNCIL**, page 3

THE HUMANS ARE DEAD



JOSEPH HO/GUARDIAN
The Flight of the Conchords, New Zealand's self-proclaimed third-most-popular folk comedy duo, descended on RIMAC Arena last night.

Voters Reject Propositions Aimed at Filling Budget Gap

California faces \$21.3 billion deficit after five of six fix-it measures are defeated in special election.

By Kimberly Cheng
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

California voters soundly rejected five of six ballot measures in the state's special election Tuesday, barring the Legislature from relocating funds as a short-term fix to the current budget crisis.

The only measure that passed — by an overwhelming 74 percent of voters — was Proposition 1F, which will freeze salaries of state lawmakers during deficit years. Because California will be \$21.3 billion in the red beginning July 1, this will include 2009-10.

"The message was loud and clear," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "An overwhelming majority of people told Sacramento, 'Go and do your work yourself. Don't come to us with your problems.'"

Propositions 1A-1E, which were rejected by more than 60 percent of voters, sought to reach mandatory funding goals by redirecting roughly \$5.9 billion toward the state's general-revenue funds.

Proposition 1A would have established state spending caps and prolonged recent tax increases, while Proposition 1B attempted to cushion future cuts to education by requiring the state to pay \$9.3 billion toward California K-12 schools and community colleges. Propositions 1C-1E would have borrowed money from

California lottery profits, California Children and Families Commission reserves and mental-health program funds, respectively.

Because of the failure of Propositions 1A and 1B, California's public colleges and universities will be subject to additional cuts in state support of up to 10 percent. The University of California will be hit with a \$765 million slash to top off the \$115 million cut to the system that was announced three months ago.

"Such severe budget reduction, following years of chronic underfunding, would force the university to weigh a number of stark choices," UC President Mark G. Yudof said in a statement. "At this point, all options must be placed on the table for consideration at some point in the future."

According to Yudof, these options include slicing enrollment, academic programs and student services while boosting student fees and class sizes, in addition to pay reductions or furloughs for university employees. The failure of the ballot measures will also trim state support

for student aid. Jack Pitney, a political-science professor at Claremont McKenna College, said state lawmakers will have little choice but take funds from politically sacred avenues such as education, since the public seems to want more

See **BUDGET**, page 3

►► **READ ON**

Page 4: An editorial on the results

TRANSFER-HOUSING PROJECT ENTERS SECOND PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION

North Campus Housing plans — including a restaurant and adjacent market — sit five months ahead of schedule.

By Kelly Pleskot
STAFF WRITER

Construction began Monday on phase two of the North Campus Housing project, which cost over \$97 million and is expected to provide housing for 807 transfer students upon completion in fall 2011.

The second phase of the project consists of erecting seven buildings ranging from one to 13 sto-

ries in height. Once construction is complete, there will be 146 four-, five- and six-bedroom apartments for students and two three-bedroom apartments for staff.

This phase of construction will also include a bistro — the Strand — and an adjacent market. Building plans also allot space for a centralized reception area, conference and meeting rooms, administrative offices and maintenance and custodial spaces.

According to Housing and Dining Services Director Mark Cunningham, construction is five months ahead of schedule.

Overall, this phase of construc-

See **HOUSING**, page 2

North Campus Housing

OCT. 2007	Construction crew breaks ground.
MAY 2009	Project enters second phase.
SEPT. 2009	Projected completion.



DANIEL CADDELL/GUARDIAN
Under construction since October 2007, the North Campus Housing facility will cater specifically to transfer students, but may be opened to nontransfer undergraduates if space permits.

HIATUS Better Than Swedish Fish

Scandinavian songbird and blatant romantic Jens Lekman spreads the love with comedian Tig Notaro.



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SPORTS Hitting the High Water Mark

Water polo: Senior Sydney Gstettenbauer ends her Triton career in style, tying the single-season goals record.



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ONLINE

Poll: What was your favorite part of the 2009 Sun God Festival?

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SUNNY-SIDE UP



BY PHILIP RHIE

TWO COKES SHORT



BY SAM PELLE

CURRENTS — Founding Chancellor Herb York Dies at 87

UCSD founding chancellor and world-renowned physicist Herbert F. York died May 19 at Thornton Hospital. He was 87.

Born in Rochester, N.Y., York obtained his Ph.D. in physics from UC Berkeley in 1949.

York's career as a scholar, researcher and diplomat spanned more than 60 years. He worked as a nuclear physicist with the Manhattan Project to develop the atomic bomb, and later advocated arms control and social responsibility.

York was the first director of the defense research and engineering department in 1947, served as an adviser to various presidents — beginning with Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1951 — and founded the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation in 1997.

"Herb was not only a leader of UC San Diego, he also was a world leader and had a global impact," Chancellor Marye Anne Fox said. "We will forever be grateful for his leadership and vision."

Complex Designed to Conserve Water, Electricity

► **HOUSING**, from page 1

tion will envelop over 266,000 square feet, encompassing parking lot P-357, located at Scholars Drive North and North Point Drive.

The first phase of construction is composed of eight buildings, taking up 370,000 square feet of space and includes a 14-story residential tower, a bookstore, cafe and space for 1,060 incoming transfer students who will move in fall 2009. It cost \$122 million to build.

Project Manager Mark Nelson said the goal is to house 2,000 transfer students per year.

"At this point, we don't see any real obstacles," he said. "We're doing OK financially."

However, Cunningham said the construction may affect vehicular traffic next fall.

"I expect the largest impact will be this fall, when we are completing phase one and moving in the residents while phase two is under construction," he said. "The site is fairly user friendly compared to some other projects on the campus, so I think the impact will be minimal."

He added that the new buildings

may also offer housing to nontransfer upper-division students, if space is available.

"The campus goal is to be able to provide a front-end, two-year guarantee to incoming transfer students like we do for our freshpersons, and within that goal, provide a community that can meet as many of their needs as possible," Cunningham said.

Community Coordinator Molly Hansen said that incoming transfer students would get priority housing in the new complex.

"If there's extra room, it'll go to the continuing [transfer] students," she said.

Associate Vice Chancellor of Design and Construction Boone Hellmann said the buildings include features designed to enhance their sustainability.

To help naturally regulate temperature, they will be primarily oriented in an east-west alignment.

They will also be installed with plumbing fixtures that promote low water usage, an efficient roof-drainage system for landscape irrigation and porous paving along the Strand's walkway. Low-emittance window

coating will allow for reduced energy usage.

The U.S. Green Building Council — a certification system that measures the capacity for buildings to save energy, conserve water and reduce carbon-dioxide emissions while preserving the quality of the indoor environment — has granted the project a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design "silver" rating. Cunningham hopes to achieve a "gold" rating by the end of the project.

Cunningham said he hopes the new housing development will help create a welcoming community for transfer students.

"My hope [is] that when this is completed, we have a neighborhood that everyone feels comfortable, safe and happy living in," he said. "I hope that every student living there has opportunities to be part of the neighborhood and takes advantage of those opportunities. Finally, I hope and believe we have brought a housing program that is very unique and relevant."

Readers can contact Kelly Pleskot at kpleskot@ucsd.edu.

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Props to the baseball team for advancing to the Division-II College World Series in Cary, N.C., for the first time in UCSD's history.

Flops to the San Diego County electorate for Tuesday's 30 percent voter turnout, despite California's budget crisis and an 83.7 percent turnout in November.



EDITORIALS

As Budget Bleeds, State Is Begging for a Cash Crop

Things are looking pretty dicey on the state budget front these days. Then again, everyone pretty much knew that already.

But that didn't stop voters on Tuesday from decisively rejecting five ballot measures designed to absolve at least part of the massive budget deficit that currently threatens to drag California's ailing economy all the way to the floor.

Proposition 1A, backed by higher-education leaders and most state officials, gained less than 40 percent approval. Propositions 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E fared no better. The only measure that did pass was Proposition 1F, which will implement a largely symbolic and ultimately useless cap on legislative salaries during deficit years.

Admittedly, these measures were a rather meek attempt at repairing California's leaky fiscal plumbing. With a budget deficit of over \$20 billion, the damage is much too deep for any such cosmetic financial maneuvering to have a meaningful impact.

However, this somewhat ill-conceived ballot package would have cleared up at least \$5 billion from the state's unsightly deficit and 1A would have steered California on a progressive path to future savings.

Unfortunately, the resounding defeat witnessed in this not-so-special election means that all we have to look forward to now is a new round of painful cuts, massive layoffs and the sinking feeling that results from being hurtled decisively back to square one.

Worst of all, California's seemingly perpetual budget drama means even less state funding for our cash-starved public universities next year. The University of California is fac-



ing at least \$320 million in cuts for the 2009-10 fiscal year, cuts that UC President Mark G. Yudof said will lead to larger class sizes, the inevitable onset of additional student-fee increases and a significant reduction in student services.

The problem lies deep within California's budgetary underpinnings. Right now, our state depends on volatile income taxes to provide over half of its annual revenue. There is little doubt that we need a more solid, more reliable, more consistent plan on which to base our economy. We need a regular source of income, one that doesn't falter under hazardous national economic woes or depend on the shady wheelings and dealings of an unregulated financial sector.

It may be time now to consider a more immediate solution, one that will generate cash for our state when we need it most. It may be time to

consider marijuana.

Before we get caught up in all kinds of stilted stereotypes, let's do ourselves a favor and forget the goofy "legalize it" campaigns, the dreadlocked demonstrators and the age-old "it's totally harmless" mantra.

Instead, let's think of it like corn. Or potatoes. Or tobacco. Or just about any other lucrative cash crop that generates millions of dollars each year for the states fortunate enough to harvest these valuable commodities.

The undeniable fact is that marijuana has the potential to dramatically boost our state economy. It represents a market that consistently rakes in billions of dollars each year. The demand is there, and what's more: The infrastructure is already largely in place. Expansive pot farms consume vast tracts of land in California's northern regions — farms that look ripe for government support and reg-

ulation — and the controversial cannabis clubs that continue to spring up statewide could easily be converted to dispensaries geared toward mainstream consumption.

With a national economy that has rapidly come to value services over production, it would be refreshing to see California foster a more traditional, agricultural-based approach to generating revenue. And with a budget situation that seriously threatens to derail our state's ability to provide for its citizens, it is necessary to consider new approaches to resolving this fiscal conundrum.

Help Your Dirty Kleenex Become One With Earth

As part of the UC Office of the President's plan to achieve a zero-waste university by 2020, students have been separating their food scraps into dining-hall compost bins since Fall Quarter, thanks to Housing, Dining and Hospitality at UCSD.



Down to Earth

Albert Luong

aluong@ucsd.edu

But as of now, the scraps are then tossed in with the trash because there isn't a place to compost the material yet.

"The composting program is a training program to get people used to the idea of separating their waste," said Krista Francis, sustainability manager for Housing, Dining and Hospitality.

Food scraps will be hauled to the Miramar landfill's composting facility once proper permits are obtained.

I wanted to see how the well the "training" was going, so I stationed myself by the numerous compost bins adjacent to the cafeterias in John Muir College, Revelle College and Earl Warren College.

I noticed bright yellow signs that read "Compost" with a description below: "Food (no bones), disposables (cups, plates, napkins), check the Web site for the full list." But the majority of students just ignored these instructions and tossed all their trash into the nearest bin.

At first, it sounds silly that we're being trained to compost, but this actually makes a lot of sense. Most of us don't normally separate our waste, and composting requires a change in our habitual behavior.

But this change won't happen if there isn't some understanding of why we should be doing it.

I talked to a couple students at the dining hall, and most of them didn't even know what compost is and why it makes a difference to throw a plastic wrapper in the trashcan and toss leftover food into the compost bin.

Compost is comprised of organic matter broken down into nutrients. As organic matter falls to the ground, it slowly decays and recycles minerals and nutrients needed for plants, animals and other organisms to thrive.

We can compost everyday items like paper napkins, apple cores, vegetable stalks and bread. But a good rule of thumb is that if it's made of natural ingredients (read: not plastic), it can be composted.

Once the material is collected, we can speed up the process by using worms (vermicomposting) or making piles that attract microorganisms that break down and return nutrients to the earth.

The plants and animals that we consume take nutrients from the soil, and compost is a way of replenishing the land's lost nutrients.

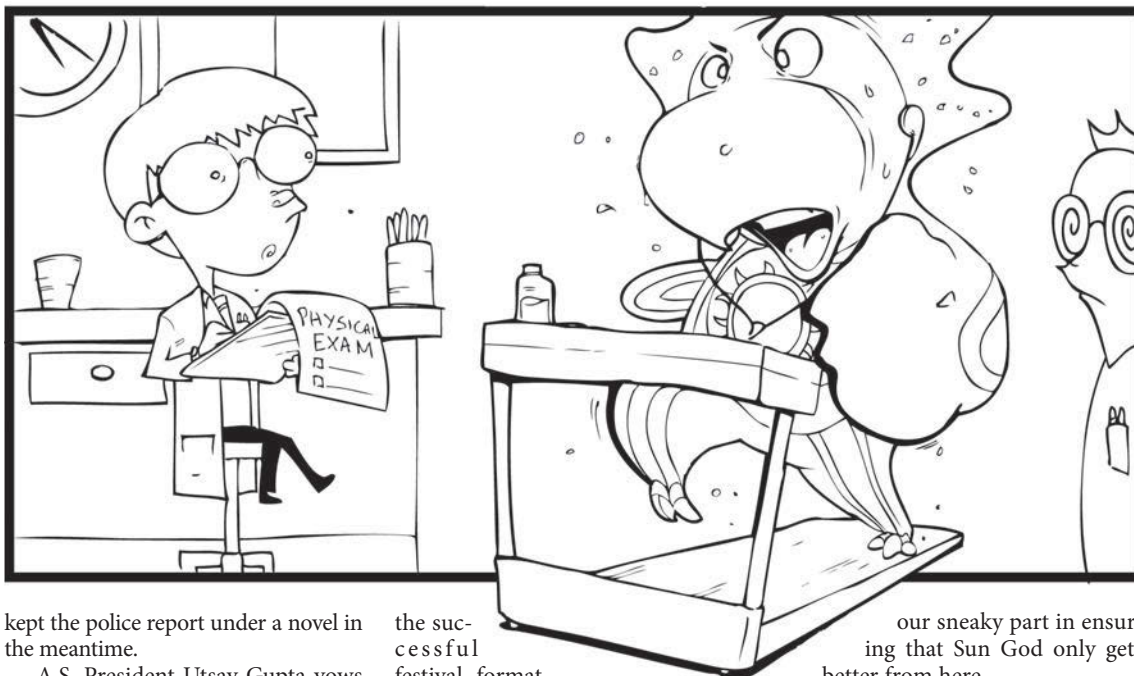
According to the Environmental Protection Agency, compost enriches the soil, helps clean up contaminated soil and helps prevent pollution. Composting for fertilizer

Turns Out the Wait Was Worth It — Sun God's Shaping Up

After last year's notorious let-down, the Sun God Festival of legend was back in almost full force last Friday in nearly every corner of campus. Classrooms were empty, topless girls were storming the water slide, fire was going down in hoops and swallows in the Midway Tent and rolls upon rolls of toilet paper were flying over a crowd of sweaty, moshing students in the Dance Tent worshipping the mighty Girl Talk.

Although this year's festival was — like last year — officially confined to RIMAC Field, the A.S. Concerts and Events Office deserves our sincerest thanks for throwing the party of the year, even if it meant sucking up additional activity fees and adopting a fun-in-the-sun aesthetic dangerously identical to Coachella's. But hey — Coachella is awesome. Especially when it's free, two minutes from your dorm and you get to see the curve-setter in your chemistry class dancing on stage in a headdress and loincloth.

Associate Vice President of Concerts and Events Garrett Berg had an entire university's worth of knives to his throat, under immense pressure from the student body to bring the all-out debauchery back while simultaneously ensuring administrators they wouldn't be left with thousands of dollars in fountain repairs and angry parental lawsuits come morning after. But with a few key changes — including unlimited in-and-out privileges and a lineup hot enough to motivate us over to RIMAC instead of passing out on the nearest grassy knoll — Berg and his office pumped out a festival that may not have been the uncaged T.I. landmark we'll tell our grandchildren about, but came damn close and



kept the police report under a novel in the meantime.

A.S. President Utsav Gupta vows he'll work with individual college councils to sponsor smaller events like barbecues on the day of the festival next year, and bring student-org booths back to Library Walk (though he's mysteriously dropped all that big talk of a day-of A.S. Bear Garden).

Only time will tell if administrators are capable of the miraculous change of heart Gupta will need to inspire in order to pull off such a large-scale plan. But in any case, it looks as if the days of various booths, stages and activities spread over Sun God Lawn and down to Price Center are probably not going to return in our day. That's not to say that Concerts and Events shouldn't build slowly and mischievously upon

the successful festival format

Berg and his team drew up for 2009 to mold the festival back into a campuswide affair. Though Student Center shenanigans saw a satisfactorily low level of regulation and the *Koala* never got their hose kinked for more than a few minutes (and the editorial board got lucky and found an opportune hose ready for the spraying in Price Center Fountain), the UCSD campus as a whole was depressingly deserted — in no small part thanks to that ridiculous wristband line.

Concerts and Events should streamline the wristband chore by employing multiple pickup locations and increasing the number of lanes at each station — and we should all do

our sneaky part in ensuring that Sun God only gets better from here.

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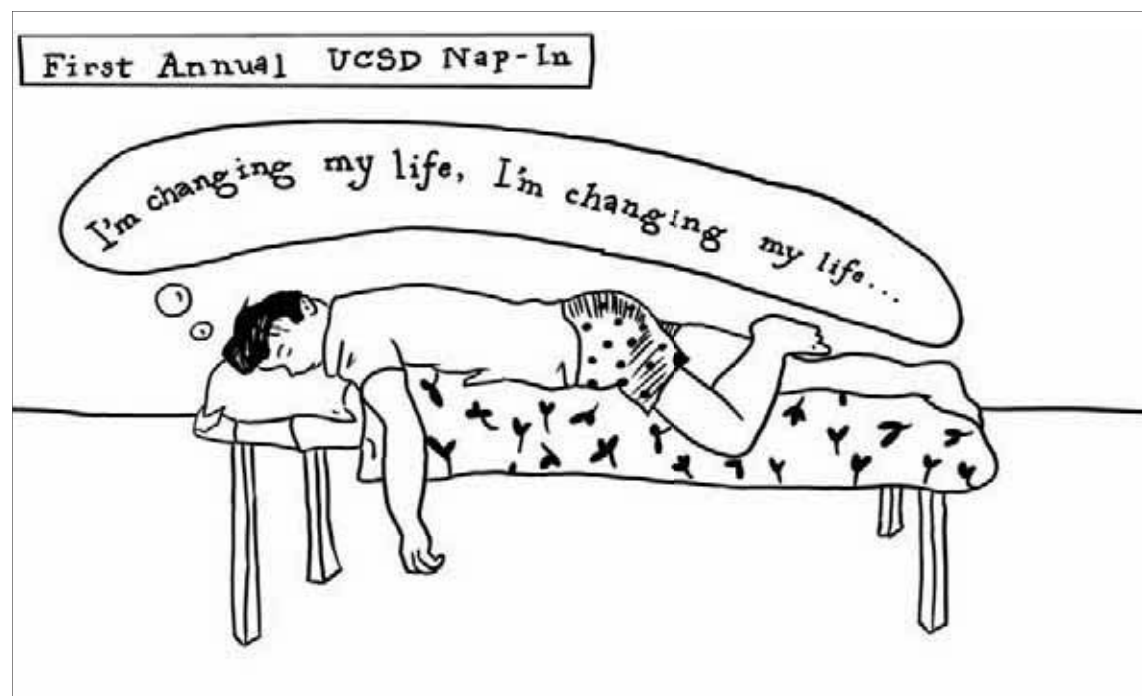
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OPINION EDITOR

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A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lázaro



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Graduation Celebration a Worthwhile Use of Funding

Dear Editor,

In response to Michelle Chin's "Exit Fees Won't Fly," we, as student co-chairs of the All-Campus Graduation Celebration, would like to address a few concerns. Chin left a few elements out of the story, including the fact that a 7 percent participation rate at last year's event was largely due to a last-minute cancellation by our keynote speaker, Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

The organizing committee is sensitive to event costs, making efforts to book a well-known alumni speaker who is not charging a fee and using money left over from last year to fund the event.

The idea for ACGC was originated by students. Because of student input, it was recommended in the Undergraduate Student Experience and Satisfaction Committee (USES) report.

This year, we expect nearly 3,000 graduating seniors, their families and friends to enjoy the festivities at ACGC, including a wine and cheese pre-reception, a short program featuring our keynote speaker and 1985 alumnus Mike Judge of "Office Space" and "King of the Hill" fame, and a post-reception with food, drinks, a performance by Lady Dottie and the Diamonds and farewell fireworks. None of these things were mentioned in the op-ed in last Monday's issue of the *Guardian*.

We hope that all seniors will take this opportunity to celebrate their

achievements at the event. ACGC will take place on June 12, at RIMAC Field from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the box office, FREE for graduating seniors and \$10 for guests.

— **Sarah Chang**
Revelle College senior

Veronica Fuog
Revelle College junior

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Those Pizza Scraps Are the Perfect Gift for Mother Nature

► **EARTH**, from page 4

can reduce the need for water and pesticides.

And compost has also been scientifically proven to suppress plant diseases and pests, reduce or eliminate the need for chemical fertilizers and produce higher yields of agricultural crops.

Since that half-eaten personal pizza you trash from Sierra Summit is relatively clean (you were the one eating it after all) and biodegradable, throwing leftover food scraps in landfills is a waste of space. Not to mention, discarded grub tends to generate methane (a potent greenhouse gas) while decomposing in a landfill, but doesn't do so in a compost bin.

By diverting waste, we can ease the strain on the nearby Miramar landfill and return nutrients to the land.

Even if you're not using composted soil, public agencies use it to landscape parks, recreational areas and public property, and to clean up contaminated or eroded areas. If you're composting at home, you can use your waste to enrich your garden.

A student group named the Compost Team has heeded the call of environmental stewardship and created a model of onsite composting here at UCSD.

Every weekday evening, several students arrive at Sierra Summit and truck the leftover vegetable scraps from meal preparations over to their compost site, which is located in a bamboo-fenced area next to the UCSD Challenge Course.

The setup includes several shovels, a few tumblers (raised drums for composting) and piles of decomposing matter. Students then unload the food scraps, combine them with mulch and cover the mixture with a tarp. Hungry microorganisms do the rest.

So why don't Compost Team members pick up the scraps in all dining-hall bins?

Considering that they already have a daily haul of 100 pounds of vegetable and fruit scraps from Sierra Summit's kitchen and 50 to 60 pounds from the Faculty Club, there simply isn't enough manpower to accommodate our waste.

It makes more sense to obtain a permit and haul the compost to an industrial off-campus site. It would be great to eventually have an on-campus composting site that could accommodate all of our food waste, but until we have enough manpower, the Compost Team will have to make an impact by educating students.

Because the best composter is an informed one, student-run grassroots movements are valuable. Simply providing bins without informing students as to why they're composting will only get our university so far.

Collaboration between the students and the university will make campus composting a reality, but progress starts with us.

Dining halls are providing the tools, but the students are the ones who need to have the proper mindset for composting to work.

By understanding how to compost, we can get over the unsightly issue of solid waste and gain a sense of environmental stewardship.

Composting fits into the idea of recycling, but also takes a step further because the product of this process can be directly beneficial to us.

Contrary to the out-of-sight, out-of-mind philosophy, an understanding of composting promotes awareness of organic wastes as potential resources rather than just as something gross to be thrown away and forgotten.

THE GUARDIAN

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TIGHTROPING
THE PIXELS
BETWEEN
TWO WORLDS

Lately, I've been interested in the notion of perceived reality: the idea that the world one person envisions is innately different from everyone else's. As opposed to physical or social realities, perceived ones are unique to the individual — that is, despite our existence and presence in a collective, physical world, we're also attached to personal fantasy in some way, fantasies that can dictate the direction of our lives. It's a testament to the mind's power of conviction: If you believe long and hard enough that something is real, then it becomes real.



Critical Hit!

PHILIP RHIE
prhie@ucsd.edu

Despite our interpretations of the world, though, we're still permanently confined to our physical limitations; our physical and social worlds are just as important as our perceptive ones. In fact, the harmony among said realities is what keeps us balanced and stable. So what about virtual realities?

The notion of a virtual reality is a contemporary phenomenon, and many great minds have since explored its equal potential for beauty and horror. If you could do anything or be anyone you wanted, why shouldn't you? Certainly, if you're allowed to do something you normally can't, then you should do it. As technology rapidly progresses, virtual realities are increasingly a part of our actual reality, and the questions regarding their simulated similarities have all but subsided.

I suppose I should clarify what I believe distinguishes virtual reality from virtual space: The latter is an environment wherein the distinction between the virtual and physical is constantly, consciously known.

Video games occupy virtual space. We, as players, are conscious that the character we're controlling is fabricated and distinctive from our own beings. In fact, the difference between a good game and a great one is how well the game allows us to empathize with a specified character (a distinction not just limited to video games).

Unlike video games, virtual realities blur the line between avatar and self; the characters we control become an extension of who we are. Essentially, everything we'd normally do on a day-to-day basis is instead carried out in a virtual environment. We're sowing the seeds of true virtual reality in the massively popular multiplayer online games out today, the most recognizable being World of Warcraft.

While one could argue against the social ramifications of WoW — during in the game's five years of existence, more than one person has certainly done so — I'd like to focus instead on its unique balancing act between virtual space and

JENS LEKMAN

SWEDEN'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR PLAYS OUR WEDDING



COURTESY OF SECRETLY CANADIAN

CONCERT PREVIEW

BY SIMONE WILSON
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

At first handshake, he's the ideal son-in-law: heartbreakingly polite, with a nice egg-like Euro noggin that'd look damn cute on the grandkids, a sharp whistle for emergencies and a back-pocket ukulele to entertain the extended family after dinner.

But Jens Lekman is the first to admit he's a disaster in disguise. He graffitied dirty words on your old man's Mercedes ("You Are the Light") and got frisky in the guest bedroom ("The Cold Swedish Winter") on 2004's *When I Said I Wanted to Be Your Dog*. He convinced you to run away from your frigid "mummy" of a mommy on between-album EP *USA October 2005*, then faked being your boyfriend altogether to protect your parents from finding out about your girlfriend ("A Postcard to Nina") on 2007's *Night Falls Over Kortedala*.

Few pasty Swedes have the oomph in their twee to nudge me into leaving home for a premature old age of holding hands and listening to each other's weird dreams on the seashore. But despite a pukeloid of winter-wonderland acoustics and one heck of an unhealthy addiction to puppy love, Lekman's got the teeth to sink his shameless pursuit. The pearly, shivering "Sweet

Summer's Night on Hammer Hill" — standout track on standout 2007 odds-and-ends LP *Oh You're So Silent Jens* — skips out on the big game to make an evening of rolling down Poppy Hill, getting all dewy in Shangri La distressed-girl choruses and knocking down the drunk marching band on its way home, landing in one giant heap of cymbals and giggly clarinet geeks.

Lekman's vocal harpsichords pluck themselves without relief, seldom evolving from puberty's tremble or the verge of tears, and his never-ending flipbook of anecdotes is enough to put angry spirals in our eyes and exclamatory symbols in the thunderclouds overhead. Not to mention those fucking finger snaps, which could be a form of friendly Scandinavian torture if stripped of the rest of Lekman's distracting tinks and jangles.

But for one small and amorous Tuesday night, his no-shame sermon will be just enough to bring your own gawky sweetheart to sleeve. Hey, he offered from the get-go: "If you ever need a stranger/ To sing at your wedding/ A last-minute choice/ Then I am your man."

Jens Lekman will perform live with Tig Notaro May 26 at the Loft.



COURTESY OF TIG NOTARO

TIG NOTARO

Few comedians (besides maybe Jon Stewart) can really pull off that thing where they stare at you after saying something slightly outlandish, then shift a little and stare at you some more, unafraid, for too long — and that's the entire punch line. But grumpy lesbo-next-door Tig Notaro pulls off the artfully awkward silence like a pro, equipped with a worried brow, hard jaw and hobbit shag (resembling, in her own words, "somewhere between Bruce Jenner and Baby Suri"), only breaking out the killer dimples when the second wave of laughter didn't echo just right.

Take this gem:

"I was walking through my neighborhood, I was walking down the sidewalk, and I was passing this guy. And right when we passed each other, he said to me, 'Ah. Them are little titties. I thought you was a man.' And it's like, OK. OK if you think that. And OK if you say that — to yourself. But that thought had to go through several layers of filters in his mind. And a checklist. And he still decided, 'Yeah, I'm gonna need to say this.' Like, think of all the things he decided not to say. Things like, 'Good afternoon.' Or, um, 'Oh — I was gonna say something, but I decided not to.' Nope. He went with, 'Ah. Them are little titties. I thought you was a man.'"

Believe me — it'll be a lot better with the awkward silence.

AVANT-GARDE COMPOSER INSPIRES SILENT SONGBOOK FOR NEW MUSIC CENTER

By Allie Cuervo

ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

Is the sound a blessing?" John Cage asked in 1966. UCSD's still kicking around the thought, courtesy of the Conrad Prebys Music Center and its (almost) unholy acoustics. Known also as God in the music department (and a comrade of Steven Schick), Cage made a name with uber-experimental music trips on jazz, noise and the quintessential "what if." Zen-inspired chance composing fuels a radical cacophony of life's ever-present blips, beeps and rushing distortion. On his controversial claim to fame, "4'33," the weirdness all clicks: The silence-shattering piece has been performed all over the world, and countless times at UCSD. On camera, it's truly contemporary — a full orchestra and conductor, armed with four minutes and 33 seconds of blank white pages. So how silent is silence? Guess we'll hear it out. *John Cage Songbook* will be performed live at Conrad Prebys Music Center on May 21 at 2:57 p.m.

ERIK JEPSSEN/GUARDIAN

(hip-hop) tracks

Cam'ron

"Get It in Ohio"

ASYLUM

★★

Even when he's mouthing off at other emcees, Cam'ron's inner poet is only mildly radical. Squeezed between subpar tracks and sloppy skits on brand-new album *Crime Pays*, "Get It in Ohio" features the Dipset don rapping at sloth speed about all things criminal and vaguely cryptic, behind an amateur hook that serenades a batch of narcotics bought in Ohio (which he rhymes with a mispronounced "gyro"). Then Cam cuts to the rest of his 23-piece with a BB-gun beat rattling in the background every time. It's been three years and four public beefs since Cam has won time on the airwaves ("Oh Boy," "Hey Ma"). Seems baby's teeth need more time to grow, 'cause not much has changed for rap's resident sourpuss.

— Edwin Gonzalez
ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

Eminem

"My Mom"

AFTERMATH/INTERSCOPE

★★★★

Maybe there's a reason why Em's been looking more and more like a butch lesbian in the tabloids — he's actually his mom. At least, that's what he claims on "My Mom," a tribute to painkiller addiction in standard Mathers sing-song: "Because my mom loved Valium and lots of drugs/ That's why I'm on what I'm on 'cause I'm my mom." *Relapse*, the celebrity-roasting rapper's first album in nearly half a decade, is coated in similar pill-popping cheekiness — an evaluation of his recent disappearance into drugs, alcohol and cellulite. The result is a mashup of the expected ("Hannah Montana" masturbation, chainsawing dicks off, Dre's huger-than-life beats) and the unexpected: a sober, almost grown-up criticism of therapy and self-destruction.

— Sonia Minden
HIATUS EDITOR

Guru

"Fastlane"

7 GRAND

★

The Guru's back, kids, but you'll hardly recognize him in his Lil Wayne costume. In 2009 the classic emcee returned on *Jazzmatazz Vol. 5* — er, *Guru 8.0: Lost & Found*. And with the album's first single "Fastlane" he's throwing a blatant dart toward the pop charts, with hollow, trashy percussion, a humdrum synthesizer sample and (surprise!) an auto-tuned chorus: "Sometimes you gotta take the fast lane/ Or else they gonna pass you in the fast lane/ See I be in the first and the last lane/ Be careful when you dippin' in yo' cash mayn." This has got to be some kind of joke. Did you lose Primo's number or something?

— Omar Khan
STAFF WRITER

IT’S BACK, AND IT CAN’T BE REASONED WITH



Terminator Salvation

★★★★

Starring Christian Bale, Sam Worthington & Anton Yelchin
Directed by McG
Rated PG-13

FRANCHISE FOURTH SPLITS ITS SEAMS IN A RAGE OF SUMMER ‘ROID

COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

By Michael Tang
STAFF WRITER

With a hefty \$200 million budget, the fourth installment of the “Terminator” series gets a serious dose of testosterone-driven special effects, a vast ensemble of exotic planes and vehicles and, most importantly, a star-studded cast. The only downside is that not even Christian Bale’s grease-combed hair and husky growl (borrowed from his “Dark Knight” days) could pull “Salvation” out of action-junky excrement.

In the year 2018, Los Angeles lies in a smoky haze (apparently, not much changes in nine years), where the only remains of human ingenuity are buried in the charred rubble. Teenage resistance soldier Kyle Reese (Anton Yelchin) has just rescued a wandering stranger — Marcus Wright (Sam Worthington) — from a Skynet robot by severing a knot of steel drainage pipes and incapacitating the oncemanaging juggernaut.

John Connor (Bale), savior of the nearing Armageddon, heads humanity’s ongoing battle against the future’s totalitarian killing machines. In other words, director McG (“Charlie’s Angels,” “We Are Marshall”) is sprinkling a bit of spice on a two-decade-old franchise that audiences were led to believe would do for Warner Bros. what J.J. Abrams’ “Star Trek” did for Paramount.

Instead, we’re left with a predictable package of explo-

sive sequences — so explosive, in fact, that one of the film’s special-effects technicians actually lost a leg during production.

“I need to find who did this to me, and so do you,” barks Wright as Connor threateningly holds a 9mm pistol to his skull. Mockable one-liners are a bountiful commodity in “Terminator,” not to the disappointment of die-hard fans of the original trilogy. And to give credit where it’s due, Worthington delivers a stunning performance as Wright, Spartan-built with the heart of a teddy bear.

Number four simply wouldn’t be complete without a guest appearance from California’s very own governor — even if he looks 10 years younger and injected with Botox, thanks to a stunt double and some facial CGI.

What ensues under the auspices of McG and Bale — who was actively involved in pre- and postproduction — is two hours of eye candy for technophiles, and misdirected, oft-campy lines for connoisseurs of bad theater.

“The most important thing we can do right now is stay alive, both here [points to the head] and here [points to the heart],” Reese asserts when he finds himself trapped in the cage of a human transport bound for Skynet Central. Similarly, audiences will have to turn off this [points to the head] and get a transplant from a prepubescent fanboy here [points to the heart] to find “Salvation” anything beyond Warner Bros.’ attempt to cash in on the summer-thriller trend.

druthers

HIATUS PICKS THE
THE WEEK’S BEST BETS

The Virgins

BELLY UP TAVERN / MAY 22 / 9 P.M. / \$14

The Virgins’ debut album cover is painted in a rainbow of amorphous, gummy blobs — a metaphor, no doubt, for their raunchy instapop: sticky pleasure bombs that lose most of their flavor by the third play. Lead singer/songwriter Donald Cumming grew up in a SoHo liquor store, and fast became a club kid snorting ’80s new wave; the same giddiness infects their punkish tribute to Velvet and Strokes, peaking prematurely on songs like “She’s Expensive” but providing a sweet sugar rush to drown out your pre-finals angst. (SM)

Manchester Orchestra

HOUSE OF BLUES / MAY 22 / 7 P.M. / \$12

Though their name might suggest a Mandeville nooner, we’d be hard-pressed if Manchester Orchestra knew Stravinsky from Scarlatti. That doesn’t mean the Atlanta-based indie kids are any less prodigious — last month’s sophomore opus *Mean Everything to Nothing* wielded existential loathing and quarter-life crisis, breaking into howls that could shatter the thickest stained glass: “I felt the Lord begin/ To peel off all my skin.” Hark the angels. (SM)

COURTESY OF STREETLIGHT RECORDS



COURTESY OF JO WHALEY

Jo Whaley: Theater of Insects

MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS, BALBOA PARK /
THROUGH SEPT. 27

Layering Annie Leibovitz’s penchant for portrait backdrops with National Geographic’s love of arthropods, Jo Whaley’s exhibit is a mixture of insects and aesthetics. By interspersing 40 staged photos among a collection of the actual bugs entombed in glass cases, the Museum of Photographic Arts is bringing all of Balboa Park into one room — making natural history art with a tribute to the world’s most distinct and diverse creatures. (EG)

exit strategy→

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recordings

Green Day
■ 21st Century Breakdown
REPRISE

★★★★

Alien” and “Aliens.” “The Godfather” and “Part II.” *American Idiot* and *21st Century Breakdown*. In all these, the sequel was just as mind-blowing as the original.

And that’s no small feat. Five years since *Idiot* spawned five singles and sold 14 million copies, *Breakdown* continues the rock-opera trend with an 18-track masterwork broken into three separate acts that topped global sales on opening day. Narrating a young couple’s struggle with post-Bush chaos, Green Day throws a politicized punch straight at the Man — taking punk rock back to total sonic fury.

Act I: Heroes and Cons tiptoes over a few simple piano keys before Billie Joe Armstrong erupts into a full-on yell. Strap yourself in. The epic title track alternates between grandiose misery and cymbal-crashing rants.

“Before the Lobotomy” is supercharged with a pounding riff and even-handed vocals; stir in Green Day’s classic stew of self-belittlement and apathy — “I’m not stoned, I’m just fucked up/ I got so high I can’t stand up” — and “Lobotomy” rises into the album’s punk peak. With “East Jesus Nowhere,” Green Day rolls out Act

II: Charlatans and Saints. The single exchanges *Idiot*’s penchant for distortion, vicious condemnation and catchy pop choruses for ripened rage. Oddly enough, it works this time — *Breakdown* seethes with an eager rebellion that doesn’t feel as forced or commercial as previous efforts.

Act III: Horseshoes and Handgrenades ends on “See the Light,” when a triumphant, major-key piano climaxes at present day: Obama’s just been elected, and the long night of rioting against the Bush administration is over. Mob violence settles into wary optimism, edging just short of petulant political whine.

It’s too bad the fire can only burn so long. Near the end of the 70-minute showstopper, rioters sink into the crowd and the last couple tracks grow repetitive, the same four chords beaten to shit in true punk tradition.

Between *Idiot* and *Breakdown*, there’s enough hard-edged anthems to satisfy both the anarchists and politicos. Hey, Armstrong: Keep putting out albums like this, and we might even forgive the guyliner.

— Matthew Pecot
STAFF WRITER



WHEN GAMING REACHES VIRTUAL INSANITY

► **HIT**, from page 6

virtual reality. Is WoW a video game, or a gateway to blurring what’s real and important in our lives?

On paper, WoW has every characteristic of a video game: an environment to explore, a character to control, a story to follow and goals to accomplish. But WoW doesn’t allow for the same level of empathy that most games offer; it doesn’t stand out as a legitimate form of art. We can’t, for example, cry for our stock characters.

But I suppose it’s unfair to judge WoW on those merits, since that’s not what it was designed to be. If anything, the game was designed as a cash cow. Activision Blizzard, the company behind the game, essentially aimed to create an alternate world where we could say and do anything we wanted for a low monthly fee.

Or, in other words, a virtual reality.

One of the most crucial distinctions between a

regular game and virtual reality is all but lost in WoW: the conscious separation between avatar and self. Most players become so absorbed in role-playing that their avatars become an extension of their identities.

But a chosen few fall headfirst. I mean, we all know people who play WoW a little too much, right? From their perspective, they’re just having a grand ol’ time — in ours, it’s like WoW is steadily taking over their entire lives. Our physical relationship to these people convinces us that what they’re doing is abnormal. But to them, playing WoW is as every bit as normal as going to the bathroom. It’s a lot like substance addiction.

But what happens if everyone becomes addicted to the same thing? If we all became hooked on the same virtual reality, would it come to constitute “normal” reality? If it does, then maybe video game isn’t as appropriate a term.

“One of the most crucial distinctions between game and virtual reality is all but lost in WoW: the conscious separation between avatar and self.”

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FRAYED PLOTLINES TANGLE BLOGGERS' PARADISE



By Jenna Brogan
STAFF WRITER

Though the idea of an online lie that catches fire in “Adoration” is novel enough to spike interest, it doesn’t take long before the drama dissipates into an exhausting catalog of fragmented thoughts. Veteran writer/director/producer Atom Egoyan, who braided a seamless character weave in 1997’s “The Sweet Hereafter,” attempts to tie an artsy bow around his latest schizophrenic mess. Unfortunately, it appears that at some point in the last decade, Egoyan broke his nimble fingers.

In his newest take on coming of age in the information era, the filmmaker asks his audience to sit through a disorienting barrage of snapshot storylines, flashbacks and present-day narratives, blurring the line between reality and his own imagination.

The plotline is meaty enough: A French teacher (Arsinee Khanjian) instructs her class to translate a news article about a terrorist who plants explosives in the luggage of his pregnant girlfriend. However, Egoyan’s eyes are bigger than his stomach, and the director bites off more than he can chew in a film just short of two hours.

The assignment has an especially life-altering impact on one student, Simon (Devon Bostick), who was orphaned as a child when his father crashed the family car. Forever haunted by the mystery of whether the crash was intentional, Simon inserts his own history into the article, pretending his father was a terrorist behind the wheel.

With the surprising encouragement of his teacher, the help of a nifty aluminum MacBook and a 36-person video chat, word of Simon’s (fabricated) life story spreads

like H1N1. Within the sanctum of online forums — where teens spout stilted philosophies faster than “Dawson’s Creek” — lies the film’s main theme: the impact of technology on human identity.

But talking heads tend to be more obnoxious than enlightening, arguinig over the validity of Simon’s story, the meaning of life, martyrdom and post-9/11 terrorism, among other things.


And the sermon doesn’t end there. Simon’s expanding alternate reality and digital path to self-discovery are juxtaposed with an unlikely relationship between his uncle/guardian (Scott Speedman) and a mysterious woman masked in medallions and draped in a burqa.

Determined to pump spirituality into an already overinflated film, Egoyan depicts tension between the mismatched couple by sparking a caustic series of bite-sized religious debates.

That’s one of the film’s crucial missteps — its several disconnected plotlines occur all at once. In one blink, Simon is living within his terrorist fantasy. In another, he’s attempting to untangle his true family history. Still another revolves around his uncle, an introspective tow-truck driver with a fixed squint. An eerie violin drifting in and out of the tri-narrative serves as the only harmonizing backdrop to Egoyan’s characteristic surrealism.

Though the audience is largely abandoned as Simon’s two-hour search for meaning unfolds, the arduous journey is half compensated by mesmerizing cinematography that sustains Egoyan’s dreamlike virtual world.

But instead of igniting thoughtful discussion, lack of focus and fluidity make “Adoration” into nothing more than a bizarre study in filmic microblogging.



Adoration

★★★

Starring Devon Bostick & Arsinee Khanjian & Scott Speedman
Directed by Atom Egoyan
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Crossword Solution

A	M	P	L	E		A	B	A	C	I		D	E	G
C	A	R	O	M		V	I	R	U	S		R	N	A
C	H	A	F	I	N	G	D	I	S	H		O	D	S
R	A	T	T	L	E		D	O	A		G	O	U	T
A	L	T	E		S	K	Y	S	C	R	A	P	E	R
					D	A	T	A		O	K	A	Y	
A	B	S		C	O	V	E		F	L	O	W	N	
C	A	T	S	C	R	A	T	C	H	F	E	V	E	R
E	D	U	C	E		O	E	I	L		O	S	A	
					E	P	I	C		O	G	E	E	
P	A	I	N	T	B	R	U	S	H		D	A	F	T
E	R	L	E		A	U	T		E	M	I	L	I	O
E	N	L		I	N	D	I	A	R	I	B	B	E	R
P	I	E		L	E	E	C	H		C	L	A	N	S
S	E	R		E	Z	R	A	S		K	E	N	D	O

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Sudoku

Level:

1

2

3

4

	3						7	
7	8		3	9			4	
			7			5	3	
		4	5	3		1		
		8			9	6		
	5	3			8			
	9			1	6		5	4
	2						1	

Level:

1

2

3

4

3	5			2		8	6	9
		2				4		
					9			
8				9				4
		9	8		5	6		
4				7				2
			6					
		3				2		
6	4	1		3			9	5

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.

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Find the SUDOKU solution in next Monday's Classified Page.

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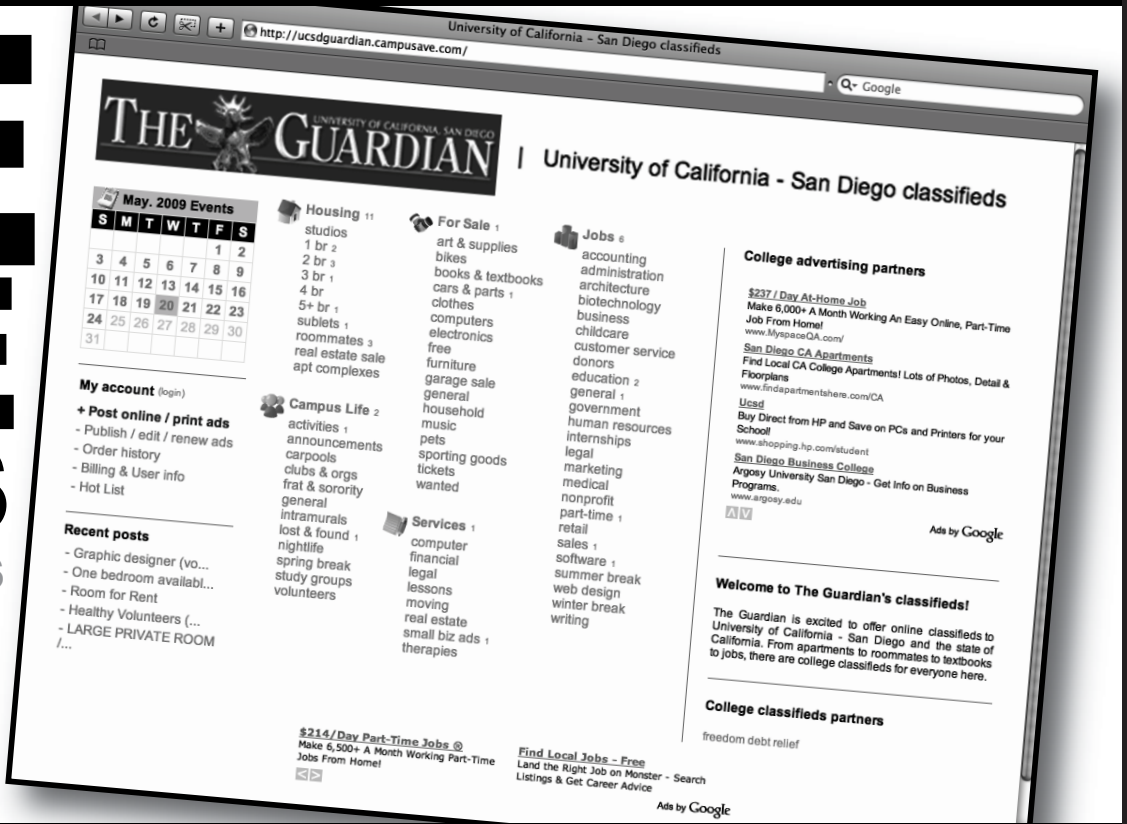
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Expect a Kobe/LeBron Matchup in the NBA Finals

► **JOE**, from page 12

The trade of Iverson for Chauncey Billups gave Denver a leader, a more fluid offense and a guy who is almost as ugly as Sam Cassel, which can come in handy when you're going out late at night in Colorado. Furthermore, the trade opened up more opportunities for J.R. Smith, Nene, Kenyon Martin and the incredible Chris "Birdman" Anderson, who have all made strong contributions in the paint following Marcus Camby's dumping. The Lakers gave nearly everyone in L.A. an ulcer when their series with the Rockets went to seven games despite the loss of Yao Ming. However, just as quickly as everyone forgot about how Kobe used to get booed in Denver mercilessly because of his previous Rocky Mountain legal troubles,

Lakers fans dismissed any concern and proclaimed they never worried about that series outcome. After a clutch game-one win — including a Pippen-esque play by Trevor Ariza that cemented his status with Derek Fisher as the savviest players on the entire Lakers roster — the team and city are feeling overly confident. And that's always a bad thing. Except that the Nuggets, the only team that even noted badasses like Chuck Norris, Jack Bauer, Vince from Sham-Wow and Pootie Tang would fear, feed off any sense of self-doubt. With focus, the Lakers should be able to beat the Nuggets like a red-headed stepchild, but as any ginger-killer can attest, those soulless bastards always have a way of sneaking up on you.

Joe goes with: Lakers in six.

Rainwater, Thu Enter Nationals as UCSD's Only Top Seeds

► **TRACK**, from page 12

Division II, and almost all of them are full scholarship programs," Salerno said. "The probability of getting one or two athletes here [to nationals] isn't great, so we're definitely ahead of the curve." Reigning national champion — and school-record holder — senior Linda Rainwater will look to repeat as champion in the heptathlon and will also compete in the high jump for the Tritons. The Tritons' other top seed is junior Danielle Thu, whose school-record mark of 57.76 meters in the hammer throw is best in the nation this year. Thu was named West Region Field Athlete of the Year earlier this week. Sophomore Bre Schofield will lead UCSD's distance events, seeded

seventh after running a school-record time of 4:29.6 in the 1,500 meter. On the men's side, CCAA Freshman of the Year Nick Howe will compete in the javelin throw, only a week after setting a school record with a mark of 201'3" at the Occidental Invitational. Fellow school record holder junior Casey Ryan qualified in the high jump after becoming the first UCSD athlete to clear seven feet earlier this year. Ahner was awarded her second straight West Region Coach of the Year award, and will be honored along with Thu at a banquet prior to the meet. The NCAA Division-II Nationals take place May 21 through May 23.

Readers can contact Liam Rose at lfrose@ucsd.edu.

Senior Hopes to Pursue Water Polo After Graduation

► **GSTETTENBAUER**, from page 12

accepted to UCSD, and tried out as a walk on for the team. Two-hundred-and-seven goals and a UCSD single season scoring record later, Sanders said he is happy that he gave Gstettenbauer the opportunity to try out and develop into the amazing athlete she proved to be. When making the decision to try out, Gstettenbauer knew she would have to give up her beloved position as two-meter defender, since her tall, skinny frame would not be suited as well to manning up against college-level opponents. She quickly converted to driver, a position more akin to scoring, but never lost her defensive roots, becoming the team's strongest perimeter defender and leading the team in steals. Gstettenbauer said she has enjoyed her run to the top the Tritons' scoring books and the camaraderie that her team always provided, and does not look forward to leaving. With graduation approaching, Gstettenbauer said she has no solid plans. "I want to take a year off before I do anything and just try to get a job somewhere," she said. "I'll probably be working at the pool as a lifeguard until September." If nothing else, Gstettenbauer said she hopes to continue playing water polo through a club in San Diego, and maybe even become an assistant coach for her former team. Ultimately, she hopes to travel and play water polo abroad, but she has no definitive destination in mind and will accept anything the road before her presents.

Readers can contact Tyler Nelson at tcnelson@ucsd.edu.



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HOT CORNER
Liz LaPlante
Women's Tennis
The 30-year coach guided the Tritons to their sixth straight undefeated season in conference and 28th consecutive postseason appearance.

UNRECRUITED TRITON BECOMES STAR PLAYER

After walking on to the team, Gstettenbauer added an offensive dimension to her game, becoming one of UCSD's key players.

By Tyler Nelson
STAFF WRITER

After four hard-fought years as a Triton, Sydney Gstettenbauer, one of UCSD's most prolific athletes, will receive her diploma and leave the team this spring. Following her successful career on the women's water polo team, the Ventura, Calif., native will graduate with a degree in environmental systems. Her graduation forces the team to make up for her tremendous production over the past four years.

Gstettenbauer wasn't always a swimmer. As a child, she refused to take swim lessons. Finally, she decided to hop into the water and start swimming. Still, Gstettenbauer doesn't classify herself as a swimmer — only a water polo player who is forced to swim.

Gstettenbauer ran track for four years before she even heard of water polo, and only left the track because of tendonitis she developed as a result of the high jump. Fortunately for the Tritons, a friend told her about water polo and she quickly fell in love despite her aversion to swimming. Her first experience with the sport came from a class she took at her local community college in eighth grade. She joined a club team soon afterward.

When Gstettenbauer played in high school, her primary position was two-meter defender. It was her responsibility to cover the biggest, strongest person in the pool and shut them out; a responsibility that typically gets assigned to taller players because of their great reach. She loved her role on defense, and never desired to be a superstar on offense. Through the course of her four years in high school, she grew more and more infatuated with the sport, but never developed the same love for swimming, even after her coach instituted



JOHN HANACEK/GUARDIAN FILE
In the final collegiate game as a Triton, senior attacker Sydney Gstettenbauer scored a career-high nine goals against Colorado State, tying Julie Swails' 14-year-old school record for goals in a season with 84.

mandatory swim times for the team.

"I never could make any of those swimming times," Gstettenbauer said with a chuckle. "They were instituted when I was already on the team, but if I hadn't been on the team at the time, I never would have made the team."

Toward the end of her high-school career, Gstettenbauer realized she might not play water polo in

college. During the application process, Gstettenbauer did not consider water polo as a criterion for college, but when she heard about UCSD's women's water polo team, she considered playing. Even though she was never recruited, she contacted head coach Larry Sanders when she was

See **GSTETTENBAUER**, page 11

SYDNEY GSTETTENBAUER

SENIOR
ATTACKER

2009 STATS

GOALS
84*^

ASSISTS
32

STEALS
50*

CAREER STATS

GOALS
207

ASSISTS
110

STEALS
131

*Team high
^Tied UCSD's single season record

CONFERENCE FINALS: WE ALL KNOW WHO'S GOING TO WIN

The first two rounds of the NBA playoffs produced the most exciting first-round series of all time in the epic Bulls vs. Celtics clash, but two second-round series went to game seven before ending anticlimactically. With the favorite squad from each conference still remaining, as well as two upstart squads that haven't made it this far in the playoffs in recent memory, it might be hard to predict what will happen in the conference championships. Actually, it's not, and everyone can see we're destined for the Lakers vs. Cavaliers in the finals. But before the Kobe Bryant/LeBron James hype-machines go into overdrive for that final clash, let's take some time to talk about the two teams they're going to beat on their way to the NBA Finals.



Cup O' Joe

Joe Tevelowitz
jtevelow@ucsd.edu

Cleveland Cavaliers vs. Orlando Magic

Dwight Howard is a dominant force that looks destined to reign as the NBA's supreme center for the next decade. Still, he's an offensive liability that the Magic have proven to play better without. That's not to say that Howard should be pulled from the game or that the Magic have a better shot if he starts throwing elbows or jumping over little people and gets suspended. Any games the Magic are able to win in this series will be because of Howard. The most photogenic big man since Gheorghe Muresan in "My Giant" can will his team to victory, either by commanding the post and putting up a huge double-double or drawing attention that allows Hedo Turkoglu and Rashard Lewis to hit some open threes. Any team with "Skip To My Lou" is a sentimental favorite for all And-1 fanatics, but James took the leap from being just the guy nobody could stop, to being the guy that nobody could stop and the guy that can stop anybody. The Magic have a puncher's chance to make this a competitive series, particularly since the Cavaliers seemed better equipped for the Celtics due to the bloodcurdling anger they bring out in anyone who doesn't smell like feet. However, James knows that he is on the doorstep of not just a title, but also possible history with an undefeated playoff run still intact. If Jameer Nelson returns to form after injury next season and Howard is able to add some type of shot that doesn't actually require his hand touching the rim, this team will be a contender for years. This just isn't one of those years.

Joe goes with: Cavaliers in four.

Los Angeles Lakers vs. Denver Nuggets

The Nuggets posted the biggest victory of the entire postseason in their crippling first-round demolition of the New Orleans Hornets, delivering the entire franchise a giant setback. The fire they demonstrated against Dallas — as well as the momentum and feeling of destiny that still linger after a shot like Carmelo Anthony's game-winning basket at the end of game three — makes this team far more interesting than anyone would have predicted. The Nuggets are no longer dealing with the unique chemistry issues that come with having Allen Iverson on the team.

Fifteen Tritons Headed to Track and Field Nationals

By Liam Rose
STAFF WRITER

TRACK & FIELD — With a conference championship under their belt, the Tritons now turn their attention to competing against the best athletes in the nation.

Fresh off the California Collegiate Athletics Association Championships less than two weeks ago, where the women's team won its fifth straight title, UCSD will compete at the 2009 NCAA Division-II Track and Field Championships at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. Nationwide, 620 athletes will participate in the event, including 15 Tritons. Twelve women and three men will represent UCSD, a large number that reflects the team's successful season.

"Every once in a while, women's head coach Darcy [Ahner] and I have to do a reality check," men's coach Tony Salerno said. "We have to appreciate how far we've come as getting this many athletes to nationals is impressive."

Junior Christine Merrill, senior Laiah Blue and sophomore Kelly Fogarty will lead the Tritons, each qualifying for three events at nationals. Merrill, who garnered Athlete of the Meet honors at the CCAA



DANIEL CADDELL/GUARDIAN FILE
UCSD enters the NCAA Division-II National Championships No. 1 overall in the Dual Meet Rankings. Junior thrower Danielle Thu was honored Monday as the Regional Athlete of the Year.

Championships, will compete in the 400-meter hurdles and participate on the 4x100- and 4x400-meter relay teams. Merrill's time of 58.86 seconds in the 400-meter hurdles earned her the top seed by over a second.

Blue will run the 100- and 400-meter hurdles, and is also a member of the 4x100 relay team. Fogarty qualified for both the 100- and 200-meter dash

and is also on the 4x100 team, which is seeded sixth in the nation and broke UCSD's record earlier this year.

The Triton women have eight returning all-Americans, and will look to improve on their best-ever fourth-place finish from last season.

"There are over 200 teams in

See **TRACK**, page 11

TRACK & FIELD NATIONAL QUALIFIERS

EVENT	SEED	ATHLETE
WOMEN		
100-M DASH	19	Kelly Fogarty
200-M DASH	14	Kelly Fogarty
400-M DASH	12	Anna Lee McGregor
1,500-M RUN	7	Bre Schofield
100-M HURDLE	5	Laiah Blue
400-M HURDLE	1	Christine Merrill
400-M HURDLE	6	Laiah Blue
4x100 RELAY	6	Christine Merrill Katie Skorupa Kelly Fogarty Laiah Blue
4x400 RELAY	4	Christine Merrill Katie Skorupa Anna Lee McGregor Deyna Roberson
HIGH JUMP	3	Linda Rainwater
DISCUS THROW	5	Sarah Hendy
HAMMER THROW	1	Danielle Thu
HAMMER THROW	15	Marie Archer
HEPTATHLON	3	Linda Rainwater
HEPTATHLON	4	Stephanie LeFever
MEN		
400-M HURDLE	4	Leon Baham
HIGH JUMP	5	Casey Ryan
JAVELIN	15	Nick Howe

See **JOE**, page 11