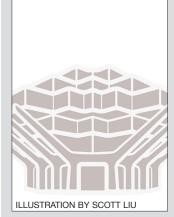
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> - KELLY MORRIS **FUND THE UC OPINION, PAGE 4**

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CAMPUS



UC SYSTEM

UC Regents Approve 18% Nonresident Cap

BYKEVINPICHINTE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UC Board of Regents has officially decided to place a cap on the number of out-of-state and international students each UC campus can admit. During its meeting at UC San Francisco today, the Regents voted in favor of limiting nonresident admissions to 18 percent of the total admissions.

UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Irvine and UC San Diego are exempt because their current percentages of nonresidents are higher than the 18-percent cap: UC Berkeley at 24.4 percent; UCLA at 22.8 percent; UC Irvine at 18.9 percent and UCSD at 22.9 percent.

However, they are required to maintain their current percentages and limit future enrollment of nonresident undergraduates to their current

Regent John Pérez declared his approval for the measure.

"This is an important and complex issue," Pérez said. "It's a product of a more deliberative, more concentrated piece of work. I will support it because I think it represents very good work, and it moves in the right direction."

Last year, California State Auditor Elaine Howle came to the conclusion that the University of California system lowered its academic

standards for out-of-state students, while leaving many California residents dismal who met and even exceeded the basic requirements of high GPA, extracurriculars and high test scores.

The enrollment policy proposal came to fruition after Howle publically released a report, which criticized the policy on nonresident enrollment by the universities. California Assemblymember Mike Gipson claimed the current UC policy was making it difficult for residents to be admitted, and the universities should have found other cost-cutting methods to accept more residents.

The policy was originally supposed to be voted on in March, but due to disagreements on the proposal, it was pushed to May. The state legislature set the deadline for the regents to act and finalize a policy or it will withhold \$18.5 million in enrollment funds.

An international Eleanor Roosevelt College student, who requested his name be kept anonymous, told the UCSD Guardian that an 18-percent cap would make it fair for everyone, and he should not have an advantage because he pays more. He further stated that the cap would affect the acceptance rate of future out-of-state students.

See NONRESIDENT CAP, page 3

A.S. COUNCIL

A.S. and UCSD Students Protest at UC Regents Meeting

The demonstration included other student groups in a stand against issues like tuition and poverty.

BY LAUREN HOLT

NEWS EDITOR

UC San Diego students and members of the A.S. Office of External Affairs protested outside the UC Board of Regents meeting in Oakland on May 17, demanding a freeze on the tuition increase scheduled for next year in light of the Office of the State Auditor's report stating that the UC Office of the President has \$175 million in discretionary reserves that it kept hidden from the state. The meeting and demonstration came almost one week after Gov. Jerry Brown requested in a revised budget proposal that the state legislature sequester \$50 million from UC funding until UCOP has fulfilled the recommendations made by the auditor's office, along with other

commitments.

Blocked by a police barricade from entering the Mission Bay Conference Center where the meeting took place at UC San Francisco, protesters from External Affairs, students from other campuses and organizations like American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees 3299 gathered in front of a "wall" made from a large sign propped up by cardboard boxes that read "HOW MUCH ARE OUR LIVES WORTH?" with statements on issues like sexual assault cases that the administration has failed to address. The wall, which UCSD Vice President of External Affairs Nicolas Monteiro said was meant to represent "the ways in which the university has institutionally kept us, students and workers, out of making decisions," was

ultimately knocked down to symbolize that the demonstrators will persist until their demands are met.

The protesters held signs denouncing student poverty, the presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement on campuses and could be heard intermittently chanting phrases such as "Whose university? Our university" and "We're fired up! Can't take it no more!" One by one, students and UC staff took the microphone to give speeches and share their experiences

Monteiro explained to the UCSD Guardian that he felt it important for his office and UCSD students to demonstrate at the meeting because the university was dishonest with its

See **PROTEST**, page 3

UCSD

New Group to Start Book Clubs for Inmates

Books Behind Bars will work with convicts at Donavan Prison to reduce recedivism.

BY ARMONIE MENDEZ

STAFF WRITER

UC San Diego students are taking to prisons in efforts to reduce San Diego county's recidivism rates. In sponsoring book clubs for inmates housed at the Donovan Correctional Facility, student volunteers are creating an educational pipeline meant to help reintegrate inmates into society upon

The organization, known as Books Behind Bars, has fostered a program meant to give students firsthand exposure to the prison industrial complex. As stated by the program's Facebook page, the prison industrial complex is a growing concern in the United States because it promotes the use of prison labor as a cheaper alternative means of production for large corporations such as Wal-Mart.

Tanisha Aggarwal, a freshman in Thurgood Marshall College and founder and president of Books Behind Bars, explains the problem posed to inmates by the prison industrial complex, implying that maintaining a large number of prisoners allows for more production.

"Companies from [which] we buy every day services from such as fast food, clothing, and even phone carriers are profiting off of prison labor," Aggarwal said. "So it's not just like the U.S. has an unusually disproportionate number of people whom morality has failed, there's simply no incentive to keep people out of prisons."

While most corporations maintain policies prohibiting the use of prison labor, most items on the shelves of well-known stores such as Whole Foods, Wal-Mart, Victoria's Secret, Motorola, etc., avidly use prison labor factories as their primary mode of manufacturing.

"We're all aware of the 'War on Drugs' that's been popularized since the Nixon administration as well as the practices of companies like Corrections Corporation of America and American Legislative Exchange Council," Aggarwal said. "However in my opinion, I still feel that we're not fully conscious of how pervasive the prison industrial complex has become in America, the country that holds the highest percentage of incarcerated individuals in the world right now."

To combat the growing recidivism rates, Aggarwal believes that instituting book club programs at prisons will help create a prison-to-school pipeline to replace the school-to-prison pipeline that is often seen in inmate cases.

"This program aims to support reintegration by two ways, externally and internally," Aggarwal said. "Externally, by starting our monthly newsletter in which we feature the work we've been doing and testimonials from the inmates, we hope to humanize these people for the general public and raise awareness about mass incarceration while also erasing the false image of prisoners as portrayed in popular media."

See **BOOKS BEHIND BARS**, page 3

SPIRIT PARADIGM By Michi Sora



CAMPUS

Chancellor Khosla Declares His Support for Fossil Fuel Divestment

Khosla is the fourth UC chancellor to endorse divesting from fossil fuels after those at UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz and UC Santa Barbara.

BY REBECCA CHONG SENIOR STAFF WRITER

On the morning of May 17, Chancellor Khosla released a statement in support of fossil fuel divestment on his blog.

"I stand by our students who are calling for fossil fuel divestment and support their aims," Khosla wrote. "I am pleased to support the incredible efforts the [University of California] has already made toward tackling climate change and providing leadership and solutions that we will all depend on."

This declaration comes after Chancellor Yang of UC Santa Barbara, Chancellor Blumenthal of UC Santa Cruz and interim Chancellor Hexter of UC Davis issued similar statements in solidarity with the Fossil Free UC movement this past week.

Chancellor Yang's breakthrough statement came after a threeday-long sit-in by 350 students at UCSB's campus administrative building Cheadle Hall along with

the endorsement of over 25 faculty members. The sit-in was also a way to call on Regent Sherman, chair of the UC Investment Committee, to use his position to divest from fossil fuels.

Khosla's declaration is another victory for the UC-wide campaign for fossil fuel divestment, Fossil Free UC. It has been driven by students, staff and faculty across the UC campuses since 2012.

Students from the Student Sustainability Collective, an independent Associated Students Commission that works on campus policy surrounding sustainability, met up with Khosla in March to discuss UC San Diego's position on fossil fuel divestment.

Muir College sophomore Aya Rosenfeld, co-director of Fossil Fuel Divestment at the SSC, felt disappointed that Khosla was unwilling to be the first chancellor to make a statement.

"[Khosla] was reluctant to offer his public support because he felt doing so would undermine

the decisions of the higher-up administrators," Rosenfeld told the UCSD Guardian. "He also mentioned that because no other chancellors had released a statement of support, there was no precedent for him doing so. He also offered to speak to the chief investment officer on our behalf, but we're not sure if he actually did."

In light of the Board of Regents meeting from May 16 to May 18, students from the SSC decided to send a statement urging Khosla to take a public stance on the issue. A collaboratively written statement by UC San Diego students Sixth College junior Natasha Gunawan, Warren College sophomore Bryant Jew, Muir College senior Mukta Kelkar, Muir College sophomore Kathryn Link-Oberstar and Muir College sophomore Aya Rosenfeld was sent to the office of the chancellor. They gathered signers of support from various offices around campus, such as the Associated Students Office of the President, Environmental Justice Affairs and External Office

as well as student organizations like Ellie's Garden and UCSD Surfrider.

Kelkar, the other co-director of Fossil Fuel Divestment at the SSC, conveyed the importance of Khosla's statement in the context of the University of California's climate

"I'm really excited to see Chancellor Khosla stand with the students and faculty of UC San Diego and support UC-wide fossil fuel divestment," Kelkar told the Guardian. "As a university that prides itself on its climate research and sustainability efforts, it's important that UCSD encourage the UC Regents to stop investing in an unsustainable future. Fossil fuel companies have too much political power in the United States, and UC-wide divestment would be a powerful way to fight that."

> READERS CAN CONTACT REBECCA CHONG RCCHONG@UCSD.EDU

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Advertising: 858-534-3467 ads@ucsdguardian.org

Fax: 858-534-7035

The UCSD Guardian 9500 Gilman Drive MC 0316 La Jolla, CA 92093-0316

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Bgatov: Nonresidents Deserve to Study in California

▶ NONRESIDENT CAP, from page 1

"I think it is a good thing that regents are [voting on a] percent cap so it can give a fair chance to everyone," the student said. "I should not have an advantage of being admitted into a UC [campus] because I pay more. However, it will affect out-of-state students by limiting the amount who can come in. I also wonder how the University of California system will come up with all the extra money [nonresidents contribute] since the state does not help with all the funding needed."

Out-of-state Earl Warren College junior Diana Cortez told the Guardian that she worked as hard or more than an in-state student. She also said that out-of-state students pay more money which helps the UC system and that there should not be a cap of 18 percent passed.

"...I think that they should not put a cap but not accept more out-of-state than residents and keep it that way, but keep it the same [percentages as they are now] so it can level out," Cortez stated. "I do not get a GPA boost from honors courses, and I actually think it is just as hard for in-state and out-of-state [students]. I worked just as hard as an in-state student. [The UC's diversity] will get less cream of the

crop and you will get more residents because they are in-state. I am not for the [18-percent] cap.

ERC junior Aleksandr Bgatov said he is against the proposal because it would not allow out-of-state students to experience California and its educational system.

"I am against the [18-percent] cap because I think out-of-state students deserve the opportunity to be immersed in the Californian experience," Bgatov stated. "The cap does not even seem that it will affect the majority of the campuses as far as I know. [As for UCSD, UCLA, and UC Berkeley], it will just limit the chance of someone to experience California's educational system."

The policy on nonresident student enrollment will allow campuses that currently enroll a low number of nonresident undergraduates to increase their proportion. The policy will be put into effect Fall Quarter 2017 and will make the UC system hold all students to the same academic caliber.

READERS CAN CONTACT
KEVINPICHINTE KPICHINT@IICSD EDIL

Governor Jerry Brown Has Also Acted Against UCOP and Napolitano

▶ PROTEST, from page 1

students.

"The bottom line is — the UC lied," Monteiro said. "It lied to students in stating that there were not enough funds, so they imposed tuition hikes on us, falsely claiming that it would be covered by financial aid. Loans are not financial aid. Loans put students in debt."

The outgoing vice president further noted that throughout the audit, UCOP was lacking in transparency, and the protesters wanted to remind the administration that students and staff are monitoring their actions.

"UCOP interfered in the audit process making me question the transparency, integrity, and leadership of the executives making decisions on behalf of students," Monteiro stated. "Lavish dinner parties costing up to a year's worth of tuition is not where taxpayers' money should be going. This was a demonstration to show UCOP we are paying attention; it is about demanding space for students and workers to be included in decisions at the UC."

According to Kelly Morris, who leads UCSD's Fund the UC campaign to improve how the university is financed, protests will not solve all of the UC system's funding problems alone, but they do show cohesion on the issue.

"Prop 13 reform (which is the center of Fund the UC) and efforts to decrease the cost of a UC education

will not happen as a result of public demonstrations, but they can help guide us toward more consequential conversations and more success at the bargaining table," Morris told the Guardian. "They both display and cultivate solidarity and support for the

Inside the meeting, incoming Vice President of External Affairs Refilwe Gqajela made a statement to the regents during the public input section, declaring that the "hidden" \$175 million serves as evidence that such policies like free tuition could exist.

"When news of the \$175 million that was hidden by the UC and uncovered by the state broke, there was great outrage, but not shock," Gqajela said. "This news revealed what students and workers have known all along. Living wages are possible. A tuition for UC is possible. As my predecessors at UC San Diego have proclaimed since 2010, another university is possible."

However, Morris notes that the Regents do not appear to be receptive during the public input sessions, which is another reason why protest is important.

"In the case of Regents meetings, the time for public comment is not only disappointingly short but also very distant from the Regents: It can feel as though they literally aren't listening at times (some were on their phones or looking down, for example), and they leave the room immediately after it is over," Morris stated. "So

public demonstrations can be the most powerful way to get a point across in that case."

Action in response to the audit has been taken at the state government

level as well.

With support from California
State Assemblymember and Chair
of the state's Assembly Higher
Education Committee Jose Medina,
Gov. Brown proposed on May 11
that the state withhold \$50 million
of the approximately \$3.5 billion the
legislature annually appropriates to the
UC system to reinforce the audit.

Member of the California Legislative Analyst's Office Jason Constantouros told the Daily Cal that the UC system will receive the sequestered money only after three conditions are met: UCOP completes State Auditor Elaine Howle's recommendations for the Regents and the university as a whole prior to April 2018, the university finishes "the piloting of activity-based costing across three university campuses to help the state and university better assess and reevaluate the cost structure of the UC" and UCOP demonstrates that almost all campuses are on course to enrolling one transfer student for every two incoming freshman by the 2018-2019 school year.

The next Board of Regents meeting will be at UCSF again on July 12 and July 13.

READERS CAN CONTACT

Visits to Donavan Will Begin in Fall Quarter 2017

▶ BOOKS BEHIND BARS, from page 1

By fostering small group discussions on topics of literature, Aggarwal believes that Books Behind Bars will establishment a sense of community within the prison population. Opening up discussion for debate, the program encourages the construction of skills ranging from listening, comprehension, analysis, as well as compatibility, a skill central to reintegration.

"We want to create spaces within the prison that function as open forums where you can talk about literally anything you want," said Aggarwal. "In those spaces, volunteers and inmates alike would all be students."

The program was made to benefit student volunteers as much as the prisoners. Students volunteering will be educated firsthand on the growing issue of mass incarceration and the prison industrial complex rather than from the typical classroom textbook.

"Members are able to develop teamwork, public speaking, leadership and analytical skills in the process," Aggarwal said. "Furthermore, they will get the chance to be active participants in a social cause that is so pervasive yet virtually unknown in the American conscience."

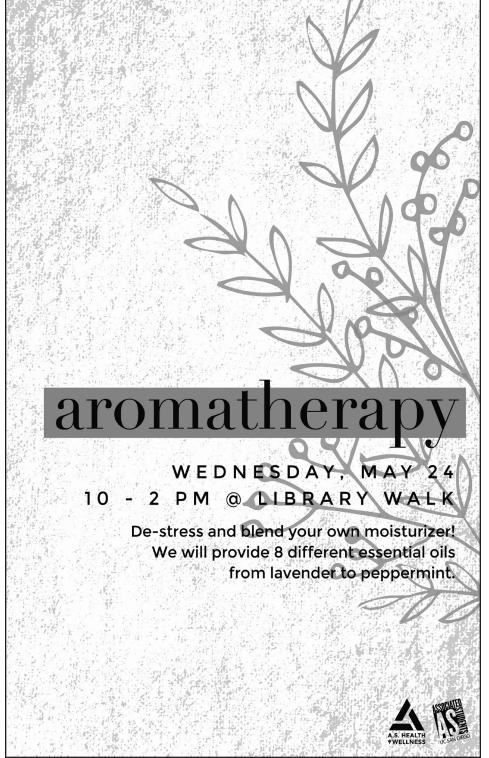
The program is open to undergraduates, graduates and staff. With plans to host more frequent monthly visits beginning in Fall 2017, the organization is looking to expand its numbers. Students who plan on

volunteering must go through a general background check as well as training for personal security and as how to go about facilitating conversations with the inmates.

READERS CAN CONTACT

ARMONIE MENDEX AEMENDEZ@UCSD.EDU





OPINION

CONTACT THE EDITOR **QUINN PIEPER**

The American Identity Crisis of Corporate Christianity

BY ADRIANA BARRIOS // CONTRIBUTING WRITER

↑ he United States has no official state religion, but this wouldn't be apparent to the casual observer. We pledge allegiance under a God. Our money pays homage to a God and Christmas, one of the holiest days of the Christian faith, is a federal holiday. The infiltration

federal and private, infringe on the rights of those of us whose religions aren't Christianity, or who might

not even practice religion at all.

The bulk of the religious practices currently in the books owe their existence and preservation to the Cold War. In order to embody the antithesis of communism, the U.S. truncated the Pledge of Allegiance with an "under God," made all currency establish trust

The federal government needs to stop extrapolating in order to accommodate blatantly religious practices for the sake of maintaining tradition.

of this religious dominance has of in the divine and took every action course influenced the corporate world, contributing to the modern characterization of the U.S. as a Christian nation. This is inherently against the larger image the U.S. tries to portray — that it fosters diversity and welcomes any person of any creed. These practices, both

possible to ensure that the U.S. brand was perpetually associated with God. This had the effect, along reinforcing the Christian American narrative, of linking capitalism with God and religion, at least in a subliminal manner.

The main corporate practice that

evokes and perpetuates this tradition has little to do with God specifically and is oddly enough more linked to Christianity specifically rather than to a larger deistic identity. This practice is the closing of businesses on Christian holidays, namely Easter and Christmas Day. This goes further; many of these stores observe these days despite not being companies with religious affiliations or companies who generally do not exhibit whatever affiliation they may have. More than a simple inconvenience to anyone who may not celebrate these holidays, this is an example of how the traditions that were established by the Protestant founders and reinforced in the 20th century still reverberate today. It should be noted that private industry is within its right to observe whichever religion it may please, but the oddity in this is the lack of consistency in its practices. At the end of the day, their closing on these holidays seems to be more closely tied to "Christian" capitalism than to actual religious observance.

Although Christmas Day is an example of a religious holiday for which stores close, ultimately they are encouraged to do so because it is a federal holiday. This is where the hypocrisy at the corporate level

See **RELIGION**, page 5

BY KELLY MORRIS // **FUND THE UCCAMPAIGN DIRECTOR UCSD**

Fund the UC with Integrity and Transparency

April 25, 2017, the California State Auditor's office released a shocking report on the budgetary practices of the University of California Office of the President. It showed that UCOP and the Board of Regents have been residing in an ivory tower miles away from the realities facing UC students and workers, enjoying exorbitant salaries, perks and vacations among other benefits. Additionally, the state audit revealed that UC President Janet Napolitano has been hiding money — \$175 million — and keeping students and workers away from the decision table, even interfering with the university's own performance

The findings are disheartening and wildly disappointing for all Californians. UC service workers are currently being denied muchneeded pay raises and benefits at the bargaining table. As cost of attendance at UC campuses increases with tuition hikes, financial aid is being stretched thinner and thinner. Students are graduating with more debt than ever and facing food and housing insecurity at alarmingly rising rates. Four out of every 10 students have experienced food insecurity, and a third of them reported it negatively impacted their studies. Students and workers of color have been continually ignored and/or dismissed under the guise of budget constraints. The gap between graduation rates of students of color and white students is a staggering 14-15 percent.

All the while, UC administration tells students there is not enough money for us, justifying hikes and pushing out members of our most vulnerable communities. They are telling workers there is no money, so they propose no wage increases at the bargaining table for the people who run the university. Now, it has become clear that the actions decreasing accessibility to the UC system were not a result of lack of funds, but rather a preference of our administrators to take the easy way out and ignore student voices and needs.

For such a large "public" university system, it is absolutely appalling that students are prevented from knowing and participating on the decision of where UC money goes to. The bubble that UCOP and the Board of Regents have been living in has traveled so far away from their constituents that they have reached a tipping point student voices have been continually ignored by the State. The state has been neglecting its higher education institutions by only investing an average of \$8,667 on each student in contrast to about \$50,000 on each prison inmate, begging the question: Where are the State's priorities?

As University of California students, we are a huge part of California's future — economically, socially and politically. Regents and UCOP need to know just who they are ignoring: We cannot allow our voices to be silenced. We demand that our administrators and legislators keep in mind the needs

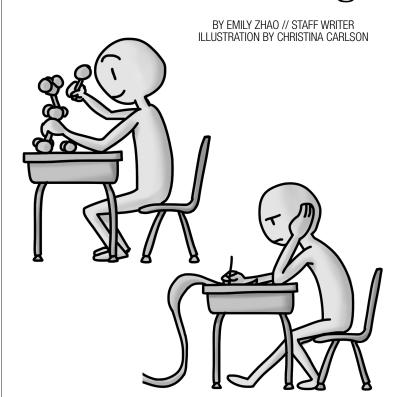
It is important that these conversations include student voices; by way of public forums, easily accessible office hours and student government inclusion in high-level meetings.

with students, workers, California residents, campus administrations and our legislative representatives in Sacramento.

In the following months grappling over the audit, its findings, the budget and UC oversight will dominate California legislature's discussion of public higher education. It's important that these conversations include student voices by way of public forums, easily accessible office hours and student government inclusion in high-level meetings. In a display of politics and ignorance just like the Board of Regents and UCOP's, of their constituents: UC students, workers, their families and all of California. The last thing we need is for the UC system to release flowery principles falsely claiming to support our communities. It is time to institutionally invest in our

Students should have a voice in the budget. These funds dominate how we make decisions: where and what to study and how to pay for it to how many people we live with, what we eat and how we get around. We need a tuition freeze until our administrators can be held

Boosting Knowledge Retention through Skill-based Grading



n the interest of knowledge retention, UC San Diego courses should promote skillbased learning by utilizing grading systems based on students' applications of skills. An ideal grading system wouldn't emphasize test-taking skills as much as understanding the content. This isn't to say that exams should be eliminated, but rather that exams should adopt skill-oriented problems and account for a smaller percentage of the course grade. Skill-based learning attaches meaning to grades when assignments, projects and exams are created with clear goals in mind for the students so that an A means that the student has mastered a particular skill — one that isn't routine test-taking or cramming for exams.

As part of a shift toward skill-based grading, professors should give leniency to poor grades by offering methods to make up points through extra credit assignments or exam corrections, with the end goal being that students can display their understanding of the material even after the exam date. If students perform poorly on a quiz, for instance, professors should allow them to receive partial points back by creating something like an educational YouTube video on the concept they failed to master, in order to show that they are capable of applying it in the future. Doing this can give students a chance to redeem themselves by honing the concepts on initially performed poorly. This would ensure that students are provided the opportunity to learn from their mistakes in a course for the sake of understanding the content and larger concepts in the long run, instead of trying to cram material for a test and moving on without reflecting on the skills they have acquired or don't fully

Project-based assignments should also represent larger portions of course grades to encourage students to be creative and show their understanding of course concepts through mediums they are comfortable with, such as creating a game that incorporates certain skills, making a poster or crafting an infographic. Rather than a timed, grueling test, these projects would make it easier for them to succeed in the course and help with knowledge retention in the long-run since students have to fully comprehend the material for a longer period of time than a one-hour test.

With the same intent of prioritizing students' understanding of concepts

over their performance on tests, increasing the number of real-world assignments would give students opportunities to apply course material in practical settings and ensure that their knowledge isn't limited to a classroom. Linear algebra courses that have MATLAB assignments to model real-world data help students understand the various applications of skills developed from course material in diverse settings. This exposes students to practices and tools used in respective career fields, allowing them to gain awareness of how course material applies to situations both outside of theoretical textbook problems and in the future.

Although real-world applications and project-based assignments will increase retention and grade students based on their understanding of content, the fact remains that exams are a convenient and easy grading method in a public university with thousands of students, and therefore unlikely to disappear. Accordingly, one way professors can better prepare students for exams — and thus prevent students from aimlessly cramming — is by providing concept lists in preparation for exams, in order to set clear goals for students throughout the studying process. Providing concept lists and practice problems for those concepts encourages students to utilize metacognition in studying, a method and how they want to study to get a better grade, in contrast to immediately diving into the studying process and trying to retain as much information as possible. In a study done by a Stanford researcher, students who were told to think about how they should study performed on average one-third of a grade better than students who mindlessly studied without thinking about the methods they used. When students learn to analyze and evaluate their own methods and thinking through metacognition, they are able to improve their studying methods with a goal in mind, ultimately making room for a more meaningful relationship with the content — one that exceeds cramming. Ultimately, metacognitive testing strategies combined with makeup assignments, project-based learning and real-world applications will help students learn the skills they need to survive outside of college.

> READERS CAN CONTACT EMILY ZHAO EMZ002@UCSD.EDU

WORLDFRONT WINDOW By David Juarez



▶ **RELIGION** from page 4

demonstrates a more-inherently governmental problem. This isn't the only demonstration of federally allowed Christian observances either, as many states still carry blue laws that prohibit the sale of alcohol and carry several other prohibitions or stipulations on businesses on Sunday, the traditionally Christian day of rest. These have been contested in the Supreme Court and ruled constitutional because no one is forcing active participation. This isn't a practical argument but rather a more ideological conflict. While not enforcing Christian practices, one is forcing — by way of shutting down government and commercial activity on these days - the nonobservant to observe simply by

taking away their choice to do otherwise. A secular nation with an ever-increasing non-practicing population should not have as one of its main holidays the most central celebration of the Christian faith. This isn't a question about whether or not a day of rest should be enforced but rather whether the government should continue to endorse business practices that keep tying it to the Christian faith.

The answer is no. The federal government needs to stop extrapolating in order to accommodate blatantly religious practices for the sake of maintaining tradition. It is clear that any move to make changes against these practices is massively unpopular, as many people are very attached to Christian America. The Starbucks "Happy Holidays" debacle is a

perfect example of that; a change by a private company to the more inclusive holiday greeting created outrage online and prompted an attempt at a boycott. The Christian population of this country, however, should not be determining federal policy regarding religious observance. That is fundamentally anti-American. While these changes separating Christianity from the private sector and disestablishing Christmas as a federal holiday - are not revolutionary and will not erase religious discrimination and oppression from the day-today reality, they would signify a starting point in reaching the ideals that were set forth in 1791.

> READERS CAN CONTACT ADRIANA BARRIOS A7BARRIO@UCSD.EDU



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FEATURES

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The Stuart Art Collection: **Creativity in** a Scientific Setting

"Art outlasts politics. That's why I care so much." - Mary Beebe

by Madeline Park // Contributing Writer

t was a small office. Or, at least it seemed small, being tucked away behind the corner of the rising Pepper Canyon Hall. The interior was no different. Small notes lined small frames which were tucked away in small spaces. The only thing large about the office was the art that lined the walls, almost completely hiding the white stone. This is very much a reflection of its owner — a Ms. Mary Beebe, who is small in stature but has large visions and ideas. These ideas are not only reflected in the artwork that frames the outlines of her office, but also in the artwork that frames the UC San Diego campus — namely, the Stuart Art Collection.

The Stuart Art Collection lies around the entirety of the campus. It encompasses the Sun God statue that sits large and looming over the field, the small televisions that are overrun by weeds and tall grass, the blue V forms that run through a canopy of trees, the glaring virtues and sins that illuminate Warren Mall. This collection represents not only the pieces of art scattered around the campus, but also the spirit of art and creativity in a school very much focused on scientific research.

And this is all thanks to Mary Beebe.

Mary Beebe, the art director for the Stuart Art Collection, has been working at UCSD since 1981. Throughout her time here, she has not only helped facilitate the entirety of the Stuart Art Collection but has also sought out artists and commissioned them (alongside an advisory board), even raising all funds for the collection herself. Working alongside the collection's founder, James Stuart DeSilva, as well as many other people, Beebe has been able to watch the collection thrive and grow.

"What do I think about each of the artworks? I love them all," Beebe said with a laugh, "They're sort of my babies ... They all speak to me in different ways because it's been such a personal experience of working with these artists and getting to know them and their work."

This experience does not only ring true for people such as Mary Beebe who directly work with the art, but it also resonates with the average community member or student or faculty who passes by the works every day. The fact that the pieces are scattered throughout the campus itself rather than concentrated into one sculpture garden gives people the opportunity to have a hands-on interaction with the collection on a daily basis.

"They're for everybody — they're not just for students. The community, the bigger community, faculty, literally everybody. They're placed there to think about it if you want them. It's not about taste, it's about quality. We want high quality artists and high quality ideas ... Little boys were coming in when I was talking — there must have been a boy scout troop — to some other people,

and this little boy ... said to me — he hadn't a clue who I was he said, 'do you know how cool this is?"

So what does this "cool" collection consist of — as termed by the little boy? Aside from the most famed ones - Sun God, Fallen Star, and Bear artist John Baldessari's "READ/ WRITE/THINK/DREAM" is

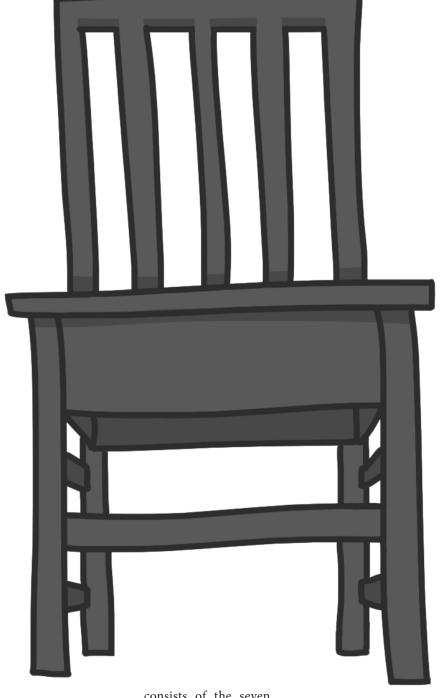
probably one of the most overlooked pieces in the collection. This is ironic namely because thousands of students see this piece every day. Located at the entrance of Geisel Library, "READ/WRITE/THINK/DREAM" consists of panels of glass that hold pictures of students and books, glass that is tinted in shades of the primary colors, and glass that contains the words "READ," "WRITE," "THINK" and "DREAM." Put together, the piece is meant to represent how students and literature make up the university's foundation.

"What I elected to do was — because I've taught pretty much all my life, as a means to support myself and I thought, Why don't I, instead of using elements taken out of movies, deal with students," Baldessari remarked. "That's pretty much what I did. Students either standing or sitting, frontal or side view, left and right. Those are elements.

Speaking of unnoticed pieces, enter the two violet v-forms that run through the eucalyptus grove right next to the faculty club. This piece, entitled "Two Running Violet V-Forms" by artist Robert Irwin, is most known by the student body as the "giraffe catchers." Yet, these twin forms have a lot more meaning than what meets the eye. In fact, they appear to be different at any given moment in the span of a day.

"I walked the campus, which is what I always do," Robert Irwin stated. "In this particular case, I felt the architecture and layout of the campus; there was nothing really special about it - nothing except the stands of eucalyptus trees. To me, that's what you remember. It's the one thing that distinguishes the campus ... So then I came down with the question of, OK, what can I do in this space? ... The idea of coloration was quite interesting — that every time you walk through those stands of trees at different times of day, they are a different color. They go from almost a nondescript gray to violet and to green, and they get a kind of golden quality at certain times of day, from the sunlight. So the idea was also to sort of heighten the experience of color."

Another piece in the Stuart Art Collection is the "Vices and Virtues" piece by Bruce Nauman, which



consists of the seven

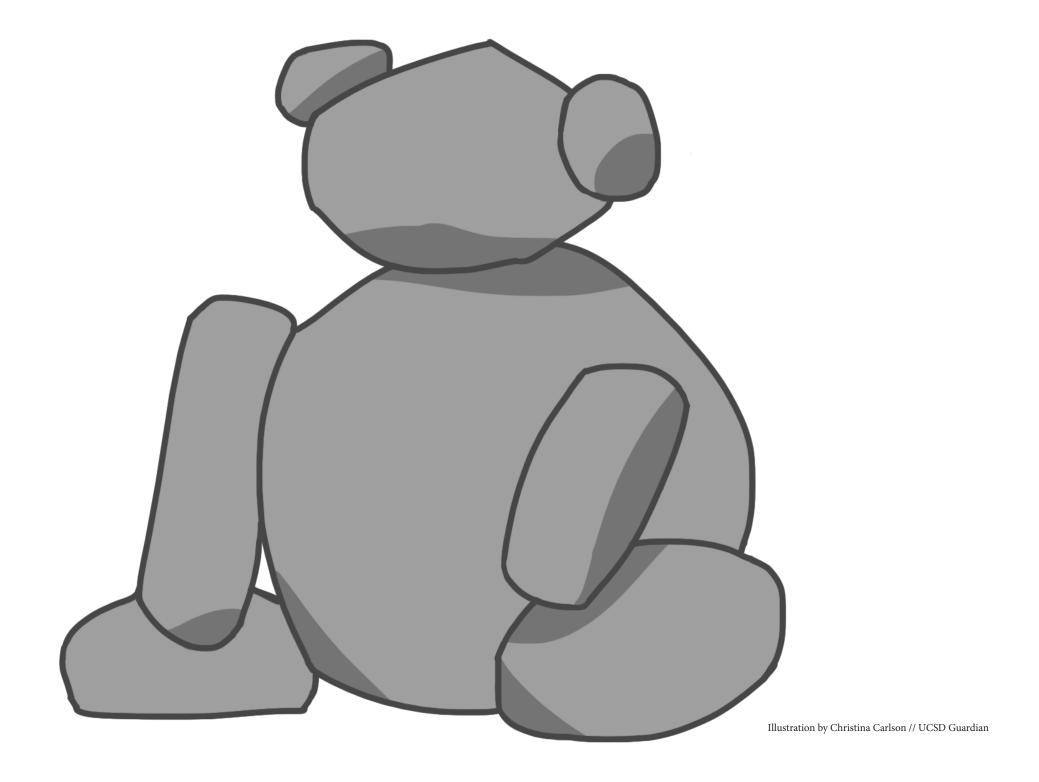
vices and virtues displayed in bright neon against the Charles Lee Powell Laboratory in Warren Mall. This has by far been the most controversial piece to grace the campus collection and was contested by several in the community before it finally came through. This was namely because of the use of neon.

"The people just didn't want neon in their neighborhood," Beebe recalled. "The City Councilman called a press conference at the theater and declared that 'if the university were to allow LUST up there in neon it would incite infidelity in the community.' When the newspaper called to ask me what I thought, I said, 'There are 14 words up there; why did he choose LUST? Doesn't that say something about him?" Beebe said incredulously. "Some people actually were in favor of it. Mandel Weiss actually loved the idea."

Currently, the Stuart Art Collection consists of 20 different pieces, all spread throughout the campus. All 20 have passed through the small little office in the midst of Sixth College, where new ideas and plans are constantly being generated. In fact, a new project set to go up in Revelle by early next year is already in motion.

It is through art that UCSD continues to be an environment of learning — not just academic learning but visual and creative learning. The Stuart Art Collection is not only a "hidden gem" amongst UCSD's notorious gray buildings, but also benefits students in that it allows them to know more about and thus aid the academic part of their university experiences. And, just as importantly, art is what lasts. As expressed by Mary Beebe, "Art outlasts politics. That's why I care so much. Because what do we think about the past? Michelangelo. Who knows who were the tsars in Italy at the time of Michelangelo? ... But you know that Michelangelo made incredibly beautiful things and that it's worthwhile looking at them."

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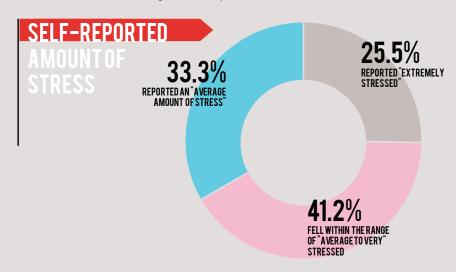
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THE STATISTICS BEHIND STUDENTS AND STRESS

BY BRITTNEY LU // LIFFSTYL FEDITOR

ollege students are notorious for being constantly stressed out, and at UC San Diego, this is an all-too-common sentiment. In a survey of 50 students at UCSD, Lifestyle researched how much stress affects the student body on a weekly basis, what on-campus resources are being utilized and what insight students had to offer to bring a more holistic approach to student wellness on campus.

According to the most recent survey, when asked to rank weekly stress levels on a scale of one to five — one correlating with feeling "minimal stress" and five corresponding to feeling "extremely stressed" — a majority of students fell within the range of three to five, indicating a relatively "average" to "very" stressed feeling on a weekly basis.

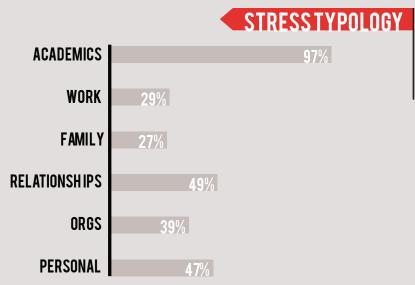


Student demographics and major fields were not recorded, indicating that the general student population — regardless of being STEM or non-STEM, year in school and any other self-identifying factors — felt at the least, a perceptually average amount of stress and at the most, extremely stressed. Retrospectively, this speaks into a more general consensus that the university's climate itself and common shared identity as a UCSD student facilitates stress disregarding any other identifiable confounding factor.

Breaking down the stress typology more, most students reported stress associating with academics, with relational or personal concerns coming up next, followed by organizational or structural issues and finally, work and/or family adding to student stress as well. Noticeably, these stressors were often accumulating and simultaneously occurring, affecting not just one sector of a student's life, but multiple, and often in synergistic patterns.

Ninety-eight percent of students surveyed stated academic burdens were the primary cause of stress. Generally, as full or part-time students, this would make sense — exams, lectures, readings and homework are a universally accepted and foundational source of stress for attendees of a university. But what is often overlooked is that other stressors play into the holistic and mental well-being for students as well. At the same time, students reported that roughly 50 percent of co-occurring stress comes from their social, familial, relational and personal lives, 40 percent coming from extracurricular or structural burdens and about 30 percent as a result of part-time jobs or family. These compounding factors only exacerbate the pre-existing academic stress, but might often remain invisible to the campus eye.

But when it comes to utilizing resources on campus to cope with various and layered stressors, only 25.5 percent of students take advantage of university-provided student health and wellbeing resources while 74.5 percent do not. Reported coping mechanisms include UCSD-provided mental health services, such as Counseling and Psychological Services, identity-specific resources (like the Raza Resource or Women's Center) and more



informal approaches, including Therapy Fluffies provided weekly by the Zone, reaching out to friends or even trips to the beach. However, roughly two percent of students surveyed were not even sure about what resources UCSD provides for student holistic health and well-being.

Furthermore, when looking into personal responses to coping with stressors, there was a range of emotions, solutions and perspectives. A majority of students surveyed would mention "sleep," "shutting down" or apathetic withdrawal when facing high levels of stress. Other students mentioned exercise, meeting up with friends, religion, "perspective shifts," music or nature as ways to deal with the cumulative burdens of being anxious or stressed, with only a few students reporting the use of on-campus facilities to address mental health or counseling.

Drawing upon the student body's personal experiences, Lifestyle asked the surveyed students what advice they would offer in order to create a university climate that is more conducive to improving mental health and stress mediation at UCSD. Here's what some of our peers had to say:

"I have no idea what resources [the campus] has. More advertisement of resources would be helpful."

"It would be cool to see the implementation of a campus-wide requirement for students to take on at least one stress-reducing activity of their choosing, or to at least learn ways to diminish and better cope with stress."

"Increasing the accessibility of CAPS to students and social gatherings to help with effects of loneliness."

"More massages and spaces to nap!"

"Change the effect of the high-stress culture and mindset at a university."

"CAPS is not as accessible as it needs to be. I went through a mental/emotional crisis in winter quarter, and the earliest available appointment was three weeks out. To think that I was 'lucky' to get an appointment in that time frame is astonishing to me. Three weeks is such a long time when you're living through the quarter system. By the time I got to the appointment, I had had to resolve my issues the best I could by myself. I eventually got the help I needed through CAPS, but I didn't get it even close to when I needed it the most. The staff at CAPS is great, but the system itself is disappointing."

"A lot of The Zone's events are really cool but so understaffed or small that a lot of students can't participate. I wish they had larger events that actually accommodated all interested students. I'm talking yoga, meditation, free coffee or tea, more appointment time slots with CAPS and informal ways to talk to CAPS that are less daunting."

So while the school culture is (rather unfortunately) one that thrives off of stress, the prevalence and etiology behind student-experienced stress is far too high and increasingly straining on student well-being and health. Perhaps a reframing of the university's climate coupled with increased structural resources might change the narrative of what it means to be a student and diminish the notoriety of stress at UCSD.

UCSDTOPOGRAPHY-ALOOKINTOSPACE AND STRESS

BYBRITTNEYLU // LIFESTYLE EDITOR

A good friend once said that design is the ultimate form of performance art, that the spatiality and physical layout of architecture is the implicit way of structuring human behavior. Walkability and pathways facilitate intrigue and guidance into particular places, and transparency of windowed buildings can incite invitation while open, communal spaces facilitate gathering. Outdoor green space can mediate stress and rest, and interior design can promote mindfulness or creativity. Essentially, individual choices and responses, resilience or vulnerability, are all shaped and geared to respond to the external environment.

One of the increasingly popular approaches to rethinking urban design is called "the salutogenic effect," or the practice of designing and constructing to promote wellness, both physically and mentally. It engineers a physical layout that facilitates the relationship between body and space, taking internal needs and magnifying them into types of buildings, streets, parks, homes and districts. In what is known as "the built environment," it is perceived by urban designers that the spaces people occupy are conducive to whether or not they have the capacity to make the choices that facilitate a holistically healthy lifestyle, build social support networks or find a sense of belonging.

Simultaneously, however, the built environment can also manifest the opposite effect. Holistically healthy environments often become privileged or sparsely disconnected between the needs of the people and the construction of the physical environment. Rather than promoting social support networks and belonging, spaces can be built with walls, separated or ill-placed to prevent gathering and community building. So when one considers the design and intentionality behind how UC San Diego was constructed, it is worth wondering if the layout is one that promotes or resists stress.

For the 30,000 or so students who attend or live at UCSD, how then, does architecture affect the lived experiences of the student body? When a lecture hall is only 10 minutes away from a residential area, can one truly feel "at home"? Architectural journalist Jane Jacobs promotes the philosophy of mixed use areas to increase diversity in use, people and space; but at UCSD, many might respond that while there's a sense of convenience in living near, and even at, where one studies, there might also be a heightened sense of anxiety that

comes with being unable to find a space to detach from the stressors of school. And with a lack of efficient public transportation, if one doesn't have a car, there's also the possibility of feeling "trapped" on campus. Especially since UCSD and La Jolla itself are physically and geographically so segregated and isolated from the rest of San Diego.

Beyond where one lives, there is also the question of whether or not UCSD has enough safe spaces, health resources, recreational areas or gathering places for the student body to have a life outside the classroom. Even if there is a place to stay, there is not a guarantee that there is an associated feeling of belonging, bringing up the question of whether or not certain resources, and particularly for students of color, are doing enough for our student body. At UCSD, the immense

sprawl of buildings across the span of its topography makes connectivity challenging, with open and public spaces to gather being too few and far between — for instance, consider the distance between Revelle Plaza and Price Center Amphitheater. Furthermore, the natural landscaping of UCSD itself is a challenge to maneuver. Hills,

around on campus. So returning to the idea of a salutogenic envi-

lack of shared pedestrian and biker pathways and

the terrain itself can pose a barrier to even walking

ronment, does the space at UCSD facilitate the promotion of student wellness? Or does it create a place to study, work and research, with the rest of design falling as an afterthought?

Questions, concerns or thoughts? Email us at lifestyle@ucsd-



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by Nadia Link // Staff Writer

▼ rom fashion to food, this column has discussed the wide and colorful world of environmental ◀ sustainability. It is a topic that I am very passionate and fairly knowledgeable about, but this time around I will be shifting gears to something a bit more finite in scope: your sustainability. By that, what I mean is that I will be writing about how to take care of your mental health in order to sustain a healthier state of being. See? Sustainability!

As a young, innocent 22-year-old about to enter the real, adult world in one month, the only thing I know about mental health is how I dealt with my own over the past four years at UC San Diego which, as you know, makes me an expert. In my four years at UCSD, I met some of the most stressed individuals I have ever encountered. It is a stressful campus, but I think part of that is the push for that magical and elusive GPA.

There is a mystical and powerful chant for those of us who aren't planning any academic endeavors after graduation. It goes something like, "Cs get degrees." Essentially, if you aren't going to graduate school or pursuing a specific degree-based job, it is OK to get Cs and Bs. My stress load and thus mental health greatly improved when I came to this realization.

If you don't have the luxury of not thinking about school past graduation, then grades usually have an intense impact on your psyche. There is nothing quite like the sensation of getting a 40 percent on an exam, having a breakdown about a failing grade, then realizing that the average was 30 percent, making your grade passable. To be honest, I always handled this stress by going out and taking a walk, or cooking or doing anything I enjoy that would take my mind off academics. This, of course, doesn't always work, and that is when it is great to turn to family.

The people who care most for you are the people who want to know about you and your state of being. When the stress seems unbearable, a conversation with someone who cares about you beyond what grade you have in organic chemistry can make a huge difference. It is good to remind yourself that there is so much more to life than grades. If you are not mentally healthy, things can often get worse. It may not always seem like the truth, but grades mean nothing if you aren't happy and life seems overwhelming.

For the most part, we go to college because it will help us to get to a point in our lives where we believe we will be happy. If you lost sight of that goal because of how overwhelming life is today, then you should take the time to step away and evaluate your mental state and what you can do to bring yourself back to where you felt happy or satisfied with your current life.

Sustainability isn't only about the environment but also about yourself. Take the time to consider if you can sustain the level of stress and pressure you are under for a period of time. If you find that you can't, there is nothing wrong with asking for help! You will be all the better for it.





Del Rosso's writing process is unique to each of her plays, but a question or idea always forms the genesis of her projects. "It starts with an obsession or something that's been bothering me, and then I go into dialogue," she told the UCSD Guardian.

observations.

For her most recent project "Are You There" — premiering as part of the Wagner New Play Festival — Del Rosso derived inspiration from a phone conversation. "I ended up transcribing that conversation and then I thought, 'Maybe there's something here; maybe I should dig into this more."

"Are You There?" investigates a long-distance relationship between two people over the course of a decade, but the evolution of technology and forms of communication span several decades. "We're on a journey with these characters as they develop their relationship but we're also tracking how technology manipulates and distorts our relationships with one another," explained Del Rosso.

In the digital age, theater works as an antidote to a deviceobsessed world. "When you're in a play you have to disconnect," Del Rosso said. "I think theater is able to retain our ability to be present and in community with one another, which is one of the things that draws me to it to begin a way that embraces that sensory overload, so I think there are ways of embracing this shift in attention spans — but you also have to complicate it."

The playwriting program at UCSD has given Del Rosso the opportunity to immerse herself completely in her work. "When I was living in New York, I had multiple part-time jobs and there just wasn't enough time and space to devote to my writing, so the fact that the program here provides a fullyfunded opportunity to just write and teach is amazing," she said. The small program allows for individualized attention from the professors and a collaborative environment, which has fostered the formation of a close-knit cohort of student writers. "And it has pushed me to create more work," Del Rosso added. "If I'm working on this Wagner play but I'm in a class where I'm supposed to write a completely different play and present pages every week, then I'm going to be held accountable to that, so the sheer structure is helpful."

Del Rosso's plays primarily under the umbrella of dark comedy. Her stylistic preferences are driven by her worldview but also by a commitment to the craft. "I want to observe and interrogate real things that happen between people, but I also want to be aware constantly that we're in a theatrical space and ask, 'What

something that was instilled in me pretty early on by mentors of mine is that it's dangerous to feel like your work is too precious. Particularly with something like theater," Del Rosso said. She emphasized the importance of working with a team and getting comfortable sharing drafts. Del Rosso spoke fondly about her collaboration with Zora Howard an M.F.A. Acting student and the director of "Are You There?" — saying, "She leads the room really effectively, but she's also really diligent about making sure that that we're on the same page. The director-playwright relationship is a tricky one. But when you get that match that works, it's great."

Del Rosso tries to avoid controlling the reception of her plays . "You have to obviously take care of the audience, but I try to not focus too much on expectations of what I want people to feel or how I want them to respond just because I never want to prescribe an experience to them," she said. In her ideal scenario, Del Rosso's audience leaves the theater with disparate and lasting reactions. "Hopefully my plays linger in people, not necessarily because they liked them, but if they stay with people and if they've given them something to think about, or question, or maybe even disagree with or if it just stays in their mind, then that's exciting to me."







"Baby Teeth" and "Are You There?" use comedy to reflect on the impenetrable nature of human identity and the pitfalls of technology.

e all end up pulp." This is the dominant motif of the bleak comedy, "Baby Teeth." Part of the New Wagner Play Festival, "Baby Teeth" exposes and investigates our self-destructive tendencies to stifle our true desires in order to satisfy the demands of domesticity.

The play takes place in the home the quick-witted, renowned painter Elise (Hannah Finn) and her husband Rod (Sidney Hill), a reclusive, artistically-unenlightened real-estate agent. With the entrance of Elise's new personal assistant, Dave (Enrico Nassi), their gilded lifestyle is revealed to be cloaking unspoken fears and desires. From a traumatic childhood to a secret artistic expertise to a clandestine love affair, the characters' hidden afflictions and aspirations start to bubble to the surface, and Dave is the catalyst for the concurrent destruction of all of their

Geyer expertly couches intellectual concepts and the characters' arcane psychological features in

colloquialism, mundane interactions and metaphor to create an intimate portrait of domesticized humanity. In one particularly comedic moment, Rod shocks everyone when he comes home with tomatoes from the farmers' market. The tomatoes turn out to be a very big deal. They serve as the physical embodiment of the domesticized identity Rod — Elise and Dave, too, for that matter — has assumed.

The set itself screams bourgeoisie: hanging shelves adorned with a hodgepodge of household items including a coffee maker, an excessive amount of miniature potted plants and abstract metallic sculptures and pairs of beige leather shoes lined up neatly near the couch.

Scene transitions are guided by a monotonous chopping noise. At first, the sound is identifiable as vegetables being systematically sliced on a chopping board. However, it could also be taken for a ticking clock a playful jab at bourgeois household activities and a simultaneous reference to impending doom and the machinelike conformity of domesticity, creating a sense of foreboding.

Tensions mount to explosive levels, and soon enough, all secrets are revealed in a clash of events that triggers the sound of Elise blending Rod's locally-sourced tomatoes to a pulp — leaving audiences to reexamine those scene transitions, among other

The play's exploration of unexpressed human desires reveals that the lies we tell ourselves to appease our existential anxieties can't be sustained and that the simultaneous obliteration of our fabricated identities and social constructs is inevitable. "Baby Teeth," like its characters, is steeped in ambiguity, and it lingers.

"Are You There" takes a different approach to the modern love story. Del Rosso utilizes tempo and imaginative technological inventions to create a fresh, consistently funny and poignant examination of the parameters and potential of human intimacy.

The young and ambitious Adam

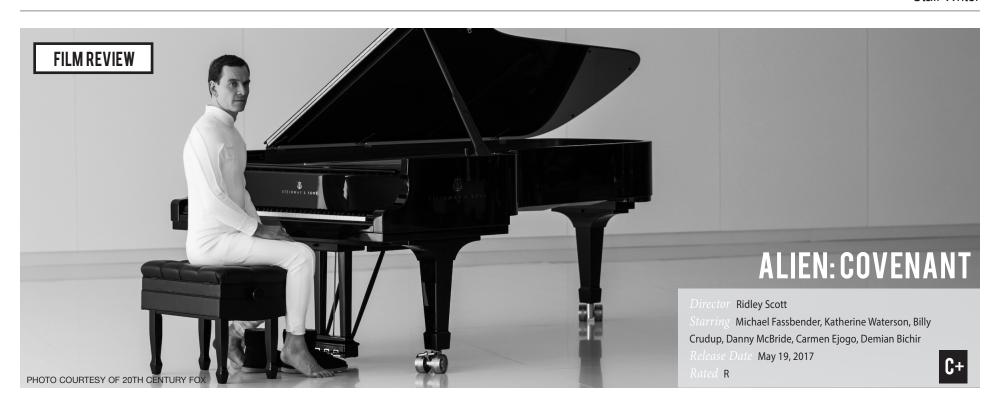
(Allyn Moriyon) and June (Kimberly Monks) both land their dream jobs, which happen to be on opposite sides of the country. Their predicament and intense determination to weather the separation incites a journey through time, space and technological advancements. The play unfolds as an exploration of humans' attempts to connect to each other via various modes of communication.

Initially, things look promising. The career couple plans video-chat dinner dates, engages in regularly scheduled phone calls, devises new and comical ways to simulate sexual intimacy and gushes over their respective new jobs. However, as Adam and June's relationship moves through FaceTime, virtual reality, holograms and eventually implanted chips that allow them to hear each other's thoughts, fissures begin to emerge in their East coast-West coast love affair. June loses her cellular connection, Adam misremembers their first date and technology proves itself to be as much their enemy as the passage of time and

Time moves quickly in the play, sometimes spanning years in a matter of seconds. The quick pace mirrors the frenzied nature of technology while keeping the audience intensely engaged. Midway through the show, the two meet in person for a highly anticipated reunion that is ultimately less than sweet. Their awkwardness is palpable and their passive-aggressive attempts to rekindle their desire for each other are laugh-worthy but also profoundly crushing.

The play's contemporary dialogue and references to modern communication make its message all the more resonant. Despite the show's intermittent moments of humor, Adam and June's asynchronous evolutions contribute to a fairly grim ending. We are left to ponder what went wrong and whether the promise of the honest connection June and Adam sought after is truly attainable.

> — MAYA KLEIMAN Staff Writer



Ridley Scott's sequel to "Prometheus" is a demonstration of the consequences of plot-mandated incompetency and of foreboding atmosphere.

orror films often require incompetence fundamental flaw that allows the story to progress in the proper direction. This isn't necessarily a criticism; interesting character development is best for imperfect individuals. Incompetence highlights the unfortunate yet truthful inconvenience of human relationships: exposure to both the pleasant and disdainful natures of people as well as the attendant consequences. However, films must walk a fine line between tragedy and facepalm-inducing farce. Ridley Scott's return to the "Alien" franchise after almost 40 years has trouble maintaining this balance.

Case-in-point: the premise, which leads the titular ship into an encounter with one of cinema's most iconic (and deadliest) species. The

Covenant, a colonial frigate carrying 2,000 hibernating colonists, is on its way to the habitable Origae-6 when a solar flare disrupts its systems. The event draws the 16 (now 15 after an unlucky crewmember is incinerated in a malfunctioning pod) man crew's attention to a near unintelligible transmission from a closer planet, conveniently an equally viable system for colonization. Disregarding the risks, the Covenant's acting captain (Billy Crudup) redirects the ship's course towards the world for study and potential settlement. It should be noted that the film's tragic and distasteful events could have been perfectly avoided had an authority figure not made an inane judgement

The now doomed expedition crew then falls into predictable archetypes. However, this crew has no history, and a crew without history is merely a set of bodies with distinguishable visages. Any understanding to be found in each character is more easily seen promotional advertising than in the film itself. No individual undergoes critical personal development, at least as it appears. The closest the film has to a protagonist is Lieutenant Daniels Branson (Katherine Waterson), who fits as a replacement Ripley. She carries the initiative and competence that invites her to grow into the survivalist of her peers, and the film attempts to make this explicit. Yet, she spends half the film spectating the wonders and horrors of the new world with little screen time and spends the other 50 percent attempting to quash a virulent bug. Everyone else either has their limbs separated from their torsos or becomes an unwilling host.

Actually, there is one exceptionally well-developed character in the film, but his role is integral to its plot. Mentioning him (or his return) would give away too much.

This leaves the audience with the story's admittedly fascinating progression. As much as the film overuses thriller tropes, it still provokes a grim satisfaction derived from slaughter and reaction. Incompetency does induce headaches, but the results are always delightful. Yes, the best thing to do when dealing with a chestburster is to lock it inside a quarantine room with a crewmate, as it is equally reasonable to trust someone's word that a Xenomorph egg is perfectly safe to gawk at! Unfortunate victims transform into sundered ligaments and uncanny cadavers while scientific

equipment is trashed and vehicles undergo extreme stress tests. The Xenomorphs themselves are as sleek and hostile as they've ever been. This abattoir finds time to be artistic as well. The variety of mythological and historical metaphors present in the film is tenfold, from references to the sonnet "Ozymandias" to the "Entry of the Gods into Valhalla" from "Das Rheingold."

"Alien: Covenant" isn't devoid of flaws, but it isn't devoid of cheap thrills either. On the contrary, the pleasure derived from the odd blend of gore and science-fantasy is a difficult sweetness to absolve oneself

> — DAVID DE LEON Staff Writer





THURSDAY5.25 • 8pm BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY

MANDEVILLE AUDITORIUM

Upcoming at





DR. JAMES COOKE TEACHING AND LEARNING IN STEM Monday, May 22

Doors: 6:30pm · Show: 7pm The Loft FREE for Students w/ID



FREQUENCY W/ DOTS & ACAMAZING Friday, May 26

Doors: 6:30pm · Show: 7pm FREE for Students w/ID



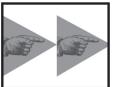
HOPKINS SAX JAM Friday, May 26 Show: 9pm

The Loft FREE for Students w/ID

Upcoming at

theloft.ucsd.edu





STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES AT COMMUTER LOUNGE Tuesday, May 23

Event: 1pm-3pm Commuter Lounge **FREE** for Students w/ID



SENIOR SEND-OFF: GIRAFFAGE &
ELEPHANTE W/ DVC Wednesday, May 24 Doors/Show: 8pm The Loft \$10 for Students w/ID



ROUND TABLE FRIDAYS

Friday, May 26 Event: 1pm-4pm

Round Table Patio Price Center West · FREE

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MON5.22

HUNGRY FOR HEALTHY: FLOURLESS PB, OAT, BANANA PANCAKES - THE

Join us as we learn to make flourless peanut butter, oat, and banana pancakes! Materials and ingredients are provided. Space is limited, first come, first served. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

5pm IT INNOVATIONS FOR IMPROVING GOVERNANCE IN AFGHANISTAN -SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER **CENTER AUDITORIUM**

Mobile phones and mobile money are revolutionizing finance and governance in some of the world's poorest and most unstable countries. Joshua Blumenstock (School of Information, UC Berkeley) and Michael Callen (Rady, UC San Diego) will describe three projects in Afghanistan that investigate ways in which development engineering can be brought to bear to improve governance. The presentation highlights how the confluence of mobile technology, financial service innovation, and big data analytics are opening up exciting new frontiers in the struggle to improve the welfare of contractions. citizens and government employees in the developing world. This PDEL Innovation Workshop is free and open to the public. Reception follows at 6:30 p.m. Contact: mthiveos@ucsd.edu Website: https://pdel-workshop-2017.eventbrite.com

FRESH SPRING ROLLS - UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join instructor Allison Tran in making some fresh spring rolls! Fee: \$25 Register Here: https://shoprec.ucsd.edu/

THU5.25

CSI AWARDS & CELEBRATION -THE LOFT, PC EAST

Come celebrate at this very special ceremony honoring organization and leadership accomplishments for the academic year. It's open to the entire campus and free to attend, just be sure to RSVP. Food and refreshments will be provided. Business attire is encouraged. Contact:

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY AT ARTPOWER - MANDEVILLE AUDITORIUM

UCSD Student: \$9 The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company was born out of an 11-year collaboration between Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, who passed away in 1988. During this time, the two dancers redefined the duet form and foreshadowed issues of identity, form, and social commentary that would change the face of American dance. The Company has performed worldwide in over 200 cities in 40 countries on a very major continent and is recognized as one of every major continent, and is recognized as one of the most innovative and powerful forces in the dance-theater world. The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company returns to UC San Diego with Play and Play: An Evening of Movement and Dance. Both are accompanied by live music. Contact: artpower@ucsd.edu Website: http://artpower.ucsd.edu/event/bill-t-jonesarnie-zane-dance-company/ ane-dance-company/

TUE5.23

10am UCSD FARMERS' MARKET - TOWN SQUARE

Every Tuesday, 10am-2pm. Meet our local growers and enjoy farm fresh fun. Our eclectic food vendors have a little something for everyone. Bring a reusable bag, or buy one of our all-new canvas totes for your purchases. Town Square on Myers Drive.

WALK-IN HOURS WITH STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES - COMMUTER LOUNGE IN PRICE CENTER

Are you in need of assistance with your lease or have any other legal troubles and concerns? Come out to the Commuter Lounge in Price Center next Tuesday for FREE walk-in legal advice! Attorney Jon Carlos Senour, director of Student Legal Services, will be there to provide advice on any legal concerns that you may have. +No appointment needed! +Snacks provided! Student Legal Services (SLS) is a free resource to registered UC San Diego students and student organizations. Services include confidential counseling, education, and referrals on all types of legal matters. SLS also offers weekly preventive legal education clinics on landlord-tenant issues and other legal topics throughout the year.

4pm

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS: MARTHA FELDMAN -CONRAD PREBYS MUSIC CENTER RECITAL HALL

The Department of Music's Distinguished Lecture Series is proud to present a lecture by Martha Feldman, a Mabel Green Myers professor of music and the humanities at the University of Chicago's Department of Music. Feldman will present a lecture titled, "The Castrato Phantom: Moreschi, Fellini, and the Sacred Vernacular in Rome" on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 4 p.m. A light reception will follow.

FRI5.26

FRIDAY INTERNATIONAL CAFE - GREAT HALL

Friday International Cafe is a weekly lunch hosted by the International Center featuring a different country every week, where students, faculty, and staff can learn about the culture as well as enjoy a representative cuisine of the featured country. Invite your friends for a fun lunch and a plate full of delicious cuisines for \$5 a plate!

6pm THE INTERMISSION ORCHESTRA: **OPEN REHEARSAL - PC WEST BALLROOM**

Understanding how an orchestra functions can be intimidating. How is it possible that eighty people can come together to perform harmoniously and hold a spectacular, two-hour concert? Such a feat should be comparable to herding cats! The Intermission Orchestra hopes to shed light on how people in an orchestra, even one as diverse as ours, work together to make music. We would be delighted to invite you to our Open Rehearsal, a unique opportunity to watch us prepare for our Spring 2017 Concert less than a week away. Contact: ysye@ucsd.edu (510)456-5600 Website: https://www.facebook.com/events/281789475613

WED5.24

11am BODY COMPOSITION - THE ZONE

Walk in for your free analysis which includes: body weight, percentage body fat, total body water, and blood pressure. One free assessment per quarter is available to registered UCSD students. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

1pm **R&R SQUAD CHAIR MASSAGES -**

Drop-in and get a low-intensity massage from the R&R Squad! Contact: sltan@ucsed.edu

FROM RESUME TO INTERVIEW -BEAR ROOM, PC WEST

Through this workshop, participants will gain knowledge on how to format and what to include on cover letters and resumes. Additionally, we will explore how to translate experiences and qualifications in an interview to land the job! Contact: ccl@ucsd.edu Website: http://ilead.ucsd.edu

2:30pm DE-STRESS WITH BIOFEEDBACK - THE ZONE

Come de-stress with the CAPs Wellness Peers! Measure your psychological stressors and learn more about what makes you most stressed, how it affects your well-being and how to keep your stress levels down! Workshops are all free. Space is limited and is first come, first served. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

REAL WORLD CAREER SERIES: RESUMES AND COVER LETTERS - COMUNIDAD ROOM, **CROSS-CULTURAL CÉNTER**

A resume and cover letter is your introduction to a prospective employer. Learn how to articulate your experience and involvement in a way that will leave the employer wanting to learn more and land a job interview. Contact: gmiramon@ucsd.edu Website: http://bit.ly/2qqBlt0

9m WEDNESDAYS@7 PRESENTS: CARLSON AND KARIS - CONRAD PREBYS CONCERT HALL

Distinguished Professor Aleck Karis and Assistant Professor Erik Carlson will present a concert as part of the Department of Music's ongoing Wednesdays@7 concert series. The duo's program will consist of works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Milton Babbitt and Johannes

8pm UNIVERSITY CENTERS PRESENTS: SENIOR SEND-OFF - PRICE CENTER BALLROOM WEST

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN! Get ready for Senior Send-Off, an annual University Centers tradition to bid farewell to our beloved Seniors! Senior Send-Off is open to all classes, so make sure to invite your friends! ***TICKETS ON SALE WEDNESDAY (5/4) @ THE BOX OFFICE IN PRICE CENTER!!*** \$10 (+ box office fees) for UCSD

LINE-UP: - Giraffage, - Elephante w/ opening from DVC. Doors/Show: 8PM, Price Center Ballroom West *This is a closed campus event, UCSD Students only.3

THE GUARDIAN -

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www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds

GARAGE SALE

Area Rugs....3 dining chairs (Jamul) - Area Rugs, Used! Multiple colors, styles, sizes \$5.-\$20. Shop early for best choice. 3 unique wood dining chairs, large style, decorative trim, white wash \$45. Carpets, flooring, decorative, decorations, kitchen, dining, living room. Listing ID: 312431402 at ucstanding and characteristics for more information. dguardian.org/classifieds for more infor-

Household items/PLANTS - A few sets of NEW bamboo cutting boards. eight x 10 and twelve x 18. (Costco currently is selling a set of smaller bamboo cutting board for 14.99) I am selling a combo for just \$7.00 iiii CHICCO Baby stroller, in good condition but missing seat pad, Cost 199. selling for 20.00, NICK NACKS, two paddle ball rackets, thick piece of beveled glass for a table top, 2' wide and 3.5 ft long, a dozen picture beginning reading books, two racguetball rackets and a can of ball 15.00, strings in terrific condition. NEW in box, AT&T 710 white business phone 10.00, used but in good condition, clean white toilet, 20.00, LOTS of potted plants, succulents and cacti, small and large. TERRIFIC PRICES. Call show contact info for info and address. PLEASE DO NOT text or email. I will only answer phone calls. Listing ID: 312431406 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Garage Sale Bargains - 2 racket ball rackets and three balls, strings are in attractive condition, \$5.00 for all 3. 2 PADDLE BALL RACKETS, A few sets of NEW bamboo cutting boards, 12" X eighteen " and 8x10 , (Costco is currently selling a set of smaller Bamboo cutting boards for 14.95) selling a set for just \$6.00, picture frames, CHICCO baby stroller in attractive condition, 199 retail, selling for just 20.00, missing seat pad, new 4 x 8 piece of 1/2" drywall cut

in half \$5.00, 1 very clean working, complete white toilet, \$20.00. A dozen or so beginning reading books, nick Knacks, ALSO lots of quality potted plants and larger cacti and succulents for landscaping, two feet BY 4 ft THICK PIECE OF BEVELED GLASS, NO CHIPS, CRACKS OR SCRATCHES, used replacement umbrella cover in forest green, call if you wanna come by and take a look. available most day time hours. show contact info I will open the garage on the street if you call and want to come by and take a look. PLEASE do not text or e mail, MAKE AN OFFER AND TAKE IT ALL Listing ID: 312431403 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

PETS

Mini Schnauzer Puppies - 995.00... - \$995. Mini Schnauzer Puppies 2 months, tail docked, veterinarian checked, current on vaccinations certificate included. Call or text 619-535-6362. Listing ID: 315020396 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Olde English Bulldogge - 1000.00... - \$1000. Adorable and playful Olde English Bulldogge pups born on Aug 06 2016. The pups will come vaccinated and dewormed. Please be in touch for info on rehoming fee. Ready to go home to a loving family. Both parents on site. Listing ID: 315020205 at ucsdquardian.org/classifieds for more

Bullys Puppies - 700.00... - \$700. I have 6 puppies for sale purebred razor edge 2 months old ready firts shots and dewormed big bone,big shest, big head parents in side for more information at 619 942 4852. Listing ID: 314074528 at ucsdguardian.org/ classifieds for more information

ROOMMATES

Room for rent University City - \$550. Looking for a subletter from now till August 31 (dates are flexible). Apartment is located in Plamor. Will possibly sharing room with 1 other, and apartment with 4 total. Some details: Rent: \$550/month utilities included (as a double, \$1000 as a single) Price negotiable! Plenty of parking. Personal Closet. In house washer/dryer unit. 1.5 bathrooms. Message me if you are interested, want to see pictures, or have any questions! Listing ID: 315311764 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Room for rent Park West - \$950. Beautiful furnished room for rent with queen size bed! Flat screen TV in room with cable TV, microwave, fridge, wi-fi, hard wood floorin and complementary coffee every morning Friendly on site staff with on-site laundry, patio and BBQ area. All Utilities included! Close to the San Diego Gaslamp Quarter, San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, Westfield Horton Plaza, USS Midway Museum, Fish Market Restaurant, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego Air & Space Museum and Petco Park. The Chadwick Manor offers great value, location, and hospitality to San Diego locals and world travelers alike. Come enjoy an inexpensive, yet, classy lodging experience whether it be short or long term. The Chadwick Manor is located at Seventh Ave and A St. In the heart of the financial district in downtown San Diego close to some of San Diegos best and most eclectic restaurants, coffee shops, bars. \$80 dayly! \$250 a week or 950 a month! \$250 Deposit! Listing ID: 315311732 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more informa-

Room for rent Mira Mesa - \$600. Room for rent Mira Mesa. Listing ID: 315311727 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more

crossword

Across

- 1. Be concerned
- 5. Competent
- 9. Watch face 13. Kind of vaccine
- 14. Gather, as grain
- 15. Actress Jane or Bridget
- 16. Points at the target 17. Mean one
- 18. Parcel out
- 19. TV interviewee's clip-on
- 21. Trumpet sound 22. Author Fleming
- 23. Team member
- 24. Cold sufferer's sounds
- 28. "Olé," for example 30. Video-store rental
- 31. III-gotten gains
- 32. Explosion sound
- 36. 9 Down, in quantity
- 37. Reveals 38. "__ la Douce"
- 39. "Gee!"
- 40. December 24 and 31 41. Goes on the lam
- 42. Notions
- 44. Hair stylists' employers
- 45. Grade better than a C
- 48. Collection
- 49. Big T-shirt size
- 50. Fax-machine plug 56. Eye-bending painting
- 57. Smallest of the litter
- 58. Succulent houseplant
- 59. Female voices
- 60. Actor Sharif
- 61. Femur or fibula
- 62. Prepared to hit a golf ball
- 64. Assembly instructions part

Down

- 1. Old furnace fuel
- 2. Opera solo 3. Freeway exit
- 4. Otherwise
- 5. Pleasant smells
- 6. Get started
- 7. Carefree escapade 8. Fencing sword
- 9. Where to see George Washington
- 10. Dental work 11. Really like
- 12. In a few hours
- 15. Story from Aesop
- 20. Vitality
- 23. Collies and canaries
- 24. Urban pollution 25. It's taboo
- 26. Currier's partner
- 27. Angler's gear
- 28. Apple centers 29. Farm implements
- 31. Molten rock
- 33. Triple-decker cookie 34. Seer's sighting
- 35. Church service
- 37. Honey handlers 41. Destiny
- 43. Songs for two 44. Military guard
- 45. Overfill
- 46. Syrup source
- 47. Angry 48. Sub tracker
- 50. __ and cons
- 51. Camel feature
- 52. Boxing punches
- 53. Very much 54. Funnel shape
- 55. Retain

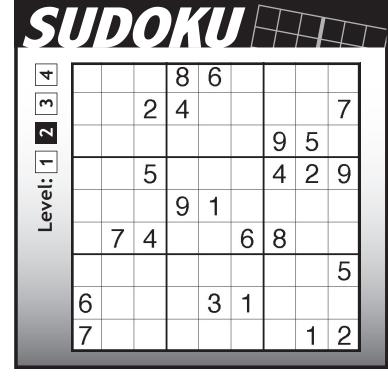


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The two "Superteams" are undefeated in the playoffs so far without a hurdle in sight.

from AGAINST, page 16

Today we have the Cavaliers and the Warriors as the leaders in this rat race. James has his pals Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love, while the Warriors, who already had plenty of stars like Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green, decided to woo Kevin Durant into joining. Durant made the decision to leave his already-very-good Oklahoma City Thunder because he didn't want to compete for a championship anymore and just wanted to coast to the finish line and pray that he could beat James. An interesting strategy...

The NBA is boring now when someone like Durant decides all they care about is winning a championship. If he had stayed with OKC and eventually won a championship, it would've been seen as a showing of strength and perseverance, but he decided to just take the easy way out and join an already superb squad. That's a move that players make when they're 40 and about to retire — not 28 and in the prime of their career. James is guilty of this too, of course, having abandoned Cleveland for Miami's enticing Dwyane Wade and Chris

It's times like these that I can turn to players like Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant or Dirk Nowitzki. They all stuck with their teams to get their championships and never jumped ship because yes, they wanted to win a championship in their careers, but also they wanted to grow, learn and compete with the team they were given. I wish Durant or James could've done that.

The other side of this says Superteams are making the league more exciting, more enjoyable to watch. And I understand that too. It's like getting to watch the all-star game during the actual regular season and playoff games. Of course, the all-star game is inherently less competitive because they don't have to care when they play — just as the league is becoming as a result. We love to see people who are good at what they do work together to create magic. But, everyone in the NBA has the ability to create magic, not just the Superteams.

So, now I ask, why do we watch basketball? Is

it to see the Cavaliers, Warriors, and sometimes Spurs get to the Finals and win every year? I'm bored. I miss loving the game. I want to see blood, sweat, and tears drip from each player on a team that has truly worked hard to play together as a unit and not just some group of superstars who wouldn't admit that they don't have to work as hard to beat everyone else. I want to see the wildest basketball dreams realized with effort put in — not taking the easy way out. I want that sense of wonder back.

READERS CAN CONTACT REESEMORGENSTERN RMORGENS@UCSCEDU



LeBron James has not been eliminated by an Eastern Conference team since 2010.

from FOR, page 16

seriously because we all know who will ultimately make it to the finals. While there is certainly some validity to that point, I think that the existence of the Superteams doesn't take away from the quality of basketball found in the other playoff series. As a fan of the sport of basketball and not just a fan of a team (Go Lakers!!), I'm conscious of the fact that great basketball is played by every team in the playoffs and not just by the Superteams.

Take, for instance, the Wizards-Celtics series in the second round. It had a stellar John Wall versus Thomas matchup that gave us the opportunity to watch two top guards in the league duel it out. As someone who plays basketball, there is so much within every series that I can look at and learn from. For example, both guards have a playstyle geared heavily towards attacking the rim off off the pick-and-roll, with Thomas having a slight edge in the jumpshot department. There is so much to learn from the individual games that no one

game ever loses its appeal for me. I can watch how both Wall and Thomas attack the defender off the pick-and-roll and look at the options they take based on what the defense gives them. All of this makes for an exciting basketball, even if I believed that neither team would have a chance against the

So what is it that I love about the almost onesided basketball games that we are seeing? It's witnessing domination. It's watching players who are at the top of their game pick apart and destroy their opposition. From a player's perspective, it's like when you're feeling good one day and no one can stop you. Everything just seems to work — the ball always finds the net, no one can defend you, your passes are all on time and spot on. There is something alluring about watching greatness unfold, and I think that attraction is being fulfilled by the Superteams

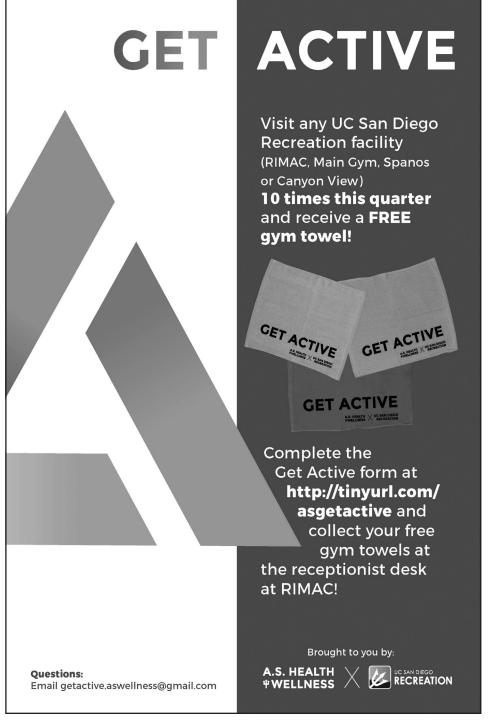
The results of the regular season provide even more ammunition to show that the Superteams are not detracting from the sport. We had Russell Westbrook average a triple-double across the entire season, and he might not even win the Most Valuable Player award. Hell, he's not even in the playoffs anymore! James Harden decided to switch playstyles from being an isolation scorer to a point guard over the summer.

Herein lies the beauty of the beauty of the Superteams: They show us the frontier of basketball's evolution. They are at the top because they bring the best iteration of offense and defense that currently exists in the game. They're able to accommodate the presence of multiple superstars, which was rather difficult for most teams to do before (take a look at the 2010-2011 Heat, who were still trying to balance Chris Bosh, Dwyane Wade and James). The quality of basketball has grown so much in spite of the whole "Superteams are destroying the sport" narrative that people are pushing because those very same teams are driving the evolution of the sport.

It might not be too fun as a fan to watch the Cavaliers or the Warriors crush your home team. But try and soak in the basketball that those two teams are giving us. If you don't, you might just miss out on watching the game evolve right before

READERS CAN CONTACT





SPORTS

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UPCOMING

Baseball 5/22 Track & Field 5/25 W Rowing 5/26

11 AM AT Dixie State (NCAA Regionals) AT NCAA Championships TBA AT NCAA Championships 8 AM

BASEBALL Tritons Rolling in NCAA Regionals The UC San Diego baseball team has gone 3-0 by defeating Dixie State and Azusa Pacific twice. by Daniel Hernandez // Senior Staff Writer PHOTO BY HENRY CHEN

n Thursday, the UC San Diego baseball team began its West Regional NCAA Division II Championship run against Dixie State and defeated its opponent with a 5-2 victory. Next up for the Tritons on Friday was Azusa Pacific who came into the tournament as the second seed and tournament host. However, the home-field advantage made no difference as UCSD grabbed a convincing 4-0 win to move on to the quarterfinals. The following night, the Tritons faced off against Azusa Pacific again and, this time, won with a 11-3. As a result, the Tritons booked their ticket to the Monday West Regional semifinal against the same opponent they opened the tournament with, Dixie State.

Game 1

Redshirt senior pitcher Troy

Cruz took the mound for the Tritons in the tournament opener and pitched a complete game to earn the 5–2 win over Dixie State. A three-run blast from redshirt senior outfielder Brandon Shirley and a two-run double by redshirt junior first-baseman Justin Flatt were enough to get the job done on the opening night of the tournament.

UCSD came into the West Regional as the fourth seed while Dixie State was ranked at the third seed. However, the Tritons looked in control of the game throughout, and a solid pitching display from Cruz with a couple of crucial offensive plays got the team on the scoreboard.

The Tritons took the lead in the third and never looked back as Dixie could not inch their way fully back into the game. After a threerun third inning from the Tritons,

Dixie earned one run of their own in the bottom of the inning to make it 3-1. Then, Dixie cut the lead to one in the sixth, 3-2, but UCSD responded in the eighth inning with two runs to put them into a winning position.

Game 2

Cruz had already put on a solid shift on Friday night, however the following night redshirt senior pitcher Adrian Orozco put on an absolute clinic versus Azusa Pacific, throwing a one-hit complete game to earn the Tritons a dominant 4-0

With the home crowd advantage against the Tritons, Orozco was not fazed, taking a no-hitter into the ninth inning. He could do nothing wrong the entire night as he left the opposition and its home crowd silent throughout. Unfortunately, Orozco could not keep the no-hitter

for the last two outs of the game, when the next hitter hit a single up the middle take away his no-hitter bid. However, the most important fact of the night was that the Tritons earned the win and kept their tournament hopes alive and well.

Game 3

On Saturday night, the Tritons found themselves in front of the same opposition once again, Azusa Pacific, and the result was no different as UCSD took a convincing 11-3 victory over the hosts.

The story of the tournament for the Tritons has been their dominant pitching and that did not stop in their third game in as many days. Redshirt junior pitcher Kyle Goodbrand got the start and only allowed three hits and two runs in his 6 3/3 innings of work. Redshirt freshman pitcher Blaine Jarvis and sophomore pitcher Kyle Lucke relieved Goodbrand and did a fine job, both splitting the last 2 1/3 innings of the game and allowing a single run and a single hit.

UCSD started off the game with back-to-back two-run innings, followed by a single run in the third to hold a 5-2 lead. By the ninth inning, the Tritons were up 11-2 and were in total control of the game with only three outs to go.

They had no problem dealing with the Cougars and earned their bid into the West Regional final on Monday, where they will face off against Dixie State one last time in order to make it to Texas.

READERS CAN CONTACT DANIEL HERNANDEZ DAHO43@UCSD.E

Are "Superteams" Good for the NBA?

Can We Bring Competition Back To The NBA?

by Reese Morgenstern // Contributing Writer

for the love of the game? Yes. Is it to watch players who devote their entire lives to the sport get to realize their dream? Yes. And of course the sweat — don't forget all that sweat.

At the end of the day, we sports fanatics love to watch competition and see every team go out on its court or field and discover which team has the will to win. There's an inherent sense of wonder when you watch any sport — you always want to know what happens next. So, what if I told you that right now, in the NBA, any one of us basketball fans could predict how each season will end? Every team competes as hard as it can only to lose to the exact same teams every year. You'd think I was lying, especially coming from a league that preaches "Where Amazing Happens" as its slogan. Sadly, the league has changed and now the only "amazing" that happens is the amount of money the players receive to play.

There are these weird mythical beasts called "Superteams" that have become the new trend in the NBA. It's all about getting a trio (at least) of players together on one team and just letting them dominate. One could argue that this whole thing began with the San Antonio Spurs having Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili

hy do we watch sports? Is it as their "Big 3," but the trend did not truly take off until 2007. It all started when the Boston Celtics acquired Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett to have them join the stillgreat Paul Pierce. In the past 10 years, owners and GMs have decided this is the new way to make a team in the NBA and frankly, it's destroying the game we all know and love.

Maybe some out there enjoy watching these Superteams just coast through the 82-game regular season and then the playoffs, but most fans of the game never became fans because they wanted to keep watching one team blow out the other over and over. Since 2007, Lebron James alone has left his hometown Cleveland team in which he was the lone star, joined a Superteam in Miami and then returned to his home only to form another Superteam. He could only win a championship once he went to Miami.

Believe it or not — the last time a team other than a James team, Spurs team, or Warriors team won a championship was my favorite basketball team - the Dallas Mavericks. In 2011 the Mavericks shocked the world and defeated the heavily favored Miami Heat. A team made up of scrappy players and one superstar like the olden days. No team has been capable of doing so since.

Competition is Alive and Well in the NBA

by Richard Lu // Staff Writer

s of Sunday, May 21, the Golden State Warriors are 3-0 against the San Antonio Spurs, and the Cleveland Cavaliers are 2–0 against the Boston Celtics. Barring some sort of divine intervention, both the Warriors and the Cavaliers will be 12-0 heading into the NBA Finals. It seems as if this year's finals matchup is destined to be another rematch between the Warriors and the Cavaliers.

Both teams are stacked to the brim with talent: Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Kevin Durant and Draymond Green on the Warriors and LeBron James, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love for the Cavaliers. Both teams are built for the playoffs; their star players have the potential to instantly take over and crush the opposition.

James, whom I believe has the potential to cement himself as the "Greatest of All Time" by the end of his career, has demonstrated a level of dominance unheard of since the Jordan era. He's pretty much a lock for his seventh straight finals appearance, so I think it's fair to say that literally, no one can stop him. I'm not too big on numbers, but I will give you one set of numbers you should never forget: 3-1. Last year, in the 2016 NBA Finals, James willed his way to a third NBA championship by defeating the Warriors.

On the other side are the Golden State Warriors, who have two of the greatest shooters the game has ever seen after adding Kevin Durant to their roster this past summer. The addition of Durant gave fans a reason to complain — the already star-studded team was getting another star. Now, it seems like there are the Cavaliers, the Warriors, and then everyone else, and the results of the playoffs so far have proven this to be true. But this is not a problem.

Why? To me, it's a matter of enjoying great basketball. Both teams are operating on a level in the playoffs that most other teams cannot compete with in a seven-game series. Take the Cleveland versus Boston game that took place on Friday — Boston had no chance against Cleveland whatsoever. The performance that the Cavaliers gave was a sight to behold. Let's take a look at the statlines of some of the Cavaliers' players for game two of the Eastern Conference Finals to give their performances some context: James with 30 points, four rebounds, seven assists, four steals and three blocks; Kyrie Irving with 23 points, one rebound, three assists, one steal and one block; and Kevin Love with 21 points, 12 rebounds, two assists and

On other side, The Celtics were led in scoring by rookie Jaylen Brown (19 points) who didn't even break 20 points. Their star player, Isaiah Thomas, scored a measly two points and exited the game with an injury.

Going into halftime, the score was 72-31, thanks to the Cavaliers' Big 3 (James 22, Irving 14, Love 18). Here, we see the strength of the Cavaliers as a team — there is always one star who is producing when the others are not. Game two is enough to show us what happens when all three stars show up. The Cavaliers/Warriors are Superteams because of the fact that the opposing team cannot hope to contain all of their weapons.

An argument can be made that having two teams dominate the playoffs every year makes the game a bit stale: The other series aren't really taken

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