Recreation Dept. Explores New Summer Options

By Katie Corotto
Senior Staff Writer

New payment options aim to increase facility usage, while a hike in student recreational fees remain a possibility.

Following a university-mandated summer recreational fee increase two years ago — which raised the compulsory student fee for use of campus sports facilities during the summer by more than 600 percent — the Department of Recreation is implementing several new exercise options to relieve the “immediate sticker shock” and persuade students to head back to UCSD gymnasiuums during the summer.

“Officials say they cannot deny the possibility that fees will increase again when they are recalculated next year,” said a university spokesperson.

In 2006, UCSD moved to full state funding for the summer, converting the summer sessions into full academic quarters and requiring the university to boost all fees in that period to match the fees of the Fall, Winter and Spring quarters. Prior to that, the Department of Recreation imposed a $25 fee for full use of the sports facilities during both summer sessions, but the mandated conversion required the recreational fee for summer students to remain constant throughout the year, raising the summer fee from $23 to $92.

Controversy arose that same year when former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Newton and Director of Recreation Dave Koch agreed to extend the same pricing structure — an additional $67 for students enrolled in summer session — to nonenrolled summer students in order to ensure that both groups who have full access to the sports facilities pay a fair amount.

Koch said the summer immediately following the fee hike faced dramatic financial consequences, as total revenues from the summer recreational-card sales dropped almost 80 percent, or nearly $37,000. Although the new options and influx of new students helped alleviate the loss last summer, Koch attributed the drastic drop in revenue to the extreme difference in pricing between the two summers.

“Financially for us, that was a significant loss of anticipated income … because all the enrolled summer students were now having to pay the $92 RIMAC fee instead of purchasing those recreational cards,” he said.

Members of the Athletic, Recreation and Sports Facilities Advisory Board, a group comprised of both undergraduate and graduate students that reviews all spending of recreational and athletic student fees, said most of the revenue lost had to be reappropriated to other sources by a special request to the advisory board.

“In the name of fairness, every stakeholder lost,” Senior Ji-San Lee said. “Thousands of nonenrolled students disenrolled, hundreds were made to pay an enrollee fee. We need a better way to spend the money.”

Although fees for the current summer are re-evaluated next year, officials say they cannot deny the possibility that fees will increase again when they are recalculated. According to a university spokesperson, “the revenue lost had to be reappropriated from other sources by a special request to the advisory board.”

New payment options aim to increase facility usage, while a hike in student recreational fees remain a possibility.

FOCUS
Work Before Play
Graduate students choose books over books on a quest to fulfill their academic potential.

YOUNGER VOTERS ALTER SCOPE OF CAMPAIGNING

By Peter Feytser
Senior Staff Writer

Voter turnout for young people has been historically inconsistent, as older voters are the traditional targets of political campaigns. However, this year’s election marks a significant change in candidates’ strategies, as the growing popularity of Internet campaigning has diverted more attention to a younger demographic.

Sen. Barack Obama (D-III.) significant win in Iowa, largely due to a strong base of young voters, caught attention to the frequently overlooked voting group.

It is evident from the candidates’ homepages that they are increasingly vying for support from young voters. Every major presidential candidate, with the exception of Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), has links to his or her site, with the exception of Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), has links to his or her page.

Artists Duel With Admins in Mandeville Center Graffiti War

Instead of the colorful walls surrounding some of Mandeville Center’s stairwells — commonly known to students as the “graffiti stairs” — those passing by will now find multiple layers of blue paint.

The stairwells, along with other tunnels and corridors that contain graffiti in the Mandeville Center, have long been considered UCSD landmarks. However, the recent reopening of the University Art Gallery — closed since 2006 for remodeling — has led UCSD administrators to consider covering the graffiti. The gallery restoration project included the revamp of the UAG and the painting of several walls that displayed graffiti.

“The area around Mandeville, particularly in some dark corridors near the University Art Gallery, had been overrun with what many perceived to be ‘trashy’ graffiti,” said Associate Vice Chancellor of University Communications Stacie A. Spector said in an e-mail.

As a graffiti artist who does custom T-shirt and skateboard designs, John Muir College senior Vijay Rama said the graffiti in Mandeville benefits the community and provides a way for artists to relax from the stresses of everyday life.

“There are people who are just screwing around, but there’s also a lot of art that’s really beautiful,” he said. “When you start learning something, it’s not going to be graceful, so students should have a place to try things out.”

It is illegal to graffiti on campus buildings, Spector said, and the act is punishable under state laws as a form of vandalism.

“It’s like kids who skate on campus,” Lee said. “There are risks. It’s like they are just figuring out things themselves, sneak out or things like that.”

Other students said the graffiti highlights the need for a designated campus location where students can express their art.

“If it’s against the rules then it should be removed, but I think there should be designated graffiti spots for students (to express) themselves,” said Eleanor Roosevelt College senior Vijay Rama said. “Graffiti is accessible to everyone unlike ‘real’ art, which is usually in galleries. I think graffiti gives us something to look at besides the usually monotonous stuff.”

Despite efforts to repaint, graffiti continues to reappear regularly by the stairwells. As a result, more layers of blue paint have been added over the past few weeks.

The artists responsible for the graffiti have not been located.

Recreational sports facilities during the summer are re-evaluated next year, raising the fees again, while a hike in student recreational fees remain a possibility.

YOUnger voters alter scope of campaigning

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BLOCKHEADS

I WAS WONDERING
IF YOU WANTED TO
GO TO A PARTY WITH ME.
I COULDN’T
SEE ANYTHING BUT
A FRIEND.

CRAP, RAMMAL.
Hi.

BY LARS INGELMAN

CURRENTS

UC Sponsors Statewide Career Conferences

The University of California’s nine alumni associations are organizing the inception of two all-alumni career-advancement conferences.

The one-day conferences, held in both southern and northern California over the next two months, are aimed at helping alumni and other members of the professional community successfully transition between jobs within or beyond their current fields.

The events are designed to help professionals within a broad range of disciplines with three or more years of work experience. The conferences are being held Feb. 12 at UCLA and March 18 in San Francisco.

Hillcrest Med. Center Gets Grant to Help Uninsured

Health insurance companies UnitedHealth Group and PacifiCare donated $731,070 to the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest. The contribution will aid expansion of a computer system that assists uninsured patients to the San Diego Safety Net Health Information Exchange to patients outside the emergency room. In addition, it will increase the number of neighborhood clinics that are linked to the computer system.

Matthews Becomes Permanent Vice Chancellor

Gary C. Matthews has been appointed permanent vice chancellor of resource management and planning. A recognized leader in higher education management, Matthews has served as interim vice chancellor of resource management and planning since December 2006, when former Vice Chancellor John Woods retired.

“Given Gary’s distinguished career of more than 30 years in higher education, he is ideally suited for this important management position,” Chancellor Marye Anne Fox said in a press release. “He has served in numerous leadership positions focusing on university governance and has considerable expertise in collaboration across organizational areas, developing and sustaining new approaches to challenging situations, engaging and encouraging diverse perspectives and effectively implementing organizational change.”

As vice chancellor, Matthews is responsible for some of the university’s critical functions, including policy development and management of the campus operating and capital budgets, capital planning, land-use planning, facilities design and construction, real-estate development, audit and management advisory services and administrative records.

“I am honored to be appointed to this important leadership position,” Matthews said in a press release.

Record Number of 20-Year-Olds Identify as Democrats

• VOTERS, from page 1

For this age group since the Nixon administration. Obama’s significant lead could be

 Witness public significant by his 272,000 supporters on Facebook — more than triple that of Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.).

Tobacco Rep. Ron Paul takes the gold for Republicans, with nearly 78,000 supporters — who have become recognizably vocal — while former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney takes a distant second at 14,000 supporters.

Turnout figures bear particular significance this year because Democrats have outnumbered Republicans by roughly 40 percent in primary polling.

See CAMPAIGNS, page 3

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www.ucsdguardian.org

All Available Now!

FOCUS

Slideshow: How Things Work
The director of UCSD’s Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Resource Lab explains the research conducted in the campus facility dubbed the “bubble.”

OPINION

Web Poll: Should graffiti be allowed on the Mandeville stairs?

HIATUS

Blog: The Mixtape
This week: R&B cuts from Trey Songz, J. Holiday and the Wyclef Jean.

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Saturday, Jan. 19
9:05 a.m.: Brandishing a weapon
• A 28-year-old Latino male wearing a yellow hoodie sweatshirt was seen brandishing a 6- to 8-inch knife outside of Villa La Jolla Drive.
12:47 p.m.: Medical aid
• A 36-year-old male at Geisel Library reported having trouble breathing and a tight chest, and believed he was experiencing a heart attack. The male also claimed to have received death threats from a student in the past.
4:54 p.m.: Suspicious person
• A 58-year-old white male wearing an Indianas baseball hat was seen possibly Dumpster-diving by Voigt bridge and Preuss School.

Dumpster-diving by Voigt bridge and Preuss School.
a new bicycle into the bushes by the jacket and green pants was seen riding
9:38 a.m.: Smoke check
• A subject at the Gilman Parking Structure was reported as urinating by a gold Scion vehicle.

Sunday, Jan. 20
7:20 a.m.: Suspicious person
• A black male wearing a blue jean jacket and green pants was seen riding a new bicycle into the bushes by the jacket and green pants was seen riding
9:02 a.m.: Brandishing a weapon
• A male Revelle student was reported as refusing medical attention after being stabbed.

Saturday, Jan. 26
11:46 a.m.: Medical aid
• A subject at the Gillman Parking Structure was reported as urinating by a gold Scion vehicle.

8:51 a.m.: Citizen contact
• A subject at the Campus Services Building reported missing assistance installing a car seat for the first time.
3:58 a.m.: Smoke check
• An exit sign at Center Hall was seen producing smoke. Nearby classrooms were evacuated in spite of no signs of actual fire.
11:46 a.m.: Medical aid
• A 20-year-old female at the bottom floor of Imprintz reported feeling like she was going to “pass out.”
12:30 p.m.: Person down
• A potentially homeless person was seen possibly sleeping on La Jolla Village Drive.
1:02 p.m.: Suspicious person
• A 40- to 50-year-old male was reported as walking into the Leichtag Biomedical Building, speaking incoherently and subsequently falling asleep on the lounge area sofa.
10:48 a.m.: Report of vandalism
• A piece of a sculpture by Mandeville Center was broken off.

Wednesday, Jan. 23
12:53 p.m.: Report of petty theft
• A male reported that his sunglasses were taken from him while he was sleeping in his dorm.

Thursday, Jan. 24
11:27 a.m.: Citizen contact
• A pizza deliveryman making a delivery to a Regents Road residence for the first time.
4:05 p.m.: Argument disturbance
• A Latino male wearing a dark coat was seen fighting the driver of a van.
1:03 a.m.: Citizen contact
• A male reported that a new student at UCSD had once “cut his ear” while they were attending high school together in 2004, and wanted the police to “be aware of it.”

Compiled by Sonia Minden
Senior Staff Writer

Prof.: Youth Vote Often Overestimated

To make up the difference, the Department of Business Affairs and Facilities, the city’s debt service and capital reserve projects.

Wednesday said the summer fee hike for both enrolled and nonenrolled students was necessary.

"Personally, I don’t understand what is more fair about this since enrolled and non-enrolled students constitute different demographics,” Abbott said.

"Are we afraid that students would not enroll in the summer so they could get cheaper gym membership?"

Koch said he empathizes with students, but believes that the principle—“the amount of the fee...” what drove him to agree with the hike.

"On the face of it, $92 is about a $1 monthly, which is pretty steep reasonable for access to all the sports facilities on campus, even in a compatible market with private fitness companies,” he said.

"But from my perspective, it wasn’t rational for nonenrolled students to pay a lower fee than enrolled students.”

Readers can contact Katie Crotto at kcrozzo@ucsd.edu.

Koch said the fee may be raised to cover the expenses of the RIMAC facility, which include the debt service and maintenance on the building, allocation of revenue, ARSFAB member Jonathan Weinberg said in an e-mail.

"I did make the decision that, rather than a one-time huge increase for faculty and staff, we would spread that over two to three years, and there’s one more year of that to put in place,” Koch said.

Ultimately, it will be $35 to $40 a year more for faculty and staff, and it will be twice that for the community.

Prices are not necessarily stationary, however. The language of the original RIMAC referendum, passed in 1995, authorized the university to raise the fee level every five years and provided the possibility for the fee to increase up to 35 quarterly per student. The last increase took place four years ago, and Koch said that within the next year the fee will be evaluated by the recreation department, the students affairs office and ARSFAB members.

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Thomas said the coverage of nonvoters is more difficult to explain. Jacobson said situations such as Thomas’ speech are often anomalous.

"Iowa was a caucus state where activists tend to predominatize, Jacobson said. “When broader electorates are involved, it is harder for any particular age group to stand out”

Readers can contact Peter Eyferth at peyferth@gmail.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 16
1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
ACOLYTES • ESPRESSO ROMA • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

10:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

11:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

Monday, Jan. 28
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TURNOVER • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
ALL CAMPUS TOURNAMENT • PRICE CENTER • 6PM

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Fee Level Will Be Evaluated Next Year

• CAMPAIGNS, from page 2
Locations, according to a recent Time magazine report.

“By the general election, though, I think they will be divided along partisan lines, just like their elders,” Jacobson said.

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Flu Season is PC Expansion Defines Campus’ Inefficient Priorities

Playtime for Secretaries, Nurses

January is flu season, so I didn’t think anything of it when I started to develop a cough earlier this quarter. There are two types of people: those that react to the slightest sniffle and those that hold it together until the first real human, I forgot my frustration and asked to make an appointment to see a doctor. But apparently my request was too much to handle, because rather than oh, I don’t know, do her job and book an appointment for this mildly sick caller, Catrina decided to play doctor and investigate my symptoms for me.

By Alek Savovic

Constitutional Officers

University Centers — Price Center is expanding, as many readers well know by now. The $45 million expansion, the site of the campus’ many construction cranes, is slated for March completion and aims to accomplish what the current Price Center evidently could not: accommodate the increase in projected student enrollment.

Yet, a visit to this seemingly unending entrepreneur’s web deliv- ers facts that fail to show that the student body actually needs two Price Centers in the first place. Indeed, given expectations for what pur- poses the new building will serve, it would appear as though an increase in student enrollment is a weak excuse to argue in favor of enlarging Price Center. While increases in enrollment would, logically, lead to debates about the supply of on- campus housing or future parking vacancy levels, expanding a seem- ingly adequate university center seems like a dense proposition.

By the year 2010, UCSD’s total enrollment is expected to break the 30,000 mark if the volume of yearly applications continues at its current pace. There are already a tremendous circumstances surrounding housing availability, and any systematic increase in UCSD’s on-campus pop- ulation would spike a premium for living quarters. In addition, a recent audit by Campus Planning and Transportation and Parking Services found that the availability of parking during peak periods in the coming years will also take a hit.

At a fundamental level, then, the problem with breaking ground on a larger Price Center is that its plan- ning assumes a deficiency in the degree of foresight necessary given the influx of new undergraduates. Instead, what the campus is left is an expensive, student-funded con- struction project whose number on UCSD’s figurative list of priorities should’ve been much lower.

Some of the primary bouts of skep- ticism directed toward the new center stem from its logistical challenges. In order to wedge in the building, the western branches of Matthews Lane needed to be shut down. Thus, not only were shuttle bus routes rerouted, but more importantly, any previous hopes for a Matthews-Meyers-Lyman Lane connections that would ease traf- fic congestion have been permanently dashed. Add in the prospect of more delivery and service trucks needed to maintain the new building, and you’ve got a profoundly large traffic problem developing.

The questions surrounding the new Price Center do not limit them- selves to more issues about congestion. Questions remain as to which group of UCSD’s students will be forced to foot the bill as a result of a referendum in 2003 that effective- ly approved the expansion of both Student Center and Price Center.

Consequently, the referendum’s makeup stipulated that students would begin to be charged extra in their quarterly university centers fees once the new Price Center is completed. Yet the problem is that those who voted for this new build- ing are now alumni, while those who are expected to pay up never got the chance to vote.

It is now 2008 with the project incomplete — it has not benefitted from the best of what may turn out to be a quintessential example of bureau- cracy trimming efficiency.

So in an effort to alleviate the possibly adverse effects of future traffic congestion, one suggestion is to leave open enough space to connect Matthews Lane and Myers Lane. That way, at least the heart of Con- struction, page 3

By Victor Chen

The Professional Union for Non Tenure-Track Professors and Librarians

Money is not everything, “ said Fred Lonidier, president of the pro- fessional union for non-senate fac- ulty and librarians at UCSD. “But salaries have a major impact on the kind of life librarians can lead and retain.”

Our fashion industry constantly popularizes the latest glittering gowns and dresses and televised reality TV shows can make it appear that we are just the generation that is constantly chasing after the glitz and glamour of the material world. But if the administration will not provide them with more time for professional and creative work, many librarians will lose their professional activities such as their own research and training. While and the given the fact that student enrollment volumes are trending upward, it is only logical for one to consider the different avenues available to help an already stressed student body dealing with limited essential resources.

UCSD is adding a new dormitory com- plex just north of Eleanor Roosevelt College in an effort to ease the living situation on campus. The bad news is that a portion of the north park- ing area will be scavanged in order to make room for the new structure. Had the new Price Center area been afforded plans for a dormitory com- plex, none of the vacated parking lots would have been touched.

But given that the new building is apparently nearing completion, it may be time to look ahead and make the best of what may turn out to be a quintessential example of bureau- cracy trimming efficiency.

See page 5

Letters to the Editor

University Dependents on Librarians, Not Wikipedia

Dear Editor:

It could be argued that a universi- ty’s most important resource is its library. Particularly at a major research institution like the University of California, the library is not only the primary repository for accumulated knowledge but the springboard for furthering that knowledge, whether the user is student just beginning to explore a field or a faculty mem- ber at its forward frontier.

Over the past century, the science of information storage and retrieval has progressed immensely.

UCSD’s libraries do wish the library had sufficient staff to accommodate their expanded hours and more time to pursue the professional activities such as their own research and training. While UCSD is not just repositories for books and documents, but technologically advanced com- munication centers with a global reach.

Research is one of UCSD’s 64 professional librarians revealed that most work more than 40 hours a work week due to the rising student population, and the library staff has not been increased enough to keep up with the demands. The remaining librar- ians spend more time than ever working without increased compen- sation.

While the majority report a high degree of job satisfaction, they also say that they do wish the library had sufficient staff to accommodate their expanded hours and more time to pursue the professional activities such as their own research and training. While and the given the fact that student enrollment volumes are trending upward, it is only logical for one to consider the different avenues available to help an already stressed student body dealing with limited essential resources.

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Students Left Empty-Pocketed and Unhelped

CONSTRUCTION, from page 4
the campus will be navigable by any vehicle.
In addition, and perhaps more importantly, it is without question
that the intention for the new Price
Center is not to turn into the Student
store are fine starts.

Center in terms of sustainability.
Center is not to turn into the Student
vehicle.

In essence, those diving into a
donne the impression that the growth
practical necessities of this growing
campus. Before they look into cre-
ating entertainment facilities geared
toward attracting more prospec-
tive applicants to the campus, they
should take note that the campus’
growth belies the needed action
to help out UCSD’s students more
productively.

Readers can contact Aleks Savovic at
asavovic@ucsd.edu.

Violently Ill? Looks Like
You’re Shit Out of Luck

SHOES, from page 4
health; how am I supposed to know
how this works? I told her all my symp-
toms, and she told me I should come
to the urgent care waiting room. I
explained to her that I had a busy
day ahead of me and would prefer to book
an appointment, even if it meant I
would be seen later. Catrina told me if
I wanted to make an appointment,
she needed to forward me to a nurse
who would evaluate my symptoms and
schedule an appointment.

Wait? Then what the hell was all
this for?
I said I’d like to make an appoint-
ment. She told me the nurse was busy
and that if I came to student health
before noon a doctor would see me
right away. Too delirious to argue, I
hung up the phone and made my way
over.

When I got there, another student
was checking in at the front coun-
ter. I waited behind her, and as she
moved aside to fill out paperwork I
stepped forward. Maureen the secre-
tary ignored me, looking down at her
papers. She was middle-aged, but her
hair was perfectly coifed in a harsh little
bob and her petite features were sharp
like a bird.

“Hi,” I said. Maureen’s heady eyes
flared up at me.

“You’ll have to wait there until
someone can help you,” she said, snap-
ing a glowering talon toward a wait-
room chair. I was in this for the
long haul.

Fifteen minutes later — after
someone can help you, “ she said, snap-
ing a glorified talon toward a wait-
room chair. I was in this for the
long haul.

I couldn’t help but laugh; she
wasn’t actually serious, was she? But
as Maureen turned quickly back to her
papers I swallowed whatever runny-
ness, bleary-eyed pride I had left and
looked a big step backward.

Fifteen minutes later — after
Maureen decided to acknowledge
my existence with a simple “fill out the blue
form around the corner,” I noticed a
sign telling me of a potential two-hour
wait and we had lovely discussion that
boiled down to just inability to schedule
an appointment — I again accepted
defeat and plopped down on a wait-
ing-room chair. I was in this for the
long haul.

I figured I should at least get some
work done, so I opened my battery-
depleted laptop and plugged it into a
nearby wall socket. Not five minutes
later, an official-looking man came out
of nowhere to inform me that I was
not allowed to “tap into the electrical
system” in such a way.

And that was it; student health booked
my mucus-y soul. Sensing my dejection
as he watched me silently unplug my
computer, the man added one more
gem to student health’s bureaucratic
stockpile of wonder.

“Yeah, you’re just not allowed to,” he
said. “And the reason is: A lot of people
need to, and you’re just not allowed.”
Yes, he really said that. I kid you
not.
My name was called a little over an
hour later and a nurse — not a doctor
— looked down my throat and told
me to take some Sudafed, which, con-
veniently, isn’t sold at the on-campus
pharmacy.

I pay $849 a year for the Student
Health Insurance Plan, and the one
time in three years that I get really sick
and need to call upon student health
for assistance, I’m harassed for two
hours and sent home! Great.

And that was it; student health broke
a stockpile of wonder.

So I pay $849 a year for the Student
Health Insurance Plan, and the one
time in three years that I get really sick
and need to call upon student health
for assistance, I’m harassed for two
hours and sent home! Great.

I guess the daily hassles of ever-
increasing tuition expenses, cramped
and costly housing, outrageous text-
book prices, overcrowded buses,
dismal kosher parking and a total
rejection of student input just weren’t
enough. Now UCSD’s staff is going
go out of its way to give sick students a
big fat fuck-you when they’re at their
weakest.

So good luck, Tritons. Call me if
you need some Sudafed.
The Scholastic
By Daniela Kent • Staff Writer

From left to right: Dishes like Shashlik into 25 minutes to make and are served exclusively on Saturdays and Sundays. It's a must to order their complimentary candelabra and offers humorous descriptions of all menu items.

A f Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant, the writing's on the wall — literally. Located between Texas and Louisiana Streets on El Cajon Boulevard, customers at this dimly lit house-turned-restaurant are allowed to write their compliments to the chef, or simply make their mark, on whatever surface (ceiling, bathroom, vintage piano) they see fit. The dining environment is kitschy, fascinatingly mixed with well-mounted Russian propaganda posters, lamps with Russian newspaper clippings glued to their shades and chili-pepper lights hung from indoor tree trunks.

While diners are treated to an entertaining curry night once a week, they're also given a reason to laugh. Pomegranate menu, which is prefixed with the restaurant's motto, "Be credited by the bucket, vodka by the mcl," pokes fun at Russia's historical figures like Stalin, bashes Napoleon for his failure to conquer the motherland and claims dishes like Shashlik — a tantalizing pork loin, vegetarian or lamb dish marinated in pomegranate juice and grilled over embers — saved the 1944 accord in Yalta between Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. Although comical, the menu is honest, appetizing like Varensk, potato cheese dumpings, and desserts like Katerina Soup - Volynska, a rich wild cherry soup, are both extraordinary and praiseworthy. As for beverages, Pomegranate serves fine quality vodka, beers and Chilian wines. Designated drivers for the night can try the Russian Samovar Tea or an extra spicy Black Russian ginger ale.

Be warned: make a reservation and bring cash. Otherwise, you may find yourself apologizing to an unforgiving, domineering hostess and paying unreasonable service charge fees. The meal is both filling and satisfying, so don't be afraid to ask for a box and take it home. After all, the food is so delectable that one visitor scribbled, "If my girlfriend falls asleep tonight... I'm making love to these leftovers," on the restaurant's bathroom wall.

— Alyssa Bereznak

Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant
2302 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92104
(619) 297-4007

Alyssa Bereznak • FoST student

The percentage of non-Egyptian students studying at the American University in Cairo according to the American University Web site.

FOCUS
THE STUDENT OUTLOOK
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008

SITE SEEN
Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant

A from answering frantic e-mails to conducting research with award winning professors, graduate students make up a dedicated and integral part of the campus community. The specialization and professionalism of studies creates an individual and unique experience for every graduate student. According to Jenwa Hsung, a graduate student in modern Chinese history, these students must have a passion for academic growth and exploration, turning an interest into a lifestyle.

"If you're a graduate student, you better love what you're doing because it's a lot of work," Hsung said. "When it comes to interacting with other graduate students, departments once again become a key issue."

According to Hsung, department isolation doesn't symbolize the graduate student experience. The main reason I was an undergrad wasn't just for academics, Hsung said. "Part of the reason to go to a school is to try to connect with the people around you. As a graduate student, academics are by far the most important thing that I am doing, and they always will be."

Rather than feeling isolated because of departmental limitations, independent and department-specific bonds created in graduate school serve not only as social outlets, but as connections within academic fields and possible career boosters.

"The people are the most important part," Hsung said. "You're stuck in classes with them for hours every week, and they're the people you are going to know in the field."

While working with fellow students ensures lifetime colleagues, working with faculty members is probably the most crucial aspect of a graduate student's academic life. According to Hsung, forming respectable relationships with professors is a must. However, working with a professor to obtain a teaching assistant or lab position can sometimes take away from individual research.

"You're always torn between how much time and energy and emotional effort you want to put into your research and how much to put into your own work," said Amanda Brovold, a graduate student in the philosophy department and Graduate Student Association outreach coordinator. "Generally you want to put more than you have in to both of those things."

With little time to spare as a result of demanding academic work, most graduate students become TAs due to financial needs or department requirements. However, the standard professional relationship with undergraduates seems to make somewhat of a social barrier between the two academic populations.

(Grads) talk about how undergraduate hate us and how we can change that, but I don't think it's in both of these things."

"Generally, the people are the most personal level to a grad student," Hsung said. "They're in a different stage of life and have a more specific environment. I don't talk to [graduate students] unless they're my TA. Graduate students definitely have a culture and a community all their own."

According to Brovold, with the exception of late nights at Porter's Pub, graduate students tend to view campus as a place to work, while the Gaslamp Quarter and Pacific Beach are the places to play.

In order to encourage social interaction between the campus' departments of graduate studies, GSA hosts various events in which graduate students from all fields of study can meet and mingle. As a fall-2007 admit to the graduate structural engineering department, Kate LaZansky found the GSA's beginning-of-the-year beach party (complete with barbeque, burgers and beer kegs), a good way to acclimate herself with other graduate students and the social scene at UCSD. Nick Saenz, GSA vice president of academics, said events like these allow graduate students to view UCSD as more than just an academic institution.

"The departments here can be very isolating," Saenz said, "so it's important for students to meet and interact with other graduate students."

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Go Figure

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By Daniela Kent • Staff Writer

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Forget the Resume: Live Like an Egyptian

The sound of honking horns filled the air, engines hummed and shouts rang out from behind me. The buildings along Kasr el-Aini, the avenue running perpendicular to the main campus of the American University in Cairo, rose up into the fog of pollution.

My return to Cairo after 30 days of travel was a bit surreal. I was excited to be home. I considered it home now — despite my lack of a permanent or apartment — and while I was eager and happy to land once again at the Cairo International Airport, I felt a bit strange returning to a place where so many of my friends would no longer be living, and where I knew I would be in limbo until classes start on Feb. 4.

Nevertheless, the chaotic life of Cairo poured west from Talaat Harb Square and the Tlip Hotel, where I spent my first few nights in the city five months ago, so we warm welcome back. From Tahrir Square, the smog and shouts, the noise of commotion masses drifted down past the campus alongside Garden City, home to many study-abroad students and several embassies, right to the street off Kasr el-Aini where I spent a large part of the afternoon searching for apartments.

Wandering the streets of Cairo and searching desperately for a decent but affordable apartment in the city's center took me back to my first few days in Egypt, when I found myself alongside several curious Americans, bustling through the shock of a new place and a new culture.

Many of those students have since returned home. My first semester roommate Ben Barclay left with no small amount of sorrow but was content to face new challenges at his U.S. university in Minnesota. Others I knew left eagerly, longing for the ease of the comfortable surroundings they grew up with. Missing friends, family and, in some cases, baseball, those semester-long study-abroad students did not regret their choice to spend a shorter time overseas.

During a recent chat about departing American students, an Egyptian friend said she thinks most students coming to Cairo leave without fully experiencing the city, without knowing what it is to be an Egyptian, or to truly live in Cairo. Foreign students' semesters abroad in Egypt are bullets on resumes — foreign experience for international relations students — and little more.

The choice whether to study abroad or to stay home is personal. Dave Fogel and Anoush Suni from Claremont arrived in Cairo, elated to be in Egypt and to start their spring semester. They were immediately offered a slew of unsolicited advice and enthusiastic stories. Certainly, many of the spring semester's new arrivals will find the same — a stark contrast to the confusion and fear-by-mistake approach of fall's arrivals. They'll still have a chance to learn for themselves, but with added guidance. Spring students, like Fogel and Suni may have the opportunity to make more of their time in Cairo.

The choice whether to study abroad can be a bit daunting, choosing where can present another challenge. But perhaps one of the hardest decisions, in retrospect, would be how long to stay overseas. The problem I am discovering is that there is no good way to determine which choice will be the right one, and students I've met studying abroad in Paris, London and of course Cairo, all have ups and downs. Everyone knows a student who wished they could be home, or could have stayed longer.

The atmosphere of the second semester is likely to be much different from the first, and I would bet that the spring semester students will be caught up in it, rather than follow the trends we experienced in the fall. Does this mean they will have a fuller experience? Perhaps. But really, the experience is about the person and about their goals and choices. Barclay, Grund, Fogel and Suni, as well as myself, are testaments to the diversity of students here in Cairo and the diversity of options. How can you be sure which choice is right for you? You can't. One thing I can say for sure, no matter when you choose to study abroad, where you choose to study or for how long, you can make sure you get something more than a bullet on a resume.

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The Sunshine Store is transforming into the new Sunshine Market. It's new location is on the first level of the expanded Price Center complex.

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FOCUS 7
GSA Efforts Expand Graduate Community

**GRADUATE**, from page 6

for those avenues to broaden their social circles and certainly that’s one of the roles of GSA: to break down some of the very fierce barriers that exist between [department].

GSA also aided the growth of the graduate student community by partnering with UCSD Housing and Dining Services to incorporate Cafe Vita into its new graduate housing, One Miramar Street.

Additionally, HDS is currently working on a 400-bed housing project in the Health Sciences neighborhood to provide housing for 50 percent of all graduate students. According to HDS Director Mark Cunningham, the opening of One Miramar Street and Cafe Vita has allowed graduate students to enjoy individual experiences while being part of a larger community.

“The graduate residents choose to form their own communities within our housing facilities and are almost completely self-sufficient,” Cunningham said in an e-mail. “[Graduate] housing tends to be more like a neighborhood with neighbors being friends and colleagues.”

Ultimately, the graduate experience is an individual one. While from philosophy to structural engineering keeps graduate students dedicated, a more relaxed and intimate social atmosphere allows them to choose their level of intensity of social activities.

Readers can contact Danielle Kent at dkent@ucsd.edu.

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**Men’s Basketball**

**EFFECTIVE:** 

from page 12

points, grabbed five rebounds, dished out a team-high four assists, blocked a game-high two shots, and recorded one steal in a team-high 65 minutes of play.

Despite the personal achievement, it was the mark in the loss column, and not the point total, that stuck with Patterson on Monday night.

"It doesn’t matter if you score 100 points and you lose," Patterson said. "Coming off of last night we were really pumped up and we knew we had to redeem ourselves. Unfortunately, it just didn’t work out that way.

Lawley scored 15 points with four rebounds and two assists, while Kim contributed 14 points with four rebounds and four assists against the Otters. Allard picked in with 13 points, three rebounds and four assists.

As a team, UCSD shot 56.9 percent from the floor, committing only 11 turnovers. However, the Otters connected on 51.8 percent of their three-point opportunities, turned the ball over only twice more and held a slim rebounding edge.

The record-sized crowd on Spirit Night was special for the players and the fans, "Noud said. "We loved having the crowd and we loved the fans."

We loved having the crowd and we loved the fans.

Mahegan Noud, senior forward

We loved having the crowd and we loved the fans.

The win on Friday night was special for the players because it was one of the few times this season that the Tritons could play in front of such a large crowd.

"We loved having the crowd and we loved the fans," Noud said. "It’s always my favorite home game of the year. It’s great having the support from our peers."

UCSD’s next game on the road against first-place Chico State on Feb. 1 should prove to be a difficult contest for the Tritons, who hope to make up the one game that separates them from first place in the CCAA.

"Chico plays very well at home and they shoot well," Noud said. "They don’t lose often at home."

The Tritons hope to avoid any slip-ups and build upon their five-game home stand this week with a Jan. 29 matchup against Cal State Stanislaus on Feb. 1 and Cal State Stanislaus on Feb. 3.

Readers can contact Joe Tevelowitz at jtevelow@ucsd.edu.

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THURS JAN 31

CAREER

Scoring for a Career in Sports Panel - Gave up a career in the sports industry including sports marketing, sales, journalism, media, and coaching in this sports industry alumni career panel. 2:30-4pm at PC SC/SC Gallery A.

Recreation

The Price Center Film Series presents 30 Days of Gracie, 6pm at PC Theatre.

Health

Campaign for a Healthy Heart - Sponsored by the American Heart Association. Vendors recruit at the Career Services Center On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from Triage Consulting Group, a fast-growing healthcare consulting firm based in San Francisco. A second office in Atlanta. Clients include the largest hospitals and healthcare systems in the nation with operations for all major LALA groups. 6:30-8pm at the Multipurpose Room, Student Services Building.

Lecture

Sustainable Food: What Needs What? - Ambassador Todd Simms will be speaking on the topic “Sustainable Food: What Needs What?” Ambassador Simms has served as the Special Envoy for Haiti Reconstruction Affairs for the Sudan since 1996. 7:30pm in the 858 Robinson Auditorium.

Workshops

Resume Writing for Graduate Students - Convert your academic CV into a powerful resume for career options outside of academia. This workshop is sponsored by the Career Services Center. 12-1pm at PC SB/LA.

Resume Writing for Internship and Part-Time Job Opportunities - Learn about writing a resume for internships and part-time positions. This workshop is sponsored by the Career Services Center. 12-1pm at PC SB/LA.

Recruitment

The Ultimate Guide to Finding a Job Seminar - Get practical advice on how to develop your job search in gear with this efficient, fast-paced seminar. 2-3:15pm in PC SB/LA.

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CHILD CARE

Playful, responsible nanny/babysitter wanted for childcare. Hours 3:30-6:30 Monday-Wednesday and Friday. One or two evenings likely as well. Rates negotiable based on experience. Please contact Ellen at ellenw@tjsl.edu. (2/7)

EMPLOYMENT

Looking for someone with knowledge of myspace.com page layout and promotions. Knowledge of flash is a plus (but not necessary). Please contact for more info. irwin@irwinmusic.com (1/31)

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TRITONS BOUNCE BACK WITH ROUT OVER BULLDOGS

By Janani Sridharan

Tritons bounce back with rout over Bulldogs

The UCSD ice hockey team fell for the second time this season to UC Irvine on Jan. 25, but bounced back against Fresno State with a 13-2 blowout victory the following evening at UTC Ice Town.

In the Tritons' match against Fresno State, UCSD took advantage of its first power play of the night, scoring an early goal to take a 1-0 lead. Minutes later, a slapshot from junior forward Troy Miller put UCSD up 2-0.

The Tritons controlled the puck and kept play in the Bulldogs' zone for much of the first period. On one rare occasion, Fresno State pushed play through the neutral zone and the Bulldogs scored a goal to cut the Tritons' lead to 2-1. But junior forward Chris Bachman responded with another goal for the Tritons, putting them up 3-1 at intermission.

Within the first minute of the second period, the Tritons scored another goal. Then, with 17:45 left in the period, sophomore forward Robert Robinson scored the third goal for the Tritons, putting them up 5-1.

The Bulldogs pushed the puck through the neutral zone and the Bulldogs scored a goal to cut the Tritons' lead to 5-2. But junior forward Chris Bachman responded with another goal for the Tritons, putting them up 6-2 at half.

The Bulldogs played defensively for most of the game, finally answered back with a goal to cut the Tritons' lead to 5-2 with 11:21 left in the second period. However, Bachman batted a shot into the high corner of the goal before sophomore forward Michael Frederick passed the puck to sophomore forward Casey Gong, who scored another goal to give the Tritons a 7-2 lead.

The Tritons wanted to atone for their previous loss, and their merciless and unified play gave the Bulldogs a long and sad ride home.

"After a so-so game [the night before] we came out strong tonight," freshman defenseman Wil Chi said. "Our team bonded together and we weren't selfish."

The win came after the Tritons took a tough 6-3 loss to UC Irvine one night earlier. The Tritons struggled for much of that game, digging themselves into a 6-1 hole after two periods. It didn't help that they racked up an unusually high amount of penalty minutes.

"The first two periods of the game, we were in [the penalty box] the whole time," junior defenseman Matthew Robinson said.

Not willing to leave without a fight, the Tritons outscored the Anteaters 2-0 in the third period, but by then it was too little, too late and UC Irvine took the victory.

"We lost focus," Chi said. "We could blame the referees for the loss but we've got to play the game better."

With a 9-6 record, the Tritons have three more games left in the regular season. UCSD will face Cal State Northridge on Feb. 2 and Sacramento State on Feb. 8, and will finish its schedule against UC Davis on Feb. 9.

All three games are at home and the Tritons are confident that their history against their opponents will lift them to much-needed victory.

"We've beaten two out of the three teams that we're playing this season," Robinson said. "We need to win the next three games."

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Tritons Fall in Overtime Thrillers

By Joe Tevelowitz
Senior Staff Writer

The Tritons fell to San Francisco State University on Spirit Night, Jan. 25, by a 68-58 final score, taking the game into overtime in front of a record-sized crowd of 3,906. The next night, UCSD went on to play two extra periods, and lost 97-90 to Cal State Monterey Bay. With the losses — the Tritons’ first at home and first back-to-back conference defeats all season — UCSD stands at 9-6 overall and 6-4 in California Collegiate Athletic Association play. Now just past the season’s midway point, UCSD sits tied for fourth place in the CCAA.

The battle between the top two three-point shooting teams in the conference was decided from long distance when Cal State Monterey Bay and UCSD squared off. Unfortunately, while the Tritons held the statistical advantage entering the game in three-point defense, the Otters sniped well from behind the arc at both the end of the fourth quarter and the overtime periods.

The Tritons’ competitive spirit guided them to a 27-26 lead at halftime. Head coach Chris Carlson said UCSD found itself on the court, setting up in a zone defense, the Tritons sniped well from beyond the arc at both the end of the fourth quarter and the overtime periods.

“The Tritons’ competitive spirit guided them to a 27-26 lead at halftime,” Carlson said. “We got complacent in the middle of the first half and allowed them to climb back into the game.”

The small and quick Otters stormed back into the game, shooting well from beyond the arc and ending the half on a 16-6 run to cut the Tritons’ lead to three.

According to UCSD head coach Charity Elliot, the Otters’ run was the result of a letup from the Tritons. “We got complacent in the middle of the first half and allowed them to climb back into the game,” Elliot said. “You have to give [the Otters] credit because they kept playing hard.”

The Tritons, holding on to a 28-25 lead, answered Cal State Monterey Bay’s run with a run of their own to start the second half of the game. After junior forward Michelle Osier collected an offensive rebound, senior guard Alexa Mornetta rattled in a jump shot, and the Tritons continued their surge by scoring nine unanswered points, giving them a 37-25 lead with 16:38 remaining.

The Tritons continued their success, blocking the Otters’ attempts to get back into the contest. With the Tritons double-teaming UCSD’s centers, the Tritons consistently found open players on the outside for uncontested shots. The Tritons were also able to execute several baseline drives, which resulted in layups and trips to the foul line.