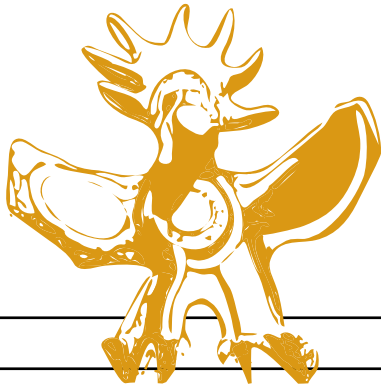


THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO GUARDIAN

www.ucsdguardian.org

Monday, January 14, 2008

The Student Voice Since 1967



After Four Years, Council Streamlines Voting Procedure



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN FILE

Biological Sciences Senator Emma Sandoe campaigns during last year's elections, which are now implementing instant runoff voting that ranks candidates in order of preference.

TritonLink officials approve instant runoff voting after pressure from councilmembers, several alumni.

By Jesse Alm
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

At its final meeting of Fall Quarter, the A.S. Council unanimously passed a resolution to implement instant runoff voting in its elections, fulfilling a torrent of pleas from students and campus organizations that began in 2003.

Biological Sciences Senator and council Speaker Emma Sandoe said the group has overwhelmingly supported the voting system for years — in fact, the council passed a resolution to adopt IRV in 2003 — but the logistics of implementing it on TritonLink, where all voting takes place, have been out of the council's control.

"We've just been waiting for TritonLink's approval," she said.

The approval finally came last month, when TritonLink officials said that they were capable of maintaining the system. The council wasted no time, enacting the initiative less than a week later on Dec. 5.

The IRV system allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference, ensuring that the winning candidate has the broadest support. If no candidate receives a majority after voters' first choices have been tallied, the candidate with the fewest number of first-place votes is eliminated, and votes are retabulated until at least 50 percent of votes go to one candidate.

Currently, the system only applies to A.S. officers and academic division senators. Sandoe said that the council's decision is a step in the right direction.

"[The system] gives people more of a choice, and the whole campus will probably move over eventually," she said.

Earl Warren College alumnus Daniel Watts, who served as vice

chairman of the Voting Systems Task Force that researched IRV in 2003, submitted a letter to councilmembers last month urging them to finish what he said was a major battle in his UCSD career.

"For years, only TritonLink's bureaucracy stood in the way of a more progressive and fair voting system for UCSD," he said. "And now they've finally responded. Please, please support generations of your predecessors, and approve IRV."

Opponents of IRV have historically claimed that the system's more complex methodology will confuse voters, thus reducing turnout. However, Sandoe pointed out that voters will be able to rank as many or as few candidates as they wish, and she said that if anything, the new system would encourage increased participation.

"Most other major universities have the same system, and they have higher voter turnout," she said. "People are going to vote no matter what, and the new system won't slow them down."

IRV received national attention in the 2000 presidential election, when many voters decried the current plurality system, alleging that votes for Green Party candidate Ralph Nader contributed to former Vice President Al Gore's loss of electoral votes in Florida.

In a December e-mail to the A.S. Council, former A.S. President Harry Khanna cited the Nader example as well as the Green Party's resulting campaign to implement IRV in national elections.

He emphasized that IRV will address the old campus voting system that he considered to be "inherently undemocratic."

"The current system encourages two major 'slates' and makes it virtually impossible for independent candidates to win," he said. "IRV ensures proportional representation so that one slate can never dominate the entire council."

Readers can contact Jesse Alm at jessealm@gmail.com.

Gov. Shorts UC's Ideal Budget by \$400M

Schwarzenegger's budget cuts UC state funding by \$109 million, which could lead to \$70-million total student fee increase.

By Reza Farazmand
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

University of California undergraduates will likely face another set of fee increases next year following Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's Jan. 10 announcement of his 2008-09 budget. Schwarzenegger's budget proposal addressed the state's projected \$14.5-billion deficit, calling for 10-percent cuts in funding to nearly all state-funded departments and programs in order to combat the declared fiscal emergency.

Under Schwarzenegger's proposal, the university would see a net state funding reduction of nearly \$109 million from the current year's budget, resulting in a figure that falls \$400 million short of the amount requested by the UC Board of Regents in its 2008-09 budget proposal. Of that shortfall, Schwarzenegger's proposal calls for \$70 million to be met by increases in mandatory student fees, including a 7-percent increase in the Educational Fee and a 10-percent increase in the

Registration Fee. An additional 10 percent of the reduction is to be taken from administrative spending.

Schwarzenegger's budget states that the remainder of the reduction would be unallocated, allowing the Regents flexibility in deciding where necessary cuts would be made, a suggestion designed to minimize the impact of the cutbacks on core instructional programs.

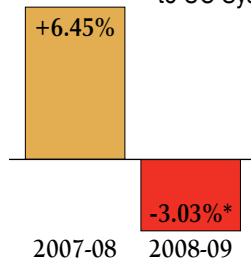
In a Jan. 11 statement released by the UC Office of the President, spokesman Ricardo Vasquez indicated that, in addition to fee increases, the regents may address the cutbacks through limitations on future enrollment and funding reductions to a number of existing research and student service programs, among others.

UC President Robert C. Dynes also commented on Schwarzenegger's proposal in the statement, expressing concern at the prospect of drastic cutbacks.

"This budget proposal will have serious impacts on our ability to deliver on our mission for our students and for the people of California," Dynes said. "State funding for the university is not an expenditure but an investment — an investment that produces real returns through an educated workforce, a dynamic economy, job creation and new tax revenue."

Additionally, Dynes said that

Allocation of State General Fund to UC System†



†Percentage of budget change from previous year
*As proposed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF FINANCE

attempts would be made to lessen the severity of the impending funding deficit.

"We appreciate the magnitude of the state's current budget problem, and we intend to examine this proposal closely in consultation with the regents, beginning at their January meeting," Dynes said. "And then we intend to work energetically with the governor and Legislature in the coming months to minimize the impact, to the greatest extent possible, on the quality, affordability and public benefit of the university's programs."

UC Student Association President and UC Riverside graduate student Louise Hendrickson addressed Schwarzenegger's budget

See **BUDGET**, page 3

Alumnus' Murder Conviction Overturned

UCSD grad released by Nicaraguan appeals court, but remains in hiding due to threats of vigilante justice.

By Nimesh Rajakumar
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A Nicaraguan appellate court overturned a UCSD alumnus' murder conviction last month, ruling that the judge was biased and reasonable doubt existed in the case. Prosecutors, however, have appealed the case to Nicaragua's Supreme Court, where the judges who exonerated him are under investigation.

Eric Volz, who graduated from Thurgood Marshall College in 2005, was released from a Nicaraguan prison on Dec. 21 when the appeals court overturned his conviction in a 2-1 decision. Volz was originally convicted of the November 2006 rape and murder of his ex-girlfriend, 25-year-old Doris Jimenez, in the dress shop she owned in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. He received a 30-year prison sentence in February 2007.

According to a statement released by his family, Volz, 28, is currently hiding in an undisclosed area due to massive opposition to the reversal of the verdict in Nicaragua.

"We have reason to believe he is being followed and [we] are taking every precaution to assure his

safety," family members said in the statement.

Volz's problems are compounded by the fact that, according to his mother and a family spokeswoman, he is ailing from kidney stones.

The brutality of the murder outraged many Nicaraguans, causing citizens and some politicians to staunchly oppose Volz's release. A mob formed outside the courtroom chanting for his conviction the day that it was overturned.

Nicaraguan Attorney General Julio Centeno Gomez called the ruling an "atrocious" and said that he would help prosecutors take the case to the Supreme Court.

In addition, the judge that was responsible for discharging Volz is accused of procrastinating casework to delay his release.

Nicaraguan law states that the lower court judge who sentenced Volz, Ivette Toruno, must acknowledge the appellate court's decision with a signature before Volz can be released. However, Toruno did not show up at the courthouse on the day the papers arrived, claiming she had a flat tire. She later refused to sign the papers, alleging they were numbered incorrectly.

Volz's attorney, Fabbrith Gomez, claimed that the judge purposefully postponed the release of his client, holding Volz in the country illegally. Gomez argued that Toruno was delaying the process in order to allow more time for an appeal to be filed with the Supreme Court.

Those few days were especially

worrisome for Volz's family, spokeswoman Melissa Campbell told the *Washington Post*, especially because Nicaraguan radio shows had started calling on citizens to "take justice into their own hands," she said.

"Every minute that Eric stays in jail is such a concern for us," Volz's mother Maggie Anthony told the Associated Press. "We're more fearful for his life right now than we ever have been. We're so frightened for him."

Although the murder conviction was overturned on Dec. 17, Volz was not freed from jail until his papers were finally signed on Dec. 20.

Volz had his passport returned on Dec. 21 and left Nicaragua the same day at 2:45 p.m. local time, according to U.S. State Department spokesman Curtis Cooper.

"We are pleased that the Nicaraguan Appeals Court decision ... has been implemented in accordance with Nicaraguan law," Cooper told the Associated Press.

Cooper told CNN that the State Department had been persistently working on Volz's case, sending the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua to speak to multiple government

See **VOLZ**, page 3



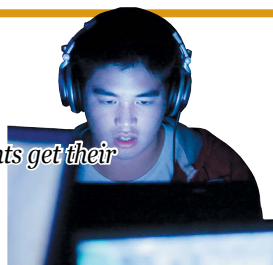
Eric Volz
Thurgood Marshall College Alumnus

FOCUS

You Got Pwned

From pixels to players, UCSD students get their game on at Winter Game Fest.

page 6



SPORTS

Overtime Overload

Men's basketball played five overtime periods over the weekend, winning one game but losing the next.

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CURRENTS

Scientists Find Potential Cure for Liver Disease

Campus researchers have found a possible cure for cirrhosis of the liver by successfully reversing the excessive tissue scarring that causes the damage.

Experiments conducted on mice at UCSD have shown that scar tissue in the liver can return to its normal healthy state. This breakthrough could lead to the first curative treatment for cirrhosis and other similar conditions caused by illness or injury.

Livers affected by cirrhosis have their healthy tissue gradually broken down into fibrous scar tissue. As a result, liver function begins to fail. The condition is most commonly caused by alcoholism and hepatitis C. Approximately 800,000 people die from cirrhosis each year worldwide.

UCSD Receives \$1-Million Lifelong Learning Grant

The Bernard Osher Foundation has awarded the university \$1 million to support lifelong learning for older adults. The endowment will expand outreach and strengthen lecture programs at UCSD Extension's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The adult education program consists of curricula designed for those who are at least 50 years of age and want to study in a university setting.

"This gift demonstrates the foundation's appreciation for the great strides we have made in developing a wide array of intellectually stimulating learning opportunities for older learners," Mary Walshok, associate vice chancellor for public programs

and UCSD Extension dean, said in a press release.

Trigger for Cancer-Fighting Marine Product Uncovered

A discovery made in marine biomedical laboratories at UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography has led to key information about the fundamental biological processes that occur inside a marine organism, leading to the creation of a natural product currently being tested to treat cancer.

The finding could pave the way for new applications of the natural product in treating human diseases.

The research team, led by Bradley Moore, a professor at Scripps Oceanography Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine and Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and postdoctoral researcher Alessandra Eustáquio, uncovered an enzyme called SalL inside *Salinispora tropica*, a promising marine bacterium identified by Scripps researchers in 1991.

Researchers also discovered a novel pathway for the way the marine bacterium incorporates chlorine atoms, the key ingredient for triggering its potent cancer-fighting natural product. The Salinispora derivative is currently in phase one of human clinical trials for the treatment of multiple myeloma and other cancers.

"This was a totally unexpected pathway," Moore said in a press release. "There are well over 2,000 chlorinated natural products, and this is the first example in which chlorine is assimilated by this kind of pathway."

GUARDIAN ONLINE

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HIATUS

Blog: The Mixtape
Hot tracks reviewed weekly. *Every Thursday!*

Blog: The Tube
Different takes on the culture of "The Sopranos" and politics of "The Wire." *Coming this week!*

Blog: The Pages
Q&A sessions with literature professors on this year's hottest film adaptations. *Coming this week!*

FOCUS

Slideshow: How Things Work
The campus' intricacies broken down. *Coming this week!*

OPINION

Web Poll: Would benefits of wage increases for AFSCME patient-care technical employees outweigh the costs?

SPORTS

Schedules & Standings:
Coming Soon!

All Available on Guardian Web!

- Classifieds
- Story Comments
- Archives

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Word on the Street

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PARKING

ANY

TIME

Concerned about future access to campus?

Attend an open forum to learn more about possible solutions to UCSD's future transportation needs and share your feedback.

Faculty forum
Jan. 23, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Price Center, Ballroom A

Staff forum
Jan. 24, 1 – 2:30 p.m. Price Center, San Francisco/Santa Cruz Room

Student forum
Jan. 28, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Price Center, Ballroom A

LIGHTS & SIRENS

Friday, Jan. 4

1:06 p.m.: Assist other agency

▶ A black male in his mid-40s, wearing a yellow trench coat and black ski cap, was suspected of committing petty theft at Gilman Parking Structure.

11:18 p.m.: Domestic disturbance

▶ A couple was heard screaming and throwing objects in a Miramar apartment. The reporting party also claimed to hear a female crying.

Saturday, Jan. 5

2:47 p.m.: Welfare check

▶ A female employee at the Engineering Building reported that her office had been flooded, but was unable to be reached afterwards. Her co-worker was concerned that she may have suffered electric shock.

Sunday, Jan. 6

1:09 a.m.: Alcohol contact

▶ Three males and four females claiming to be 21 years old were seen with alcohol and heading toward Pangea Parking Structure. *Field interview administered.*

Monday, Jan. 7

5:56 a.m.: Medical aid

▶ A 21-year-old female at Asante Hall was reported as complaining of "intense side pain."

7:05 a.m.: Report of arson

▶ A possible cherry bomb was reported as detonating inside the Plaza Cafe bathrooms, causing the toilet to explode and overflow with fecal matter.

2:48 p.m.: Medical aid

▶ A 54-year-old male fell at Urey Hall, but remained conscious and breathing.

3:15 p.m.: General disturbance

▶ A 30-year-old female wearing a white shirt and black pants ran into the RIMAC Arena activity room without checking in, and refused to leave.

11:06 p.m.: Vandalism

▶ Two white men in their 20s — one wearing a beige T-shirt and the other a blue windbreaker — were seen breaking

two ceramic trash bins in Mandeville Center. *Arrest misdemeanor.*

Tuesday, Jan. 8

12:17 a.m.: Noise disturbance

▶ "Really loud laughing" was heard from North America Hall. *Quiet on arrival.*

2:08 p.m.: Verbal threat

▶ A former student at Mandeville Hall threatened his professor to change his grade. Subject was reported as stating that he knew where the professor lived, and had an "ex-convict uncle," who was present during the time of verbal attack.

Wednesday, Jan. 9

7:24 a.m.: Suspicious person

▶ A passenger on the Mandeville shuttle bus was reported as "very confused" and "not listening," possibly in need of medical attention.

8:46 p.m.: Suspicious person

▶ A female rang the door of a resident at the Miramar apartments, and became angry when the resident failed to answer. *Field interview administered.*

Thursday, Jan. 10

2:42 a.m.: Alcohol contact

▶ Residents at Brennan Hall were reported as bouncing balls loudly on the floor. *Gone on arrival.*

10:32 a.m.: Medical aid

▶ An 18-year-old male at the Student Health Center reported experiencing chest pains due to atrial fibrillation. Subject described the extent of his pain as a "10 out of 10," but remained conscious and breathing.

10:43 a.m.: Report of burglary

▶ A former Thornton Hospital employee was reported as stealing drugs.

2:43 p.m.: Welfare check

▶ A female was reported as possibly distraught in a car that was possibly stolen. *Gone on arrival.*

— **Compiled by Sonia Minden**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Supreme Court Currently Investigating Second Ruling

▶ **VOLZ**, from page 1
officials, including President Daniel Ortega, to push the case forward.

The defense used Volz's personal cell phone records to show that he had used the phone in Managua, more than two hours away from the murder scene, at the time Jimenez was killed.

Although Volz has fled the country, the Supreme Court is currently investigating the decision of the three-judge panel. The two judges who ruled to overturn the conviction, Roberto Rodriguez and Alejandro Estrada, appeared before the Supreme Court last week to explain their ruling.

Rodriguez defended his position as legally and morally correct, but has continued to receive threatening phone calls and accusations of bribery.

"I have been in a state of terror," Rodriguez, who has U.S. citizenship and has lived in the U.S. for 18 years, told the Nicaraguan newspaper the *Nica Times*. "I can't say that I am brave and that I don't care what's going to happen. Of course I'm afraid."

The investigation, which could take months, has postponed Rodriguez's original plans to retire.

Volz's murder conviction was primarily based on the testimony of

Nelson Danglas, who was originally arrested for the murder. He was given full immunity in exchange for testifying against Volz.

Volz was sentenced despite the fact that no physical evidence was found at the crime scene that could link him to the murder and that 10 witnesses had testified that Volz was in his office in Managua.

"I have been in a state of terror. I can't say that I am brave and that I don't care what's going to happen."

— Roberto Rodriguez, judge, Nicaraguan Appellate Court

Following the conviction, Volz's family spearheaded an enormous media campaign to overturn the ruling, creating a Web site and a MySpace page to collect donations and promote awareness of the case to the American public.

"We have experienced the most abundant love from friends and total strangers, and we thank you," a statement from the family read.

A major in Latin American studies at UCSD, Volz has traveled extensively throughout Latin America. During his tenure in Nicaragua, Volz started the eco-conservative magazine *El Puente* and worked as a real estate broker.

Readers can contact Nimesh Rajakumar at nrajakum@ucsd.edu.

Regents Will Take Action Later This Year

▶ **BUDGET**, from page 1
proposal in a teleconference last week, articulating her disappointment at the prospect of further student fee increases.

"When fees rise, qualified and hard-working students are blocked from attending the University of California," Hendrickson said. "Already fees have risen faster than the average income of hard working Californians."

Hendrickson said that her own financial woes illustrate the problems faced by many UC students today.

"I've already had to torch one quarter of classes on a credit card because of last year's fee increases and I'm over \$130,000 in debt," Hendrickson said. "I chose to attend a UC because of its excellence in education but also because it was a state school and I could afford it. This is quickly no longer being the case."

Schwarzenegger's budget will be reviewed by the state Legislature in the coming months, during which time legislators will suggest changes to the proposal until a final decision is reached.

The regents are not expected to take any action regarding budget decisions or set student fee increases until later this year.

Readers can contact Reza Farazmand at rfarazma@ucsd.edu.

The Guardian's first-ever training workshop for aspiring journalists and current staffers!
This Saturday! Jan. 19, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Revelle College Formal Lounge (behind the Revelle Conference Rooms).
Hosted by faculty and professionals! Learn the nuances and techniques of the craft!

this week week 2 at the University Centers

movies

at the Price Center Theatre

Mr. Untouchable



Tuesday, 1/15

6pm & 9pm • \$3

Rocket Science



Thursday, 1/17
Saturday, 1/19

6pm & 9pm • \$3

free events

Roma Nights - Monday, 1/14



Adam Wagner

Espresso Roma, Price Center • 8pm

Pub After Dark - Tuesday, 1/15



Dave Elkins of mae
with We Shot the Moon & The Envy Corps
(ex Waking Ashland)

Porter's Pub, Student Center
Door: 7:30pm • Show: 8pm

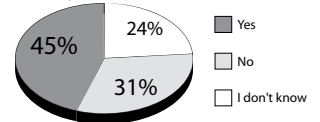
DJ Fridays - Friday, 1/18



Round Table
1:30pm-4:30pm



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Vote on the new question at www.ucsdguardian.org.

Plastic Bags Worth More Than a Dime a Dozen

You can tell a lot about people from their grocery-store conduct. There are those who make neatly itemized lists, those who rely on a messy assemblage of mental notes and those, like my grandmother, who casually stroll down every aisle, reading packaging details and brainstorming possible meals. But for me, it's all about precision.



Stealing the Shoes

Hadley Mendoza

hsmendoza@ucsd.edu

I enter Vons briskly, march directly to the aisle of whatever amenity I'm buying — shampoo, a pint of ice cream, printer paper — then slide into the express checkout line. And as the checker hands me back the newly plastic-shrouded item I say thank you, smile politely and pull said item from the bag. After all, I can carry a bottle of shampoo in one hand just as easily as I could a bag; there's no need to create more waste.

Each year shoppers worldwide go through, literally, trillions of plastic bags. And where do these bags end up? Some will be shoved precariously into kitchen cabinets or used to line trash bins. But most of those thin plastic soldiers will spend the decades after their trip home from Vons in landfills, blown about in the wind or floating around the ocean to be ingested unhealthily by sea creatures.

This reality is getting harder and harder to ignore and San Diego's northern neighbors are finally taking action to curb needless pollution. San Francisco has outlawed plastic bags completely, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is now considering a fee system. Some stores, such as Swedish furniture-mecca IKEA, have already implemented a plastic-bag fee. And while La Jolla stores hand out plastic bags like student organizations do Welcome Week flyers, it's nice to see that some people have gotten the hint.

Unfortunately, something free usually equates to something disposable. If shoppers don't have to pay for bags, they won't associate any value with them and aren't likely to consider where the bags end up. But when confronted with even a minimal fee, shoppers are forced to assess their need for the bags, usually deciding they'd rather deal with the slight inconvenience and save both their pennies and the environment. Plus, being green is totally in this season — reusable grocery totes are gaining popularity, and rightfully so.

For this reason, we should consider applying minimal fees not only to plastic bags but other items as well. What about paper fast-food napkins? How many times have you grabbed a pile, dirtied one or two, then thrown them all out at the end of your meal?

Imagine if restaurants gave out two napkins per order and charged a nickel for each additional one. While this isn't too much to bring bankruptcy upon messy eaters, it is enough to get people thinking.

Accompanying these fees can be recycle systems, so that people who need the plastic bags for the trip home can use them, then be reim-

See **SHOES**, page 5

A Budget With Its Back Against the Wall

A hulking deficit has swallowed state resources, leaving many scrambling for new spending priorities. The *Guardian's* staff members write their own list of university-related priorities in a financially grim year.

Reality Check: Everybody Hurts in State's Fiscal Picture

By Charles Nguyen
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Long ago, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger promised a new day of politics and new attitude of political spending. But it now seems that day is a ways off, with California now standing at the precipice of a gaping fiscal abyss that is \$14 billion wide. And just as much as legislators are readjusting their game plans — cutting down programs, reducing expenditures and utilizing other belt-tightening procedures — collegiate student advocacy groups should expect to do the same.

Calling your local legislator, the foremost “you-can-make-a-change!” approach used by such groups, will likely fall flat in these trying times.

Why? Legislators will have a handful of quick and justifiably correct answers: We have to pay for state health care. We have to pay for criminal justice programs. We have to pay for K-12 schools — all while dodging the much-hated tax hike. Simply put, priorities are now more important than ever. State funding to our universities, a mostly financially autonomous 10-campus system, will undoubtedly hover around the bare minimum.

But to see the university shortchanged is still a tragedy. Long-term fights to see certain university

programs revived and student services expanded will most certainly fall to the wayside, while state scholarships such as the Cal Grant can say goodbye to any growth and possibly even see a reduction. Together, the budget shrinkages make it that much more difficult for the underprivileged to attain a UC education. But with lawmakers in Sacramento yelling “code red,” there seems to be little flexibility to deal with priorities in higher education: lower fees, better programs, smaller class sizes and more outreach.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has passed the decision of where these cuts hit into the regents' hands. It will be months before the dust settles, and we see which programs and services take the worst cuts.

The upcoming Feb. 5 vote will prove vital to both the financial health of the state and university. Passage of the measure to give the state's community colleges a fiscal boon, for example, will give the state's legislators less to spend on the UC system. So with a smaller money pot than ever in California this year, student advocates should hold fast to the “give a little to get a little” understanding.

Readers can contact Charles Nguyen at charles_nguyen@sbcglobal.net.

Outlook for Student Fees Grim Under Slim State Budget

By Serena Renner
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When the going gets tough for the state of California, UC students wish they could get going.

Historically, amid deficit, the state government places additional costs of higher education on students' backs, and after a decade of steep increases, the trend will likely continue as students are expected to face yet another hit in 2008-09. According to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's state budget proposal, students would see a 7.4-percent increase in mandatory fees, intensifying the longstanding problem of college affordability and leaving room for the UC Board of Regents to tack on extra dollars, which does nothing to calm student fears.

The increase translates to a system wide fee of \$490 for resident undergraduates and \$546 for resident graduate students, amounting to \$7,126 in annual tuition for in-state undergraduates. As if that's not troublesome enough for the countless struggling college students and their families, the proposal also permits the regents to increase fees beyond the recommended levels to compensate for the extent of UC budget cuts. Considering that UC's state funding would fall \$400 million below the amount requested by the regents under the proposal, it's pretty easy to predict what they will do.

Granted, the state and UC system must endure severe cuts across the board to address the state's estimated \$14.5-billion debt and the recommended 7-percent increase is consistent with the previous year; however, the state too often expects costs to be back-filled by student fee increases, forcing students to help bail the state out of a debt they did not create.

While students and their families are becoming desensitized to the rising numbers on their college tuition statements, the cost of a UC education has more than doubled in less than a decade. While California claims to be investing in its future by producing an educated workforce and dynamic economy, public education is becoming a privilege for the wealthy rather than an equalizer to close the gap between rich and poor. While more people may be attending college, students are faced with increased amounts of debt, making the goal of a “dynamic economy” an unrealistic ideal until the state government stops punishing students for its poor planning and starts prioritizing access to public education.

Readers can contact Serena Renner at srenner@ucsd.edu.

Governor Turns to Students for Funds Again

By Natasha Naraghi
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

According to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed 2008-09 state budget, the University of California would lose approximately \$332 million in state funding as soon as July of this year. The governor hopes that the severe reduction will put a dent in the projected \$14.5-billion state deficit.

But even by footing the bill for the state's ballooning debt, UC students would still see dwindling services in the upcoming school year, with fewer class offerings, program eliminations and weakened academic resources and support. Basically, they would pay more and get less — and it's not UC students alone.

California community colleges and the California State University system would also meet massive financial slashes in the upcoming school year, losing \$484 million and \$312.9 million respectively. California community colleges would also face a \$40 million midyear cut if legislators implement the new budget. But the K-12 schools would fare the worst, with an astounding \$4.4 billion in funding cuts in 2008-09 and a midyear loss of \$360 million.

It simply isn't fair that students should be forced to sit by and watch as their fees climb and their services shrink. By endorsing the proposal, Schwarzenegger would be turning his back on the thousands of talented young people desperately seeking a college education.

State lawmakers should think long and hard before they approve the governor's budget proposal, exploring every possible avenue to lighten the burden that will otherwise fall on California's students.

The governor may think that by pushing a stranglehold on state spending he's delivering on his no-tax-increase promise to California citizens, but in reality he's failed miserably. All he's really done is insidiously dump it in the hands of overburdened students so that he can turn a blind eye and come out looking like the good guy to the taxpayers. And for that, he should be ashamed.

Readers can contact Natasha Naraghi at naraghi@ucsd.edu.

Employees Could Find Less Financial Support

By Jesse Alm
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

There are only so many times you can inflate administrative wages while brushing off the fundamental needs of employees before the “we're trying to compromise” line loses its spunk, and the “best in the West” mantra becomes a deranged mockery of workers who can't afford their monthly parking fees. Negotiations press on this month between the University of California and two different unions: the California Nurses Association and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. The CNA dispute is marked by a Paid Time Off program that would encourage nurses to show up to work sick, mandatory shift rotations that would contort fragile sleep sched-

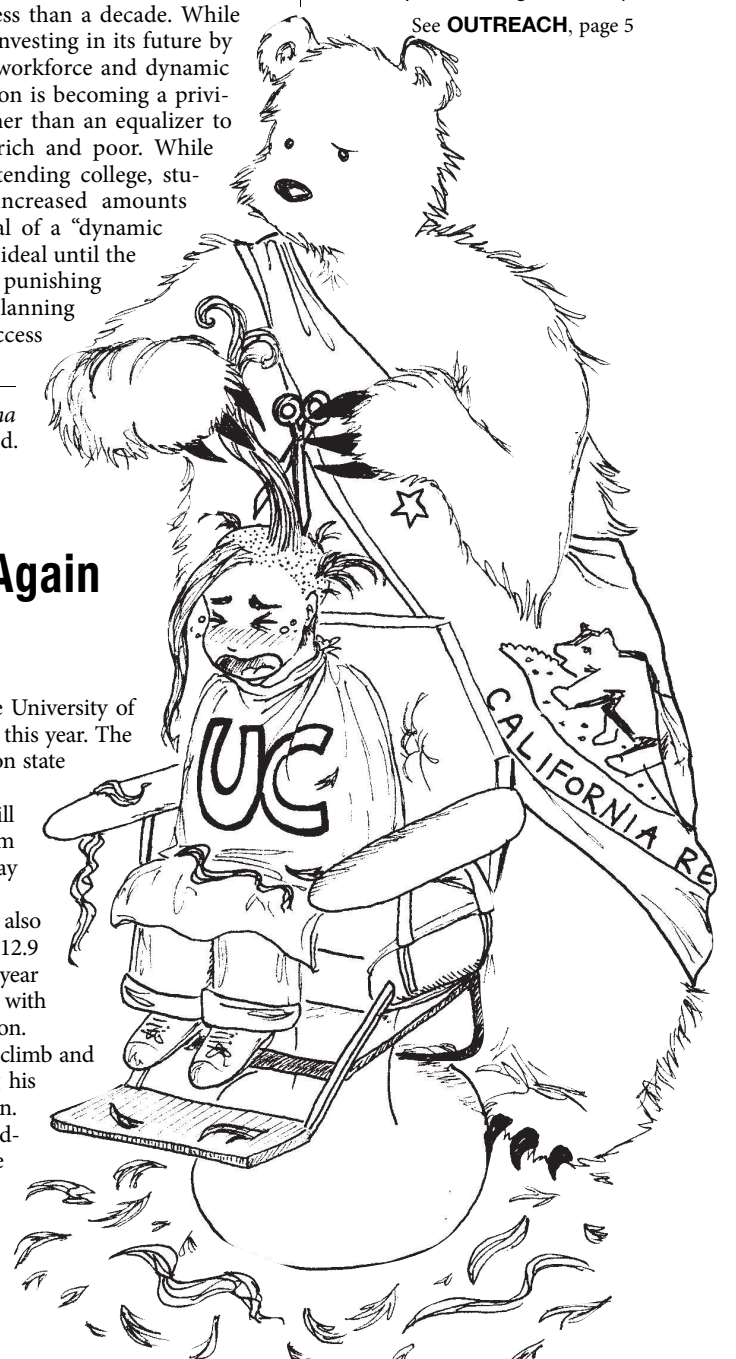
See **EMPLOYEES**, page 5

Silver Lining: Outreach Gets State's Attention

By Marissa Blunschi
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

After three years of financial neglect from the state, student academic preparation and outreach programs are receiving some desperately sought-after attention in the 2008-09 California state budget.

This year, the Legislature rejected Gov.

See **OUTREACH**, page 5

JACKIE SWANSON/GUARDIAN

Employees Will Feel Hit from Smaller Shares of State Money

► **EMPLOYEES**, from page 4
ules and staggering wage disparities that would mean less compensation for the longest standing veterans than for fresh college grads. CNA and the university have moved on to the fact-finding step in their mediation process, but the facts have already been found and they speak for themselves.

AFSCME representatives fail to understand why recruitment and retention of patient-care technical employees aren't higher university priorities, considering new technicians and nurse's assistants have no choice but to turn to co-workers for on-the-

job training. In addition, the price of employee health care is steadily rising, so the prospect of wellness is a stretch even for those who provide the care.

Few are so cynical as to accuse the university of deliberately imperiling its employees or perpetuating a high turnover rate, but as one licensed vocational nurse asked: Is there really a single reason to remain a UC medical employee? It seems amid its insular bureaucratic games, the university has neglected this question altogether.

Readers can contact Jesse Alm at jessealm@gmail.com.

Funding for Programs Brings New Hope for UC Diversity

► **OUTREACH**, from page 4
Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to — yet again — reduce General Fund support for University of California student academic programs by \$19.3 million. The state will now fund these programs, which have become an integral part of increasing diversity and assisting students from disadvantaged schools, with \$31.3 million for UC schools.

According to the University of California Office of the President, participants in UC academic preparation programs now account for 30 percent of black UC freshmen and 33 percent

of Latino UC freshmen. Among their many important services, outreach programs focus on providing tutoring, mentoring and college counseling services to disadvantaged students in an effort to give them access to the same opportunities as their more advantaged counterparts.

In spite of the many distressing cuts to the UC budget for this year, at least advocates of student outreach programs can breathe a long-awaited sigh of relief.

Readers can contact Marissa Blunsch at mblunsch@ucsd.edu.

Shoppers: Waste Not, Want Not

► **SHOES**, from page 4
bursed upon the bag's return. The point isn't to hassle people just trying to go to the market — it's to discourage people from so easily creating excess waste.

If people have to pay for plastic bags, not only will they use them more sparingly, they'll also be more likely to reuse or recycle them. And for those wasteful shoppers who will continue to squander bags regardless of price, at least now they will begin to be monetarily responsible for their actions.

A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lazaro



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Columnist Confuses Political Cause and Effect

Dear Editor,

Jake Blanc stated in his column that "in order to have any hope of political success, a candidate must abandon the majority of his or her core beliefs." He cited politicians such as Dennis Kucinich, Cynthia McKinney and Leonard Peltier as those who haven't, and are thus relegated to the fringes of politics.

I respectfully disagree. First, moderation is not ipso facto a sign of political prostitution. Simply because a Democratic candidate does not swing as far left as Blanc would like is not proof that their policies are in some way less "genuine."

On the second point, I believe that Blanc has misunderstood cause and effect. While he claims that Kucinich, McKinney and Peltier have no chance of national political success because they cleave to their core beliefs and do not "meander along party lines," I would instead argue that they have no

chance because their core beliefs are absolutely insane. Thank goodness the American body politic, for all its faults, leaves no place at the national level for extreme nanny-state pacifists (Kucinich), race-baiting 9/11 conspiracy theorists (McKinney) and convicted cop killers (Peltier).

— Travis Weinger
Revelle College senior

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MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008

EAT, SLEEP, BREATHE, GAME



By Alyssa Berezna • Focus Editor

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RICHARD CHOI & WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

As streaks of battling supersoldiers cover Price Center Ballroom's white walls and rows of glowing television sets display dueling Nintendo characters, it's surprising to see that despite the room's action, it's the concentrated minds and strained thumbs of hundreds of still-sitting gamers that are fueling most of the excitement. But at Sixth College's fourth annual Winter Game Fest, mind-thumb coordination is the only skill needed.

Founded and organized by the Sixth College Technology Committee in 2005, the first and second Winter Game Fests were exclusive to Sixth College students, attracting approximately 12 and 100 attendees, respectively. Since then, the event has been opened to the entire campus as well as non-students, increasing attendance to 1,125 at this year's Jan. 12-13 competition. The continual growth of gaming events like Winter Game Fest or Warren College's annual Video Game Extravaganza represents UCSD's budding culture of gamers — one that Amrit Sareen, the Sixth College Technology Committee commissioner, hopes to expand.

"Next year I have a plan to expand this across universities, so it will be UCSD, UCL, UC Riverside and we might even talk to SDSU to make this a cross-campus event," Sareen said. "I'd like to see this expand even more. I want to see this as big as Sun God or some of the big events [UCSD] has."

According to Sareen, who was responsible for organizing the event and finding its sponsors, high school and college students make up about 90 percent of the gaming demographic, but

the industry is continually growing.

"Last year was gaming's biggest year, because Halo 3 sold a record number of copies and there were just a lot of games that sold a lot," Sareen said. "Gaming companies are growing every year, and you see more and more consoles where games are being played on. And now with the Wii, that's a whole new physicality onto games. As games evolve and grow, I think their scope will grow as well and more, and more types of kids and adults will become gaming fans."

As a way to offer prizes and fund other expenses for the event, Sareen secured sponsorships from BAWLS energy drink, E-Sports, EA games, Ideazon, Microsoft and the Office Games. The donated merchandise included over \$5,000 worth of software from Microsoft and 2,000 BAWLS energy drinks. According to BAWLS marketing and media contact Sabrina Gonzolas, the rising popularity of gaming has gained the attention of many companies looking to enhance or accessorize the gaming experience.

"[Gaming is] a multi billion-dollar industry," Gonzolas said in an e-mail. "They are fighting for logo exposures in games, sponsoring pro players and nearly every video gaming center in the country now has an energy drink cooler stocked with caffeine to keep gamers alert while playing."

In addition to marketing and advertising their products, companies like Microsoft felt its presence at the event was important for recruitment reasons.

"Gaming is not just entertainment anymore," said Anubhav

Chopra, a Thurgood Marshall College sophomore and UCSD Microsoft Student Representative. "Careers in the gaming industry that relate to the study of technology, engineering, math and the arts is on the rise ... Our hope is that students will be willing to explore [these] fields of study because of their interest in gaming."

As sponsors looked to make a connection with participants by stationing merchandise tables and software previews at the Winter Game Fest, attendees wandered through the many console and computer stations, choosing from popular console, PC, and video games like Halo 3, Counter Strike and Super Smash Brothers. Despite the fact that each Winter Fest competition ends within an hour or so, dedicated gamers allot a huge amount of time to improving their skills and mastering the game.

"I play ... about two to three hours everyday," Sixth College freshman Albert Orona said. "Most of the time it's social. We get everyone in our suite together and have fun. I've gone whole weekends and breaks playing video games. This past break I got sick for four days and I just played for those entire days. I would eat and take breaks for two-hour naps because I wasn't feeling that good, but other than that I would just play video games."

Like Orona, many other students find themselves distracted or con-

sumed by gaming. Although the time dedicated to game play varies for each person, many seasoned gamers agree that gaming has addictive qualities through features like level advancement and character development. Sareen, who plays games himself, said games are designed to keep people playing and can sometimes be detrimental to students' academic lives.

"I don't get bad grades, but when I do badly on tests, I know it's because [of] the last night gaming away on the computer," said Sareen. "And games are really, really addictive once you get down to it."

According to Revelle College sophomore Ray Phan, although there is a large population of students who play more interactive games like Guitar Hero 3 or Wii Sports, overenthusiastic gamers can sometimes isolate themselves from social situations.

"I've lost friends because of video games," Phan said. "A lot of my friends play [World of Warcraft], and I'd call them to hang out, and they'd be like 'Oh, sorry, I'm busy playing W.O.W.' And I'm like, 'Fuck, dude, you can't do that.' So it gets really addicting."

Phan attributes the over-obsession of some gamers to the fantasy element found in role playing games and real-time strategy games, features which can often relieve students of their humdrum lives.

"It's just fun; the fantasy of it," Phan said. "It's a bit of an escape from reality, I guess, because, you know, you can do homework, you can do your chem, your math, your science and reading and everything. Or you can be a guy who's trying to save the world."

However, many gamers who have found a balance between their schoolwork, gaming hobbies and social life see such an obsession as extreme and unhealthy. Students like Thurgood Marshall College freshman Effren Jimenez, who spent about \$2,000 on

Gaming Lingo

catass

Verb. To obsessively play a game, neglecting hygiene and all other activities to accomplish an in-game goal.

pwn

Verb. Variation of "own." Used in cases of excessive victories. "Dude, I totally pwned you."

n00b

Noun. Used like "newbie" to refer to inexperienced video-game players.

skunk

Verb. To take away all of a person's lives without diminishing any of your own.

l33t

Noun. Variation of "elite." Pronounced "leet." Used both as a noun and to signify leet speech, which is gaming terminology.

gaming equipment in high school, are wary of the excessive amount of time that gamers spend playing.

"I know when you're a lot younger it can be very addictive," Jimenez said. "You spend a lot of time on it. I have friends who spend like four, five hours a day, but personally, it was easy for me to put it down. I see it as a kind of escape from reality and, you know life is hard enough; you don't need to sit around not doing anything."

While Jimenez believes some people take gaming too far, he also thinks UCSD's atmosphere of student life and school system are conducive to a thriving gaming environment.

"We don't have a football team; we don't have any Division I [teams]," Jimenez said. "So I think gaming is where it's at. Yesterday we were out playing Rock Band at my friend's dorm room for like three hours because it's a really cool game. You know, we're all a little nerdy at UCSD."

Although many students admit gaming tends to have an addictive hook, they are still defensive about the way in which the media sheds a negative light on the pastime.

"It gets such a bad rap most of the time," Orona said. "There was an article in the MQ making fun of gamers for violence, and its headline said 'Kid playing Super Mario Galaxy jumps into space and dies.' It's stuff like that. It gets so obscure like that sometimes."

Whether it's in an organized tournament like Winter Game Fest, with a group of friends, or alone among other online personalities, many UCSD students game to look for new, advanced kinds of entertainment in the form of video games.

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WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

A student practices his Guitar Hero techniques as he waits for his turn at the Sixth College fourth annual Winter Game Festival.

Roam if You Want to, All Around the World

Cape Town, London, Cairo — they were dots on a map to me when Winter Quarter began last year; fantasies and stereotypes. I wanted to make them something more, or at least one of them. I had no idea where I would study abroad. Perhaps Turkey, Italy or China. At the time, the task of choosing seemed impossible.

Having taken Italian language classes for a few years, Italy had been an obvious choice in my study-abroad selection. I was learning the culture from a textbook and had spent my summer between community college and UCSD wandering the country's northern parts. Italy was tangible, but I wanted the unknown.

Now, on my winter break from the American University in Cairo, I find myself wondering about the experience of studying in another city, particularly one I have now spent nearly two weeks exploring on my winter vacation and one that appears to be more unknown than I had assumed a year ago: Rome.

Hotel Laurentia, with its red-carpeted lobby, bulky hotel key chains, dual twin beds, collection of tiny shampoo bottles and housekeeping service, made my first six nights in Rome feel like a vacation. And, I suppose, rightfully so.

The complimentary platter of breads, cheese, cereals, fruit and coffee available every morning, immaculately clean bathrooms, tucked bed corners, ever-lasting supply of fresh towels and friendly welcomes from the hotel's staff prompted my contemplations of what it might have been like studying at the university down the street instead of passing through on vacation.

I spent the second half of my trip to Italy in a friend's small, third floor apartment. The ripe-tangerine couch, covered in a soft flower print sheet, sat adjacent to a small, classically decorated

Christmas tree donning red -and-gold globes and an unevenly spun golden sash.

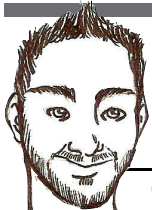
When I spent the third of January wandering through the farmland countryside near my host's apartment, which divides the city from the mountains, the quiet, suburban and un-trampled aspects of Rome one isn't able to fully discover, even during an 11-night stay, settled back into my thoughts.

During the less-eventful moments of my Roman vacation, like a bus ride across town or a supermarket run for orange juice and a pack of Camel Lights, I think about the little moments that separate visitors from residents.

Hearing about someone's day trip to Florence and another person's last-minute train ride from Paris, it's easy to envy the simplicity of travel through Europe compared to the restrictions in Egypt: visas, border checks and regulations dictating foreigner's travel; run-down trains, reckless minibus drivers and tourist convoys.

Having spent four months in Cairo, my routine has become much like it was in San Diego. I go to classes, study, distract myself with movies and spend time with friends at restaurants, coffee shops or bars. However, trips to the pyramids, down the Nile, into the Sahara — they are all interspersed between commonplace activities. I certainly would not have such opportunities had I remained my whole college career at UCSD.

But the routine has another side, one that is changing my perspectives and my view of the world: casually dodging cars as I cross the street at a walk signal, being careful not to accidentally board the women's car on the metro, hearing the five calls to prayer each day ringing out from the hundreds and maybe



Dave in Cairo

dharvey@ucsd.edu



thousands of mosques throughout the city, being easily pegged as an outsider and overcoming a language barrier in even the most mundane of everyday tasks.

How would this routine, and with it my world perspective, have been shaped differently had I studied in Rome? Enjoying penne all'arrabiata and bruschetta instead of falafel and hummus, red and white wines instead of mango juice and tea; miniskirts, stilettos and Dolce and Gabbana instead of hijabs, burkas and poorly made knock-offs; Catholicism instead of Islam.

On Jan. 3, I spent the night drinking wine on a gaudy orange couch, staring at the 19-inch television under the four-foot plastic Christmas tree. Watching "Natural Born Killers," I thought to myself, "I could do this anywhere." Cape



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID HARVEY

In addition to attending class, students studying abroad have the opportunity to visit either famous monuments such as the Coliseum (above) or remote villages like those in the Italian countryside (below).

See **CAIRO**, page 8

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Married Students Live New College Experience

By Grace Mao Wu
STAFF WRITER

Four years ago, in a general chemistry class, Thurgood Marshall College senior Annalisa Perez spilled acid on Eleanor Roosevelt College senior Will Perez's notebook. Embarrassed, she offered to buy him a new one. Little did she know, one year later, her acid-spill victim would be her future husband. Now in their second year of marriage, the Perezes are a college minority.

They scheduled their wedding around UCSD's quarter system and married during spring break of their sophomore year. Despite the stressful combination of finals and last-minute wedding planning, Annalisa was satisfied with the timing of her commitment.

"I didn't want to wait [to get married] because life is going to get crazier once we start med school and grad school," Annalisa said.

Despite their situation, the Perezes longed to commit. Just one year after dating, they both realized that they wanted to get married.

"I know it sounds borderline cliché," Will said, "but I knew after the first real deep conversation that we had that I wanted to spend the rest of my life with her. [My friends] kept on asking, 'Are you sure? Are you sure?' But after I told them that she's the one, they were more receptive about it."

Like the Perezes, Eleanor Roosevelt College junior Carmen Grageola also married during college.

"The big reason was that I felt I was ready," Grageola said. "At age 17, all I wanted to do was go to school. At 18, I did see myself marrying young."

Like any college student, Grageola is busy; however, school is not her main focus. She works approximately 40 hours a week at the UCSD Bookstore in addition to taking classes. She and her husband — who works two jobs and is in the Army Reserves — have two young children. While she works

and attends class, her mother and her husband take care of her sons.

With added family responsibilities of her own, Grageola doesn't have the concerns of a typical college student.

"Once you get married you don't think about what to wear," Grageola said. "You have to think about what to cook for dinner. [College students] have the luxury to do what they want to do without having to think about other people and how it's going to affect people living in the same household."

Although her commitment to her family takes up much of her time, Grageola manages to study during her lunch breaks and at night, after her children are asleep.

"When I study I have to really focus because I know I won't have a second chance," Grageola said.

Grageola also has difficulties managing her social life and can only set aside two hours a month to catch up with her friends. The Perezes feel similarly about their social ties.

"Just like any relationship, you want to spend more time with the person so you have to put other activities aside," Will said. "First it was friends, then it was working out and now it's sleep."

The Perezes noticed that after their marriage, their mindsets about schoolwork became more focused and they became less preoccupied with things that would distract a typical, single college student.

"I realize we have different backgrounds and interests," Will said. "I am trying to take notes intently on my laptop while the person next to me is on MySpace."

Due to the demanding responsibilities of her family, Grageola's interests have also evolved.

"I'm on the side of life where I already did it and I'm ready for something else," she said. "Now just having coffee with friends and having a nice conversation for hours — that's enough; it's fulfilling ... you're settled down and



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN
Married couple Annalisa and Will Perez pose together in front of Geisel Library. The couple married during spring break of their sophomore year, one day after the conclusion of finals week.

thinking on a different level."

According to Housing and Dining Services Director Mark Cunningham, there are 41 married undergraduates living in the Affiliated Residential Community Housing for married graduate and undergraduate couples and in university-owned complexes such as Mesa Apartments and La Jolla del Sol. Thirty-five of the married undergraduates have children.

While their college lifestyle may have been different from the majority

of their peers', both Grageola and the Perezes are satisfied with their decision.

"I do get a little bit jealous, I'm not going to lie ... but, at the same time, I feel so accomplished on so many levels," Grageola said. "When I come home I have two little ones that run to me and say, 'Mommy,' [and] that makes up for everything else."

Readers can contact Grace Mao Wu at gmwu@ucsd.edu.

Students Find New, Foreign Routines

► CAIRO, from page 7

Town, Ankara, London or Moscow. I could have done this in Buenos Aires, Mexico City or Cairo. I could do this in San Diego.

It was a 30-minute bus ride from the Coliseum, the Vatican, the Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon. It may as well have been a 30-minute bus ride from the pyramids, the Sphinx or the shores of the Nile. It may as well have been 30 minutes from the Gaslamp Quarter or the San Diego Zoo.

Even in 12 days, a routine started to emerge. But weaved among the work, the television and the pub was life as a foreigner: the challenge of language barriers, discovering history and understanding custom. It's the routine, together with the struggles, the clashes and adventures that make up experience and alter perspective. Studying in Cairo has been just the challenge and experience, the journey into the unknown that I sought during the long challenge of choosing where to study abroad. The routine is a part of that experience, and I am thrilled to have it.

This Winter Quarter, students all over UCSD will be staring down at maps, wondering where they might be next year. If faced with dots on a map again, I would still choose Cairo. I believe it is the place that challenged my world perspective the most, and helped me learn not just in the classroom, but also in the streets and the community. But all those other dots, those fantasies and stereotypes, they offer whole worlds to explore as well. So perhaps, next time, I'll choose Rome.

For this writer's column page, visit www.ucsdguardian.org.

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Tritons Get Week of Rest After Five OTs

► **M BASKETBALL**, from page 12
play that tied the game and proved to be the final bucket in regulation.

UCSD took its first lead since the first half with 1:19 left in overtime. The teams traded leads twice over the final minute and headed into a second extra period after CSUDH's Danny Tavares converted one-of-two free throws. Lawlor, having missed a potential game-winner in the first overtime, took charge in the second, scoring the first five UCSD points on a lay-up and a three-point basket that put the Tritons ahead for good with 51 seconds left. Kim made one-of-two free throws, and Hatch made two from the charity stripe to ice the game as the defense forced two turnovers and held the Toros scoreless in the final minute.

"The game against CSUDH was a complete team effort," Lawlor said. "Everyone stepped up to get done what needed to get done."

Patterson led UCSD with team highs of 19 points and seven rebounds while Lawlor's clutch performance was part of a 16-point evening. The Tritons were out-rebounded and out-shot throughout the game, but did shoot 50 percent in the overtime periods.

"These games obviously put us through some adversity and it really shows how deep and good we can be," Lawlor said. "We have a tough schedule coming up and we hopefully will learn from this and come out and get on top of teams from the beginning like we were earlier in the season."

The Tritons now return home to play their next five games at RIMAC Arena. UCSD hosts Cal Poly Pomona on Jan. 18 before facing 6th-ranked Cal State San Bernardino on Jan. 19.

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

UCSD Pulls Off One Win in Seven Games Against BYU

► **VOLLEYBALL**, from page 12
for the 30-28 win going into the break. Ring discussed minimizing the service errors and making plays in all aspects of the game.

"There's no magic or no secret formula," Ring said. "We played well throughout the first game except for the end stretch and we played well throughout the second game. We needed to stay aggressive but continue to play in all phases."

The words of encouragement didn't seem to work in the early stages of game three as UCSD fell behind 20-15. Just when it seemed the Cougars had sealed the victory, UCSD put together a rally to tie the game at 22. Behind the crowd of 612 at RIMAC, the Tritons battled for a 28-26 lead and sophomore outside hitter Jason Spangler closed the game with a kill and a solo block to give UCSD a glimmer of hope in knocking off the nation's No. 1 team.

"The crowd helped us tremendously," he said. "They were into it and it seemed that they wanted us to win as badly as we did. We kind of played to the philosophy that you can give a team a game but not the next one."

The momentum didn't last, as BYU jumped out to a 19-12 lead early in game four, but the Tritons wouldn't let their fans go home disappointed. Appearing to have lost all intensity after the game-three win, UCSD went on a 12-5 run to tie the game 24-24 and took the lead on a Spangler kill 26-25.

Hardy and sophomore middle blocker Gerald Houseman put up a double block to give the Tritons a 29-28 lead and game point. But the height and talent of the Cougars took over as they tallied two blocks and a kill to close out the game and the match.

Ring pointed to UCSD's youth and inexperience as culprits for the loss.

"We definitely knew that we could play with them," he said. "We're a

youth team and are still learning how to play with one another. We have to keep our focus and be able to make the routine plays. The big blocks and aces are going to happen but we have to worry more about what we control."

The rematch bore little resemblance to the intensity and quality of the previous night. Remnants of the disappointing loss seemed to linger over the Tritons in game one. Despite being behind by only two, the Tritons just didn't have the same continuity and flow they had in the first meeting.

BYU captured game one on back-to-back kills and UCSD couldn't recover in the second game. The Cougars played almost flawlessly and the curse of missed serves returned as BYU pounded the Tritons for an easy win.

UCSD used an 8-2 run in game three to take a 20-17 lead. The advantage stuck until 23-20 when BYU recorded back-to-back blocks to tie the game at 23. The two teams traded points and exchanged leads, but it would be BYU that stole the match on a kill and a block.

BYU out-blocked UCSD 39-20, which Ring attributed to experience.

"Blocking takes the longest to develop after getting out of high school," he said. "We're young but the height they had on the wings doesn't make a huge difference. They're a veteran team and that was the biggest difference."

Leserman was pleased with UCSD's performance and echoed Ring's sentiments that the team could win with some improvement at the service line.

"We contended with the No. 1 team in the nation and that was big," he said. "We need to improve our serving though. A missed serve is losing out on an opportunity to win points for your team."

Readers can contact Matt Croskey at mcroskey@ucsd.edu.



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Pg 5



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The senior forward had a game-high 17 points on 5-of-13 shooting to lead the No. 21 Tritons to a 60-59 victory over Cal State Los Angeles on Jan. 12.



Five OT Periods Take Toll on Tritons



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN FILE

Sophomore forward Andrew Browning has contributed off the bench for UCSD, scoring 2.8 points per game in only 11.1 minutes per contest and providing starters with much-needed rest in the five OT periods played in two days.

UCSD beats Toros in double OT on Jan. 11, but falls to Golden Eagles in triple overtime on Jan. 12.

By Joe Tevelowitz
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

MEN'S BASKETBALL — The Tritons endured an exhausting road trip this weekend, defeating Cal State Dominguez Hills 78-74 in double overtime on Jan. 11 before falling to Cal State Los Angeles 111-102 in a triple overtime contest on Jan. 12. After the back-to-back grueling contests, the Tritons' overall record now stands at 7-4 and 4-2 in the California Collegiate Athletic Association, leaving them tied for third in the CCAA standings.

"We certainly played a lot of minutes and so that's certainly a cause for concern as we move on from here," head coach Chris Carlson said.

After sophomore guard Jordan Lawley opened the scoring with a three-pointer against the Golden Eagles on Jan. 12, CSULA would gain an early advantage, leading by as much as seven through the first 10 minutes of the half. A 10-2 run by UCSD put the Tritons up by one with 9:52 left in the half, but the teams changed leads five times and found themselves in a dead heat on another five occasions, going into halftime locked at 30 points apiece. The teams stayed close in the second half, with a five-point Triton lead four minutes out of the break being the half's largest differential. The Tritons found themselves on the negative end of the seesaw battle, down four points with under two and half minutes remaining

in regulation. UCSD would go on to score on consecutive possessions, however, with a jumper by junior forward Darryl Lawlor and a lay-up by senior guard Clint Allard tying the game at 66 with less than a minute to play.

After the Golden Eagles converted three-of-four from the foul line, the Tritons called a time-out with five seconds to play. Down three, it was junior guard Kelvin Kim who would take and draw a foul on a three-point attempt with no time remaining. Kim won a game last season at the free-throw line for UCSD, and again came up big, nailing all three free-throws to send the game into the first overtime period.

"Everyone has great faith in Kelvin's abilities," Carlson said. "Kelvin's a winner and I think all of us felt very, very calm in terms of him going to the line and shooting three [free-throws] to get us to overtime."

While the Tritons would never lead in the first overtime period, they never trailed by more than four points. Stuck again in a deficit in the final minute of play, Lawley connected on his third three-pointer of the game off a Kim pass, cutting the Golden Eagles' lead to one. A CSULA free-throw made it a one-possession game with only 13 seconds to play. Junior forward Shane Poppen hit the offensive glass after a missed jumper by junior guard Andrew Hatch, collecting one of his career-high 12 rebounds but missed a shot to tie the game. But junior guard Alan Husted secured the rebound and put it back for the tying bucket right at the buzzer.

The Tritons would be the only team to lead in the second overtime period, though never by more than three points, as both squads scored seven points in the frame and sent it into a

third overtime. CSULA pulled away in the final extra period, outscoring the Tritons 22-13 for the hard-fought win.

Lawley led five Tritons in double-digit scoring with a double-double of 20 points and 10 rebounds. Kim added 18 points, junior forward

Henry Patterson scored 17, Allard had 11 and Husted added 10 points on 4-of-7 shooting off the bench. CSULA countered with six Golden Eagles scoring double digits, led by a game-high 29 points from Vincent Camper.

Five Tritons would put up double-digit numbers the night before, with UCSD using two extra periods this time en route to a conference win. Again UCSD found itself in an early deficit, this time against Cal State Dominguez Hills. After holding a slim lead in the first minute of play, the Tritons would trail for much of the half by as many as 10 points. Though able to climb back in the game, the Tritons were only able to tie and lead for just five seconds with five minutes left in the half before a 15-6 run gave the Toros an eight-point lead at the break. The Tritons were able to keep the game close in the second half, never again allowing CSUDH to take a double-digit advantage. UCSD would again tie the game briefly midway through the second half and, though unable to take the lead, never let it get beyond a two-possession game. The Tritons were finally able to take advantage of remaining within striking distance as Lawlor knocked down a huge three-point basket with 37 seconds to

Jan. 12 • 7-4 overall (4-2 CCAA)

UCSD	102
CSULA	111

See **M BASKETBALL**, page 11

Road Trip Ends With Two CCAA Wins

By Janani Sridharan
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL — The No. 21 women's basketball team bounced back from two straight losses on the road by taking two California Collegiate Athletic Association wins, including a nail biter against Cal State Los Angeles to improve its overall record to 12-4. The Tritons fought hard in a tight away game to pull off a 60-59 victory on Jan. 12. This came after the Tritons pulled away in the second half of another tight game to post a 65-52 win against Cal State Dominguez Hills on Jan. 11.

From the start of their contest against CSULA, it was clear that the Tritons were in for a tough game. Junior forward Michelle Osier began the game with a three-point basket and senior forward Meaghan Noud added a jumper to give the Tritons a 5-0 lead to start the game. The Golden Eagles answered right away, taking their first lead of the game with 16:46 left in the first half.

UCSD and the Golden Eagles went back and forth in the first half with both teams keeping the game close. Noud led the Tritons in the first half with 10 points including two three-point baskets, and Osier added nine points to help extend the Tritons' lead to 32-28 at the end of the first half.

The second half of the game started out well for the Tritons, who quickly took a nine-point lead after baskets from sophomore forward Erin Noonan, senior center Alexis Gaskin and Noud. The Golden Eagles continued to fight back, keeping the Tritons from opening up a big lead.

UCSD's shooting troubles in the second half combined with CSULA's comeback effort, bringing the game to a 59-59 tie with less than one minute left in regulation. With 22 seconds left in the game, Osier drew a foul and made one of two free-throw attempts to

give the Tritons a one-point advantage. CSULA gained possession of the ball with time to run a play, but UCSD forced a turnover to seal the win.

"Different people stepped up in the win for us," head coach Charity Elliott said. "[Sophomore guard] Annette Ilg had a huge deflection at the end of the game."

Noud led the Tritons in scoring with 17 points, Osier added 13 points and nine rebounds and Ilg contributed eight points in the win.

UCSD pulled out the victory despite shooting 33 percent and losing the rebounding battle. The Tritons did make eight three-point baskets compared to CSULA's two.

UCSD started out on the road against Cal State Dominguez Hills. The Tritons started strongly in their first game of the weekend, taking a 17-7 lead seven minutes into the game backed by three baskets from Noonan. The Toros stormed back, eventually cutting the Tritons' lead to four points with three minutes left in the first half.

Both teams shot over 50 percent, and the Tritons ended the first half with a 33-29 lead.

The game remained close in the beginning of the second half with Noud helping the Tritons' cause with two early three-point baskets. With 13 minutes left in the game, the Toros threatened to take the lead after tying the game at 41. However, the Tritons denied the Toros and took control of the game. UCSD outscored CSUDH 24-11 in the remaining minutes of the game giving the Tritons a 65-52 win.

The Tritons shot 51 percent in the game led by Noud with 24 points, Noonan with 15 points and Osier with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

"It was huge for us to get those wins," Osier said. "To win leagues, we'll probably have to win all our league games from here on out"

The wins came at an important



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN FILE

Junior forward Michelle Osier had great overall performances in UCSD's CCAA road wins on Jan. 11 and 12, tallying 27 points and 19 rebounds.

time for the Tritons as they had just suffered two consecutive losses for the first time this season.

"I think we bounced back and responded in two hard-fought competitive games," Elliott said.

UCSD will continue its conference play at home against Cal Poly Pomona on Jan. 18 and Cal State San Bernardino on Jan. 19 and try to improve its 4-2 CCAA record and move up from fourth place in the league.

"All our games are going to be hard," senior guard Alexis Mezzetta said. "[CSUSB] is tied for first place and they have a really good post player so we have to play smart and work really hard."

Readers can contact Janani Sridharan at jsridhar@ucsd.edu.

No. 1 BYU Too Much for Less Experienced Tritons

By Matt Croskey
STAFF WRITER

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL — The UCSD men's volleyball team had its chances against top-ranked Brigham Young University but couldn't capitalize in key moments in its two contests against the No. 1 team in the country. The Tritons went down 30-21, 30-28, 27-30, 31-29 on Jan. 11 and were then swept 30-27, 30-22, 30-28 on Jan. 12.

Despite having late-game leads on both nights, UCSD was unable to close out the Cougars. Head coach Kevin Ring felt that the matches against BYU weren't about No. 1 versus UCSD or Division I versus Division II.

"In this league you have to give

yourself opportunities and we were able to do that," he said. "Over the seven games we played against them, we had our chances in all but two of them. They're No. 1 and they showed that coming up with big blocks to stop our runs."

BYU dominated the first game on Jan. 11. The Cougars roared out to a 23-20 lead and then scored 7-of-8 to take game one.

UCSD settled in the second game, taking a 15-12 advantage after senior outside hitter Russ Hardy's ace. The lead survived until the Cougars tied the game 26-26 on two Triton errors. BYU took a one-point lead and held on

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page 11



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

Three Tritons team up for a successful block attempt against No. 1 BYU, but the Cougars won the total team blocks battle, 22-14, and ended many UCSD threats with clutch blocks in two contests on Jan. 11 and 12.