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CAPS AT UCSD



UC San Diego's mental health clinic, Counseling and Psychological Services, has an unfortunate reputation for inaccessibility and ineffective treatment. The UCSD Guardian discussed these concerns with Dr. Reina Juarez, the director of CAPS.

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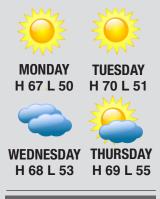
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FORECAST





Sixth College students visited the photobooth before going to the Sixth College semiformal. Photo by Jerry Zhou // UCSD Guardian

CAMPUS Bill Nye Speaks at UCSD Regarding New Halicioğlu Data Science Institute

BY PROMITANANDY SENIOR STAFF WRITER

C San Diego hosted a dedication ceremony at the San Diego Supercomputer Center for the new Halicioğlu Data Science Institute on Friday, March 2. The new institute, named after UCSD alumnus and current computer science professor Taner Halicioğlu, who donated \$75 million toward its creation, will serve as a cross-disciplinary hub for students, faculty, and researchers interested in learning about and applying data science to their careers.

The dedication ceremony opened with comments from Chancellor Pradeep Khosla about the university's vision for the institute.

"If there's one thing that can completely join, integrate, and meld everybody and all intellectual disciplines on this campus together, it is data sciences," Khosla explained during the dedication. "[The institute] belongs to nobody and everybody simultaneously."

The institute will be co-directed by UCSD computer science professor Rajesh Gupta, who formerly served as the chair of the computer science and engineering department.

"The institute is already working with disciplines like mathematics and cognitive science and computer science in offering courses [and minor degrees related to data science]," Gupta said. "Going forward there will be many minors." Gupta will be co-directing with Jeffrey Elman, the former dean of the Division of Social Sciences at UCSD, who is currently a professor in the cognitive science department.

Following Gupta was guest speaker Bill Nye, who spoke about his journey as a mechanical engineering graduate, to his career at the Boeing Company, to his media presence and his current job as the CEO of The Planetary Society. He continued to speak about how the Halicioğlu Institute will change the field of data science.

"For centuries, what separates science from a great many other disciplines are the observations, the hypotheses, and especially the measurements made by the scientists, researchers, and engineers who are involved in the research," Nye said. "The Halicioğlu Institute will enable students, researchers, and student researchers to learn to handle more data in a day than Isaac Newton, Nicolaus Copernicus, or Henrietta Leavitt could gather and process in a lifetime."

Both Gupta and Khosla echoed Nye's sentiments about the institute as a hub for all students to access data science in statements to the UCSD Guardian.

"There are students that have nothing to do with the computer science major who want to take a computer science course," Gupta told the Guardian in an earlier interview. "[The computer science

HDH Addresses Student Concerns at College Council

Members of Thurgood Marshall College Student Council questioned representatives on issues like safety and food waste.

> BY TYLER FAUROT STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, March 1, two representatives from the UC San Diego Housing Dining Hospitality met with the Thurgood Marshall College Student Council to address a number of concerns. Assistant Director of Operations Leo Casas and Senior Foodservice Manager Scott Spangler attended the meeting as liaisons.

Out of a number of topics that were brought up, most of the issues were focused on the improvement of some dining halls and markets. Issues of cross-contamination between vegetarian and meat options were addressed, as well as posting more comprehensive ingredient lists for allergy information and gluten-free options.

Basic Needs Representative Angela Huang brought up the issue of HDH employees burning themselves on heating lamps at Goody's Place. The representatives said that they were working on a thermal sleeve as well as other types of protective equipment but also explained that it is difficult to address worker injuries if the employee does not come forward.

The council's commuter representative noted that a lot of the recycling in dining halls is contaminated by students putting non-recyclable waste in the recycle bins and asked Casas and Spangler what they are doing to address the issue.

The representatives responded by saying that they are looking into better educating students about which articles of trash go into which bin. Another admittedly aggressive option they are considering is having their "Econauts" stand near the trash during the busy hours of operation to assist people with sorting waste. Casas and Spangler also said that they are considering reusable and sustainable dishware as a more eco-friendly option. Their concerns with introducing this kind of system are the increased water usage that would result from having to wash the dishware, as well as the potential for students stealing supplies and leaving them in heaps around housing areas, which they say costs HDH thousands of dollars to replace every year. In addition to addressing concerns raised by council members, the HDH representatives made a few exciting announcements for the future. "Starting this fall, we will begin to serve hot breakfast at the Spice station in OceanView Terrace from 7

"A.S. Council is decidedly clunky, structurally unsound, and personally shaken. But it is ultimately made up of well-intentioned, some of whom were just unequipped to handle the stress"

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UC SYSTEM

UCOP Plans Financial Overhaul After Review From Outside Firm

The examination of their spending came after the state auditor concluded the office was inefficient with its budget.

BY ABIGAIL STAGGEMEIER Contributing Writer

The University of California Office of the President may reduce office expenses by up to 50 percent, according to a recent report published by Huron Consulting Group Inc. Reviews of UC President Janet Napolitano's office that were provided to the Los Angeles Times reveal the 10-campus university system to be a \$33 billion operation. State Auditor Elaine Howle found last year that the UC office has employed "misleading" budget techniques and that UCOP had generated a surplus budget of over \$175 million, which it failed to disclose to the state.

Howle told the LA Times that she did not attribute the surplus to any intentional wrongdoing and that her suggested reforms have since been implemented.

The Huron Consulting Group Inc. has suggested an overhaul of UCOP that includes proposals such as the redistribution of programs among campuses, the elimination of postdoctoral fellowships, and converting UC medical system management to a statewide network.

Additionally, the plan proposes the elimination of up to 110 of the office's nearly 1,800 staffed positions and up to \$50 million in cuts from the \$883 million budget.

According to Stephanie Beechem, media specialist for UCOP, the purpose of the review was to determine the best ways to carry out the office's complex set of functions and services and to make sure that the organization was capable of supporting the UC system in the future.

"As UC makes decisions about the organization's structure and operations going forward, President Napolitano is consulting with many stakeholders, including UC

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VAGINA MONOLOGUES

10 minutes to get to York

2

Vagina Monologues Failed to Sell Out Show Tickets As in Previous Years, But Still Made Profit Although the show ended on Monday, merchandise is still on sale after the available shirts and hats were all bought on opening night.

BY ABIGAIL STAGGEMEIER STAFE WRITER

The 22nd annual student-run show "The Vagina Monologues and TheirStories" wrapped up on Monday night after a weekend of performances.

"The Vagina Monologues and TheirStories" originated as "The Vagina Monologues." It was created in 1996 by Eve Ensler who interviewed over 200 women and compiled several of the vaginacentered stories into a production of monologues.

"I thought it was a great show," cast member Jordan Krikorian said, referring to last week's performances. "I think everyone knew their pieces, and it ran smoothly. ... Half of the pieces were student pieces, so that's really cool to see. I thought it flowed well, in general."

Although the show did not sell out, "Vagina Monologues and TheirStories" sold over 1,000 tickets; the sale of about 600 tickets was required to break even. The production also sold out its new merchandise.

All proceeds of the show are sent to two foundations. Break the Silence Against Domestic Violence is a national organization that provides workshops and conferences for survivors of domestic abuse. License

to Freedom, a foundation based in San Diego, provides services for immigrant and refugee survivors.

The show features a broad range of stories from serious to comedic pieces that touch on topics such as race, sexuality, and femininity.

Some pieces involved audience participation. "Black Girl" was a monologue that also required the audience to repeat the names of black female victims of police brutality. During "Reclaiming Cunt," viewers were encouraged to yell out the word "cunt."

Last year, the production started featuring submitted stories from the UC San Diego community to be reviewed and released as monologues in addition to the original script. The performance name was then changed to "The Vagina Monologues and HerStories." However, the title was changed again to "The Vagina Monologues and TheirStories" this year.

"Last year they added custom scripts made by students on campus, and they added [them] to the play, but then this year they wanted to be a little bit more inclusive because they got a lot of critique on that, so they changed it to 'TheirStories," Merchandise Chair Sriya Podila commented.

The 2018 cast focused on being more inclusive for transgender people, asexual people, and people of color.

"I also think there was a larger focus on intersectionality, rather than just the white feminism of the original script," Show Photographer Alyssa Zamora added.

Director Antonia Lorenzo addressed the critique from last vear's show.

"I decided to direct because the directors last year did a really good job with 'HerStories,' but there were a lot of issues, which we didn't completely fix this year," Lorenzo said. "We worked really hard to try to address some of them, in terms of the space being transphobic and the monologues being really vagina-centric, even though it is 'The Vagina Monologues.""

She explains that the crew is hoping for "more student pieces to phase out more monologues" of the original script and add in personal, diverse stories from the UCSD community.

"It's also important that we're flexible with the way that things are written," cast member Cassidy Paradis said. "There's a line in 'The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy': 'I love vaginas. I love women. I don't see the difference between them.' The line was changed to just 'I love women.' It keeps that person's story relevant

without the exclusivity."

The monologues themselves were empowering to the cast and crew.

"I always considered myself a feminist, but I don't think I really fully understood the concept; but right now I feel like I'm more educated, and in a way, it kind of heals me as a person of my past experiences because of the fact that I understand why our society is the way it is," cast member Songnim Na said.

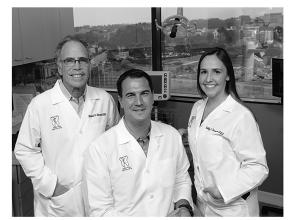
Eleanor Roosevelt College sophomore Manda Meach shared her thoughts on the show. "Each monologue had its own unique story to tell that relates to some of the issues many women go through in society. It was interesting how personal these stories were and how I was able to relate to some of them unexpectedly," Meach said.

The crew encourages "any student who identifies as anything other than a cis-male" to submit their own stories through the link on the Facebook page for next year's production.

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The Institute Was the Result of a Massive Donation UCOP to Announce Changes at Upcoming UC Regents Meeting

▶ BILL NYE, from page 1

and engineering department has] nearly 10 times the students in our classes. Nine out of 10 are there not because they're required to take that class, but because this is what they want to learn. We're seeing the same thing in data sciences. If you have curious students in an environment that promotes curiosity, then you must have the scale to satisfy the curiosity."

The long-term plans include expanding the number of lectures, professors, professionals, and mentors across various departments.

Bill Nye went on to share an anecdote about how he witnessed the Earth's population change from 2 billion people to 3 billion when he was nine years old, and how the population has more than doubled in his lifetime.

"We are standing on a threshold

of human history," Nye said. "There are more humans alive today than all of our ancestors combined. Not only are [humans] a part of nature, we are largely, for better or for worse, in control of nature. This is unique to our time. To do this we will have to learn to handle enormous numbers of numbers. Mountains of measurements, oceans of data, and with this institute in place, UCSD is poised to be the world leader in the disciplines required to make it so."

Students will be able to access the institute at its initial locations in the San Diego Supercomputer Center and at Atkinson Hall. There are plans to establish other hubs throughout the campus in the coming years.

►UCOP, from page 1

Chancellors, Regents, the Academic Senate, and UCOP staff. Once decisions are made, it could take up to two years to implement changes," Beechem told the UCSD Guardian.

John Muir College junior Melisa Itzel believes that it is in the students' best interest that UCOP is held accountable for its usage of tuition and tax money.

"It's good to see that [its] expenses are being evaluated, and that [it is] being more cautious and efficient with how [it directs] funding, especially students' tuition," Itzel stated to the Guardian.

The suggestions made by Huron

Consulting Group Inc. are only the latest of more than 10 proposals made regarding UCOP finances within the past 10 years. Another assessment is slated to occur this spring.

"Part of that is the continual search for the Holy Grail, which is to run the best [Office of the President] one can imagine — the most efficient, the most streamlined, the most effective that contributes the most value to the university," Napolitano said when explaining the reviews to the LA Times.

Napolitano also acknowledged that she called for the review as a response to recent political pressure placed on the UCOP — particularly by Gov. Jerry Brown who has continually called on the UC system to reduce costs.

Chairman George Kieffer of the UC Board of Regents stated that the latest report is one of many measures taken to promote excellence and transparency within the UC system, despite the downward trend of public approval on higher education.

UCOP will announce the changes to be made at a UC Board of Regents meetings in March.

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There Will Be An Open Forum on Wednesday

► HDH, from page 1

a.m. to 11 a.m.," Spangler announced. "It will be 100-percent kosher and will include French toast, our own version of breakfast sandwiches, and so on."

In addition to this, they announced that Bistro will be open on the weekends starting this fall, and they will also install a freestanding Coke Freestyle machine in OceanView Terrace.

There are also preparations underway to potentially relocate Goody's Market from Marshall College to one of the new, upcoming colleges due to the current construction taking place on campus.

"We have to move eventually," Casas said. "The decision will be made at the appropriate time." Finally, the Guardian asked Casas and Spangler about some raw chicken that ended up as a meme on social media.

"We are aware of the memes. We tried reaching out to the person who was served undercooked chicken, but no one has come forward" Casas told the Guardian. "We have protocol in place to make corrective action but only when people file a complaint."

HDH will hold an open forum on Wednesday, March 7 in Revelle College. The purpose is to hear feedback from students about their concerns and offer suggestions for improvement.

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APPLY TO JOIN A.S. COUNCIL '18-'19

Online Filing Closes and Elections Applications Due on Thursday, March 8th to A.S. Reception Desk or AS Elections Manager

as.ucsd.edu/elections



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OPINION CONTACT THE EDITOR CHRISTOPHER ROBERTSON opinion@ucsdguardian.org

Burming Out On Resignations

By : The UC San Diego Guardian Editorial Board

Both elected and appointed student leaders comprise the A.S. Council which tackles issues of housing, policing, basic needs, and transportation, to name a few. With less than a week before A.S. Council campaigning is set to begin for the 2018-19 elections, the current administration has been filling seats on its own council. The illness in the current A.S. body comes from a string of resignations over the course of this quarter. A.S. Council has lost and replaced eight members, over 20 percent of its 34 voting members. This combined with an unhealthy amount of absences has in past meetings inhibited the council from reaching quorum — the minimum number of voting members needed to conduct a vote. Not only do these resignations stifle the progress promised by those who choose to run for elected office, but they speak to a common issue of the campus culture — burnout.

Unfortunately, no grand scandal can explain the loss of so many student leaders; a scandal would make the whole situation much simpler. Members of A.S. Council are dropping like flies because they are getting burned out so quickly. Burnout delays progress within and without A.S. Council and presents such a common problem for UC San Diego students that the university plans to change the drop deadline for classes to address it. But resigning from A.S. Council differs drastically from opting for a "W" in a class to enroll again with a better professor next quarter. Dropping A.S. Council is more like dropping a class in which the professor actively works against your interests, and the grades of 28,000 other undergraduates depend upon your own. The pressure is great – understandably too great for some.

The election process incentivizes students to take on these roles by offering a stipend that varies from \$20 to \$400 a week depending on the position and an opportunity to represent students on the campus issues that directly affect them. Evidently, neither suffices.

The money means only so much when a part-time job would realistically pay more than most positions but require less of a time commitment, or when neither A.S. Council stipends nor a part-time wage cover the costs of living in San Diego or of higher education. As it turns out, appealing to a student's eagerness to sacrifice time and energy for the sake of the campus' political process is not sustainable either. Selfsacrifice might be enough when the person is a revolutionary rallying against the abuses of a totalitarian government or the lamb of God dying to cleanse mankind of sin. Self-sacrifice will never be enough when it's a student functioning within the university's bureaucratic mess to pass a resolution that will end up at the bottom of an administrator's to-do list, all the while trying to balance their own education, their own schedules, their own finances, their own personal lives. Burnout culture is alive and well, and \$20 a week won't cut it anymore

As counterintuitive as it seems, A.S. Council needs less people but more work. The yearly turn-over of the whole of A.S. Council means that the initial capabilities of a new staff are dependent upon the training they receive. Representatives burn out because they are unprepared to tackle the massive time commitments these positions demand. If the election process mandated that candidates attend the same meetings, participate in the same programs, deal with the same tedious processes that force out the current members, only those prepared to take on the burden will rise to the occasion. If this type of informed consent fails to filter out those who can not take the pressure, a better stipend could pick up some slack. A.S. Council can afford to increase pay to a more compact team of hyper-motivated student leaders by cutting down on their bloated staff and shifting their stipends onto those positions that require the most work. It is impossible to ensure a stress-free environment; the nature of the job prohibits it. But A.S. Senate can ensure that candidates are well-equipped to handle the stress within and without the office.

The onus of addressing burnout and disinterest does not fall entirely on the shoulders of A.S. Council, however. Civic engagement is a concerted effort between leaders and constituents, but the campus has largely divested interest. When the work representatives do is so disconnected from the rest of the student body, it is impossible for them to internalize their efforts and maintain the same initiative that drove them to run for office in the first place. After all, it's not that these students never had any desire to enact change, it's just that a bloated, belaboring, and flat-out boring bureaucracy squashed any inspiration they had at the start of fall quarter. A.S. Council deserves a chunk of the blame for this disconnect due to its systemic lack of transparency over the years, but how many students can name any of the members of the student government representing them?

A.S. Council is decidedly clunky, structurally unsound, and personally shaken. But it is ultimately made up of wellintentioned students, some of whom were just unequipped to handle the stress. Realistically, any and all candidates should know the totality of what that their prospective job entails well before campaigning. But an expectation of prior knowledge lies out of reach in a bureaucratic mess that provides little to no way to become familiar with the system without being elected or appointed into it. As easy as the situation is to criticize, it also makes sense; a campus community which neglects the humanity of its student government will always find a few empty chairs.



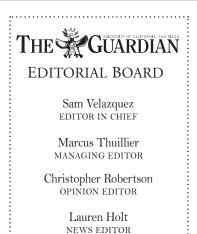
Giving Target the Axe

By: Adriana Barrios // Senior Staff Writer

In order to cure a disease, one should strive to find the cause rather than solely treat the symptoms. The structure of this university is full of symptoms of a larger disease that the administration refuses to acknowledge; instead of coming to better terms with the cure, it is throwing Band-Aids and hoping they stick. The road to hell is paved with good intentions, and its latest plans to bring the retailer Target onto campus is sure to give us miles worth of asphalt. This time the Band-Aid is supposed to cover the problems that students have with the UC San Diego Bookstore's stock and prices of common use items, along with providing a cheaper alternative to the campus markets when shopping for produce and basic groceries.

Convenience is the biggest argument that the administration provides for this proposal, citing the ease of having a company with a vast range of products and services





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"Inserting a corporation, a group that is operating for its own profit, into the very heart of campus defies the very spirit of public education at a time when the concept itself is already being crushed by ever-rising tuition costs and privatization of other realms of student life." at low price points right on campus. One of the many reasons stems from the isolation of UCSD from the rest of La Jolla and the larger San Diego area, which makes shopping off campus a hassle, if not altogether unrealistic, for some students. The proposed Target will do little to address this, however; it will not open until 2020 at the earliest. The Mid-Coast Trolley that will connect campus directly with the rest of the neighborhood and extend into downtown is projected to be completed by 2021. The addition of these trolley lines will solve a lot of the current problems with the lack of retail options on this campus by allowing students to incorporate themselves into the already-thriving commercial centers of the La Jolla and Clairemont Mesa area. Another effective solution to this lack of retail is already on campus in the form of the Amazon Lockers and the Amazon Pickup center in Price Center. This allows students to purchase just about anything they could from a Target and have it delivered to campus at price points that are usually lower than those found in big-box stores like Target.

Despite Amazon's presence, one can almost guarantee there will be a big profit with the campus population due to the low prices and the large array of products being available on the spot, not to mention the contrast to the markets and the UCSD Bookstore which have limited stock and exorbitant prices. Target is being touted as a solution, which indicates that the administration is aware that there is something flawed with the current situation. Attempting to fix the broken system would be asking too much of them, so instead it is privatizing. This demonstrates a different angle to the convenience of this Target because it will address the complaints regarding the food problems that this campus faces without actually requiring heavy lifting from the university. Far from the miraculous fix the administration wants it to be, it is simply its latest surface-level action to appease us. In-house options, Housing Dining Hospitality in particular, present many problems and inefficiencies to the student body, and until the university chooses to address the issues with the organization that dominates student life, it'll continue to privatize and under-serve this campus.

See TARGET, page 5 ►

OPINION



▶ TARGET, from page 4

Using private businesses to remedy the problems of this public institution is, in and of itself, a problem. Even without the Target and Amazon, there is an ever-expanding presence of corporate businesses, with almost all of PC's dining facilities being corporate eateries. Not only that, but the campus hosts innumerable coffee carts, restaurants, and take-out locations; UCSD is a commercial paradise. One retailer soon turns into two and so on until there is a mall on campus in the interest of diversifying the shopping experience. Due to the transportation changes occurring on or around campus, this seems significantly less likely to be beneficial to the students directly, but rather to serve the interest of

creating a consumer experience for the community of this institution.

This can only be mitigated by popular consensus on how we as a student body want the culture on this campus to present itself. The decision then is whether or not we would like it to be a rife with private enterprise that leads to sending student and public money to the Fortune 500. College students are some of the most vulnerable to corporate interests; they are in debt and are often parttime workers. By allowing Target or any other major retailer on this campus, UCSD is giving them a loyal clientele that will visit them at least once a week for four years, maximizing their profit as they prey on an institutionally disadvantaged group of people.

Fundamentally, this issue goes

beyond the bureaucratic hypocrisy and minimal, low-effort attempts at solving real afflictions, to the fact that this is first and foremost a public university. Inserting a corporation, a group that is operating for its own profit, into the very heart of campus defies the very spirit of public education at a time when the concept itself is already being crushed by ever-rising tuition costs and privatization of other realms of student life. Every concession to big business is a step against the tenets of a public enterprise. As the campus grows, big business grows too, and it is up to the communities of these schools to determine how much they wish to sell out their college experience.

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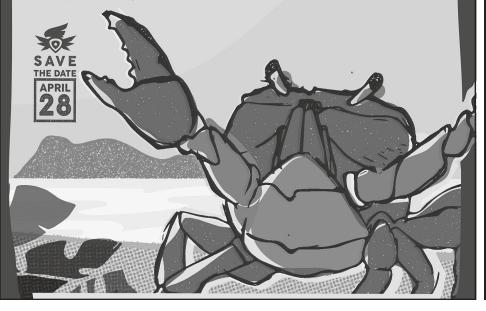




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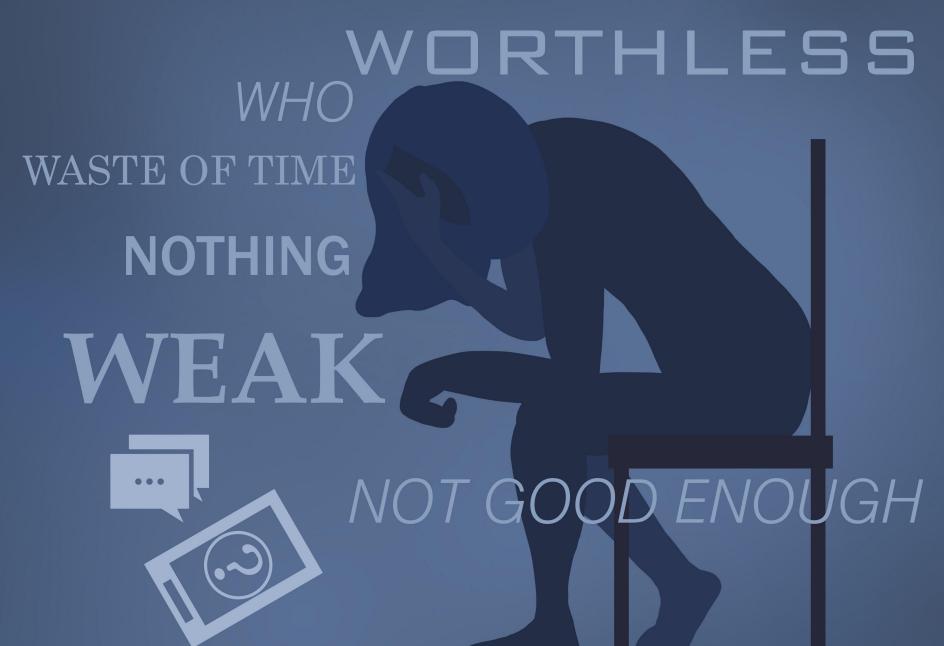


ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID JUAREZ

CAPS AT UCSD: GET WELL SOON?

UC San Diego's mental health clinic, Counseling and Psychological Services, has an unfortunate reputation for inaccessibility and ineffective treatment. The UCSD Guardian discussed these concerns with Dr. Reina Juarez, director of CAPS.

R igorous academics, adjusting to life away from home, increased access to drugs and alcohol these and other common stressors of college life make college students especially vulnerable to mental health problems. According to the National Alliance on Mental Health, over 75 percent of mental health conditions begin before age 24.

Since college is such a critical time for mental health, universities feature campus counseling centers designed to service students. One such

resource at UCSD is CAPS,

for drop-in psychological workshops for skills building and preventative services toward stigma discrimination reduction, seeking help, and community building."

Mental wellness among college students therefore depends on both individual and community-oriented services. Dr. Juarez noted that this holistic approach to mental health is what sets CAPS apart from other college counseling centers.

"The main difference between us and other counseling

"I remember being on the an

centers is our integrative and comprehensive studentcentered approach coupled with our decentralized nature," she explained.

By Jade Knows His Gun-Wong // Senior Staff Writer an on-campus mental health clinic that has been operating since the late 1960s.

With multiple offices located throughout campus, CAPS offers a variety of services ranging from urgent care interventions to group counseling, all free of charge. Dr. Reina Juarez, the director of CAPS, spoke on which services UCSD students are especially in need of.

"On the one hand, there

is a need for timely access to urgent care, individual counseling, and psychotherapy services by a multicultural and multilingual team of mental health professionals ... and an extensive and efficient network of referral services to dependable and quality health providers in San Diego," she explained. "On the other hand, there is also a need

phone, desperately looking for a counselor the day before my second year began. The wait time was horrendously long, and I could only schedule an appointment for weeks later. I wasn't going to last that long, and I attempted suicide the next day in my dorm."

Students who wish to use CAPS must first schedule an appointment online or by phone and complete a five to 15-minute long assessment by phone with a CAPS counselor. If the evaluator determines that further treatment is required, the student will be scheduled to meet with a CAPS psychologist. Finally, if long-term treatment is

necessary, CAPS will refer the student to an off-campus provider.

Unfortunately, students have found this multi-step appointment process to be inefficient and insufficient for meeting their needs.

See CAPS, page 7

► CAPS, from page 6

One anonymous student reported, "I haven't followed through with my interest in seeing a counselor at CAPS because of how difficult they make it seem to make appointments. My problems feel like a burden since there's a lack of counselors to assist [me]."

Another student anonymously agreed that the appointment process is problematic, saying, "The only reason I was able to schedule an appointment in a timely fashion was because I expressed I was feeling suicidal. The soonest appointment time would have been weeks later otherwise. That isn't right."

This apparent disregard for students who are considered to be at lower risk puts them in a precarious position; it implies that certain students are more deserving of care than others. The subjectivity of this process points to a need for greater accessibility. However, even in desperate circumstances, some students could not schedule an appropriate appointment time.

A third student recounted, "I remember being on the phone, desperately looking for a counselor the day before my second year began. The wait time was horrendously long, and I could only schedule an appointment for weeks later. I wasn't going to last that long, and I attempted suicide the next day in my dorm. Not a pleasant experience for anyone around ... It's unsettling for everyone. Of course, I'm glad I'm finally better and back at school, but CAPS really needs more support to help the huge UCSD population."

Being understaffed is one reason why CAPS has such long wait times for appointments. Juarez designated "consistent staffing growth" as the main challenge of offering personalized mental health care to a large student population. To meet the demand of UCSD's ever-expanding student body, the university needs to steadily increase its number of staff workers.

"Given our student population needs, demand for services, and model of service delivery, there is a standard by means of which we would need to grow one mental health provider for every 1,000-[person] increase in the student population," Juarez explained.

"This ratio of 1-to-1,000 would need to be sustained at a consistent pace."

In addition to long wait times, some students were dissatisfied with the quality of the treatment they received.

"I went to CAPS on and off, and I found [the] program really lacking for my needs," an anonymous student recounted.

Another student felt the same way, saying, "I went [to CAPS], kinda felt like a waste of time, but maybe it just wasn't for me. [The psychologist] said there was nothing 'wrong' or 'different' with me. She also ended up sending me back to [Student Health Services] to see a doctor instead."

While every student is certainly subject to their own opinion, the UC Student Association's evaluation of CAPS shows that there is more evidence for the organization's

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inadequacy than the subjectivity of individuals.

As part of the #HowAreYou movement, which was in support of increased funding to campus mental health services, UCSA evaluated the counseling services of all nine UC colleges using both staff and student responses. On the basis of accessibility, diversity of staff, and outreach to students, UCSA gave CAPS a C+ rating; the area in which CAPS scored the lowest was accessibility.

In response to this substandard rating, 2017 alumna Sophia Gumas started a petition calling for an increase in funding to CAPS in May 2017.

The online petition reads, "We demand that there should be more funding and spaces allocated to CAPS to better the student to counselor ratio, as well as to have a student affairs case manager for each of the six colleges."

Gumas cited CAPS' long wait times for appointments, poor student-to-counselor ratio, and lack of multilingual psychologists as proof of a need for greater funding. The need for multicultural staff members is especially necessary in the diverse cultural context of San Diego. Lacking diversity excludes underrepresented students and prevents them from receiving the care they need.

The petition addresses these concerns of increased inclusivity, claiming, "[We] should also factor in the historically underrepresented groups that need more specialized attention at CAPS. There is a dire need to hire two culturally proficient and multilingual psychologists at UCSD."

While students continue to press CAPS for higher quality care, the counseling center was recently issued an increase in funding that will continue to grow over the next several years.

"In 2014, the UC Regents, with the overwhelming support of students, passed an increase in the student services fees to support student mental health services at the 10 campuses. This increase would happen incrementally over the following five years starting in the 2015-16 school year," Juarez explained.

Thanks to this funding increase, CAPS has seen some improvements in staffing and wait times for appointments.

"This year, we are fully staffed, and it has made a difference," she stated.

"This week, our wait time to see students for an initial evaluation is one week. In 2014, the wait time could range from three to five weeks, especially during the fall and winter quarters."

Based on the aforementioned student responses, however, CAPS still has much room for improvement. Before students can be successful in classes, clubs, or even their careers, they must thrive mentally; that all depends on the active prioritization of resources like CAPS.

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WEEKEND

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FILM REVIEW ANNIHILATION Alex Garland tarring Natalie Portman, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Tessa Thompson, Gina Rodriguez, Tuva Novotny, Oscar Isaac Release Date Feb. 23, 2018 B

Rated R

PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Impressionistic visuals and a compelling premise just aren't enough to make "Annihilation" a science fiction classic.

In "Annihilation," a mysterious object from space strikes the Earth in a burst of light. From ground zero, a glowing region of kaleidoscopic color expands. Everything within this zone, dubbed "The Shimmer," enters an accelerated process of inexplicable gene transfer and mutation, leaving flora and fauna in disturbing disarray. The film follows Lena, a cellular biology professor, and a team of military-sanctioned scientists as they launch an expedition toward the source of The Shimmer.

At a molecular basis, all living things are connected. Life is just the constant rearrangement and congregation of building blocks that have always existed - from the stars, from this world, and from our ever-expanding universe. Genetics and the environment around us are closely interlinked, making each and every one of us unique. Our DNA is constantly changing as we age and our cells divide; these mutations beget constant variation as the cycles of life continue and evolution progresses. Emergent properties the whole being different from the parts then determine what we become.

So what happens when these fundamental laws of life are upended? What happens to humanity when the facets of evolution and the very DNA that maps out who we are become twisted and distorted?

What "Annihilation" does well is address these ideas with a subtle, slow-burning intensity. Borrowing from his previous film "Ex Machina," director Alex Garland again demonstrates his knack for building a feeling of constant unease that permeates the film. This growing tension is paralleled by the slow mental unraveling of Lena as she realizes that reality is no longer the way she understands it.

Self-destruction hence serves as the central theme of "Annihilation." It's stated by the characters, stated in the title, and stated in the evident deterioration of all life throughout the film. But for all its commentary on the human condition and mental self-destruction, there's no emotional substance. The main problem with "Annihilation," then, is in how it depicts its characters. At its core, science fiction is a genre that constructs scientifically plausible scenarios in order to explore their effects on society or the human condition. The film

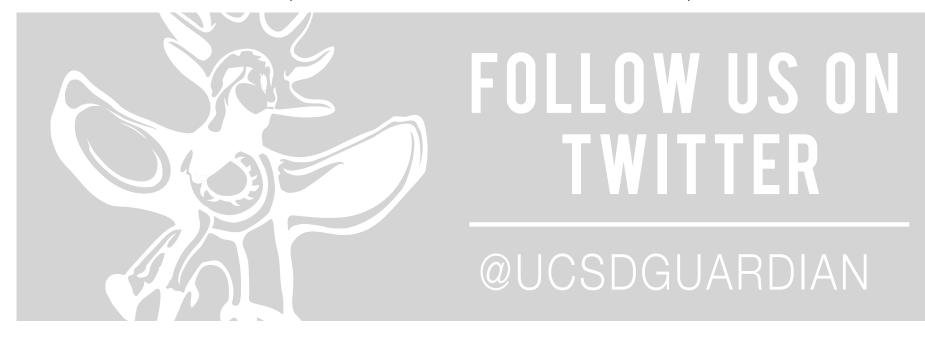
explicitly presents The Shimmer as a tangible analogy for human self-destruction. And yet, telling us that these characters are struggling with themselves is not the same thing as showing it. For all its artistic appeal, there's little to no heart actually present in the story.

The broken team of expeditioners that enter The Shimmer are all mentioned to be struggling with some form of depression or tragedy, but that's about all we learn - we don't really see why or even how. In many ways, the talented cast of "Annihilation" is heavily underutilized; we hardly see any real interaction between the women, and there are few moments that help us actually understand them. Instead, they seem only to be flat caricatures whose sole purposes are to act as plot devices and participate in shocking thrills when the story calls for it. Even Lena, arguably the film's best developed character, is relatively two-dimensional. We see her shine in a few brief flashbacks involving her husband, but these scenes are few and far between. In fact, past Lena is so dissociated from present Lena that they might as well be two different people. Nevertheless, there are definitely flashes

of brilliance in the film, and "Annihilation" doesn't hold back with its unique visual style. Certain sequences are immersively dreamlike, with vibrant color palettes and grandiose sound design. But artistic merit isn't everything. The film is regrettably held back by an overreliance on horror movie cliches, ponderous scenes full of flair and no substance, and, ultimately, a lack of focus on character. At its best, "Annihilation" is beautifully cinematic and thought-provoking. At its worst, it serves as a prime example of science fiction that becomes so fixated on philosophy, it forgets about humanity.

If it is meant to be an examination of life and human suffering, "Annihilation" falls short. It has all the potential to be a compelling, science-fiction masterpiece, but the elements just aren't there. The premise is intriguing and the action is suitably suspenseful — if only we actually cared about the characters.

- DEREK DENG Senior Staff Writer



ALBUM REVIEW



LITTLE DARK AGE BY MGMT

Release Date Feb. 9, 2018



MGMT finally settle into its niche between mainstream pop and indie psych rock.

On album opener, "She Works Out Too Much," lead vocalist Andrew VanWyngarden sings, "Welcome to the shit show"; a fitting start from a band which could not care less about your validation. After releasing three of the most popular songs of the last decade, MGMT dropped off the face of the earth and made a few eclectic, non radio-friendly albums - simply because it could. Now the band is back with an album that finally finds the perfect balance between niche and mainstream: "Little Dark Age."

"Me and Michael," for example, is a charming synth-driven song reminiscent of '80s chart toppers. The understated bassline blends beautifully with flowery guitars and the drum machine keeps the beat danceable. "When You Die" ditches the synths in favor of acoustic guitars and some of the most morbid lyrics on the entire album. Themes of death turn up a few times on the album, featuring prominently in songs like "One Thing Left to Try" and "Days that Got Away."

It's difficult to pin down a distinctive message or theme on an album that throws so much at you so quickly, but MGMT seem most concerned about the concept of wasted time; more specifically, the time spent wasted online. "She Works Out Too Much" is a critique of dating apps and the aptly titled "TSLAMP" which stands for "time spent looking at my phone." "TSLAMP" is one of the more sonically pleasing cuts, with a vivid string section that sounds like it was soaked head-to-toe in reverb.

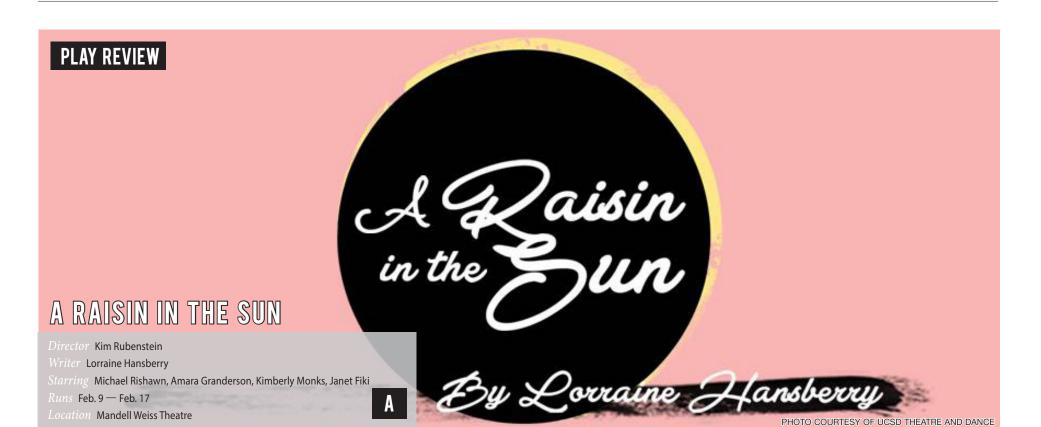
This album isn't all good, however; there are a few skippable songs. These range

from the dreadfully meh "When You're Small," to the downright strange "James," which is just too odd for its own good. Fortunately, these songs sound better when listened to in the context of the whole album and don't do too much damage to the overall quality of the album. At worst, they slow down the pace and add unnecessary minutes to the runtime. That leads to the main problem with "Little Dark Age": the length. Nearly every song is over four minutes, and this leads to some playing out before they're even halfway over. MGMT could easily shave seven to eight minutes off the total runtime and the album would be much better for it.

With all this said, however, everything this album does wrong is overshadowed by the sheer amount of what it does right. For every bad song, there are two great songs and for every boring moment, there is a banger just around the corner. The crown jewel of the album is the title track, "Little Dark Age," a gothic pop song that puts The Cure to shame. This track alone shows that MGMT can still do what MGMT does best: make a catchy song. Every instrument serves a purpose and the lyrics are simple enough to get stuck in your head for weeks. This, along with the soothingly meditative closing track, "Hand It Over," elevates "Little Dark Age" from just another MGMT album to the MGMT album.

> - NOLAN WILLETT Contributing Writer

9



UC San Diego honors Lorraine Hansberry's classic work through their beautifully executed rendition of "A Raisin in the Sun."

ebruary is Black History Month, dedicated to honoring and celebrating the culture and historic achievements of the black community. One featured individual was the gifted writer Lorraine Hansberry, who, at the young age of 29, won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award. Author of the 1959 classic "A Raisin in the Sun," Hansberry was the first black woman to have her work performed on Broadway. Hansberry was well known for her gifted writing and ability to discern the fundamental problems in American society.

The UCSD Guardian sat down with the play's director, Kim Rubenstein, to discuss her role in bringing the project to fruition. Rubenstein was inspired to put on Hansberry's play after seeing two of her students in her Intensive Ensemble Acting Class work on a scene from "A Raisin in the Sun." Rubenstein "suggested the play in [her] faculty seasonplanning meetings and the faculty was excited about the possibility." "A Raisin in the Sun" premiered at the Mandell Weiss Theatre at the La Jolla Playhouse. Rubinstein maintained

the integrity of the whole text, "representing an everyday financially challenged African American family in 1959 that resonates deeply with 2018." However, due to time restrictions, Rubenstein had to make some internal changes to the text. Her adaptation was "represented in the technical aspects - using a more industrial [aesthetic], projections and lighting to catapult 1959 into today."

The play is set during the 1950s in a poverty-stricken, racially segregated area in the South Side of Chicago. The story centers around a black family with dreams of moving up in the world, but it faces restrictions due to its financial struggles. "A Raisin in the Sun" touches upon universal issues, such as family drama, to unite the audience through a shared view on humanity. Throughout the story, there is a constant battle between old-school, family-oriented values and more modern values, such as personal achievement. This disparity is personified through Grandma Lena's (Kimberly Monks) character and her son Walter Younger (Michael Rishawn).

The main characters include: Walter

Younger, his wife Ruth Younger (Janet Fiki), his sister Beneatha (Amara Granderson), and his mother Grandma Lena. Walter's father has recently died, leaving his family members a large sum of \$10,000 to help them keep their heads above water. The family members are at odds with one another in terms of how the inheritance should be used. Beneatha wants to use the money to pay for her college education while Walter, a hardworking man determined to get more from life, believes it would be smarter to invest the money for a profit. However, his impulsive nature becomes destructive when he takes his anger out on his loved ones.

Walter and Grandma Lena's differing world views fascinate because while both see the value of hard, honest work, they have different definitions of "success" and what it takes for one to lead a happy life. Grandma Lena struggles to understand why younger people are no longer content with what they have; she has a count-your-blessings type of philosophy. In her view, it is bad to obsess over money and status, and she believes that

it should be enough to have one's freedom, to build a family, and live a life of worship. On the other hand, Walter sees life as an upward trajectory; he is not satisfied with staying in one place.

The title of Hansberry's play was inspired by a Langston Hughes' quote: "What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?" The quote's pertinence to the socioeconomic issues of its time illuminates the trials of poverty crisis in the black community during the 1950s. The Younger family dreams of a better life, one of financial stability and equal opportunity. The family's situation effectively brings out important issues of the time that affected black and impoverished communities, which were often one and the same. Kim Rubenstein's thoughtful adaptation of Hansberry's classic work "A Raisin in the Sun" proves that the play is just as relevant today as it was in the 1950s.

- LORENA ESPINOZA Senior Staff Writer

LIFESTYLE

March 2018 Peeks and Previews

by Lifestyle Staff Team

As Al Roker would say, "Here's what's happening in your neck of the woods."

San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering: March 3-11, 2018 in various locations

For 10 days, San Diego will explode into a celebration of STEM. Enjoy a variety of lectures, workshops, and events for college students and young adults of all ages. A full list of happenings can be found here: https://www.lovestemsd.org/

LAVA Exhibition: March 6, 2018 (4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.) at The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, University Center 105

Celebrate the artists of UC San Diego at LAVA, curated by the visual arts graduate department. The focus of this exhibition challenges expected colors, textures, and patterns of the everyday by incorporating concept art into the mundane. This deviation from our usual aesthetic is free for UCSD students and includes a performance at 4:30 p.m. by musicians David Borgo and Tommy Babin.

Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.: March 8, 2018 (7 p.m.) at Mandell Weiss Forum

Challenging an interwoven and internalized misogyny prevalent in societal structures, this play written by Alice Birch breaks the silence to amplify all things femme. Student tickets sell at \$10 and opening night is March 8, with shows running until March 17.

Taste of Third: March 8, 2018 (4 p.m.-8 p.m.) in South Bay, SD

Crawl through the best culinary offerings of the Village in South Bay! Tickets go for \$25-\$30 and include access to everything from bite-sized appetizers to mini sweet treats. And for the 21+ crowd, tickets include opportunities to (carefully) consume crafted cocktails and brews.

Cherry Blossom Festival: March 9-11, 2018 (10 a.m.-6 p.m.) at the Japanese Friendship Garden, Balboa Park

Tired of the iconically artificial Bath and Body Works Japanese Cherry Blossom body spray? Come take a whiff at the 13th annual Sakura Matsuri at Balboa Park to indulge in hanami, the art of appreciating cherry blossoms. For \$12, visitors can view buds and blooms, while enjoying food and performances.

Julian Daffodil Show: March 10, 2018 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) at Julian Town Hall

If the cherry blossoms didn't satisfy a flora craving, take a day trip to Julian for some pie and daffodils. This event is free to all and showcases an exhibit of watercolor interpretations.

International Mariachi Festival: March 11, 2018 (11 a.m.-7 p.m.) at Pepper Park

Competing mariachi bands, traditional folk dance, and authentic art and food find their home at the sixth Annual International Mariachi Festival located in National City. Free to all San Diegans, come and celebrate community and culture while supporting youth art and education!

Salsa Under the Stars: March 16, 2018 (6 p.m.-9 p.m.) at Seaport HQ

It's everything this title suggests. Salsa and Bachata by the sea and under the stars to the musical stylings of Manny Cepeda and orchestra. No experience is needed!

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival: March 17, 2018 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) at Balboa Park

Need a bit o' luck for finals week? Take a break and join the Irish Congress of Southern California for a day of food, performances, and Celtic celebrations. Not to mention a beer garden for imbibers over 21.

Spring Eggstravaganza: March 24, 2018 (11 a.m.-3 p.m.) at Birch Aquarium at Scripps

For two weekends in a row, come celebrate the Easter season in the utmost San Diegan style. Featuring a "scuba bunny" diving show, shark egg crafts, and even the works from Scripps Oceanography egg scientists, this event is sure to be egg-cellent, pun unashamedly intended. Event fee is included in regular admission ticket price.

A Student's Guide: Showing Your City to Friends and Family



During any student's time at UC San Diego, there's bound to be an instance when friends or family come to visit. Dates and times are arranged, rides are found, and soon enough the trip will commence. But there is often one crucial factor missing from the planning process, at least from my own personal experiences; what is there to do? After all, nobody wants to invite their friends and family over for a weekend of sitting around their bedroom.

However, there seems to be a certain misconception among students that there isn't anything exciting to do in San Diego. I mean, the nickname "UC Socially Dead" says it all. But just because a person refuses to go out doesn't mean San Diego has nothing to offer. To put this myth to rest, I'm going to share my own personal experience of taking friends around the greater La Jolla area. Though there isn't as much to do as in, say, Los Angeles, San Diego has its own charm that is worth experiencing.

Downtown La Jolla

On Friday of President's Day weekend, my friends visited, with one coming from Irvine and one from LA. As we began our usual catch-up session, the topic of the weekend's activities soon arose. My friends and I pored over our options at my kitchen table and came to the conclusion that our early afternoon should be spent at downtown La Jolla. Waking up at the early hour of 11 a.m., we finished breakfast in time to drive there from campus soon after.

The highlight of downtown was the high quality dessert from Bobboi Natural Gelato, located right next to La Jolla Cove. My friend and I shared a medium blood orange and pineapple mix, a combination tasting of the sweetest and most refreshing gelato I've ever had. Since the cove is only a short walk away, we ended up sitting by the ocean while eating, an absolutely heavenly experience. Afterward, we visited the sea lions, watching as they basked in the sun. Honestly, goals.

Old Town

Next was Old Town, since my friend insisted on having "San Diego-

Mexican food." We spent a good 45 minutes of our afternoon eating at the Alamo Mexican Cafe, which was luckily uncrowded and had quick service. At one point a mariachi came through the restaurant, playing "La Bamba" on his guitar as he walked around. We then strolled around the main street, visiting places like Toby's Candle & Soap Shop and Ye Olde Soap Shoppe just for the fun of it. Overall, Old Town is a good place to spend a relaxed afternoon with whoever may be visiting. Though parking is a hassle, everything else about the area makes going there worth it.

by Jade Hookham // Contributing Writer

Convoy

If you're looking for Asian food around San Diego, Convoy Street is the way to go. The location's popularity among students is no joke, since there are a variety of restaurants with good food at relatively reasonable prices. Even for my friend, a vegetarian, there were a healthy number of culinary options. She had never tried Korean food, so Friend's House ended up being our destination. Convoy not only has good dinner places, but a multitude of boba shops and desserts. Kung Fu Tea served as our hangout before dinner, while Somisomi became our dessert stop after the fact. At Somisomi, we were able to purchase the Instagram-able ice cream with the fish waffle (taiyaki). Overall, we ended up eating way more than we should've, but it was completely worth it.

Around Campus and Other Alternatives

For those who aren't into the food and shopping scene, there are several more options for fun activities in the La Jolla area. If someone is a beach lover, there is kayaking, snorkeling, and paragliding in the vicinity of La Jolla Shores, only a short drive from campus. Those into group activities can go to karaoke or an escape room. As for the more touristy route, Balboa Park has a multitude of gardens and museums, though some do have an entrance fee. My point is that San Diego has a lot more than what meets the eye, and some of these hidden gems may just be lurking under the surface. But doesn't that make them all the more worth looking for?

The World Against the Straws

by Rebecca Tsang // Contributing Writer

After my daily mind-numbing walk from Galbraith Hall to the Social Science Building, I would occasionally reward myself with my favorite Mango-A-Go-Go from Jamba Juice. As I salivate staring at the employee pour the sweet, creamy smoothie into the Jamba Juice cup, I'd peel the paper covering to reveal Jamba Juice's classic orange plastic straw. Until last year, it had never occured to me how this one little straw could actually cause a tremendous impact to the wildlife. As I was drinking the delicious concoction, a friend shared a video of a sea turtle bleeding and wailing in agonizing pain as rescuers were trying to pull out a plastic straw stuck in its nostril. I then stared at the Jamba Juice cup for a solid minute and blamed my friend for showing me the gruesome video. Not only has the video haunted me for eternity, but most importantly, it made me realize how little I was doing to help the environment.

It is detrimental to know that we live our daily lives essentially killing Earth and its wildlife. A Starbucks venti iced Americano would already generate the use of a plastic cup, a plastic lid, and a plastic straw that all ultimately end up sitting in a landfill. However, we humans do not directly receive the impact — wildlife like marine animals end up suffering the consequences as litter floats on the ocean.

As part of the UC San Diego community, we can all help save and preserve Earth and prevent its wildlife from entering extinction. Many on-campus locations are doing their part to encourage consumers to give back to Earth. For example, Muir Woods Coffee House offers a small reusable mug discount when ordering a drink, all UCSD Markets provide a 5-cent reusable bag discount and a 20-cent reusable mug discount, the Triton Food Pantry gives an extra point for bringing a reusable bag, and Canyon Vista has a beefless Monday menu.

Beyond UCSD, plastic straws and wooden chopsticks can be avoided while dining as these one-time use disposable utensils are destined to house in a landfill. I lean on the more extreme side; I carry a Glad reusable container and various stainless steel utensils like straws, forks, and spoons in my car in case I dine out with friends or family. Additionally, being more aware of the amount of meat you consume is also important not only for your health, but also for the environment. A pound of beef compared to a pound of vegetables leaves a significant difference in terms of the environmental footprint. Consider going meatless at least once a month to fight against unethical meat production, animal methane generation, and water and land consumption. With finals approaching, if appropriate, use the back of scratch paper to save a few trees and to prevent deforestation. Reusable water bottles like a Hydro Flask or S'well and reusable grocery bags reduce litter floating on our nearby waters. Reduce energy usage by selecting the cold water setting when doing laundry. Avoid attending animal shows like circuses or marine parks, which involve animal cruelty, as shown through PETA. These are just a few of many ways we can do to preserve the world and the beautiful nature surrounding us.

By simply taking these painless small steps, we are slowly saving a beluga, an okapi (my favorite animal!), or another coral reef that houses countless species. Earth has provided not only us a home to live, but also many other wildlife animals. Unfortunately, most damages caused by humans are permanent and irreversible. However, we can do our part to sustain our biodiversity and slow down any further premature wildlife extinction.

Coachella Valley Roadtrip

by Samirah Martinez // Contributing Writer

I recently found a 1950s tourism video of my hometown and was surprised to see that the city's buildings have not changed. However, while Palm Springs used to be a small town known for its luxury, it is now mostly seen as the place where Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival is held. While Coachella Fest is a great experience for many, there is so much more to this hidden southern California gem. If you don't have any plans for spring break yet, I suggest you take a road trip down to the desert and spend it in the places only a local could recommend.

1. Palm Canyon Drive

This is the area also known as downtown Palm Springs, a long street filled with little shops and restaurants. The architecture rings true to the Frank Sinatra era, and most of it remains unchanged since then. Great Shakes is a small shop with a jukebox, oldfashioned candy, and retro music posters to display this early '50s Palm Springs style. It also features an entire chalkboard wall full of different milkshake flavors. Each milkshake comes with a mini glazed donut on the straw, which offers some pretty Instagramworthy photo options.

2. Village Fest

This nighttime street fair is held on Palm Canyon Drive every Thursday night. Not only do all the shops remain open past their normal closing times, but every booth is guaranteed to be selling

UC San Diego

something homemade. Most of the art galleries are free, including the Elena Bulatova Fine Art gallery, which has an outdoor area and a lit up "Art" sign that can make for some great photos. The food is also amazing, and I would recommend the stand that sells Spanish paella, as well as any of the fruit and vegetable booths that sell an array of local produce.

3. College of the Desert Street Fair

I may be biased because my family works there, but this is still a great place to visit if you're in Palm Desert for the weekend. While there is always a bargain to be found in anything from produce to hair accessories, the food is what really makes it special. You can't leave without trying the Italian ices at E & E Pel's Enterprises Inc. While it sounds like a simple dessert option, this Italian ice recipe is the shop's own original creation and is a staple in this desert community. E & E Pel's regularly sells these desserts at street fairs, community events, and even local schools at lunch time. They are life-changing!

4. El Paseo

I remember driving a student from France through El Paseo, and she said, "It's like Paris!" This short street in Palm Desert is full of high-end shops from Gucci to Louis Vuitton, art galleries full of local art, and expensive food. If you're on a health kick, Fresh Juice Bar specializes in smoothies and smoothie bowls, and that's where the cool high schoolers spend their money on breakfast every day. Nevertheless, the menu is extensive, and everything tastes so good, you wouldn't even be able to tell it's healthy. I would recommend the healthy twist on a date shake, which is complete with almond milk and cinnamon.

5. Esmeralda Hotel

It's one of our fanciest hotels, and I'm not just saying that because that's where my former high school holds its prom every year. Justin Bieber stays there when he comes down every other year, and I met Ed Sheeran there before sneaking into his private acoustic lounge. It can't hurt to stroll around and see who you can find.

6. Miscellaneous restaurants and cafes

I always make sure to hit these hidden gems when I am home: IW Coffee, Koffi, Sherman's Deli & Bakery, Goody's Café, Mario's Italian Restaurant, Fernanda's Salvadorian Food, Villagio Italian Kitchen, JT's Diner, Que Mango, Ice Cream & Shop(pe), and many more!

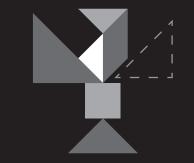
So there is your guide on how to live like a local in the Coachella Valley! The Coachella Valley is a great place if you love small towns, minimal traffic, and picturesque scenery everywhere. This valley has come a long way since the '50s, but it remains a great place for a visit and a mini getaway!



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H'H'S'

Internet Culture: The Stan Twitter Effect

by Elizabeth Adams // Staff Writer

I think it is safe to say we have all had investments in certain shows, music groups, and even people themselves. There is something comforting about emotionally connecting to characters on a show, or maybe seeing qualities of yourself in a successful star. One might even label themselves as a "stan."

'Stanning" is not something incredibly new to the internet. It is the act of being a dedicated fan of something or someone - though it is more so attached to the fan bases of music stars that exist throughout Twitter. If one frequents Twitter too much (as I do), there is a chance a "stan account," a sub-account that many users have to tweet about their fan base, has appeared on their timeline. They exist in hiding yet somehow manage to exert influential power on charts, award shows, and even to the stars themselves. While this influence has been in decline in the recent years, the impact stan Twitter had in the past is nothing short of interesting.

For simplicity's sake, I'll focus most of my examples on the "stan culture" of a specific music group — Fifth Harmony.

Fifth Harmony is a multi-platinum girl group that was formed in 2012 on the X Factor, placing in third overall and securing a recording deal with Epic Records shortly after. The group's popularity slowly rose over the years, breaking barriers in 2015 with hits like "Sledgehammer" and "Worth It." The biggest hit came in 2016 with the release of "Work from Home," which reached fourth on the Billboard Hot 100. with the music video amassing over 100 million views in a little over a month (one of the most watched videos of 2016).

Fifth Harmony's rise to prominence serves as a testament to what American girl groups can accomplish, even though they need to work twice as hard as American boy groups. Girl groups face scrutiny on levels above that of boy groups, having to create synchronized choreography and matching wardrobes in order to be considered "decent." Not to say that artists should not focus on making their concerts entertaining, but I notice that this same standard of constant excellence is not applied to boy groups.

Nonetheless, some of Fifth Harmony's early success would have not been as significant without its fan base's dedication.

The Fifth Harmony stan account is slightly more complex than your average one-star stan account. Most of the accounts have emphasis on all of the members, but some have a direct focus. For example, some accounts will be a "Lauren stan" account, putting focus on member Lauren Jauregui, and will make her the profile picture and have a username related to her. This is known as having a "fave," a term used to distinguish who a user's favorite of the group is.

Fifth Harmony stan Twitter used to not all be about deciding which fave outranks another. For some, stan Twitter was an organized place to assemble and utilize mass fan participation to bolster chart positions, album sales, or even music video views. Fifth Harmony stans were infamous in their dedication to voting, streaming songs and videos, or buying albums. Update accounts, accounts designed for keeping up with the band or individual members, launched structured times to stream a Fifth Harmony single that would last hours. Each dedicated stan would post screenshots of themselves streaming songs like "Work from Home" on multiple devices in order to bolster the stream count. When the group was nominated for awards, this same kind of teamwork would arise in the form of mass voting where each update account would "face" against each other in order to see who could gather the most people to vote for the group.

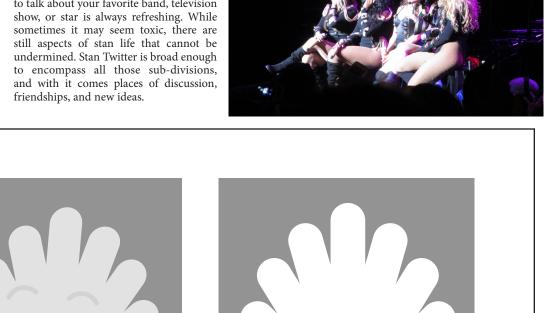
These were planned, structured, and so professionally orchestrated that it demonstrated a considerable level of influence that stan accounts had on rising artists. However, stan Twitter is not without its failures and problems.

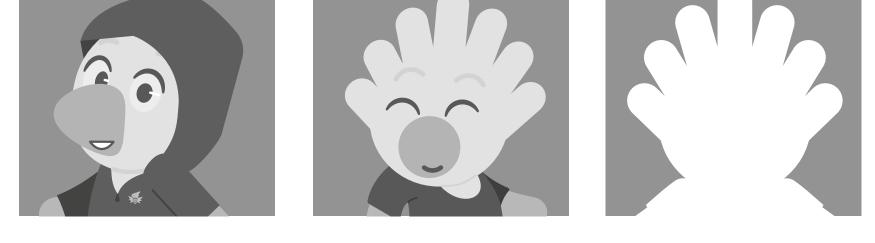
Following the departure of original member Camila Cabello in late 2016 (and arguably her disinterest in the group since earlier in the year), the group's stans were nearly halved - many following in Cabello's steps and ceasing to support the group. Others chose to support both Cabello and the group despite them being competitors on the same label. This internal split between the stans was already evident by the racial harassment of member Normani Hamilton, in which stans who followed Cabello sent Hamilton explicit and violent photos of her getting harmed; labeled as "C stans," some of these people launched this to "defend" Cabello against the group. While this was not the first time racism was seen in the fan base, it was one of the first notable attacks that was organized.

Harassing stars and even other stans in order to defend their specific faves is another facet of stan culture that has ruined the once supportive and constructive space. Chart positions are now used to demean other artists, invalidate others' opinions, or justify their own star's importance. Their influence has been reduced to something to be mocked, but it really was a spectacle to be seen when their main purpose was supporting the artist they loved.

Stan Twitter is not just a place for the music scene; it can be extended to outside this scope as well. Having a place to talk about your favorite band, television show, or star is always refreshing. While sometimes it may seem toxic, there are still aspects of stan life that cannot be undermined. Stan Twitter is broad enough to encompass all those sub-divisions, friendships, and new ideas.













THURSDAY, MARCH 8 **MARQUIS HILL BLACKTET** 8PM · THE LOFT, PC EAST

MAR 5 - 11





Trivia Night: F•R•I•E•N•D•S TUESDAY, MAR. 6 Event: 6PM The Loft FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



Doors: 8PM • Show: 8:30PM The Loft FREE for UCSD Students w/ID • GA \$11

Xylouris White

Doors: 7PM • Show: 8PM

FREE for UCSD Students w/ID

Faculty & Staff: \$5 • GA: \$10

SATURDAY, MAR. 10







The Loft

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 14 The Loft FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



The Beat Concert THURSDAY, MAR. 15 Doors: 8PM • Show:8:30PM The Loft FREE for UCSD Students w/ID

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UNIVERSITY CENTERS

Raza Resource Centro Presents: Coco THURSDAY, MAR. 8 Doors: 6:30PM • Show: 7PM PC Theater

MON3.05 12pm

CAMPUS BLACK FORUM - BLACK RESOURCE CENTER

Campus Black Forum provides a space for weekly discussions related to events, experiences, and areas of interests that impact the Black Community at UCSD.

2:30pm

GAY MEN'S RELATIONSHIP FORUM -UCSD WOMEN'S CENTER SMALL GROUP ROOM

Join us for the conversation about our conversations about our experiences as gay men, and connect with other gay men on campus. This group addresses relationships, sexual health, community building and more.

3pm

DAILY DROP-IN MOVE - YOUR BODY, TONE YOUR MOOD - DAILY DROP-IN MOVE - YOUR BODY, TONE YOUR **MOOD - STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

Interested in a moving meditation? Join us in learning postures to help reduce stress and anxiety, and improve your mood. This practice will lead you to a sense of peace and general well-being. Dr. Dianna Quach is clinical psychologist and a certified yoga instructor, RYT. All levels are welcomed! Yoga mats are provideducenmarketing@ucsd.edu

THU3.08

<u>1:30pm</u> THERAPY FLUFFIES - THE ZONE, **PRICE CENTER**

Come de-stress and play with and pet therapy dogs at The Zone! Questions? Contact The Zone at via email or call (858) 534-5553. Contact: zone@ucsd.edu

3pm **WISE MIND - WISE MIND GALBRAITH HALL 190**

Emotional + Mind + Logical Mind = WISE Mind. WISE mind is when both parts of the mind work ogether in harmony. Learn how to effect

TUE3.06 10am

IGNITE 2018: INNOVATOR & ENTREPRENEUR CONFERENCE -PRICE CENTER

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11:30am STARTUPS & PIZZA: DEVELOP A SUPPORT TEAM FOR YOUR NEWCO - FUNG AUDITORIUM -

available.

BIOENGINEERING HALL UC San Diego Office of Innovation and

Commercialization is partnering with Dentons and Tiber Creek on a seminar series on what you need to know about forming a startup company.

1pm GRADUATE STUDENTS OF COLOR -GSA STUDENTS LOUNGE

The forum is for graduate students of color, who would like to connect and discuss about our experiences as graduate students of color. This forum will provide a supportive space to discuss various topics from a multicultural lens, which includes managing stress and improving well-being, communication with your adviser(s), dealing with impostor syndrome, family responsibilities, relationships (romantic or social), multicultural identities, current sociopolitical climate, experiences of discrimination, etc

FRI3.09

WED3.07

12pm **MUSLIM SISTERS COMMUNITY** FORUM - ROOM 126, TMC ADMIN **BLDG**

Join us for conversations about our experiences as Muslim females and connect with other Muslim sisters. The forum will provide an open and supportive space for members to discuss their experiences as Muslim females at UCSD and within the larger sociopolitical society. Topics are determined by members, but may include: family and gender roles and challenges, cultural and religious identities, romantic relationships, discrimination, conflict resolution, well-being

2:30pm TRAIN YOUR BRAIN: DE-STRESS WITH BIOFEEDBACK - THE ZONE

Learn how to incorporate state of the art technology for stress management. Come to the Zone for a free one-on-one Biofeedback demonstration with one of the CAPS Wellness Peer Educators! Learn about biofeedback, deep breathing, and progressive muscle relaxation techniques that all help to reduce stress. Check out The Zone calendar for info on this and other free wellness programs!

4pm

MINDFULNESS FOR DAILY LIVING-DAILY DROP-IN - STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Mindfulness meditation has been shown to reduce emotional reactivity, improve one's ability to manage stress, anxiety and depression, and cultivate a sense of inner peace and contentment. Dr. Savaiano has 10 years of experience both practicing and teaching mindfulness meditation.

7pm

PÅLIMPSEST, CURATED BY ALECK **KARIS - CONRAD PREBYS CONCERT** HALL

The Palimpsest Ensemble present a program curated and conducted by Aleck Karis. The event is free for students!



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tolerate everyday stressors, communicate effectively while maintaining self-respect and relationships, and improve your relationship with your emotions while living a life in accordance to vour values

3:30pm OUTSIDE THE BOX FORUM -TRANQUILITY ROOM, CROSS CULTURAL CENTER

This informal group is a safe space for students, faculty, and staff of mixed/multiracial/multi ethnic and other non-dominant identities to share their experiences and discuss issues in an open and supportive, community atmosphere. This forum is co-sponsored by the Cross Cultural Center. Please contact Dr. Thompson if you plan to attend. Contact: cathompson@ucsd.edu Website: https://caps.ucsd.edu/groups.html

5pm BLACK WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE -WOMENS CENTER

Join us for an informal conversation about our experiences as Black women and connect with other Black women on campus.

Meetings are Week 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10

INTERNATIONAL FRIDAY CAFE - THE GREAT HALL

Finish the week off right at the International Friday Cafe! Meet people from around the world, enjoy international music, and explore world cultures all while enjoying a delicious meal from featured countries around the world. All students, staff, faculty, and community members are welcome! Want to treat a group? Pre-purchase tickets for your department, student organization, or team through cash or department index. Contact the email below if you are interested in pre-purchasing tickets! Contact: j1soong@ucsd.edu

2pm **AŠIAN WOMENS FORUM - MUIR HALF DOME LOUNGE**

Join us for informal conversations about our experiences as Asian women. Members determine the topics which can include: Academic stress, Family and gender roles and challenges, Cultural identity, Relationships, Career directions, Social justice concerns, and mental health and well-being. Contact: Itappero@ucsd.edu. Website: https://caps.ucsd.edu/groups.html

3pm

PEACE OF MIND- DAILY DROP-IN - GALBRAITH HALL 190

Emotions make our lives rich and colorful, but you wish to learn how to navigate them better? In the Peace of Mind workshops, you will learn how to live in the moment, manage your emotions, increase interpersonal skillfulness, and identify what is really important to your life.

7pm

GRAD FORUM - CONRAD PREBYS MUSIC CENTER

Grad Forums provide an outlet for Music Department graduate students to present individual and collaborative works on their own terms. From theatrically-oriented conceptions to virtuosic instrumental solos, this free Grad Forum highlights the artistic diversity that coexists here at UCSD.

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gency maintenance, and a courtyard fountain. We hope you will call or stop by and we look forward to making The Diplomat your new home!....ucsdguardian.org/clas-sifieds for more information

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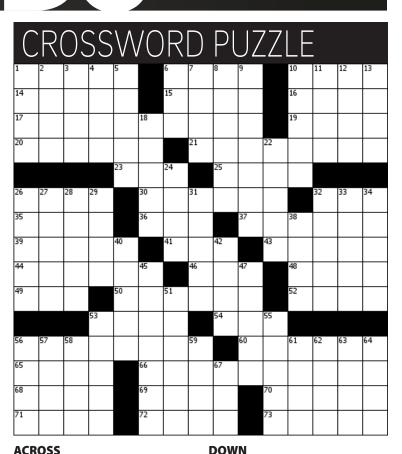
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2. Washstand item

5. Water mammal 6. Armed conflict

7. Diva's solo

10. Out of style 11. Light tan

8. Sailor

9. Cure-all

12. Singe 13. Florida islands

18. Get up 22. Irritable

24. Corrals

26. Auto

27. Each

38. Lids

40. Give wav

42. Scientisť

45. Amaze

47. Guide 51. Eye part 53. Major artery

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56. Sort 57. Sock part

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28. Flowering bush

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33. Sports building

34. Rented again

29. Extra weight 31. Boise's state

4. Formal accessories

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ACROSS

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- 6. Bee's relative 10. Adorn
- 14. Be ready for
- 15. Locality 16. Tooth discomfort 17. Avoiding meat, fish and poultry
- 19. Waiter's aid
- 20. Pencil rubber
- 21. Nonprofessionals
- 23. Tear 25. Passed effortlessly
- 26. Ego
- 30. Fishing nets
- 32. Roofing goo
- 37. Apparel
- 43. Swiss sona

- 49. Manhattan letters
- 50. Accompany
- 52. Narrow board

- 65. Twelve months
- 66. Emphasize
- 68. Sassy
- Banks of baseball
- 71. Jazz's Fitzgerald
- 72. Copenhagen native
- 64. Visualizes 67. Byron's "before"

59. Eve's home

61. Land parcel

- 35. Satan's specialty
- 36. Complete
- 39. Put off
- 41. Pouch
- 44. "Lawrence of _
- 46. Contains
- 48. Window section

- 53. Female singer
- 54. MGM lion
- 56. President Roosevelt
- 60. Legislates

- 69. At no time, in verse
- 70.
- 73. Abounds



58. English nobleman

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COLOR MF



Tritons Drop CCAA Title Game

UCSD Splits Series Start

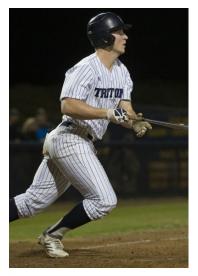
The Tritons had a rough Game 1, allowing eight runs

BYWESLEY XIAO Staff Writer

This week, the UC San Diego baseball team opened its series against California State Polytechnic University Pomona. Of the two games played one on Thursday and one on Friday — the Tritons lost the first and won the second. In an upset performance, the No. 14-ranked Cal Poly Pomona shocked the No. 7-ranked Tritons, operating well against a higher-seeded opponent. After these two games, UCSD's record moved to 10–5 (6–4 in California Collegiate Athletic Association standings).

Game 1

UCSD started the series with a disappointing 8–3 loss. Despite the end score, the opening game started off slowly. In the first three innings, the score remained 0–0: The Tritons had 2 hits, while the Broncos had 1. However, in the fourth inning, Cal Poly Pomona blew up, scoring 4 runs



off of three hits. The Tritons finally scored in the fifth inning with 2 runs: 1 by junior right fielder Zander Clarke and the other by freshman designated hitter Blake Baumgartner. The Broncos' first lead would extend to the end of the game. Cal Poly Pomona racked up 4 more runs by the ninth inning; the Tritons were unable to respond, scoring only 1 run.

Game 2

In a tight second contest, the Tritons were able to hold off the Broncos to win 6-4. Much like the first game, this game started off very slowly; the game was scoreless going into the sixth inning. In the sixth, UCSD recorded the first points of the game (a run by freshman shortstop Shay Whitcomb) and took a 1-0 lead. In the next inning, the Tritons lit up the scoreboard, earning 4 runs off of 3 hits and 1 error. Cal Poly Pomona, however, mounted a resilient comeback attempt, taking the game all the way down to the ninth inning. At the top of the ninth, the Tritons were up 6-4. The momentum seemed to be in the Broncos' favor as they had just scored 3 runs in the ninth; for Cal Poly Pomona, the game was still within reach. UCSD junior pitcher Preston Mott put an end to the Broncos' comeback, striking out their last hitter and sealing a UCSD victory.

UCSD will finish out the series against Cal Poly Pomona with two more games against it this weekend. Next week, the Tritons head to Rohnert Park, CA to play Sonoma State University.

> READERS CAN CONTACT WESLEY XIAO WEX057@UCSDEDU

Despite leading for much of the 4th quarter, UCSD choked down the stretch.

BY DANIEL HERNANDEZ SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego women's basketball team started off the California Collegiate Athletic Association tournament on Tuesday as they hosted Sonoma State University at RIMAC Arena and comfortably won 69-52 to move on to the next round. The Tritons faced the Wildcats of California State University, Chico on Friday in the semifinals at California State Polytechnic University Pomona's Kellogg Arena. Once again, UCSD blew out its competition with a 67-48 win to earn one of two spots in Saturday's final. California State University, Humboldt found itself with the second spot for the final and UCSD came up short in Saturday's final as the Lumberjacks stunned the number one seeded Tritons with a game-winning 3-pointer.

Vs Sonoma State

As the number one seed in the tournament, UCSD hosted its first game against Sonoma State and after beating them twice already throughout the regular season, and it was no different in the win-or-go-home game. The Tritons overpowered their opponents, 69–52 as they eased their way to the next round of the tournament behind the 22 points and 10 rebounds from sophomore forward Mikayla Williams.

After one quarter, only 5 points separated the sides. However, the second quarter had UCSD written all over it with a 12-to-5 point discrepancy. The Tritons continued to extend their lead in the last two quarters and had no problem closing the game out.

Junior guard Kayla Sato added 17 points, 4 rebounds, and 4 assists, while

senior forward Dalayna Sampton contributed with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

A big difference in the game came to be the 3-point shots as UCSD shot the 3 at 46 percent while holding Sonoma State to 10 percent. Four of the 6 successful 3-pointers from the Tritons came from junior guard Joleen Yang, who finished with 12 points.

Vs Chico State

UCSD came out the gates with conviction and did not let up as it earned a spot in Saturday's final with a dominating win over Chico State, 67–48. Sato led the charge for the Tritons with 22 points, 4 rebounds, and 3 assists.

The Triton defense made the difference in the game as it held the Wildcats to less than 50 points and to only 32 percent shooting.

In the second quarter, the Tritons exploded on offense as they scored 28 points to the Wildcats' 14 off of 66.7 percent shooting, including 4 of 7 from the three point line. The third quarter was much of the same as UCSD scored 21 points while shooting 77 percent and outclassing its opponents.

Those two quarters put a bow on the game as going to the fourth UCSD held a 32-point lead and had the game all wrapped up.

Incredibly, the Tritons went ice cold in the fourth quarter and only managed a single point off a free throw, while giving up 14 points. However, the lead was in no danger as they still won by 19 points.

Vs Humboldt State

Only seconds away. A few seconds and a Jovanah Arrington 3-pointer separated the Tritons from a conference title. After a back and forth game, a game-winning 3-pointer

stabbed UCSD in the heart for a 76–75 loss in the CCAA tournament final.

With an 8-point lead in the final 3:17 of the game, the Tritons could not hang on to their lead as their offense could not get anything going with only three points in those final minutes of the game. In that same amount of time, the Lumberjacks went on a 12–3 run to earn the title.

UCSD did not start the game on the right foot as Humboldt could simply not miss from anywhere on the court. Humboldt shot 62.5 percent from the field, including a scorching 66.7 percent (6–9) from the 3-point line to hold a 27–18 lead going into the second quarter. After only shooting 30 percent from the field in the first, the Tritons came back strong in the second as they shot 50 percent, while holding the Lumberjacks to 33 percent. With the defense holding its own in the second, UCSD went into halftime with a four point deficit.

Coming out of the half, the Tritons had another strong quarter defensively and managed to hold a 2-point lead going into the final quarter. The lead extended early in the fourth, but it was not to be for the Tritons in the end.

Sato had a game-high 22 points, while Sampton and Williams added a combined 25 points and 31 rebounds.

Both Sampton and Williams were named to the CCAA All-Tournament Team.

Despite the loss, the Tritons' season is still alive as they will likely be competing in the NCAA Division II Tournament West Region. Check the 64-team bracket posted on the NCAA website for the final matchups.

> READERS CAN CONTACT DANIEL HERNANDEZ DAHO43@UCSDEDU



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Tennis	3/6	5:30 Pl
Tennis	3/7	3 PM
leyball	3/7	7 PM
Tennis	3/8	9 AM
oftball	3/9	1 PM

5:30 PM vs. Furman
3 PM vs. Hawaii Pacific
7 PM vs. USC
9 AM vs. Boston University
1 PM vs. Cal State East Bay

Tritons Wins CCAA Tournament For Second-Straight Year

UCSD reclaimed its throne thanks to some thrillers.

BY RICHARD LU ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The UC San Diego men's basketball team defeated California State University, Stanislaus (82– 81), California State University, Chico (66–49), and California State Polytechnic University Pomona (68– 66) to take the California Collegiate Athletic Association title for the second straight year. The Tritons finish the season with an overall record of 21–10, and a 15–7 record in CCAA conference play.

Vs Stanislaus State

The Tritons defeated the Warriors with a miracle 3-pointer by junior guard Christian Bayne in double overtime. Both teams were evenly matched, with both teams unable to hold onto their leads throughout regulation. Near the end of the game, UCSD found itself down 2 points with 17 seconds remaining. Bayne was fouled and sank both of his shots from the line, tying the game up at 64–64. The Tritons locked in defensively and prevented the Warriors from scoring.

Both teams stayed locked in for the first overtime — neither the Tritons nor the Warriors could find good shots, and the period came down to free throws again. When the Warriors were up 71–73 with five seconds left in overtime, Bayne was fouled and sent to the line. As has become custom, Bayne knocked down both free throws and tied the game at 73–73. On the other end, senior forward Kenny Fraser blocked a Warrior 3-point attempt to send the game to double overtime. The second overtime was a thriller. The teams traded baskets back and forth until the final minute when UCSD faced a potential exit from the tournament. The Tritons were down 79–81 and the clock was ticking. As the final seconds ticked away, sophomore forward Scott Everman missed a 3-pointer that was then rebounded by Bayne, who then launched a 3-pointer with three seconds remaining in the game. He sank the 3-pointer, giving the Tritons an 82–81 victory.

Junior swingman Christian Oshita finished with a career-high 29 points and also notched 11 rebounds and 4 assists. Bayne had 25 points and 8 rebounds.

Vs Chico State

UCSD blew out Chico State in the semifinals of the tournament. The first half started slow, and it looked like a competitive game. However, the Tritons turned up the heat in the second half and coasted to a 66–49 victory.

The Tritons held the lead for almost the entire game while the Wildcats had their biggest lead (one point) for about 37 seconds in the first half. For the rest of the game, UCSD was in control. Their lead was challenged a couple of times in the second half when the Wildcats had scoring runs and cut the deficit to 3. In spite of this, the Tritons stayed calm under pressure and forced key turnovers. These turnovers led to a high number of 3-pointers for the Tritons, which helped them quickly rebuild the lead. In the final three



minutes of regulation, UCSD grew an 11-point lead to 17 and defeated Chico State, 66–49.

Oshita finished the game with 20 points and 9 rebounds. Redshirt freshman guard Mikey Howell chipped in with 11 points and 3 assists. As a team, the Tritons were a perfect 15–15 from the free throw line.

Vs Cal Poly Pomona

At Pomona, the Tritons faced the Broncos in the final game of the CCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. The Broncos charged out of the gates in the opening minutes and quickly gained a 7–2 lead. UCSD responded with 3-pointers from Bayne and senior guard Anthony Ballestero. Howell and senior forward Michael Shoemaker snatched 1 steal apiece and the Tritons converted both opportunities off the turnover. With the game tied at 17–17 after a Broncos dunk, Fraser made a layup to put the Tritons up 2. From there, the Tritons only allowed 4 more Bronco points in the first half while scoring 8 of their own, going into halftime with a 28–21 lead.

UCSD demolished Cal Poly Pomona for 15 out of the 20 minutes of the second half. The Tritons made play after play, scoring from all over the floor. They quickly gained a 19-point lead within the first five minutes of the half. Over time, the Broncos slowly chipped away at the lead. The game picked up in the final minutes of regulation. Up 11 points, the Tritons looked to maintain their lead. However, with two minutes left to go, 2 consecutive turnovers led to Bronco baskets, and UCSD's lead was cut to 6. The game slowed down and both teams turned up the defensive pressure. The Broncos intentionally fouled players while pushing the ball hard on the offensive end. Missed free throws almost cost the Tritons the game, as the Broncos were converting most of their shot attempts. With

the three seconds left in regulation, Cal Poly Pomona hit a 3-pointer to bring the game to 67–66. Oshita was sent to the line, where he split a pair of free throws to give UCSD a 68–66 lead. The final buzzer sounded, and UCSD claimed its second consecutive CCAA championship title.

Three Tritons scored in double figures for UCSD: Bayne (16), Oshita (10), and Ballestero (12). As a team, UCSD made 4 more 3-pointers than Cal Poly Pomona and shot 47.8 percent (22–46) from the field.

UCSD will now advance to the NCAA Division II tournament, where they have played four times. In the last two years, the Tritons have reached the Sweet 16 both times. Matchups were announced on the NCAA website at 7:30 p.m. on March 4.

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Tritons Drop Two Against Top Ranked Universities

UC San Diego, after losing seven of its last eight games, looks to get back on track against USC on Wednesday, Mar. 7

VOLLEYBALL

BY MADELINE LEWIS STAFF WRITER

On Friday evening, UC San Diego hosted its first ever Big West Conference event since the institution's confirmation to join Division I back in November. Although the rest of the athletic teams will not compete in the Big West until 2020, the men's volleyball team's prior Division-I standing allowed a smoother transition and immediate participation in the 2018 season.

Despite the university's excitement toward the conference opener, UCSD lost in 3 sets to 15th-ranked UC Santa Barbara by scores of 20–25, 21–25, and 20–25. The sweep forced the Tritons to a 0–2 start in the Big West after dropping an extremely close, 5-set match to the Gauchos just one week ago.

Tanner Syftestad, senior captain and opposite hitter, produced 16 kills in 30 attempts to accumulate a teamhigh of 16 points, as well as 6 digs on the side. Fellow senior setter Milosh Stojcic recorded 20 assists in addition to his 5 digs.

The Tritons led in kills and attempts in the first 2 sets, but 13 combined errors negatively impacted attack percentages of .188 and .235 compared to UCSB's .269 and .250, respectively.

Sophomore setter Connor Walbrecht listed 10 assists, 3 digs, 2 block assists, and the only service ace for the Tritons of the night. Junior outside hitter Nathan Thalken followed behind Syftestad with 7 kills in 12 attempts and 1 block assist for a total of 7.5 points.

Overall, UCSB prevailed in

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDY WILHELM // UC SAN DIEC

multiple categories including team blocks, assists, service aces, and kills, contributing to their defeat over the Tritons. UCSB closed the door efficiently in the third set, controlling the lead early on, with zero tied scores and zero lead changes.

February was a rough month for the squad as it lost 5 of 6 games, 4 of which came in a row. The Tritons look to improve their record with the fresh start of a new month and the beginning of conference play.

Vs Ball State

In a non-conference matchup on Saturday evening, UCSD lost its third match in a row, collapsing to No. 11 Ball State University in three straight sets. All set scores came within 3 points - 23–25, 22–25, and 22–25- in which the Tritons could not seem to hang on.

by Madeline Lewis // Staff Writer

The first set was by far the most competitive, consisting of 15 tie scores and five lead changes. Each team continued to rebuttal until the score lay at 16–14, UCSD with the advantage. A promising 2-point lead quickly lost momentum as the Cardinals answered back to even the score at 19. Moments later, BSU acquired the edge and never looked back, completing the set-win on a service error by the Tritons.

Freshman outside hitter Wyatt Harrison and Syftestad both documented a team high of 12 kills. Syftestad added 4 digs, and 3 block assists to compile 13.5 total points for the night.

In a second set filled with 7 tie scores, the Tritons failed to gain rhythm. Statistically, UCSD played its best ball in the third set, performing an attack percentage of .357 with only 3 errors. However, a stunning BSU attack percentage of .407 diminished any hope for the Tritons to push the match to a fourth set.

Sophomore libero Ryan Lew collected 11 digs while Stojcic tallied 35 assists in 72 attempts. Redshirt sophomore outside hitter, Xander Jimenez also contributed 6 kills and 3 digs.

Another tally in the loss column pushes the Tritons to an overall 8–9. With hopes of snapping a rough losing streak in the midst of the 2018 campaign, UCSD will face the University of Southern California on Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. in RIMAC arena.

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