LET'S TALK VAGINAS



The Vagina Monologues returned to UCSD last week, encouraging women on campus to overcome societal shame and embrace their sexuality.

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LESS BANG, MORE BUCKS

NEW SMART GUN TECHNOLOGY OPINION, PAGE 4

TRITONS CHOKE IN CCAAS

BASKETBALL MAKES EARLY EXIT SPORTS, PAGE 12

FORECAST













VERBATIM

▲ Mo matter what happened that week, whatever harsh news we



were reporting or shitty day I had, I knew I'd have somewhere to go every Wednesday and Sunday."

- Laira Martin **EDITOR'S SOAPBOX** OPINION, PAGE 4

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A.S. COUNCIL

Candidates Begin 2014 Campaign





Robby Boparai, left, and Kyle Heiskala officially launched their campaigns for A.S. Council President on March 6. Elections for all A.S. positions, as well as all six college councils, will take place during Week 2 of Spring Quarter.



2014 A.S. Council Candidates

Tritons Forward

Robby Boparai A.S. President

Amber Jean Hawthorne
Vice President Campus Affairs

Allyson Osorio Vice President External Affairs

Igor Geyn Vice President Finance & Resources

Let's Act

Kyle Heiskala A.S. President

Jehoan J. Espinoza Vice President Campus Affairs

Eden Esther Berdugo Vice President External Affairs

Tristan Britt Vice President Finance & Resources

A.S. COUNCIL

A.S. Council Votes to Pull Funds from State Prisons

The non-binding resolution to divest from the Prison Industrial Complex System passed Council 21-1-1 March 5 although concerns with the bill's language linger.

BY MERYL PRESS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

.S. Council passed a resolution to divest from the Prison Industrial Complex System with a 21–1–1 vote on March 5. The bill claims that the PIC targets low-level drug dealers by placing them in the prison system for several years or decades for their unfree labor, keeping prisoners in solitary confinement for years at a time.

Divestment is a legislative tactic to disengage unethical or morally ambiguous stocks, bonds or investment funds. The Students Against Mass Incarceration bill was brought to Council with four major goals: UC divestment the from the PIC, nationwide divestment from the PIC, investment in communities rather than the prison industry and

Alborz Ghandehari, a graduate student in the ethnic studies department and a SAMI organizer, believes that the U.S. is responsible for the inhumane treatment of the PIC.

"In the past 40 years, there has been a 1,200 percent increase in the UC prison population

GREEK LIFE

Resolution Banning "Colony" Passes

Concerns about the use of the word among the Greek community sparks debate.

BY KAREN TO

STAFF WRITER

A.S. Council passed a resolution to ban the usage of the term "colony" in the UCSD community on Wednesday, March 5.

The Greek life community and the Student Affirmative Action Committee proposed the resolution in

a joint effort after individuals unaffiliated with the Greek system brought the usage of the term "colony" to the attention of the Office for the prevention of Harassment and Discrimination.

Reports were filed against the use of the term "colonization" by UCSD's newest sorority Alpha Omicron Pi. Originally, AOII titled the celebration that they had on Jan. 28 to commemorate the establishment of its charter as the "Colonization Ceremony."

After receiving notice of the reports two hours before the start of their event, the AOII and the Panhellenic Society took immediate action to replace "colonization" with "establish-

President of the Interfraternity Council Tom Forter clarifies what the

See COLONY, page 3

UC SYSTEM

UC Irvine Votes to End UCSA Membership

BY ANDREW HUANG STAFF WRITER

UC Irvine's Associated Students Legislative Council formally voted to withdraw from the University of California Student Association on Feb. 27. The UCSA is a coalition of student governments, with representatives from all UC campuses except UC Davis, whose goal is to fight for a variety of issues affecting students through grassroots organization and direct advocacy.

ASUCI's longstanding grievances with the UCSA culminated in its legislative bill B49-14, entitled "Withdrawal of ASUCI from the University of California Student Association." It was drafted by Executive Vice President Melissa Gamble and School of Information and Computer Science representative Patrick Shen.

One major concern raised by B49-14 was UCSA's perceived inaction towards the appointment of Janet Napolitano as UC President. ASUCI had passed an earlier resolution, R49-03, on Sept. 10, 2013 which condemned Napolitano's establishment and called for a Vote of No Confidence. However, other Board members eventually decided against taking action against her, a move that ASUCI considered "worrisome."

Furthermore, ASUCI sharp critiques include the Association executive director's over-influence in student affairs, the UCSA's lack of support towards the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3299, cultural incompetency and the general structure of Board meeting.

"My office and I have come to realize that UC Irvine undergraduates are being underserved by UCSA," Gamble said in a letter to the campus. "There have been many issues with UCSA that have demonstrated that UCSA does not hold UC Irvine's values of respect, integrity, commitment and empathy."

She also pointed out that the Irvine undergraduates \$28,880.79 in membership fees to the Association every year, not including conference costs. Gamble invited students to discuss the bill in the week leading up to the final vote.

According to a March 4 New University article, deliberation over the bill spanned three Legislative Council meetings. Those who opposed the bill showed hesitation over losing voting power in the organization and suggested the decision be postponed until Council representatives could meet with the UCSA. Nevertheless, B49-14 was officially approved by an 8-2-2 vote on Feb. 27. The Office of the Executive Vice President will have the power to decide if ASUCI will ever rejoin UCSA in the future.

"The resolution to ASUCI was presented before any discussion was initiated on the Board about these

See UCSA, page 3

AVERAGE CAT By Christina Carlson





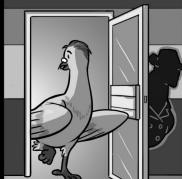






BIRDLAND By Rebekah Dyer









Panhellenic Presidents Opens Dialogue About Controversial Word

► COLONY, from page 1

term means to Greeks.

"While [the Greek community] understands the implications [that the term "colony"] can have, this has never been the intention of Greek life at a national level," Forter said. "For Greek life, a 'colony' is a good thing, it shows that we are growing in a positive direction and need more chapters to allow for that growth."

Similar ceremonies have taken place at UCSD before. In fact, Beta Theta Pi used the term in a ceremony held a few months before the usage of "colony" came under scrutiny.

To address the issue, president of the Panhellenic Soroity Council Carolyne Chen invited the UCSD community to an open forum-style meeting to discuss the historic significance and implications of the term "colony" before AOII's establishment ceremony took place.

The Greek community and SAAC continued their dialogue through the facilitation of A.S. Council.

Vice President of Student Life in A.S. Council Linda Le has personal

experience with the term "colony" as a first generation Vietnamese-American. Following the colonization of Vietnam by multiple countries, her parents, like thousands of other refugees, left Vietnam by boat to escape from the ramifications of the Vietnam War.

'Colonization is something that should never be celebrated, especially in the context that nearly all instances of colonization has led to either genocide or cultural genocide and, in some instances, both," Le said. "While 'colony' in Greek life is not used in this context, I really commend the Greek Councils, especially the Panhellenic Council, in their willingness to create dialogue surrounding the meaning of the word."

A.S. Council recently started a program known as Tritons for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion to offer diversity training to the student body on the cultural backgrounds and the implications conjured cultural differences.

Sixth College senator Allison Bagnol urges students and the Greek community alike to take advantage of TEDI and other similar workshops.

The term "colony" reminds Bagnol, who identifies as a third generation Filipino-American, of the social and cultural struggles that Filipinos had to face under their long history of colonization. She believes that Filipinos today are still struggling to define their true identity, an issue she grapples with as well.

Bagnol, who has participated in several diversity training workshops already, is eager to hold one herself in the hopes of addressing any lingering questions regarding the impacts that a term such as "colony" can have.

"Colonization is very triggering for me. I've spoken to people in the SAAC community, specifically in [Kaibigang Philipino] that also find this word very triggering," Bagnol said. "In that regard, as far as colonization being triggering, I want to voice their opinions as well because even though our individual stories may be different, colonization in general has negative effects on this community."

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JS ON FACEBO(



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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BY RACHEL HUANG SENIOR STAFF WRITER
Readers can contact Rachel at rshuang@ucsd.edu

UCSD Neurosurgeons Develop Less Invasive Treatment for Brain Cancer

With the help of the NeuroBlate System by Monteris Medical, Inc., UCSD neurosurgeons have developed a less invasive, more accurate way of treating brain cancer using magnetic resonance imaging and lasers.

UC San Diego Health System's Dr. Clark Chen, vice chairman of research and academic development and codirector of neurosurgical oncology, recently used the new technique, called laser interstitial thermal therapy, in California's first MRI-guided laser treatment.

"There are a few areas in the United States that offer this treatment," Chen said. "We are the first in California to apply this technology to previously untreatable brain tumors. In this regard, we are ahead of UCSF; we're ahead of UCLA and all the other UC [campuses]."

Laser ablation is not performed in a standard operating room, as it requires real-time MRI guidance to allow the neurosurgeons to accurately visualize the patient's brain. Once the patient undergoes general anesthesia, neurosurgeons make a dime-sized incision over the pertinent area of the skull and insert a tiny laser probe with a miniscule width that limits damage to surrounding tissues. At the tumor site, neurosurgeons fire the laser at a very

specific heat to kill the cancer, leaving the rest of the brain untouched.

In the case of one patient, whose thalamic tumor was considered too deep in her brain to risk open surgery, the new treatment was lifesaying.

"The patient ... was initially told by another hospital that she had an incurable cancer," Chen said. "With this technology, we were able to treat this cancer and help her fight this disease."

According to a Feb. 24 UCSD news release, Chen is optimistic about expanded applications for the new technology. Chen said the laser technique can be used to treat several types of brain tumors, "including glioblastomas, anaplastic astrocytomas and brain metastases."

"I think it's going to change how we practice brain surgery," he said. Chen continued explaining that without this new development, surgery on portions of the brain that were too deep had often done more harm to the tissue than the tumor itself. Thus, patients' only other option lay with radiation.

The new MRI-guided laser surgery, however, severely reduces the affected area and risk of collateral brain damage, and Chen can uphold his promise to maintain and improve his patients' life quality.

Senators Express Concerns with Resolution's Strong Language

▶ PRISON, from page 1

and high spending on prisons and much lower spending on education, healthcare and other social services," Ghandehari said. "We need to be investing in communities, not in prisons. Unfortunately, communities affected by incarceration are subject to poorly funded education and a dire lack of social services."

Manufacturing industries such textile, steel plants and auto industries laid off millions of workers in the 1970s and moved operations overseas for cheaper labor. This left large segments of the population unemployed and impoverished, particularly black communities who worked in the industrial industry. During this time, former President Reagan proclaimed a "War on Drugs."

SAMI members, including UCSD graduate student in the literature department Niall Twohig believed that Reagan used the War on Drugs to justify prison expansion and criminalize poor people of color.

"With this bill we're reminding the UC Regents that students have power," Twohig said. "We're letting them know that our taxes and tuition will not go to companies whose existence is premised on criminalizing and entombing black, brown and poor white communities."

When asked about the next steps expected from this divestment, SAMI Organizer and AVP Local Affairs Allyson Osorio said that she hopes that the passing of this divestment resolution will encourage other UC campuses to divest as well. So far, UC Berkeley, UCLA and UC Santa Barbara have divested along with UCSD

"We have been working with the other UCs in order to get their A.S. councils to pass divestment," Osorio said. "We have to get all the UCs on board in order to get the regents to divest. Students must all mobilize together across California to get the other UCs to get the bill to pass. Personally, God willing, I do believe a year from now all the UCs will be on board with divesting from the UC system"

During the meeting, Revelle Senator Marco Vasquez opposed the bill because he disagreed with the wording and therefore could not stand behind the bill.

"I understand that this is the starting point but I don't think the solution or the way to start is by stating that the entire system was created to actively oppress people," Vasquez said. "I think that we're missing some facts about the crimes that are committed in these communities. The focus should be on poverty, and I would say we need to invest into having jobs available, in having families [and] to invest in resources and in education."

Although Transfer Senator Ricky Martorana voted yes on the resolution, he agreed with Vasquez that the wording was too strong, claiming that legislators would not take the language seriously if they felt accused.

In an interview with the Guardian, Osorio responded that Vasquez's concerns were not the central point of the resolution

"Many may think this is only symbolic work, but we're still going to work behind the policy and everything in order to get our end goal to be a reality," Osorio said. "Everyone is affected by it, and it's not to attack a certain group or a political party, but just to bring light to a lot of the injustices a lot of people face. We will be in this for the long run."

Physical Sciences Senator Sierra Donaldson believed that declaring a war on drugs is declaring a war on drug users.

"It dehumanizes them to the point where you must take drastic measures against them," Donaldson said. "When you look at the statistics that white folks and black folks use the same amount of drugs, yet black folks get imprisoned so much more, that is not just an anomaly."

The discussion ended with President Andy Buselt encouraging everyone to support the bill.

"In the past I have been able to hear how the PIC has impacted other people's lives and families and I take that into account with my vote," Buselt said. "The criminal justice system is blatantly racist."

READERS CAN CONTACT MERYL PRESS MPRESS@UCSDEDU

Garcia Hopes ASUCI's Departure from UCSA Will Lead to Improvements and Restructuring for All

▶ UCSA, from page 1

issues," ASUCSD External Affairs Vice President and UCSA Board member Vanessa Garcia said. "Since UCSA is a coalition of student governments, every association is crucial to maintaining our credibility

and student power."

UCSA officers later wrote a letter to the ASUCI Executive Cabinet apologizing for the dissatisfaction and addressed the concerns laid out by Gamble. It urged UC Irvine to reconsider its decision and to further deliberate the problems at the

March Board meeting.

"With the proper time and consideration, it is UCSA's hope that ASUCI remain a part of UCSA to enact the solutions necessary for ASUCI to feel its membership to UCSA valuable," the letter said. "UCSA is only as effective as all of its

members, and ASUCI is incredibly essential to UCSA and the greater student movement.

Garcia also expressed hope that the Board would be able to work out a successful resolution.

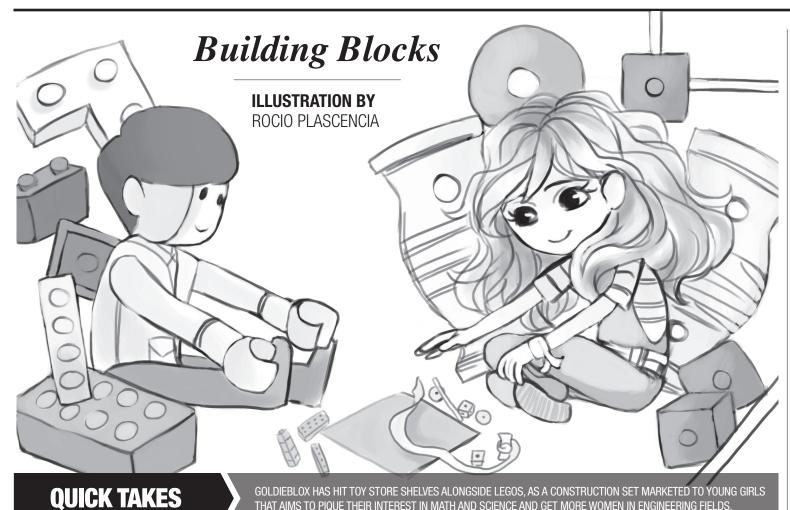
"Current Board Members have already been working to restructure

UCSA for a few months now," Garcia said. "I have heard some of the proposals, and I believe changes to the Association can address the issues brought forward by ASUCI."

READERS CAN CONTACT



CONTACT THE EDITOR LAUREN KOA popinion@ucsdguardian.



Toys Marketed to Girls Exacerbate Gender Gap in Science & Engineering

Ostensibly, GoldieBlox has the admirable mission of nudging more females towards engineering and related fields in which they're typically underrepresented. But upon further examination, the new line of girl-focused toys is simply perpetuating sexist stereotypes. It keeps young girls in the same confined mold as before, playing with pastel colored, princess-themed toys.

The company's website reveals its purpose: to design a construction-based toy that caters to females and to disrupt the "pink aisle" stereotype of toy store sections aimed towards girls. While this is a fantastic goal, one has to wonder how much they can really disrupt the status quo with more pink toys, full of frilly ribbons and stories set in castles.

Just like when Lego released a line of simplistic construction toys and pretty magazines called Lego Friends, aimed specifically at girls, GoldieBlox will teach young females that if they want to enjoy similar building and construction toys to those of their male counterparts, they should do it with watereddown, pink versions.

Instead, entrepreneurs like Debbie Sterling, the founder of GoldieBlox, should market genderneutral toys and promote a more equitable way of teaching young kids to enjoy engineering. Marketing complex Legos to boys or GoldieBlox to girls might be good for sales, but in the end, it will only deepen the crisis. There will always be the underlying problem that, because the sexes grew up with different toys, one learned to do things differently or better than the other. The disparity in the number of female versus male engineers needs to be fixed, but creating yet another gender-specific toy is not the answer.

> — CHARU MEHRA Staff Writer

Gender Specific Toys Introduce Young Girls to Male-Dominated Fields

THAT AIMS TO PIQUE THEIR INTEREST IN MATH AND SCIENCE AND GET MORE WOMEN IN ENGINEERING FIELDS

Toys might be marketed as gender specific, but that doesn't mean that they are necessarily gender exclusive. GoldieBlox has introduced a construction toy that will be more aesthetically pleasing for girls, while combining basic principles of building and cognition. These toys are an innovative way to encourage girls to become interested in engineering and sciences in hopes of reaching much needed gender parity in these professional fields.

Just as the colors blue and pink denote masculinity and femininity respectively, toys can be marketed in similar ways. Gender specificity is necessary here because GoldieBlox can appeal to consumers who subconsciously purchase pink toys for their daughters, while introducing traditionally maledominated subjects like engineering and science. This is a natural way for adults to expose these fields to young girls.

According to Dr. Beth Holloway, Purdue University's director of Women in Engineering Program, young girls need to be drawn by what interests them to later feel the "sense of accomplishment that comes from designing something." In turn, this exposure will help them consider careers in the science, technology, engineering and math fields. As President Greg McVey of construction toy firm Infinitoy mentions: GoldieBlox provides this experience, allowing girls to enhance their motor skills while expressing their creativity.

Of course, a single toy is not going to create an engineer right away and GoldieBlox's true impact is still to be realized. However, with the influence of family and education, it can contribute to shaping a girl's interest and foster an open approach to these historically male-dominated fields.

> - SHANNON KANG Staff Writer

Overly Simplistic Construction Sets Gloss Over Engineering Concepts

Goldieblox claims that its toy sets teach young girls about engineering concepts, but the actual mechanics behind its products lack the complexity necessary to thoroughly explain engineering principles. Goldieblox comes in extremely basic sets, with its only specific attraction to girls being the pink colors and an accompanying storyline. However, compared to its more creative competitors in the toy aisle, gender-specific toys are dumbed down to the point where they actually fail in their teaching goals.

On the company's website, each Goldieblox set is associated with a "skill concept" to be taught. Concepts such as a wheel and axle or belt drive are introduced to girls aged 4 to 9. But therein lays the problem: It is only a cursory introduction. The sets are so simple that they hinder comprehensive discovery and knowledge of what a belt drive is actually capable of. Currently, the "spinning machine" has girls wrapping a ribbon around spools to rotate multiple objects with one source of energy. But belt drives can vary in torque and speed and involve much more significant ideas than just power transfer. These basic toy parts prevent the girls from tinkering with these parameters — key skills that allow comfort and confidence in engineering. Kids need to see that these effects exist so that they can develop an intuitive logic in designing.

While Goldieblox fills a niche for young girls looking to have inspirational building toys, the simplicity of each set takes away from the depth of the learning experience. In the end, their creativity is limited compared to the building sets marketed to boys.

> — DEREK UNG Staff Writer

A Farewell to All My Guardian Angels

EDITOR'S SOAPBOX Laira Martin LMM002@UCSD

arrived on campus four years ago knowing I would work for the school newspaper. There was no other way around my youthful eagerness and tenacity for all things journalism.

I picked up a copy of the UCSD Guardian, covered in atrocious, orange spot color, and saw a house ad that screamed "GET PAID TO WRITE" in a font that was most likely some derivative of Helvetica. "Get paid?" I thought. "I'd do that for free!" And it wasn't long before the Guardian's budget crisis really did mean we had to all work for free, but with the exception of a few, money-hungry randoms, none of us cared. The Guardian is so much more than a place to pick up a paycheck.

I came into the job of editor-inchief knowing that I was sacrificing my time, my sanity and probably even my body (those sit ups and lunges we'd try to do during production never quite paid off). And now, with only one issue left I stand before a sea of free time I have not known since 2010, and that is the scariest thing of all. I'll actually have time to exercise and go grocery shopping? I don't have to eat Hi Thai twice a week? These are concepts that don't quite seem plausible to me yet.

As stressful as running a twiceweekly newspaper is, it gave me an immense sense of stability. No matter what happened that week, whatever harsh news we were reporting or shitty day I had, I knew I'd have somewhere to go every Wednesday and Sunday, and when I arrived, there would be a crowd of people as equally passionate for their distaste of the Oxford comma as I. No matter how dorky my interest in grammar was to others, at the Guardian, I was just one of many. And with AP style as just a starting point, I was able to bond with co-workers on ways not possible elsewhere on campus. With the shared interest to produce a quality body of work, we went to work for nearly 13 hours every week, twice a week. And no matter how dark the circles under my eyes were the next day, they got a little lighter when I got to pick up a fresh copy on stands on my way to a class.

Although the Guardian has shown a lot of us our breaking points (ever so clearly, mine is rearranged furniture and too many "that's what she said" jokes), it has given us the privilege of a lifetime to express ourselves in the time when we needed to most. It has given me sleepless nights from wondering whether I sent the right PDF to the printer and the best sleeps of my life via pure exhaustion, but I'm so thrilled to pass the torch onto so many capable, young journalists. Zev, although your middle school humor is often the most highlighted aspect of your personality, it never manages to outshine your talent, devotion and vast knowledge of all things UCSD. You started as "that tall Jewish boy" and you're ending as our fearless leader. Don't be afraid to take chances or gain a coffee dependency during your editorship. It's for the best.

Smart Firearms Are Not the Immediate Gun Control Solution

BY MIKAYLA MURRY

evolutionary changes in gun technology will now enable average Americans to feel like James Bond. Just like Bond's special weapon in Skyfall, newly marketed "smart guns" are personalized to operate for only one shooter. Though current technology has yet to produce an exact replica of Bond's firearm — one that would activate through fingerprint recognition — the release of the world's first personalized handgun, the iP1, has experts claiming that we are on the right track.

Recently introduced to the U.S. market by the German firm Armatix, the iP1 comes with a radio

frequency identification wristwatch that the shooter must be wearing in order to fire the weapon. Soon, for a whopping \$1,798, Americans will be able to purchase this gun-watch duo meant to prevent both accidental and intentional gun-related deaths and injuries, while simultaneously ensuring the weapon does not fall into the wrong hands.

However, the actual reliability of this "007" technology has yet to be tested on the streets and in the homes of America, so the true impact — along with possible unintended consequences — of the smart gun remains a gray area at best. Still, many proponents of this new technology argue that it be legally required on the basis of its life-saving

potential. In fact, in 2002, New Jersey passed a law stating that three years after its introduction to the American market, the smart gun would become the only gun sold within the state. However, while the potential benefits of this technology are great, it would be wiser for the government to start implementation efforts by simply encouraging smart gun use through media or public education, rather than enforcing this new technology right from the get go.

One potential problem is that making "smart" features on guns mandatory too quickly might spawn public resentment and hinder their eventual acceptance. In fact, gun rights advocates are already taking up arms against

the marketing of the iP1 at the California Oak Tree Gun Club. Many former customers accused the store of encouraging the violation of Second Amendment rights by promoting this new technology. Further, with the smart gun being far more expensive than a regular handgun at this point, requiring people to buy it is likely to foster indignation and could potentially counter the goal of smart gun advocates.

Those who argue in favor of government enforcement of the smart gun lean heavily on two main ideas. First, because the smart gun allows only those registered to the gun to

See SMART GUNS, page 5

SOLVE FOR X By Phillip Jia



New Technology Has Its Benefits, But Should Not Be Mandatory

► SMART GUNS, from page 4

pull the trigger, many believe that the number of accidental child gun deaths and injuries would drastically decrease with smart gun enforcement. A second benefit attributed to firearm personalization technology is that it provides less incentive for gun thieves. Using stolen weapons for crime hinders the police in tracking down criminals, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics has posted numbers indicating an excess of 700 guns stolen every day in the United States.

Though the above arguments for smart gun dissemination are certainly valid, they do not take into account the full picture when it comes to gun safety. According to a March 3 USA

Today article, gun personalization might not make a significant impact when most homicides are actually carried out by gun owners. In addition, the article goes on to explain that while many mass shootings are carried out with shotguns or rifles, any smart gun technology mandates at this point — would be restricted to handguns. This limitation also applies to accidental child shootings, as many of these involve long-barreled guns. As for the argument that smart guns will deter robbers, this is more applicable to future smart guns; with the iP1, a thief would be able to use the gun as long as he stole the watch as well.

Smart gun technology certainly appears to be a step in the right

direction, but it is not the end-all solution to our firearm problems. It seems like the most logical thing to do at this point is to keep marketing this new weapon to the American public and see how it holds up.

For now, there's no need to muddy the water by making it mandatory. In launching his contest for smart gun technology, prominent businessman Ron Conway stated, "We need the iPhone of guns." If the smart gun hopes to achieve this status, it — like the iPhone — should let its success speak for itself.

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UCSD SINUS ALLERGY BLOOD DONOR STUDY:

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Contact Dr. Broide, UCSD Department Medicine

858-534-2033

UCSD ASTHMA BLOOD DONOR STUDY:

Subjects aged 18-65 with current asthma symptoms to grass pollens needed for study requiring donation of blood, allergy skin testing, pulmonary function testing, and completion of allergy questionnaires. Will be reimbursed \$575 for completion of 5 clinic visit study over a 2 year period.

Contact Brianna, UCSD Airway Research Center 619-471-0822

FEATURES

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THE VAGINA DIALOGUE

A look at UCSD's most recent production of The Vagina Monologues, a widely performed play that seeks to overcome the stigma surrounding female sexuality.

BY KATHERYN WANG STAFF WRITER

DESIGN BY SARA SHROYER

ontrary to its title, The Vagina Monologues is less of a monologue and more of a dialogue, intended to open up conversation about the culturally sensitive topic of women's sexuality. Last week, starting Wednesday, March 5, a cast of 45 UCSD students took to the stage at Price Center Ballroom East to perform the series of monologues.

"The Vagina Monologues isn't about the bra burning, 'feminazi' kind of feminism,' Earl Warren College senior Trish Vinnakota, one of the three directors of this year's production, said. "It's very to the point. Each monologue that is performed — in total 18 — talks about a different experience that ... women have in everyday life. I think the most significant take away for people is that feminism doesn't have to be this manhating kind of thing. Feminism is what you decide it to be."

The Vagina Monologues covers many topics typically regarded as personal or taboo, such as sex, birth, sexual assault, orgasms and pubic hair, to name a few. One monologue tells the story of a 65-year-old woman who's never had an orgasm after an embarrasing experience with a man. Another talks about women trafficked in the 1990s as sex slaves in the Bosnian-Croatian conflict.

Though some monologues are centered on more graphic themes such as sexual violence, Vinnakota believes it's important to recognize that overall, the monologues aim to encourage women to become more comfortable with their sexualities. She noted that The Vagina Monologues intends to show positive experiences between men and women, as well.

e experiences between men and women, as well. "All of the monologues are so incredibly different,"

Vinnakota said. "There's one monologue called 'Bob,' and it's about a girl who has a great experience with a man — a girl who's formerly ashamed of her vagina. But this man shows her that, 'Hey, there's nothing to be ashamed about.' [...] It's a very uplifting monologue, especially [since it's] about a positive experience with a man."

Playwright Eve Ensler created The Vagina Monologues in the 1990s after interviewing over 200 women of different ages and backgrounds about their views and experiences with these intimate and unconventional topics. The monologues themselves are entirely based on the women's responses during these interviews and the anecdotes each interviewee shared.

Produced nationally at college campuses and internationally in 77 countries, The Vagina Monologues has been performed at UCSD, where it has been received well by students, selling out for the past three years. The cast is larger here at UCSD than at most other campus productions, mainly because it's much more inclusive, as the production tries not to turn away anyone who auditions, regardless of acting experience.

Tickets for The Vagina Monologues were sold out by last Tuesday afternoon, the day before opening night. The proceeds gathered from the ticket and merchandise sales were donated to the San Diego Center for Community Solutions, dedicated to assisting women facing situations such as sexual assaults or different forms of abuse.

Members of The Vagina Monologues crew believe that because each member of the cast is given creative freedom to interpret and deliver their monologues as they choose, there is a constantly changing dynamic





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A Project for the People

UCSD's Project RISHI, a service club dedicated to improving health conditions in rural India, is planning its fourth trip to help foster sexual health awareness for children.

BY RACHEL HUANG SENIOR STAFF WRITER

ven though it's only been five years since UCSD's chapter of Project RISHI — a student organization that aims to promote healthy lifestyles in rural India — was established, they've already made three trips to the village of Anandwan in Maharashtra. Members are currently planning their fourth trip where volunteers will assist in creating a children's sexual health education camp with seminars on bystander intervention, sexual assault prevention programs and a support system for victims and families.

Since its inception in 2011 by UCSD alumnus Nikhil Nadkarni, Project RISHI, or Rural India Social and Health Improvement, students have engaged in hands-on projects like helping out at the leprosy clinics, shadowing physicians and teaching children's dance seminars.

Their first excursion to the village in 2009 was a survey trip

to the site that would eventually become the target village site for the San Diego chapter and developed relationships with coordinators in the village.

During their last trip to India, students developed a general health education camp. They also donated \$7,000 to the local Swaranandwan Disabled Orchestra to buy instruments and pay for travel outside the village to share its music; they're now in the process of creating a media channel for the orchestra.

Sharma describes the village of Anandwan as a sanctuary for struggling and stigmatized communities, such as those of leprosy patients and those impoverished with disabilities. According to the website, Anandwan rehabilitation focuses on empowerment through self-efficiency by offering vocational

See **RISHI**, page 8



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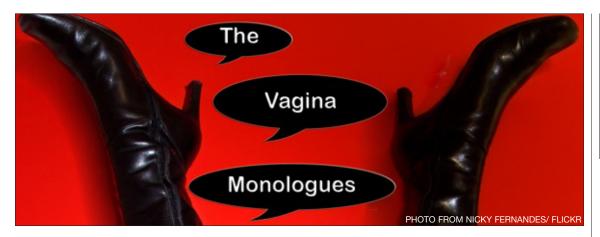
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Students Celebrate Sexual Awareness Through Performing

▶ VAGINA, from page 6

to each year's performance.

"Every year takes on its own persona and personality," Sixth College senior and Vagina Monologues performer Shayma Hesari said. "It's really cool seeing how the same mono-

logues changed in their portrayals from last year to now."

Hesari's own performance involved a series of different fake orgasm noises, including the UCSD moan ("Oh yeah...I should be studying!"). In preparing for her character and her lines, Hesari revealed that she used her own personality as a base and created a persona with a heightened sense of arrogance and sarcasm.

"When playing my character, I just became more confident in an arrogant way, and when I did the fake moans, I used humor to poke fun of the way people have sex," Hesari said.

The crew for The Vagina Monologues is composed of three directors — Vinnakota, Victoria Hanna and Emilie Doan Van — a team of performers and a crew of marketing agents, known as the "Pussy Posse." Workshop meetings were held every Sunday this winter quarter to allow the actors to not only rehearse but also to learn about women's health, oppression

and sexual issues through various guest speakers.

"I think The Vagina Monologues is more than just a show," Eleanor Roosevelt College senior and Vagina Monologues performer Maddison Eshoo said. "It's an eye-opening experience"

In promoting The Vagina Monologues this year, the Pussy Posse created a short (and hilarious) YouTube video in which they asked male students whimsical questions, such as their opinions on vaginas or where they would take a vagina on a date. When the video was featured in between Act I and Act II, the creators found the audience's response very rewarding.

"It made us happy when we heard students whispering about the parts of the video they had already seen because that meant the video reached out to some people before they came to see us," Hesari said.

Despite their success, the Pussy Posse crew experienced some difficulties in the marketing process. During their time tabling on Library Walk, the cast encountered students who had negative misconceptions about the play. Some stated that they didn't want to hear women rant about being raped. Vinnekota related one experience she had while

promoting The Vagina Monologues on Library Walk.

"He said, word for word, 'No way, that show is so awkward. Girls talking about rape? I don't want to hear that," she said. "I don't really think he thought about what he was saying or what it meant to a lot of victims of rape ... but he was so ignorant. This encounter with this guy was probably one of the most extreme out of everyone, and it's disappointing."

The members of the play asserted that the play is neither a "feminist display" nor a play that solely features rape or other sexual abuse.

"It's understandable, but sad, that people feel this way because this play is really about opening your eyes to topics that are considered taboo and celebrating awareness," Hesari said.

The audience also felt The Vagina Monologues was an unconventional but enlightening experience.

"It was a unique experience that brought to life a lot of unspoken issues in our society," Roosevelt College senior Joanne Yuen said. "I think it made me more aware as an individual." Additional reporting by Sydney Reck.

READERS CAN CONTACT KATHERYN WANG KAWANG@UCSD.EDU



Project RISHI Members Are Planning a Sexual Health Education Camp in India

▶ RISHI, from page 7

training, with the issues of sexual abuse and discrimination still rampant in rural India.

"India's climate is very politically and socially charged," Sharma said. "There was the gang rape of 2012 and [recently] this village girl getting raped in her own village."

These refer to two horrific incidents: The first is the fatal 2012 Delhi gang rape, in which a 23-year-old woman was beaten and gang raped on a private bus. The second case occurred earlier this year when a woman was gang raped by 13 men of her own village, because the elders objected to her relationship with an outsider.

"There's no real concept of sexual health and education [in India]," Sharma said. "People don't necessarily know they're in that kind of dangerous situation."

The first step in preventing such blatant abuse, according to Sharma, is exposing the problem.

Other ongoing RISHI projects include the development of an Intranet to create a network of shared information and resources that expands beyond Anandwan. The content must first be digitized and then translated before other villages can access the curriculum.

As of this quarter, UCSD Project RISHI is still in the early stages of plan-

ning its summer India trip.

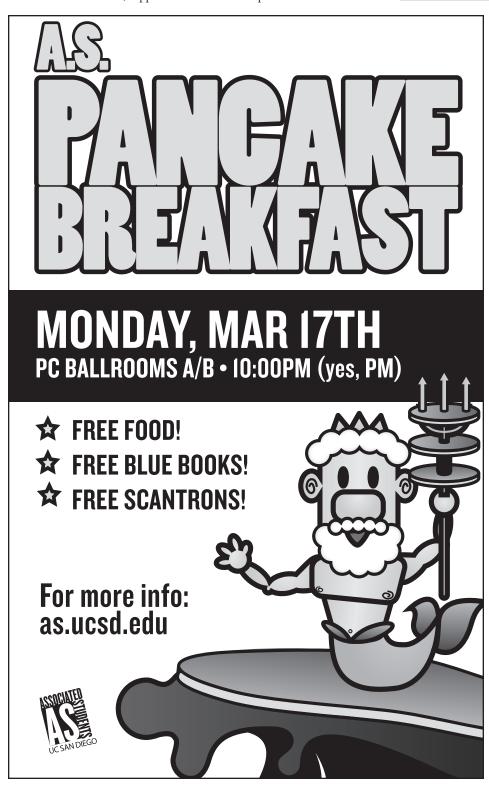
"We've laid out the groundwork," Sharma said. "We're working on identifying the organizations that we're going to work with in UCSD and the local community and in India to actually create the curriculum. [...] One of them is the Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention Resource Center on campus. We want to develop a sexual health and intervention training program [with them]."

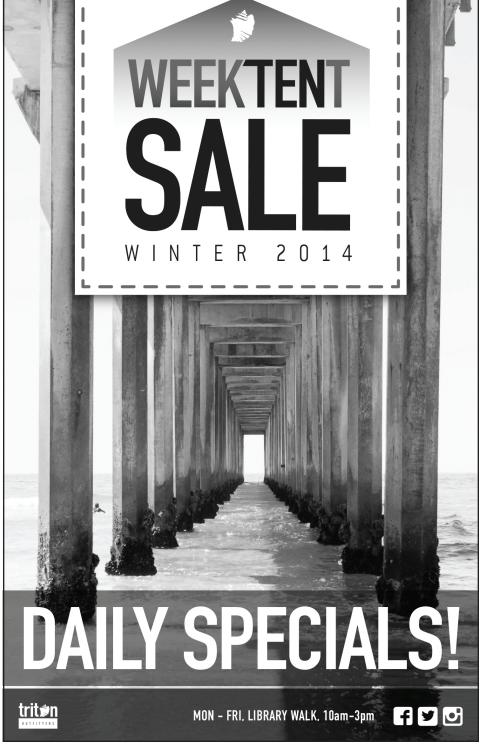
Two weeks ago, the group held an introductory meeting with the Student Health Advocates on campus to work on outreach of sexual health. Sharma noted that she also hopes to use the connections she gained at the 2011 Clinton Global Initiative University conference, including an organization that's an extension of Khan Academy, to build on this project.

However, while the Intranet is a major, long-term development, at the moment, the organization has other priorities.

"The sexual health education camp — that's our main focus right now," Sharma said. "We hope to empower the kids and Anandwan with the knowledge to promote healthy behaviors and also to engage these in kids in a social dialogue about sexual assault prevention."

READERS CAN CONTACT RACHEL HUANG RSHUANG@UCSD.EDU





WATER POLO

Tritons Finish 3-1 at Claremont Convergence

No. 11 UCSD defeated three Southern California foes but lost to No. 13 University of Hawaii.





GAME 1 // March 7 UCSD VS. Occidental College UCSD 4 3 6 3 16

OC 0 0 0 1

GAME 2 // March 7 **UCSD VS. CMS** UCSD 8 5 3 2 18 CMS 0 4 2 3 9 GAME 3 // March 8
UCSD VS. University of Hawaii
UCSD 1 1 1 3 6
CSUMB 4 1 1 3 9

GAME 4 // March 8
UCSD VS. Pomona-Pitzer
UCSD 3 4 2 2 11
CSUMB 1 2 1 2 6

BY RACHELUDA SPORTS EDITOR

Ranked 11th in the nation, the UCSD women's water polo team went 3–1 at the Claremont Convergence Invitational which took place last week. The Tritons beat Southern California opponents Occidental, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and Pomona-Pitzer during the two-day meet, held March 7 to March 8, while falling in a close match to the University of Hawaii 9–6.

In their first game on Friday, the Tritons trounced Division III Occidental 16–1. Against the Tigers, junior attacker Jolene Guiliana and freshman center Lauren Boyer both posted hat-tricks, while sophomore attackers Julia Kirkland and Laura Kistler netted two goals apiece. The Tigers remained scoreless through three quarters but were able to beat UCSD's second goalkeeper Alexsee Wilcox by netting their only score with four minutes to play.

Facing Claremont-Mudd-Scripps, the Tritons were featured in another high-scoring bout, winning 18–9. Guiliana had another big game, this time striking for a career-high five goals, while Lizotte and Boyer both picked up hat-tricks.

On Saturday, UCSD faced the

only other nationally ranked team at the meet, No. 13 University of Hawaii, who they had previously beat 10–9 in Irvine, on Feb. 22.

In its 9-6 win, University of Hawaii took an early 3-0 lead and closed out the first quarter with a 4-1 advantage. The Rainbow Wahine continued to lead 6-3 going into the last quarter and held on to their lead as both teams scored three goals apiece in the final frame.

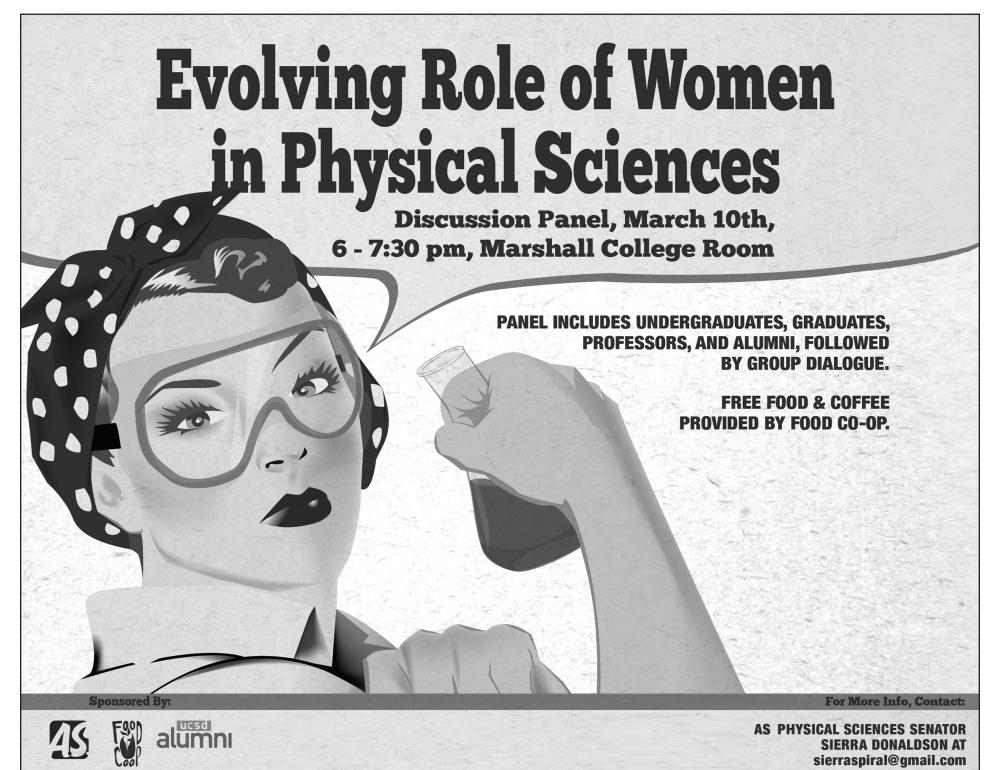
Sophomore two-meter Alexis Wieseler led the Tritons on offense against the Rainbow Warriors, scoring four of UCSD's six goals, while UCSD sophomore goalkeeper Courtney Miller picked up 13 saves.

The Tritons closed out the Invitational with a comfortable 11–6 win over Pomona-Pitzer, in which Wieseler, Kirkland, senior utility Sarah Lizotte and sophomore center Lauren Finwall all scored two goals apiece.

UCSD will now look forward to the San Diego State Aztec Invite.

The Tritons will face Princeton and Bucknell on March 15 and Harvard and Wagner College the following day.

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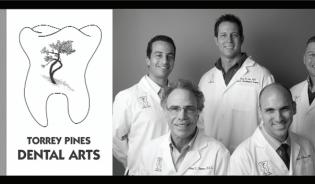
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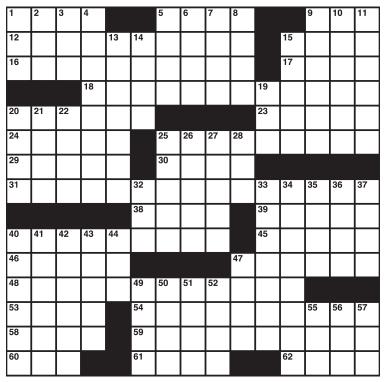
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ACROSS

- 1 Largest oceanic dolphin
- _ consummation devoutly to be wish'd": Hamlet
- 9 Hi-tech battler
- 12 Wood finishing tool 15 Brooklyn, say, briefly
- 16 Small program with a browser interface
- 17 Surrealist Tanguy
- 18 Long-distance messages? 20 Prepare for storage, as a carpet
- 23 Barry who played Lt. Gerard on TV's
- "The Fugitive
- 24 "Rumor has it ..."
- 25 1876 Twain hero
- 29 Health insurance giant 30 Incredulous dying words
- 31 It might involve a proxy fight
- 38 On
- 39 Memory principle
- 40 Ice cream flavor
- 45 Minor, legally 46 When Ovid's "Ars Amatoria" is believed to have been published
- 47 Notable show biz sisters
- 48 Home of the NBA's Thunder
- 53 Landing 54 Might achieve
- 58 Letter-bottom abbr.
- 59 78 half
- 60 "Silent Spring" subj.
- 61 River to the Seine
- 62 Singer born Eithne Patricia Ní
- Bhraonáin

DOWN

- 1 Part of a prepositional phr.
- 2 "The Crying Game" actor 3 XXXI x V

- 4 Obliquely 5 About 1/3 of Maine's I-95, e.g.
- 6 Hanging out, say
- 7 Spies
- 8 Drawing intro
- 9 Flaubert heroine 10 Words implying consequences
- 11 One pitching
- 13 Japanese warrior
- 14 For one 15 Yet
- 19 Early ABC show, for short
- 20 Sumptuous 21 First state admitted to the Union from
- the Northwest Territory 22 Longevity
- 25 Saw things? 26 Emperor who deposed Pope John XII
- 27 Mindanao peak: Abbr.
- 28 Czech composer Josef
- 32 Europe's ___ de Genève 33 Vicarious feeling
- 34 Singly
- 35 Nix
- 36 Qatar dignitary 37 Soaks, as flax
- 40 Exhausted
- 41 How many Colonial debts were paid 42 Choose
- 43 Slope contraptions
- 44 Bavarian beef?
- 47 Nub 49 "__ Be Back With You": Steve Forbert song 50 Half a fish
- 51 Just like that 52 Supervision
- 55 Woodsman's makeup
- 56 At least one 57 Hot spot?





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MON3.10

10am

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Join us for coffee and hear from the Intern Program Manager from the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, DC! Learn about internship opportunities in curatorial, museum management, public affairs, education, new media, music, and more! Followed by a brief Info Session on the UCDC Program. Don't miss this rare opportunity!

12:30pm

LIBERTY AND FEAR: A HISTORY OF EUROPE, 1000-12000 -**SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING, ROOM 107**

Constantin Fasolt's project develops a historically grounded diagnosis of our time. By bringing Wittgenstein's Philosophical Investigations to bear on what we already know about European history, he tries to show that circumstances coincided twice in the past millennium (ca. 1000, ca. 1500) to launch Europe on a new phase in its historical development, leading to new extremes of liberty and fear. The diagnosis at which Fasolt arrives is that today we face the same conjunction of old truths with rapid social change that drove Europe to extremes of liberty and fear before. The question is whether we will respond in the same way or restrain our "craving for totality" (Stanley Cavell). Sponsored by IICAS, the European Studies Program and the Department of History at UC San Diego. More info:http://iicas.ucsd.edu/lecture-series/ european-studies.html

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TUE3.11

10am

THE FITNESS ZONE: ADVENTURE TRAINING — THE ZONE, PRICE CENTER PLAZA

This class is like cross training with a twist. Featuring movements that will take you to new heights. Lead by FitLife instructor Cassey Marsh.

6pm

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WED3.12

WINTER WELLNESS @ THE WC: DE-STRESS FEST - WOMEN'S CENTER (ABOVE HI-THAI)

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4pm

THE MEXICAN AND U.S. ECONOMICS: TWENTY YEARS AFTER NAFTA AND SIX YEARS AFTER THE CRISIS — ELEANOR **ROOSEVELT COLLEGE ADMIN. BLDG, ROOM**

NAFTA never lived up to its hype: it did not make Mexico converge to the United States in per capita income, nor did it solve Mexico's employment problems or stem the flow of migration. NAFTA did foster greater regional integration, however, and helped transform Mexico into a major exporter of manufactured goods. The benefits for the rest of the Mexican economy were attenuated by heavy dependence of the export industries on imports of intermediate goods and weak "backward linkages." In both the United States and Mexico, real wages have stagnated while productivity has continued to increase, and more highly skilled workers have captured most of the gains from increased trade. Some "reshoring" of industries to North America has occurred since the crisis of 2008, but so far the gains in employment have been disappointing in both nations. The United States, Mexico, and Canada all need to refocus on policies that could enable North America to become a more integrated and competitive region while encouraging a more equitable and sustainable pattern of growth. More info: http://iicas.ucsd.edu/lecture-series /european-studies.html

5:30pm

BIG DATA AT WORK – ATKINSON HALL AUDITORIUM

Join faculty and industry leaders in this TED-style presentation as they discuss various activities surrounding big data, including the latest developments in research, services and education. A catered reception will immediately follow the presentations. Speakers include: Larry Smarr (Ph.D., Founding Director, CALIT2), Mike Norman (Ph.D. Director, San Diego Supercomputer Center), Stefan Savage (Ph.D., Professor, Computer Science & Engineering, UC San Diego), Michael Zeller (Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Zementis), and Natasha Balac (Ph.D., Director, Predictive Analytics Center of Excellence). The event will be filmed by UCSD-TV Early arrival is suggested to guarantee a seat in the auditorium. Please visit website to pre-register.

THU3.13

ARTS & CRAFTS — CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER ARTSPACE

The end of this quarter is nearing! We can all take a break and re-ground ourselves with some relaxing Arts & Crafts! So come to de-stress or take a break from work or school. Take home what you create, whether it is a picture frame, wooden box, canvas, etc. Feel free to stay the entire time! All supplies are provided! All are welcome. Questions? Contact Violeta Gonzalez. Contact: vigonzales@ucsd.edu

3:30pm

FEEL BETTER FAST – THE ZONE, PRICE CENTER

Come to a FREE workshop hosted by CAPS to learn how to cope and manage stress and anxiety. Learn relaxation and mindfulness techniques to support your well-being.

NIGHT OF PERFORMERS – PORTERS PUB (ORIGINAL STUDENT CENTER)

This is an event for UCSD students to express themselves through acting, whether performing a monologue or a scene. Take a break from the traditional ways of expression to come out and be the artists that we all are! Contact:

6pm

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FRI3.14

THE FITNESS ZONE: YOGA – THE ZONE, **PRICE CENTER PLAZA**

This class will move from one asana (pose) to the next. Each class is a unique sequence of asanas. Classes take on a life of their own with the culmination of collective energy, movement and breath. Led by FitLife Instructor Jennie Olson-Six

8pm

ANDRE NICKATINA FT. FAM BIZ – **PORTER'S PUB**

See hip hop artist Andre Nickatina perform at Porter's Pub. UCSD Students \$20; General Admission \$22. Purchase tickets at: http://www.showclix.com/event/AndreNickati na03142014. Contact: gerardo.soto@porterspub.com

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UPCOMING

PHOTOS USED WITH PERMISSION FROM UCSD ATHLETICS

MEN'S GOLF 3/10 AT SoCal Intercollegiate SWIM & DIVE **3/12** AT NCAA Championships WOMEN'S TENNIS 3/12 VS Western Mexico

MEN'S TENNIS 3/12 VS Western Mexico MEN'S VOLLEYBALL 3/13 VS Western Baptist

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Ousted in Ontario

UCSD blew a 21-point lead in the first-round game of the CCAA tournament to end its season.

> **BY BRANDON YU** ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

eturning to the annual California Collegiate Athletic Association tournament as last year's champions, the UCSD women's basketball team failed to reclaim the crown on Thursday, as fifth-seeded Cal State Los Angeles barely edged out the fourth-seeded Tritons 60-59 in the first round of postseason play. The loss ultimately served as the Tritons' final game of the season, as they learned on Sunday evening that UCSD did not qualify for the NCAA's selected field of teams competing for the national championship.
On Thursday, UCSD kicked off its playoffs with a domi-

nant first half against Cal State Los Angeles. The early portion of the first period was a contested affair, as the Tritons and Golden Eagles continuously traded baskets. However, UCSD pulled away, building a substantial lead that at one point reached 21 points over Los Angeles. At the end of the first half, the Tritons were up 41–23.

"It was kind of like a tale of two halves," UCSD head coach Heidi VanDerveer said. "In the first half, I thought we were aggressive offensively and very sharp defensively."

In the first half, the Tritons were stellar, making a whopping 60 percent (15-25) of their shots from the field. Perhaps more impressively, UCSD was also 64 percent (7-11) from the three-point territory.

To provide perspective, the 41 points the Tritons recorded in the first half counted as the largest point total for any first half throughout their entire season. The second highest total was 40 points scored also against the Golden Eagles on Jan. 25.

'Everything was going our way," junior guard Miranda Seto said. "We were making everything [and] playing great defense. The most important thing was that we were playing great defense. [We were] boxing out, getting rebounds, limiting them to one shot. It was just all going our way in the first half, and then in the second half it just went downhill."

The dominant performance UCSD put on in the first frame made the remaining 20 minutes only more unbearable as the Tritons played as a different team in what was a

Out of 25 shots put up from the field in the second half, the Tritons sunk only four. They finished with 16 percent shooting from the field, while allowing Cal State Los Angeles to make 50 percent (12-24) of its shots.

While the Tritons' second half struggles were apparent in the shooting game, VanDerveer noted the defensive holes as a crucial factor in the loss.

We got very similar shots in the second half, but quite honestly I think we didn't get stops defensively," VanDerveer said. "Some of the shots we took created long rebounds, [and] they got out in transition. They got a little aggressive,

and we were a little passive."

In spite of the struggling second half play, the Tritons still maintained the lead for much of the period. Not until the home stretch, when clutch play mattered the most, did UCSD fall short. In the final seven minutes, the Tritons failed to score a single point, while Cal State Los Angeles scored 12 points to just barely punch its ticket to the semifinals.

Ultimately, it was the charity stripe that brought about the Tritons' demise. In their final two possessions, the Golden Eagles were sent to the free-throw line twice. With 44 seconds remaining, Los Angeles's junior guard Tina Fantroy made one of her two free-throw shots to tie the game at 59. Then, with just under ten seconds left, senior guard Alisha Belt sank another free-throw to give the Golden Eagles their first advantage since the 12:31 mark of the first half.

In the ensuing final possession of the game, Triton senior forward Erin Dautremont drove to the right side, putting up a failed layup and what may have been her final collegiate shot as the buzzer sounded.

"On the last play, they pressed us full court," Dautremont told the Guardian. "I got the ball at mid-court as time was winding down and had an opportunity to win the game but missed my layup. I was in disbelief and shock at the end of the game."

Seto and junior center Dana Webster led the Tritons in scoring with 14 points apiece. Seto also added seven rebounds and four assists in the losing effort. Dautremont finished with seven points and a game-high ten rebounds.

"I think we had a very good season," VanDerveer said. "Coming off last year's conference tournament and NCAA run, we had some holes to fill [after] losing Daisy [Feder] and Emily [Osga]. I think Megan Perry had an excellent year. Miranda [Seto] obviously has established herself as one

On a more positive note, UCSD garnered two All-CCAA accolades in Seto and Dautremont for their impressive play this season. Seto qualified for First Team All-CCAA, while Dautremont made Second Team.

UCSD concludes its season with a 16-11 overall record and will look to replace five graduating seniors, including Dautremont and starting guard Stephanie Yano, for the next

READERS CAN CONTACT



AII-CCAA Selections



#4 Miranda Seto First-Team



#34 Erin Dautremont Second-Team

#3 CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

#5 CAL STATE LOS ANGELES

#5 CAL STATE LOS ANGELES

#4 UC SAN DIEGO

#1 CAL POLY POMONA

#1 CAL POLY POMONA

#2 CHICO STATE

#6 CAL STATE EAST BAY

#3 CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

#3 CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

#3 CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Finding Myself in the Final **Q**uarter

PLAY IT AS IT LAYS



man I used to work with at the now-defunct, Escondido-based North County Times once said that you couldn't be a sportswriter and be "in shape." Keep in mind this was the same man I saw eat three McRibs over a five-hour shift, but give or take a few pounds, he was more or less right. Like most sportswriters, I began writing because I loved the game, but I wasn't good enough to keep play-

After redshirting on the soccer team my freshman year, I took over as sports editor in the Fall Quarter 2012. Coincidentally, the Fall Quarter 2012 was when the Guardian — in an effort to cut into the paper's debt — stopped paying its staff writers.

Not so coincidentally, what was left of the staff I inherited jumped ship (all but my former Guardian Associate Sports Editor and twotime NCAA national champion in the javein Nick Howe).

How, you may ask, can two people cover UCSD's 23 NCAA teams?

Poorly, most of the time. Covering four or five games a week while holding down a second job and going to school full-time is no

And to this day, when I Google myself, an oddly aggressive twitter critique of an article I wrote almost two years ago to the day in which I was criticized for ignorance is still on the second page of results. To this day, I involuntarily shut my eyes and rub my temples when I think back on the time we misspelled "Tritons" in a headline.

But there were some small vic-

I had the great pleasure of covering the UCSD softball and women's soccer teams' Final Four seasons, I was front-row when the women's basketball team won 26 straight games and I won a California Collegiate Media Association award for a column that was not so surprisingly criticized by UCSD's Associate Athletics Director.

But most importantly, after treading water for the good part of two years, I've finally assembled a staff of nine or so committed writer and will be passing on the torch to one Brandon Yu.

And to Brandon, I say, it's a thankless job. Expect long nights in the office waiting for the NCAA Regional selections to be announced. Expect to misspell Johl Awerkamp at least once. Expect phone calls in the middle of the day criticizing your choice of volleyball photographs and long, drawn out passive-aggressive email correspondence with the Athletics staff to get media access.

But also expect to fall in love with this school, these athletes, the coaches and the storylines.

It's in this way that we're not so unlike the athletes we editorialize.

They lift and run and sweat, we spend 20 hours a week digging through archives of statistics, but both for that "one shining moment."

Whether it's watching our goalkeeper make a miraculous penalty kick save from the pitch or from the bleachers, in t he end, it has all been