

2016 OSCAR NOMINATIONS



LEO SURVIVED THE WILD; WILL HE SURVIVE THE OSCARS? THE GUARDIAN A&E STAFF PICKS AND PREDICTS WHO WILL TAKE HOME THE COVETED GOLDEN STATUETTES AT THIS YEAR'S ACADEMY AWARDS.

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VERBATIM

“MORE EDUCATION IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES — WHICH ENCOURAGES CRITICAL THINKING AND QUESTIONING OF KNOWLEDGE AND AUTHORITY — COULD IMMUNIZE ENGINEERS AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISM.

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CAMPUS



Student volunteers from the on-campus bookstore Groundwork Books participated in this week's Thrifty Tuesday. Photo by Duyen Nguyen /UCSD Guardian

UCSD

Students Sell Used Items at Thrifty Tuesday

The quarterly event held on Library Walk was hosted by the A.S. Office of Environmental Justice Affairs.

BY MARIA SEBAS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Student vendors lined Library Walk to sell used and artisan items on Tuesday as part of the A.S. Office of Environmental Justice's quarterly Thrifty Thursday event.

A.S. V.P. of Environmental Justice Affairs Moon Pankam told the UCSD Guardian that her office promotes the event to encourage the culture of sustainability on campus.

"The goal of Thrifty Thursday is really to get students to be aware of the effects that their purchases have on not only the environment but also the people who produce these items," Pankam said.

Pankam told the Guardian that the event is also aimed at creating more awareness of the impacts of fast fashion.

"Fast fashion is one of those industries that produces a lot of waste in addition to numerous human-rights violations that happen within those facilities and factories," Pankam said.

Pankam also noted that while the event is titled Thrifty Thursday, it's not always held on a Thursday due to logistical issues.

Many of the student vendors sold handcrafted items, including small bags and accessories. Warren College senior Noble Dwarika, who makes his pieces out of used fabrics, told the Guardian that buying handmade clothing and accessories is a good way to support small businesses and facilitate the recycling of material.

"All of the materials that I get are recycled, so it's very eco-friendly," Dwarika said. "I recycle my old clothes, my friends' clothes and items from the thrift store."

In addition to clothes and accessories, students from Groundwork Books and Books for Prisoners offered used books for purchase.

Marshall College junior Aditi Guatam, who volunteers at Groundwork Books, told the Guardian that the bookstore gives UCSD students the opportunity to purchase books from a student-run, nonprofit source and provides them with a selection of books that they will not find anywhere else on campus.

"The reason that we work hard to keep the store open is to give students access to these books," Guatam said. "We have books on feminist theory, anarchism and Marxism."

Muir Senior Fabiola Orozco, another volunteer at Groundwork

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UC SYSTEM

Union Negotiates Raise for University Lecturers

BY MING-RAY LIAO STAFF WRITER

The University Council of the American Federation of Teachers and the UC campuses reached a tentative agreement on Feb. 6 that, once ratified, will provide annual salary increases, among other benefits, to more than 3,000 UC lecturers.

The four-year agreement includes a 6.2 percent increase in salary over the next six months and 2.5 percent increases in July of 2017 and 2018, while providing new protections for lecturers during their first six years and faculty who are teaching online courses. The arrangement also introduces improved retirement benefits for those who work less than 50 percent of the time, a new mentoring process and clearer guidelines for getting and keeping their appointments.

UC-AFT Chief Negotiator Benjamin Harder

told the UCSD Guardian that UC-AFT and the UC campuses, after bargaining for nearly a year, were able to acquire additional pensions for those restricted from social security.

"We have been bargaining since March of 2015 and hoped to ensure that all lecturers at [the University of California] would participate in retirement programs that include money from the employer," Harder said. "As it is, lecturers who work less than half-time are not even eligible to have their wages count for social security and we were able to settle for special payments to some lecturers who are barred from social security."

It is only after a lecturer's sixth year of appointment that they receive an excellence review to determine continued employment. However, the L.A. Times reported that UCLA and UCSD have a higher

See **LECTURERS**, page 3

SAN DIEGO

Academic Senate Rejects Retirement Proposal

Critics of the plan cited a lack of faculty input during the university's drafting process.

BY REBECCA CHONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of California's Academic Senate sent a letter to UC President Janet Napolitano rejecting her proposal to restructure retirement benefits last Friday. The proposal aims to generate savings while also maintaining current compensation levels; opponents are concerned with how the plan could reduce the university's ability to attract and retain quality faculty and staff.

There are two issues in contention. First is the adoption of the the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act cap, which would cap faculty salaries at a maximum of \$117,000. According to the letter, the cap was adopted with little input from those it would affect most.

"[T]he adoption of the PERPA cap is a fait accompli, leaving [the divisions and committees of the Retirement Options Task Force] with no option but to analyze the options in the context of which might be least harmful to the University," according to the letter addressed to Napolitano.

The second is the creation of a separate retirement tier for all university employees hired on or after July 1, 2016.

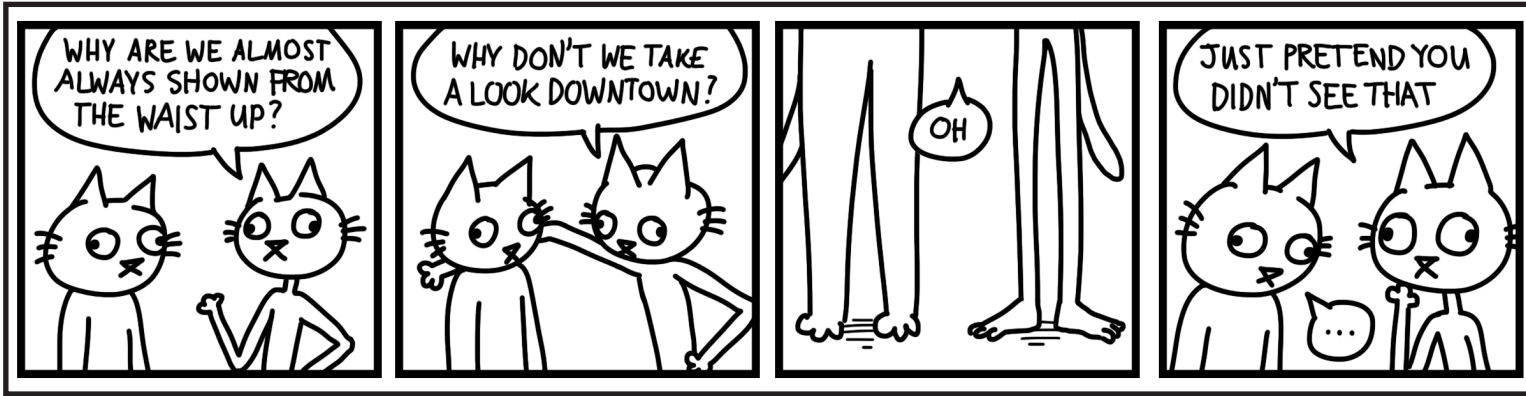
Professor Emeritus Henry Powell, current President of the UCSD Emeriti Association and the Emeriti Association's representative to the Academic Senate, explained how the difference between the existing two tiers and the newest proposed tier of the UC Retirement Plan benefits has caused concern over how it will affect faculty and the future of the university itself.

"The problem that my colleagues and I foresee is that with a weaker, less valuable retirement plan, [the University of California] will find it harder to hold onto valuable faculty who get offers from other institutions," Powell told the UCSD Guardian. "There is a morale problem when you establish different levels of benefits. New people have to work just as hard as the more senior people with better benefits."

The restructuring of the retirement plan is driven by three goals: to preserve faculty compensation, to continue to pay off the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability to keep the pension system thriving and to generate savings. According to the Retirement Options Task Force, meeting all

See **RETIREMENT**, page 2

AVERAGE CAT By Christina Carlson



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Scientists Develop Algorithm to Better Detect Pedestrians

The research is aimed at improving both the speed and accuracy of recognition software for self-driving vehicles.

BY PROMITANANDY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After almost a decade of work, researchers at UCSD created an algorithm that can detect pedestrians in near real-time. The algorithm is able to capture images at a rate of about two to four frames per second and achieves a higher level of accuracy than any existing algorithms.

UCSD professor and lead researcher Nuno Vasconcelos told the UCSD Guardian that his goal is to create an algorithm that allows computers to process scenes as well as humans.

"Currently, the solution only applies to the detection of a single class of objects, like pedestrians," Vasconcelos said. "We are working on extensions that will detect multiple

object-classes (say pedestrians and vehicles) simultaneously."

According to a Feb. 8 press release, the algorithm achieves its speed and accuracy by breaking up the object detection process into several stages, where each stage simplifies the image. The first few steps remove parts of the image that obviously do not contain people, such as the sky. In each subsequent step, the computer studies the remaining picture more closely and removes some of the objects that do may resemble people, but are not pedestrians, such as trees, until only pedestrians remain. This method of object detection is called cascade classification.

Vasconcelos and his colleagues created many versions of the cascaded classifiers algorithm before reaching the current design, which is faster and

more accurate than its predecessors.

"The research on cascaded classifiers started around 2008 [when] deep learning was not around, but the project allowed us to learn to design these cascaded classifiers," Vasconcelos explained. "The main difficulty [is finding] the optimal cascade configuration, which we addressed by designing this new cascade learning algorithm [using deep learning]."

The speed and accuracy of the new algorithm makes it great for use in cars to identify pedestrians and other objects. Zhaowei Cai, a Ph.D student who has been working with Vasconcelos on this project since 2014, explained that while the algorithm is not ideal for self-driving cars, it can still be used to assist drivers with parking and braking.

"We work with some companies

[that] want to build the detector into cars, maybe just to assist the driving, not just for self-driving," Cai told the Guardian. "It can help to detect people or objects nearby."

Although the research is currently being used in cars, Vasconcelos added that the technology can also be applied to other areas, such as medicine and retail.

"Object detection and recognition are central problems in computer vision," Vasconcelos explained. "The technology could, for example, be used to detect tumors or lesions in medical images, products in product catalogues, or most other applications that involve image or video understanding."

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UCOP Will Consider Suggestions for Improving Plan Before Submitting to UC Regents

► RETIREMENT, from page 1

three of these requirements with the same plan is impossible.

"Only the second goal likely will be achieved ... The other two goals are clearly inconsistent; the first cannot be met through the recommendations in the report, and the third is possible only if we understand savings to be logically equivalent to benefits cuts," the ROTF reported in the letter. "There

are no inefficiencies to be exploited in the current plan that would create savings."

UC Office of the President Media Specialist Rebecca Trounson elaborated on how the plan will take into account the previous year's budget agreement to maintain a balanced budget for the UC pension system.

"As part of [last year's budget] agreement [with state leaders], the university agreed that the amount

of income that would be used to calculate the pension benefits of future employees would be the same as it is for state workers," Trounson said. "The new retirement options will help ensure the continued financial health of [University of California]'s pension and the university's ability to provide retirement benefits for future employees."

Trounson reiterated that suggestions for improving and

changing the plan will be taken into account up until Napolitano submits the final document to the UC Board of Regents in March. Trounson also emphasized the importance of keeping the UC system's standards high by maintaining competitive rates of compensation for faculty and staff as a key priority.

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Pankam Invites All Student Organizations to Participate in the Event

► **THRIFTY**, from page 1

Books, added that the store is also a place where students can meet to discuss these issues.

"Our unofficial motto for Groundwork is 'Educate, Agitate, Organize,'" Orozco said. "Our purpose is not just to provide books and literature to people but it's also to discuss the issues that we're facing today in society and organize to do something about it."

Both Guatam and Orozco have put this motto into action by getting involved in Books For Prisoners,

a nonprofit that sends books to prisoners who request them.

"This program can only run through a bookstore so it runs through Groundwork," Guatam explained. "We are on Library [Walk] this entire week trying to get people to donate books so we can use them to send to prisoners."

UCSD forced Books for Prisoners out of its office space two years ago, after which the group could no longer operate and took students until last quarter to revive the initiative.

Regarding the presence of

Groundwork Books and Books for Prisoners at Thrifty Tuesday, Pankam expressed support for the participation of additional student organizations.

"To have it be an event where we just sell clothing and handcrafted pieces would take away from the spirit of the A.S. EJA office, which is to advocate social issues and how they relate issues of environmental stewardship and sustainability," Pankam said.

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Labor Group to Investigate UCSD's High Faculty Turnover Rate

► **LECTURERS**, from page 1

turnover of lecturers compared to the other campuses. President of the UC-AFT Robert Samuels thinks that this is because the campuses do not want to hire lecturers for an extended period of time.

"UCSD has employed many lecturers, but very few get to their sixth year where they gain job security," Samuels told the Guardian. "We believe UCSD does not want to give many lecturers continuing appointments so they only keep them for a few years. Some departments also do not want to spend the time reviewing lecturers, so they never review them."

Harder postulates that the higher turnover may be because hiring untenured lecturers is more economical and that both UC-AFT and UCOP are investigating this issue.

"Some administrators may prefer to appoint less experienced short-time teachers, who have little connection to

the campus, because such instructors are less expensive," Harder said. "We aren't sure what is going on, but along with the campus and [UCOP], we are forming a working group to take a look at UCSD's hiring practices."

Along with the investigative group, the contract included a clause requiring a mentoring meeting for lecturers during their third year of appointment that determines a lecturer's competence. UC-AFT San Diego President Stephen Potts believes that this would force the university to assess a faculty member's skill prior to dismissing them.

"People have been getting up to the fourth and fifth year and suddenly told they're not going to be rehired with no reasons given," Potts said. "The mentoring is something that was actually a compromise, put there in place of a third-year review, and it forces the department to have some sort of record of the lecturers' abilities before they get to that fourth or fifth year where many of them are let go."

Potts explained that the contract will be beneficial for both the university and the lecturers.

"There are advantages for both sides in having a labor contract," Potts said. "From the university's standpoint, it's good to have labor peace and a dependable workforce, and the lecturers get some sort of stability."

Potts added that the contract will not be debated upon until the agreement expires and that the UC-AFT will continue supporting the workers that they represent.

"In the end, the UC-AFT didn't get everything it wanted and I'm sure the university was forced to accept things they would rather not have accepted," Potts said. "Fortunately for both sides, the contract isn't going to be negotiated again in another three or four years, which is generally when bargaining takes place."

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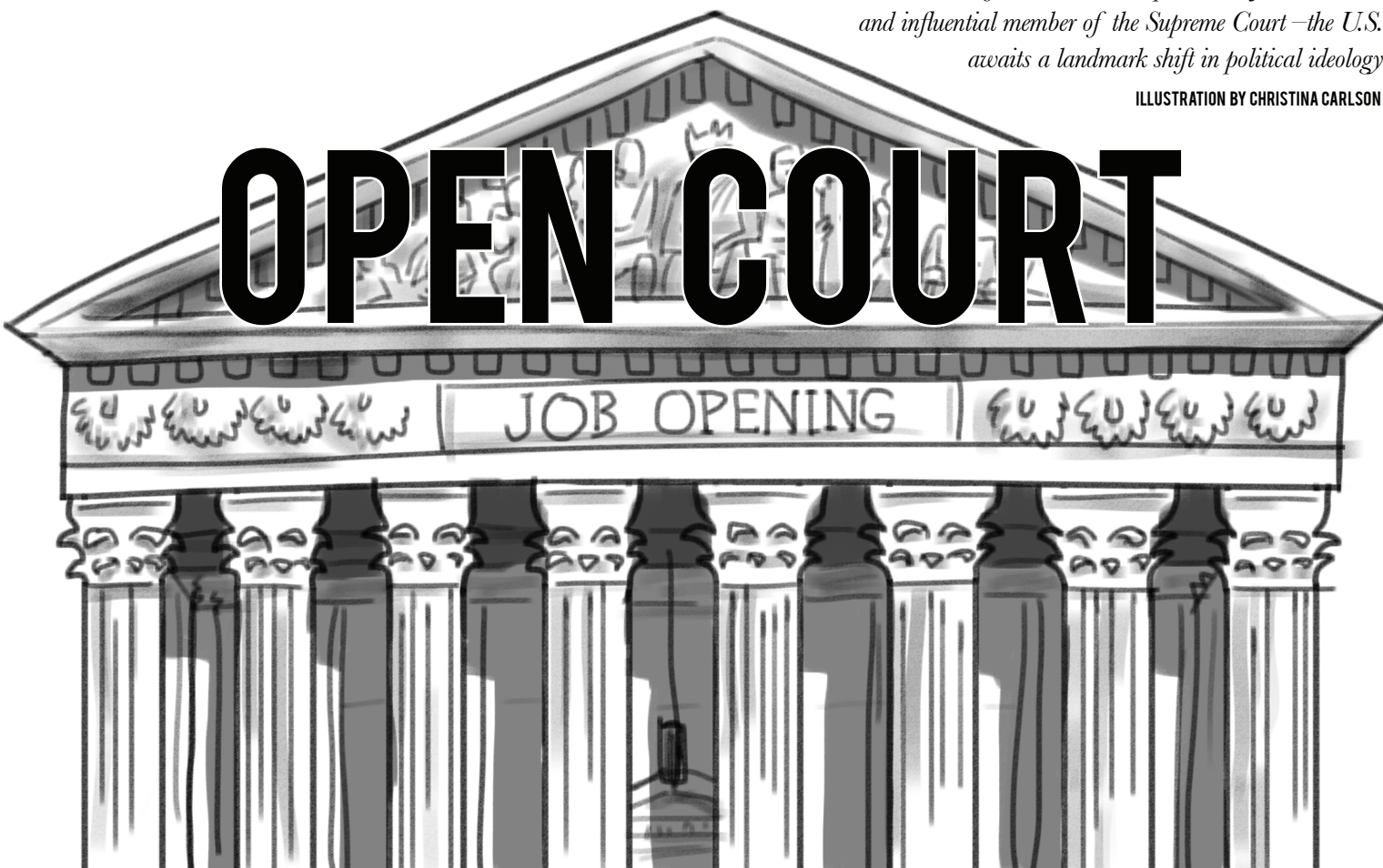
OPINION

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With the death of Scalia — an unquestionably conservative and influential member of the Supreme Court — the U.S. awaits a landmark shift in political ideology

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTINA CARLSON

OPEN COURT



Postponing the nomination of the Supreme Court's ninth member is not the first time Republicans have attempted to make President Obama jump through unnecessary hoops. But the death of Justice Antonin Scalia has the potential to usher in a new era of the Supreme Court and of U.S. politics — a more liberal one, as opposed to the conservative-leaning balance the Supreme Court has had for over a decade. With the high volume of timely cases to be heard in the Court's next two terms, it's important and necessary for the sake of progress for Obama to appoint and confirm the ninth justice.

The Republicans' claims that confirming a member of the Supreme Court has never happened in an election year are simply wrong. According to the New York Times, Anthony Kennedy was confirmed by a Democratic Senate in 1988, an election year. Moreover, these claims are irrelevant. Nowhere is it mentioned in the Constitution that such an appointment cannot happen during this period, and in no way is it reasonable to prevent the Supreme Court from fully functioning given the number of qualified justices being

considered for appointment.

With Scalia's vacancy, the only decisions the Court can make are to plan a rehearing or to uphold the decision of a lower court. This will have a significant impact in cases such as *Whole Woman's Health v. Cole*, which Politico deems the "most important abortion case since 1992" and which will be heard by the Supreme Court within the next term. The last ruling on this issue gave states the right to legally restrict abortion that did not cause "undue burden" on access to procedures. With the expected 4-4 split in this decision, the result of next month's ruling could mean abortions clinics shutting down throughout Texas. Of course, with Scalia on the court — and especially given his previous rulings on abortion cases — this may have already been the decision, but the case must be given a Supreme Court ruling. One vote in favor of overturning such restrictions would mean safer and more accessible abortions. With moves to defund Planned Parenthood alongside the fact that, as reported by World Health Organization, abortion rates in countries in which

See **SCALIA**, page 5

Engineering with a Conscience

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A background in engineering seems to be the rule rather than the exception for violent radicals. In *Engineers of Jihad*, Diego Gambetta and Steffan Hertog reported that engineers are overrepresented among U.S. white supremacists and violent Islamists — nearly a quarter possess engineering degrees. The researchers attributed this finding to the tendency of engineers to believe in only one way of knowing about the world — the scientific method — causing them to be unquestioning of doctrine and authority.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Mohamed Atta hijacked American Airlines flight 11 and crashed into the World Trade Center, killing more than 1,300 people. The attack — part of a larger effort that claimed nearly 3,000 lives — was orchestrated by Osama Bin Laden, founder of the militant Islamist organization al-Qaeda. Bin Laden and Atta — two of the most infamous terrorists in U.S. history — were engineers by training.

This demonstrates an uncritical acceptance of authority and reliance on science through engineering's symbiotic relationship with militarism. The word "engineer" originally meant a constructor of war-engines. The Cold War spawned the ubiquitous engineering science curriculum espoused in the Grinter Report by the American Society of Engineering Education. And most engineering schools, including UCSD, maintain close ties to the defense industry where defense contractor executives sit on the Corporate Affiliates Program board.

Militarism demands strict adherence to hierarchical power structures, which may explain why many engineers hold the untenable belief that they are constrained by organizational culture. Exhibiting a lack of perceived accountability for the social ramifications of their actions, these engineers echo those who made the Holocaust possible, as described in Hannah Arendt's *Eichmann in Jerusalem* — ordinary citizens complicit in atrocities simply because they were "doing their job." I know many engineers who have no concern for how their inventions are used and no qualms about designing weapons.

However, engineers who design weapons bear some culpability for the violent acts committed with said weapons. In *Materializing Morality*, Peter-Paul Verbeek ascribes moral responsibility for the actions of technology users to engineers because technology shapes human behavior. This is supported by psychology research, like a 1967 study by Leonard Berkowitz showing that the mere presence of weapons elicits aggression. By creating weapons, engineers enhance not only one's physical capability to commit violence but also one's desire to do so.

How might engineering-related violence be combated? In *Immunising the Mind*, Martin Rose suggests that more education in the humanities and social sciences — which encourages critical thinking and questioning of knowledge and authority — could immunize engineers against violent extremism. To mitigate potentially violent consequences of technology, engineers could perform a moral assessment of its predicted future mediating role, but they must first fully commit to pursuing peace through design.

To refashion a lyric from the band Thrice, "The abolition of man is within the reach of engineering, but are we so far gone that we'll try it?"

San Diego's Local Beer Culture Must be Salvaged from Corporate Overhaul

For residents of a major American beer city, it's as distressing to think of San Diego without authentic craft beer as it is for a Frenchman to imagine a Champagne province without its world-famous sparkling white wine. But the threat is real, as breweries across Southern California have been selling out to "Big Beer" corporations that are guided by the principle "devour and conquer." The corporate takeover will not only change the way craft beer is produced, but will also endanger the socially responsible, competitive environment shared by small city breweries, capitalizing on what has been known as a symbol of modern San Diego. In addition, turning San Diego beer-makers into a part of the corporate machine will negatively reflect on our city's communities that are supported by local breweries through charities. That is why local breweries and beer lovers should unite — not merge — to oppose multinational companies thirsty for liquid gold.

Being on the cutting edge of the American avant-garde beer movement that started in 1980s, San Diego became a major producer of this hoppy beverage and established itself as the craft beer capital of America. Small, yet self-sufficient, craft breweries have been sprouting in San Diego like mushrooms after a summer rain. After getting wind of the popularity of local crafts, "Big

Beer" companies that, according to BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates, control 47 percent of global volumes (2014) have set the goal to buy craft-producing competitors. When the most popular San Diego brewery, Ballast Point, was sold for \$1 billion to Constellation Brands — an alcoholic drinks conglomerate that owns Corona, Modelo Especial and Negra Modelo — other brewery owners expressed their concern with potential craft sell-out. For instance, Greg Koch, the CEO and co-founder of Stone Brewing wrote an article for *The San Diego Union-Tribune* stating that the ninth largest craft brewery in the United States is not for sale.

By buying local breweries, corporations inevitably endanger craft culture. According to the definition of Brewers Association, craft breweries have to be small, independent and traditional, which guarantees that producers pay special attention to the quality of their brews. Despite the fact that corporations claim to maintain acquired brands' business operations, it is simply impossible for ex-craft breweries to preserve their original values and practices while catering to a larger consumer audience. Increases in production and corporate control forces breweries to not only change the way the beer is produced, but also to reconsider corporate culture and marketing strategies that affect employees and consumers of San

Diego. By including once-craft into mainstream corporate segment, "Big Beer" deprives independent local craft producers of competitive advantage.

San Diego craft breweries play an important role in the community, which might be overseen by "Big Beer" companies that are unaware of local initiatives. Beer brewing companies such as Stone Brewing and Green Flash are known for being socially responsible and contributing to various local non-profit organizations, including Boys & Girls Club of San Marcos, Fight ALD! and The Surfrider Foundation. If these breweries sell out, there is no guarantee that such fundraising activities will be maintained. Handing over San Diego breweries to corporate giants can have a negative effect on the local community as a whole.

For San Diego, breweries are not just companies — they are makers of a product that all San Diegans take pride in and see as a symbol of their city. Visiting breweries is a major tradition among locals and tourists, while beer tasting is seen as truly ceremonial. Therefore, by taking "local" out of San Diego breweries, big corporations are stealing from the region a culture that has been developing since the opening of the first brewery in the region in 1896. Our goal is to create an incentive for authentic breweries to stay local. Support your local brewer!

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Scalia's Vacancy Allows for Potential Liberal Shift on Supreme Court

► **SCALIA** from page 4

abortion is outlawed are the same as those in countries where it is legal and safer, this is significant.

Without a ninth member, it's almost guaranteed that these restrictions on women's reproductive rights will be upheld. But with an extremely qualified candidate like Sri Srinivasan or Loretta Lynch — a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit or the U.S. Attorney General, respectively — this could be a landmark decision in which the legality of these restrictions are finally overturned.

Similarly, the Supreme Court cannot make any decisions on the

basis of original jurisdiction, which is usually used to solve state-to-state disputes, as it requires nine judges and cannot result in a tie. This has the potential to deadlock extremely important issues.

Obama has the opportunity now to end the 5-4 conservative lean in the Supreme Court by appointing a liberal, and potentially securing decades of progress. He has already been shifting the High Court liberally by appointing Kagan and Sotomayor in 2009 and 2010 — reported by the Washington Times — both of whom provide important female voices within a historically male court.

There are qualified people to choose for the position. The


New York Times reported that, eighty-five days after being named by Reagan in 1986, Scalia was unanimously confirmed by people of both parties in the Senate because of his qualifications; those nominated by Obama with high qualifications are fully prepared to be integral members on the Supreme Court.

The appointment is indeed a matter of now versus later, but in this political climate, a year of judicial stagnation could halt progress, if not prevent it, in areas of reproductive rights, rights to unionize and healthcare. One thing is for sure: A vacant seat cannot stay vacant, and we must not waste time.

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"PAUL DALIO'S SCRIPT AND DIRECTION, AND THE MARVELOUSLY EVOCATIVE SCORE HE COMPOSED FOR THE FILM AS WELL, ARE ALL OF A CALIBER THAT EASILY TAKES US FAR BEYOND MOVIE-OF-THE-WEEK TERRITORY. GO SEE FOR YOURSELF."

-Ben Dickinson, ELLE

"KATIE HOLMES GIVES A POWERFUL PERFORMANCE IN A FILM THAT'S AN EXAMINATION OF WHAT REALLY SPURS CREATIVITY."

-Carly Metz, Nylon

"FEROCIOUS AND FULL OF LIFE"

-Fred Topel, Crave Online

"SENSITIVELY DETAILED AND EMOTIONALLY COMPELLING"

-Joe Leydon, Variety

★★★★ A MASTERFUL DRAMA WITH AN IMPACT UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE"

-Jeff Nelson, DVD Talk

★★★★

-Mark Saldana, True View Reviews

★★★★

-Marlon Wallace, WBQC TV 16

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BEST PICTURE:

MAD MAX: FURY ROAD

Nobody expected it. But in a culture ever too eager to revive the dead, it shouldn't come as a surprise. Yet another pulp franchise has been wrestled back from decades past to once again grace the big screen — for better or worse. But of those shambling nostalgia-zombies, none have been as expertly re-realized as “Mad Max: Fury Road.” The premise is stupidly simple: a there-and-back-again tale of a post-apocalyptic loner who helps rescue a gang of princesses from a zealous warlord, during which the viewer is treated to every car chase scenario the mind can muster. While other reboots are content to languish in past glories, “Fury Road” provides a swift kick to the stomach. With nary a full paragraph of continuous dialogue uttered, it's cinema in its purest form, it's carnal, it's surprisingly progressive — it's the evolution of Director Frank Miller's delirious vision from almost forty years earlier. Just go and watch it.

Will Win: “The Revenant”

— JOSH LEFLER Contributing Writer

BEST ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE:

LEONARDO DICAPRIO IN “THE REVENANT”

The running joke that Leo has never won an Oscar has grown rather tiresome and needs to be laid to rest. Thankfully this year he probably will, and should, win best actor, at least by Oscar standards. After all, he's paid his dues, suffered enough and sacrificed himself for the part of Hugh Glass, the fur trader and explorer who lived through a bear mauling and frigid conditions to return from the brink of the grave. Such a compelling tale calls for major personal investment on the part of the actor, and DiCaprio obliged by willingly relinquishing almost all human dignities. But perhaps the most troubling aspect about the role is that despite it being an impressive feat, it lacks underlying emotion. At times, the revenant is little more than a hollow ghost of a man surviving through the unthinkable. It asks the question: How do we truly measure superb acting? For the record, it's nothing against Leo. He certainly deserves this one, but it should not simply be because he slept inside an animal carcass, eating raw bison for good measure. Otherwise, if it's not already, the Oscar becomes little more than an empty gesture on the political battlefield known as Hollywood.

Will Win: Leonardo DiCaprio in “The Revenant”

— TYNAN YANAGA Senior Staff Writer

BEST ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE:

BRIE LARSON IN “ROOM”

In preparation for her previous dramatic role in “Short Term 12,” Brie Larson was granted a meager two weeks to throw things together. In contrast, for “Room” she was allowed six months of research and personal investment. The difference, surprisingly, is not in her visual performance, although she does shed all makeup and give herself up to a generally raw, stripped-down quality. It is, however, the unspoken nuances that are far more elucidating of her success. The minutiae, from writing diary entries as her character, picking the brain of trauma specialists and building rapport with her onscreen son over Legos, are all key components of her role. The allure is that none of this is overtly obvious, but it comes out organically in the character of Ma, giving her a depth that is extremely easy to overlook. However, it is precisely these accents that help add definition to this broken woman. Behind each person is an identity that cannot be contained in a single space. It spills over from an entire lifetime of memories and experiences.

Will Win: Brie Larson in “Room”

— TYNAN YANAGA Senior Staff Writer

BEST ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE:

MARK RUFFALO IN “SPOTLIGHT”

In “Spotlight,” Mark Ruffalo leads a talented cast of actors through the streets of traditional Boston in 2002 in search of proof to take down the clergy on charges of rape. In a movie that deals with the very sensible topic of child rape in the Catholic Church, and is based on a true story, Ruffalo's intensity and passion captures the journalist's dilemma between letting emotions overwhelm him and presenting the facts in a sensible matter. His performance, overall, brings light to the profession of journalism and journalists' responsibility to expose the truth with integrity and courage. Ruffalo also revealed that his dedication to the role led him to shadow the journalist Mike Rezendes from the Boston Globe in order to better his acting and as he explained, “to get that story right, otherwise it's just going to be picked apart like a hunk of bread in a coy pond. It's just going to be eaten alive.”

Will Win: Sylvester Stallone in “Creed”

— MARCUSTHULLIER Contributing Writer

BEST ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE:

ALICIA VIKANDER IN “THE DANISH GIRL”

Edie Redmayne's role as Lili Elbe in “The Danish Girl” is formulaic Oscar fodder: A man is consumed by a life-altering self-realization and bravely pursues it amid emotional and physical turmoil. Yet the story of Lili Elbe's transformation is equally one about his wife: Alicia Vikander takes on the emotional role of Gerda Wegender but does not stick to the same formula. Yes, she skillfully presents Wegender as a woman of overwhelming strength and understanding, and, yes, she captures emotional moments with an ideal balance of vigor and tenderness. But she goes beyond checking off the list of traits expected of a supporting actress starring in the biopic of an onscreen husband. Vikander dashes brilliant feminist commentary — casting a powerful female gaze on male portrait subjects — into scenes layered with complex sentiments. Vikander masters reluctant, unconditional acceptance and unwavering loyalty, making it all too clear that Elbe's journey was not one taken alone.

Will Win: Alicia Vikander in “The Danish Girl”

— KARLY NISSON A&E Editor

UCSD GUARDIAN NOMINATIONS



1. Best Picture, (Photo Courtesy of Jasin Boland) 2. Best Actor in a Leading Role (Photo Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox), 3. Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Photo Courtesy of Sensacine), 4. Best Actress in a Supporting Role (Photo Courtesy of Collider), 5. Best Actress in a Leading Role (Photo Courtesy of AceShowBiz)

FILM REVIEW

PHOTO COURTESY OF ACESHOWBIZ



THE WITCH

Directed by Robert Eggers
 Starring Anna Taylor-Joy, Ralph Ineson
 Rated R
 Release Date Feb. 19 ★★★★★

An instantaneous horror classic, “The Witch” exposes the fragility of people’s psyche under pressure.

“The Witch” reaches into a deeper form of fear by attacking the building block of stability: family. The film takes no time to raise the stakes, and that willingness to play with structure is a creative risk that pays off in dividends. Ten minutes into the film, the hunt starts when baby Samuel disappears under the care of eldest sister Thomasin (Anya Taylor-Joy). There’s a constant worry for those out of sight. Suspicions and accusations are directed at family members with little to no evidence — a true witch hunt. A family caught in the grip of Puritan zealotry, unable to produce food and exiled from the colony, isn’t given a break as paranoia slowly creeps into their lives. This is as much a domestic drama as it is a horror.

The film is a master class in writing, acting and directing. Its world is a bleak place, a mixture of infinite forest and suffocating fog. The film lacks vibrancy, but the drab world instills a sense of hopelessness that weighs down on the soul. The camera unifies

the alien world of colonial New England as one hostile mass. Tonal consistency keeps the audience wired throughout, making for a brisk watch. “The Witch” plays with ambiguity in regards to the existence of the supernatural, both of the divine and damned. Foreign yet familiar, their vernacular has an alienating sense to it. Every word is shrouded by thick English accents, nearly in need of subtitles whenever William (Ralph Ineson) graces the screen.

Their descent into unhinged zealotry is enrapturing because the family’s cast is impeccable. Harvey Scrimshaw has a breakout performance as eldest son Caleb, basking in the spotlight with two major scenes. One of them is reminiscent of “The Exorcist,” but uniquely captivating because it’s Caleb, an innocent child. The vestige of childhood does nothing to hold back the supernatural forces that prey on the weak; its sexual undercurrents are unnerving, especially when juxtaposed with the children. The young twins Mercy (Ellie Granger) and Jonas (Lucas

Dawson) beckon “The Shining,” but serve a more active role here — testing family loyalties by accusing Thomasin of witchcraft. A scuffle between children grows into genuine concern for her allegiance to Christianity. Thomasin’s very position in the family is being questioned, she’s loathed by her siblings and tormented by her parents. Without a sense of purpose, she splinters off — burned by the one source that was supposed to provide unconditional love.

This is dark folklore a la 2014’s “It Follows,” remixing classic elements of horror into something unique and familiar. These elements are carefully weaved together by the scrupulous vision of director Robert Eggers, who constructs an enveloping attack on the senses out of it. This is a testament to the ingenuity of independent filmmaking, showing what’s possible with a million-dollar budget and acclaim at Sundance. It’s an incredible debut for Eggers, who’s managed to manifest fear in the darkest corners of our hearts.

—SAM VELAZQUEZ
 A&E Editorial Assistant

TV REVIEW

BROAD CITY

Release Date Feb. 17
 Runs Wednesdays at 10pm on Comedy Central

★★★★★

Self-proclaimed queens of New York City, Abbi and Ilana tackle adulthood one day at a time.

Fans of the Comedy Central sitcom “Broad City” will recognize and appreciate the classic adventures of Abbi Abrams (Jacobson) and Ilana Wexler (Glaser) before the colorful theme song even begins, and first-time viewers will become equally engrossed in the dysfunctional experiences of the inseparable duo in no time. On the surface, endearingly clumsy Abbi and unapologetically candid Ilana are the least-compatible pair imaginable. However, the very first scene of the third season emphasizes what the two have in common: an uncensored, two-panel montage simultaneously depicts what happens in Abbi and Ilana’s bathrooms, from spontaneous sex to secret bong rips.

Jacobson and Glaser have natural chemistry on screen; each actress is so convincing in her role that viewers may occasionally question whether or not the narrative is entirely fictitious. While the first two seasons of Broad City occasionally strayed from Abbi and Ilana’s friendship to explore other characters’ stories, Season 3 is all about celebrating the incomparable bond these two share. The show effectively captures the ideals of true friendship: Ilana is there to rescue Abbi from a demonic Porta-Potty, while Abbi impersonates Ilana to cover her shift at a co-op. Several familiar faces, including Ilana’s non-exclusive boy-toy Lincoln (Hannibal Buress) and Abbi’s fellow personal trainer Trey (Paul W. Downs), bolster the narrative by facilitating the best friends’ character development, bringing out Abbi’s extremely competitive nature and Ilana’s progressive views.

However, a couple of scenes seemed unnecessarily long and detracted attention from the two main characters. The spontaneous musical number in episode three: “Game Over” lasts for over an entire minute

and does not feature any primary cast members, let alone the two stars of the show. Although Whoopi Goldberg makes an entertaining cameo in this scene, the song does not contribute anything substantial to the episode and instead serves as a reminder that organic interactions between Abbi and Ilana are what give the screenplay life.

The show once again manages to incorporate profound and bold social commentary into every episode. “Broad City” does not shy away from taboo topics in social culture, such as recreational drug use and female sexuality. It is rare, almost unheard of, to witness female characters candidly discussing masturbation or questioning the individuality of anuses in public, but these interactions are what help eradicate the societal expectation of feminine docility. The show urges both male and female viewers to stop tiptoeing around subjects that are part of human nature and instead address issues that are legitimately disturbing, like Ilana’s example of Saudi women who are required to obtain written permission from their husbands (or “male guardians”) before leaving their houses. “Broad City” is one of the very few sitcoms that makes viewers think just as hard as it makes them laugh.

With a strong emphasis on Abbi and Ilana’s friendship, and very few distractions in between, the show manages to communicate deep messages while delivering comedic punches effortlessly. Season 3 sets the standard for modern comedy: no boundaries, no filter — just priceless, refreshing humor.

Three episodes watched for the season review.

—KRITI SARIN
 Contributing Writer

PLAY REVIEW

PHOTO BY SCOTT SUCHMAN



THE METROMANIACS

Directed by Michael Kahn
 Written by David Ives
 Starring Christian Conn, Cary Donaldson
 Runs Jan. 30 to March 6
 Location The Old Globe ★★★★★

The exclusive English version of “The Metromaniacs” proves to be a brilliant adaption of a shallow story.

In the 18th century, there were a considerable number of “metromaniacs” (poetry fanatics) who crazily and easily fell in love with well-written poems in France. Normally, their affections extended to the authors of the poems. Some of these metromaniacs even publicly courted lady poets whom they appreciated. As one of these hopeless lovers, the famous French writer Voltaire conveyed his feelings to Mademoiselle Malcrais de La Vigne, who was actually a man using a feminine penname. After his real identity, Paul

Desforges-Maillard, was revealed, French dramatist Alexis Piron wrote a comedy named “La Metromanie” based on this ridiculous anecdote.

Adapted from “La Metromanie,” “The Metromaniacs” features a group of poetry lovers who either have fake identities or fall in love with poets and poetesses whom they have never met. Translated and adapted by David Ives, this English version stays true to the original settings and characterization. The love triangles and complicated relationships that result from mistaken identities make the story intriguing and intense. It is a

fast-paced show: The audience has to pay close attention to every word the actors are saying in order to not miss any important message.

The cast is an excellent one in terms of language and acting skills. It does its best to please the audience, usually in an over-the-top way. Laughs are incessantly heard, yet some are apparently not so impressed by the farce, as the characters’ actions can be embarrassing like frequently bumping into walls. It is clear that these actions are designed for entertainment, but perhaps too much so. Facetious language is enough to demonstrate the character’s ridiculousness, unless you fancy a little silliness.

Credit should be given to the very humorous playwright David Ives,

who successfully preserves the light-hearted nature of the French play and tailors the work specifically for an American audience. There are jokes about democracy, or Britney Spears, that you can easily miss if you are unfamiliar with American culture. It is all written in verse, in accordance with the form of the original texts. Overall, the brilliancy of Ives’ use of language should not be neglected: The rhymes at the end of the lines and the precision of diction make the lines pleasant to hear.

However, these merits could in turn be the play’s weaknesses, since the story is not realistic at all. The characters living in 18th-century France are joking about present-day America. People are so easily fooled

by fake identities that one could easily manipulate them. What messages then, apart from pure entertainment, can we get out of the play? There are seldom any reflections deep enough for us to contemplate. Besides the fact that it is funny and uniquely written in verse, the play does not offer anything lasting that one will remember. The character relationships are convoluted indeed, but the storyline is nothing profound or strikingly innovative.

Expect to enjoy a relaxing time at the theatre, where you can escape to an imaginative and airy world full of poems, but nothing more.

—YIDIAN HUANG
 Staff Writer

TRITON TO WATCH:

ANDY BODNAR

Interview by Maria Manalang // Lifestyle Staff Writer

This week on Triton to Watch, we had the opportunity to interview Andy Bodnar. He's a rad student by day, currently studying molecular biology, but accomplished gamer by night — and is currently ranked eighth across San Diego in Super Smash Bros, a popular fighting game published by Nintendo.

GUARDIAN: How did you get into Smash?

ANDY: My first experience with smash was with its first iteration, "Smash 64." That was back when it first came out in the late 1990s, when I was probably six or seven years old. It was a bunch of classic Nintendo characters mashed together in a fun game, what more could a kid ask for? Since then I have played every iteration that has come out since: "Melee," "Brawl" and "Smash 4." I went to one or two "Brawl" tournaments toward the end of high school, but it was not until about a year ago that I really got into the game competitively. It was actually one of my good friends, Chris Rugg (better known as "falln"), that first introduced me to the Smash community. He invited me to a tournament with him, and that was all it took for me to get the competitive bug.

G: Which character do you main?

A: I main the Robotic Operating Buddy, better known as R.O.B. R.O.B is an interesting character, due to both a strong projectile game, as well as having one of the best throw combos in the game. R.O.B is a character that is usually considered fairly campy, but I like to think of him as more of a tactician's character. You can switch from a long-range keep-away game to a throw-heavy game plan with ease. His projectiles can cause frustration in the other player, forcing them into decisions and patterns they would otherwise not make. By exploiting these patterns and bad decisions, R.O.B can really shine as a character. Basically, the R.O.B player strives to make the opponent play their game, then trap them and finish off their stocks.

G: How did you get to be rank eight in San Diego?

A: Getting ranked in San Diego was my long term goal when I first started playing. I started as every newcomer does, by going 0-2 at my first tournament. In order to get better, you have to be willing to take your lumps from better players. Otherwise, you will never realize your mistakes, and even more importantly, you will never learn how to fix those mistakes. I was lucky in one sense though, as I have a world class training partner in falln. You get better really quickly when you are training with one of the top players in the U.S.! I have to attribute at least some of my success to him, as he was willing to take this scrub under his wing and teach me the intricacies of the game, things that would have otherwise taken me a much longer time to pick up.

G: What is next for you?

A: I would say my next major goal is to make the SoCal [Player Rankings]. San Diego has some good players, but it is still just a subregion of the greater SoCal area. This means a lot more traveling to tournaments in and around the Los Angeles area. In addition, I also plan on attending EVO 2016 in July. The best players in the world will be there, and it is a great chance to clash with some of them. My goal for EVO is to at least make it out of the first round of pools. This would rank me somewhere in the best 128-256 players in the world (depending on how many they take out of first round pools). It would be a great accomplishment for me, and would really validate the time I have put into this game.

G: How do you balance school and maintaining your rank?

A: No question, school comes first. There have been many tournaments I have missed due to midterms/finals etc. While this is a fun hobby, I am under no delusions that it will turn into a career for me. Generally I go to one or two tournaments a week. It is a great way to let off steam after studying for hours on end. It is at tournaments that I get most of my practice in, as there is no better way to prepare for in game situations than to actually experience them in a high pressure situation where one wrong move could mean the difference between going home with money in your pocket, or just lint and dust. Otherwise, most of my time is spent studying for classes. Quick plug: anybody who is interested in picking up the game should go to the tournaments here at UCSD. They are usually every Sunday, and you will never meet a group of more inclusive, kind and great people then you do in the Smash community. Hope to see you guys and gals at some of these tournaments soon!

THE CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE:

An Advice Column



CHRISTIAN GELLA
CGELLA@UCSD.EDU

How can I avoid small talk or go beyond it to what's really important in a conversation? — Anonymous

Look, I wholeheartedly agree: Small talk is asinine, at best. However, the fact of the matter is that a one Miss Kristin Banta once sold pot (flower pots, mind you) before she got her famous gig as a designer in Los Angeles and made a star appearance on Millionaire Matchmaker. Now, as controversial as the neoliberal model is, there is something we can learn from Banta: You can't suck at small talk, period. One can conceptualize small talk as the currency of social interaction. If you want to talk about the meaty topics — soy, if that suits you much better — you're going to have to chat about the H&M basics first: first, last, zodiac, preferred gender pronouns, etc. There's no cutting the necessary crap, but you could always spice it up. Instead of just plainly asking "so what's your name, dude," you might try an alternative method such as remixing everything lobbed your way in a new-age meets art nouveau rap — however, for peace and sanity of contemporary poetics, don't be a Kenneth Goldsmith — or attempting to predict their natal chart horoscope for the day. Mix it up like a salad or a shake.

On the topic of small talk, can it be canonically established that reciprocity is [OK hand sign emoji]? Do not be plastic in the slightest; if someone asks you a question, it is without hesitation that you should return the question in mint condition, lacquered in the stylistics of your chest voice. Human interaction is a narcissistic exchange grounded in self-advancement and thought — it's what our entire lives are founded upon — through the emotional exploitation of others. If you need that condensed into a snack-pack sized bite, it means that when someone asks you a question they are really attempting to ask themselves. How rhetorical. Obviously, there are exceptions to the rule (read: Tim Gunn, season six), but it's not possible to just look at a one sided conversation and go "I wonder why it's not working out" when one person is practically shoving words down the other's throat without any inclination to share. Don't be a greedy fink-rat.

If at this point you've reached a stalemate and started mumbling A-W-K-W-A-R-D under your breath, then do not show any signs of frustration or anger. Your scene partner is likely attempting to upstage you with their dramatic inner monologue and voiceover, so keep quiet and pressure them with silence to force a point of discussion out. One other psychological technique you can employ is subtly changing posture, using new hand motions or mirroring body language. Doing this permits the other to take notice and perhaps also change the dynamic of the conversation.

What's most important is that you orient the conversation toward the direction you want to end at. Look at trendy topics in today's society. Most people are not fond of discussing the weather (contrary to popular belief) or penny board designs, but are more statistically interested in deconstructing capitalism, colonialism and the patriarchy with an intellectual, academic lens.



PHOTO USED WITH PERMISSION FROM ANDY BODNAR



BY BRITTNEY LU
LIFESTYLE CO-EDITOR

The iconicism of Balboa Park is no stranger to the native San Diegan, but even the most seasoned locals are typically unaware of Balboa's unspoken treasures and uncovered spaces. Kate Clark, the head curator of Parkeology — a five-month art installation and collaboration between Balboa Park, the San Diego Art Institute, California Art Council and other regional museums — plans to expose the lesser known of San Diegan symbolism in a series of five events, beginning Feb. 20, that features reinvented spaces, hidden histories and secret objects that coagulate to form the underbelly of Balboa.

This coming Saturday, delve into the mysteries of the San Diego Model Railroad Museum in Untracked — a complimentary exhibit to the miniature model that unveils the underground networks and urban tactics that compose San Diego's transit narrative. Future exhibits include public integration in art installation pieces, like Facing Artifacts — a participatory event held in the Museum of Man where park-goers can become a piece of the anthropological database as they model for plaster profiles — and even sociologically controversial pieces — like Queen's Circle in Marston Point parking lot, which divulges insight into San Diego's LGBTQ community's stigmatized past via tactical art projects that reimagine urban spaces and community stratification.

Even the erotic histories of Balboa are exposed through reenactments in May 2016's feature, "Naked Truth: The Rise and Fall of America's Only Public Nudist Colony," in which pageants of an often unbelievable past wherein nudists congregated in the heart of the Prado to explore human sexuality and observe the most vulnerably situated socialization are shown to rediscover the more taboo side of Balboa. Interested in exploring more of Balboa's unknown? Then check out Parkeology's intriguing and often unsettling demonstration of San Diego's unspoken history. And if you can't make it to the live event, Parkeology provides a specialized TV and podcast series that will cover Parkeology's uncovering of the lesser known in Balboa.

LOGO USED WITH PERMISSION FROM FRIENDS RESALE SHOP



BY SHELBY NEWALLIS
LIFESTYLE SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It's easy to get lost in a sea of midterms, papers and final exams and forget that UCSD is actually kind of cool. There are many unique on-campus resources and stores that students easily forget about; one of which is Friends Resale Shop.

Located right off Library Walk at the UCSD International Center, Friends Resale Shop is one of UCSD's hidden gems that is actually not-so-hidden at all. Ran by the Friends of the International Center, Friends Resale Shop is an on-campus thrift store, offering a wide range of gently used clothes (contemporary, designer and vintage), household items and books. Proceeds from the sales help fund scholarships and activities related to international education.

There is a wide array of reasonably priced items, making it perfect for students looking to do a bit of shopping, without feeling bad about it. There's no need to feel guilty about engaging in a little retail therapy when you are helping by recycling the old into new opportunity for your peers to study abroad — it takes upcycling to a whole new level!

If thrifting isn't really your thing, but you'd still like to be a part of Friends Resale Shop family, you can volunteer and/or donate gently used items.

Business Hours: Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during the academic year.

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Interviews will be held on Friday, February 26th 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Career Services Center.

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Volunteer Service Presentation by Carrie Hessler-Radelet

University of California - San Diego
Tuesday, February 23
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School of Global Policy & Strategy
Robinson Auditorium

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Dr. Terranova, Dr. Sherman, and Dr. Horne

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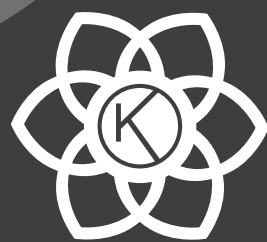
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Karmonize.org is a student organization where we can support good causes, cooperate, and volunteer to improve the UCSD community.

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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Level: **1**

4				1				
	4	6	7	9	2			
				2		9		
4			9					
	7	8			6	1		
				6				2
7	1							3
		3	8	7	1	4		
			3					

Level: **1**

		7						4
9				6		5		2
			8	4	6			
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		2	6		1			
6		5		2				9
7					8	2		

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BASEBALL

Baseball Wins Five Games Over the Weekend, Improving to 7-1

Tritons earn four wins versus UT Permian Basin while splitting doubleheader against Cal State San Bernardino, play Concordia Irvine next.

BY SAMANTHA GLANTZ
Staff Writer

No. 16 UCSD baseball had quite the busy weekend, playing six home games over the course of a four-day period. They finished off the weekend 5-1, taking only one loss during its doubleheader with Cal State San Bernardino on Saturday night, snapping the Tritons' six-game winning streak.

The Tritons are currently 7-1 on the season so far.

Game One

Freshman right-handed pitcher Kyle Mora got his first collegiate start Thursday night against UT Permian Basin, going four innings and holding the UTPB Falcons to three hits and three runs.

The Falcons scored first in the top of the third, getting two runs off Mora.

After senior outfielder Gradeigh Sanchez's single up the middle, junior outfielder Jack Larsen homered to right field, tying the game up at 2-2 heading into the top of the fourth.

UTPB hit a solo home run off Mora, taking the lead 3-2 before the Tritons answered back scoring another run, tying the game back up yet again.

Sophomore left-handed pitcher Travis Roberts came in to pitch for the Tritons at the top of the fifth. Roberts gave up two back-to-back two-out singles, putting runners on first and second. The Falcons hit a bases-clearing double as they regained the lead over the Tritons 5-3; the Tritons responded with a two-run homer from sophomore infielder Tyler Plantier.

UTPB scraped together one run off of freshman right-handed pitcher Tim

Nelson in the seventh before Tritons' junior outfielder Jack Larsen hit his second solo-bomb of the day to right field, tying the game up at 6-6.

Freshman right-handed pitcher Erik Amundson held the Falcons at six runs as he retired the side in the top of the eighth. Junior infielder JD Hearn singled in junior infielder Vince Mori from third base in the bottom of the eighth, taking a one-run lead for the Tritons; freshman right-handed pitcher Cameron Kurz got the save for the Tritons as he came in the game for the top of the ninth and retired the side.

Game Two

Freshman left-handed pitcher Brent Bell earned his first collegiate start and win during game two against UTPB on Friday. He went five scoreless innings before freshman right-handed pitcher Jonah Dipoto came in the game and threw a perfect three innings, retiring all nine batters in order. The Tritons then were able to win 8-1 against UT Permian Basin in game two of the three-game series with the Falcons.

Vince Mori went 3-4 and had three RBIS for the Tritons while junior outfielder Brandon Shirley had two RBIS off his two-run triple in the bottom of the eighth inning. In addition, Larsen and Plantier both had an RBI for the Tritons.

Game Three

Senior right-handed pitcher, Alon Leichman went the distance as he threw his first complete game as a Triton on Friday night, earning the win, helping UCSD complete the three-game sweep against UTPB.

However, Leichman gave up two of the runs he earned with six hits against the Falcons.

After a Sanchez single in the bottom of the first inning, junior outfielder Christian Leung hit a two-out base hit to center field, giving the Tritons the lead, 1-0.

The Tritons scored four runs in the second inning with two-outs, their rally beginning with a throwing error from the Falcon's third baseman. Sanchez doubled down the left-field line, scoring one run while Larsen followed him with a triple down the right-field line, scoring two more for the Tritons. Plantier singled to left field, scoring Larsen from third before Plantier was thrown out trying to advance to second, ending the inning and enabling the Tritons to lead 5-0 heading into the top of the third.

While the Tritons were shut out by the Falcons for the rest of the game, Leichman did not allow the Falcons to put a run on the board until the top of the sixth.

The Falcons rallied, scoring two more runs in the top of the seventh. But Leichman got out of it, securing the win for the Tritons, 5-3.

Game Four

The Tritons faced off with Cal State University San Bernardino for a non-conference doubleheader on Saturday. While they lost game one to the Coyotes, 8-2, they came back and won game two, 9-1. Nelson took the Tritons' first loss of the season as he came relieving the starting pitcher, sophomore right-handed pitcher Jack Rupe, in the middle of the fourth inning. Plantier produced all of UCSD's runs in the first game as he went three for four with two singles and two RBIS. CSUSB scored one run in the third through seventh innings, until it broke

it open at the top of the eighth with a three-run inning. The Coyotes handed UCSD its first loss of the season with a final score of 8-2.

Game Five

Freshman right-handed pitcher Kyle Lucke got his first collegiate start for the Tritons during the nightcap of the doubleheader against CSUSB. Lucke went five innings, holding the Coyotes to only one run and one hit, which he gave up during the top of the first inning, totalling five strikeouts that night.

The Tritons scored their first run of the night in the bottom of the third by Leung's sacrifice fly with the bases loaded; UCSD broke it open in the bottom of the fourth with a leadoff base hit from junior outfielder Brandon Shirley, a walk from junior infielder Tyler Howsley and then a double to right center by sophomore infielder Tim White, scoring Shirley. Larsen followed with a three-run bomb to right field, taking the lead 5-1.

In the fifth, the Tritons took advantage of walks and a couple throwing errors and putting up four more runs.

Roberts came in for relief for Lucke in the top of the sixth, allowing no hits and no runs to score.

Game Six

Left-handed freshman Preston Mott earned the start on the mound for the Tritons as they faced off with No. 10 Cal Poly Pomona on Sunday. Mott went five innings, holding CPP to four hits and no runs.

Freshman right-handed pitcher Jonah Dipoto came in relief for Mott, earning the win for the Tritons as he threw two innings, striking out three

and giving up one hit and one run.

The Tritons struck first on a lead off double by Plantier in the bottom of the second; freshman first-baseman Tyler Durna singled up the middle, scoring Plantier.

Dipoto gave up a solo-shot to right field in the sixth, tying the game back up at 1-1.

The Tritons battled and took advantage of two errors by the CPP Broncos, as they scored three more runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Mora entered the game for Dipoto in the eighth, giving up one hit and allowing a run to score on an error.

The Tritons added two more insurance runs in the bottom of the eighth before freshman right-handed pitcher Cameron Kurz came in and shut CPP down for the win in the ninth.

"When we scheduled a six-game weekend, I knew that this could be rough," Head Coach Eric Newman told UCSD athletics. "But you've got to credit the players, they really stepped up... We had a bad game in there, and when you play that many games in a weekend, it will happen. I think they learned from it and showed that they have the ability to grind out wins. The thing I like the most is that we used almost our entire roster, and the guys responded. They filled in roles and really bought into the team concept."

The Tritons will be back in action Friday, Feb. 19 at Triton Ballpark with another nonconference series against Concordia Irvine. First pitch is set for 6 p.m.

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Swim and Dive Await Division II NCAA's Official Announcement

► SWIM, from page 12

The day ended with UCSD women leading with 1126.5 points with their closest competitor Pepperdine far away at 763.5, and the UCSD men ended the day on smaller marginal lead, as they led with 1103 points and UCSC followed with 937.

For the second year in a row, Wylder won the 100-yard butterfly, breaking both the conference and school record as he finished with a time of 46.97 in the morning preliminary and a time of 47.88 in the final. The PCSC record (47.91) hadn't been broken in the past 16 years; this also cleared him to participate in the upcoming NCAA Championships as an A cut.

The women's 400 medley team, Tang, Phetbenjakul, sophomore Jayna Wittenbrink and Daley, broke the PCSC and UCSD record with a first-place finish of 3:43.38. Watkins placed first in the women's 200 free with a time of 1:50.04, Cohn finished first in the men's 200 free with a time of 1:37.43, and sophomore CJ Pais finished first in the men's 100 backstroke with a time of 49.73.

Redshirt freshman Grant Crawford placed second in the men's one-meter springboard competition with a personal-best score of 257.85 from six dives. Senior Gareth Webster

was able to end his four-year Triton diving career as he placed in fourth with a score of 214.65.

Monday saw the conclusion of the 2016 PCSC Championships, as the UCSD swimming and diving team came through with more amazing performances to win their eighth consecutive title in both the men's and women's divisions. The UCSD women's squad finished at the top with 1573.5, winning by a margin of almost 500 points. Meanwhile, the UCSD men's squad won with 1592 points, with UCSC being the runner-up for the second year in a row at 1268.

The Tritons altogether broke and set 12 new records over the span of the four-day PCSC Championships. Among the accolades awarded, Cohn was awarded the PCSC Male Swimmer of the Meet and coaches Corrie Falcon and Daniel Perdew were awarded the women's and men's coaches of the meet awards.

Cohn finished the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:44.92, winning the event two years in a row, breaking the school record (1:45.85) he had set himself last March during his first NCAA Championships. He also broke the previous PCSC record (1:46.09), which was untouched for 16 years, and automatically qualified

himself for the upcoming NCAA championships. Finally, Cohn ended the meet with three individual wins in the 500 free, the 200 free and the 200 backstroke, having broken the school record for the last two events.

Watkins won the 200 butterfly with 2:01.33 and her preliminary swim time of 2:00.07 broke UCSD legend Alex Henley's school record of 2:00.08, also automatically qualifying her for the upcoming NCAA championships.

The women's 400 free relay, consisting of Tang, Huttner, Watkins, and Daley, finished first with a time of 3:23.10, breaking the PCSC record (3:23.20) and UCSD's previous record from the 2012 NCAA championships (3:23.42). Daley ended the meet having broken the school records for the 50 and 100 free.

Hamza won her third individual title in the mile alongside her wins in the 1000 free and 500 free while Toronzak won the 200 backstroke again with a time of 1:59.41. The men's squad swept the 1650 as Nadler (15:48.71) took first place, Pourvahidi (15:51.93) finished second, and Mitrushina (15:57.58) finished third.

"It was a blast swimming for this team and with my teammates one last time," an emotional Leung told the UCSD Guardian. "To end my career with such an amazing group and another conference win was a great way to go out."

After winning the PCSC Championships for the eighth year in a row, the Tritons now await the official announcement of the qualifiers for the 2016 NCAA Division II Championships, which will be held on March 8-12.

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PHOTO BY MEGAN LEE/UCSD GUARDIAN

Softball Hits the Road to Carson Next

► SOFTBALL, from page 12

hit a two-RBI single following the errors of the Warriors.

Brown now moves to 4-0 for the season as she pitched four innings and was relieved by senior righty Hannah Duarte in the fifth.

Game One vs. Adelphi

After coming in full of confidence behind a four-game series sweep against Cal State Stanislaus, the Tritons came up just short in the first game of the doubleheader against Adelphi University.

The Panthers gained an early one-run lead in the first inning, and the game remained 1-0 until the fourth. UCSD was finally able to tie up the game as Lewis doubled to center field and brought in Maday, who had bunted her way on base early in the inning.

Adelphi then responded strongly in top of the sixth, as it scored six runs to regain the lead and give UCSD the tough task of coming back.

The Tritons did create a game out of it by bringing three runners home in the bottom of the sixth after the bases were loaded and sophomore designated hitter Emily Sklencar hit a single to center, followed by a Clewett RBI single to bat one more score in.

In the final inning of the game,

UCSD needed three more runs to tie it up, but came short as it could only produce two.

Lefty Edwards took her first loss of the season (4-1).

Game Two

The second game of the doubleheader was completely different from the first, as the Tritons only needed five innings to get the best of Adelphi in a 13-0 shutout victory.

This time around, UCSD got off to an early 4-0 lead in the first as Sanders contributed with a two-run single. The Tritons then added to it in the third with eight more runs, with the help of a Clewett two-RBI single. Adelphi had no response this time as it struggled to manage a mere one run throughout the ball game.

In the fourth, the Tritons put up one final run on the board which gave the win to Brown, who now stands at an impressive 5-0 with an 0.85 ERA.

The Tritons will now go on the road to take on Cal State Dominguez Hills after having played 10 consecutive home games; it will be part of a four-game series held this weekend in Carson Feb. 19 to 20.

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PHOTO BY MEGAN LEE/UCSD GUARDIAN

SPORTS

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UPCOMING
UCSD
GAMES

W. Basketball	2/18	AT Cal State San Marcos
M. Basketball	2/18	AT Cal State San Marcos
Softball	2/19	AT Cal State Dominguez Hills
M. Volleyball	2/19	AT Cal State Northridge
Fencing	2/20	AT IFSCS Championships

WEEK IN
SUMMARY

SWIM

UCSD
1st
1592 ptsUCSD
1st
1573.5 pts

SOFTBALL

UCSD
175811
0442
StanislausUCSD
613
70
Adelphi

BASEBALL

UCSD
785
613
UT-Permian BasinUCSD
29
81
Cal State San BernardinoUCSD
6
2
Cal Poly Pomona

Swim and Dive Break Twelve Records

Tritons qualify for the NCAA Division II Championships and win the PCSC tournament for the eighth year in a row

Written by Gurkirat Singh// Senior Staff Writer

Photo by Megan Lee

Over this past President's Day weekend, from Friday, Feb. 5 to Monday Feb. 15, the UCSD swimming and diving team competed and won the Pacific Collegiate Swimming and Diving Conference (PCSC) Championships in both the men's and women's divisions while breaking 12 school records and having some Tritons qualify for the 2016 NCAA Division II Championships. This is the eighth consecutive year the Tritons win the PCSC Championships.

"Four years of blood, sweat and tears have culminated in the best meet of our lives, with many champions and 12 school records broken," Senior Captain Cole Heale told the UCSD Guardian.

The Tritons started off the PCSC Championships on Friday with a bang as they were able to sweep all six swimming events, while breaking multiple meet records, including three of four relays; this let both the men and women's squads end the day with top standings in four of 21 events for each division. From a 10-team competition field, the women's squad ended the day in first place with 307 points with the closest competition in Pepperdine with 243 points. The men's squad also ended the day in the first field but with a smaller competition pool of four other teams.

Since the event was first added into the Championships three years ago, the Tritons were able to completely dominate the 1000-yard freestyle. First-time conference champion sophomore Haley Hamza won the event with a 10:07.00 for the women's event and, for the men's event, junior Chandler Pourvahidi won the event with a 9:09.42 time for the second time during the event. Hamza was followed by freshman Reagan Eickert and the 2015 champion sophomore Stephanie Sin for the second and third place finishes. On the men's side, Pourvahidi was followed by the 2014 champion senior Kyle Nadler and junior Sasha Mitrushina. Hamza is now currently ranked second in all-time following Sin's 2015 record (10:03.22); Pourvahidi finished with a personal record and second in the Triton's all-time record.

Also, the Tritons swept the 800 free relay races for the sixth year in a row behind sophomore Julia Toronczak, senior Maddy Huttner, redshirt-senior Dari Watkins, and junior co-captain Natalie Tang finishing off at 7:20.17, breaking the previous school record of 7:22.00 from the 2015 NCAA Championships. The foursome's trip to Indianapolis, IN is booked for next month, as the win was the first automatic NCAA qualifier for UCSD swimmers. The men's 800 relay was even more impressive as they recorded a time

of 6:35.00, which shattered the school record for the second time this season; they had previously brought in a 6:36.37 time beat the record back in November's A3 Performance Invitational. The group of men that broke both records has remained the same and consists of junior Michael Cohn, Pourvahidi, and seniors Michael Leung and Paul Li. Not only did they finish 16 seconds ahead of the closest competing relay but Cohn was able to bring in a leadoff split of 1:37.39, breaking the previous record which has been untouched since 2009.

The following Saturday dawned and ended with another great performance from the Triton's squads as they brought in seven more wins that day to remain first in the standings. The women's squad ended the day with 749.5 points and the men's squad ended the day with 652. Their closest competitors were Pepperdine (487.5) and UC Santa Cruz (525), respectively.

The Tritons were able to sweep the 500-yard freestyle, 50 free and the 200 free relay for both squads. Along with these wins, freshman Garret Tse, who won his first conference crown in the 200 individual medley, set a new meet record with 1:49.60, which actually beat one of UCSD's most esteemed former swimmers Kurt Boehm's record of 1:49.71 which has not been broken since 2005.

Hamza won again on Saturday with a first place finish in the 500 free, recording a time of 4:59.32, with Sin bringing the third spot with an incredibly close time of 5:00.37. Cohn finished the men's 500 free first with a time of 4:27.46 and Pourvahidi came in a second with a time of 4:29.73. In the 50 free, senior captain Colleen Daley came in first with 23.05, followed by Tang (23.36) for second place and sophomore Angie Phetbenjakul (23.48) for third place. For the men's squad, Heale finished sprinted first with a time of 20.30.

The men won the 200 free relay with 1:22.36, winning by over a full second; the team was comprised of Heale, sophomore Kevin Wylder, Leung, and junior Julian Jacobs. In addition, the women won their relay, setting a meet-record time of 1:32.40; the team was comprised of Tang, Phetbenjakul, sophomore Haley Murphy and Daley.

On Sunday, the third day of the PCSC Championships, the Tritons performed just as exceptionally, producing more titles and broken records.

See **SWIM**, page 11

SOFTBALL

Softball Sweeps Cal State Stanislaus, Splits Two Games vs. Adelphi

UCSD improves record to 10-2 on the season, will play a road series versus Cal State Dominguez Hills in Carson from Feb. 19-20 next.

The UCSD softball team played a total of six games in four days, including a four-game series against Cal State Stanislaus that began on Friday and carried into Saturday, followed by a doubleheader against Adelphi University on Monday afternoon. The Tritons were also able to rack up five wins out of the six games, which included sweeping the four-game series in dominant fashion, continuing their strong start to the season. UCSD now holds a 10-2 overall record and is 4-0 in conference play.

Game One vs. Stanislaus

The Tritons had their best overall performance of the season in the first game out of four against Stanislaus. UCSD batted in a miraculous 14 runs after just two innings of the game and put up three more on the board later in the bottom of the fourth. Stanislaus had no answers and was shutout 17-0.

In the first inning, senior catcher Emma Schneider contributed a three-run home run to give UCSD a strong start to the game. Afterwards in the second, as part of the 10-run inning, Schneider brought in two more runs as the bases were loaded to bring her RBI total to five. Sophomore outfielder Kendall Woken similarly batted in two runs with a single to right field.

Senior lefty pitcher Lexi Edwards continued her winning ways, as she is now 3-0 for the season and only gave up two hits, striking out four while on the mound. Also, junior lefty pitcher Milana Casillas made her debut as a Triton pitching in relief during the fifth.

Game Two

In a much more competitive game, UCSD grinded out a 5-4 victory due to late-game heroics by sophomore first base Sam Glantz and Schneider.

UCSD, after taking the early advantage in the first inning through sophomore outfielder Kelsi Maday's solo home run, fell behind in the second by allowing three runs. Going into the bottom of the seventh, the Tritons were only down by one at 4-3; Glantz then came up to the plate to bat and hit a single down the middle to bring in freshman outfielder Erin Lipelt and tie up the game. Schneider seized the opportunity in the eighth inning and won the game for UCSD as she cleverly bunted the ball to help bring in Maday in walk-off fashion.

Freshman pitcher Lauren Brown, earned her third win of the season as she pitched 6.2 innings in relief with one strikeout.

Game Three

On Saturday afternoon, the Tritons began their second doubleheader against Stanislaus, and after being down early were

able to recover and take yet another victory with a 8-4 scoreline.

Maday got the Tritons an early lead in the first, hitting a double to left center field. However, the Warriors came back in the following inning through junior outfielder Cassidy Duke's two-run home run to take the lead.

From there on, UCSD took control of the game as the team brought in three runs in each of the fourth and fifth innings to put the game out of question. Freshman shortstop Maddy Lewis contributed with a RBI double and senior outfielder Taylor Ayeta with a RBI single in the fourth.

In the fifth, the Tritons broadened their lead as sophomore catcher Lauren Sanders batted in Maday and senior shortstop McKenna Clewett hit a RBI double to make it 7-2 at the end of the inning.

Stanislaus attempted a comeback

through a second two-run home run from Duke in the sixth, but it was too late, as UCSD added another run in response to give itself a 8-4 win. Edwards earned her second win of the series with three strikeouts.

Game Four

Similar to the first game of the series, the Tritons displayed their dominance early and fast. After the second inning, the game had a UCSD win written all over it as it led 11-1.

To start, Maday tripled in the first inning to bring in Kendall Baker. Then, Schneider followed it with single to center to bat in another run.

The Warriors self-destructed in the second as they produced two errors and five walks in which the Tritons took full advantage and scored nine in the inning. Sanders

See **SOFTBALL**, page 11