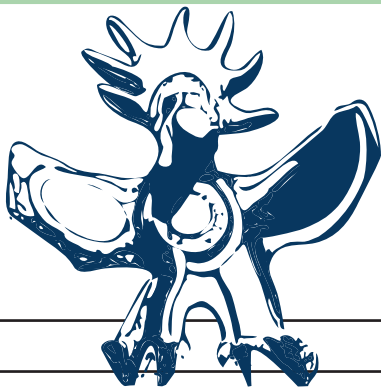


# THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO GUARDIAN

www.ucsdguardian.org

Thursday, December 6, 2007

The Student Voice Since 1967



## Revelle's 'Next Step' Leads to Grove Caffe

By Connie Shieh  
STAFF WRITER

The coordinators of Revelle College's Next Step Program recently finalized a partnership with the Grove Caffe that will allow the program's student participants to take their professors out for coffee at the eatery twice quarterly.

Created in 2005 by the Revelle College Council, Revelle Provost Daniel Wulbert and Dean of Student Affairs Renee Barnett-Terry, the program was designed to encourage upperclassmen to develop relationships with faculty members outside of lecture halls. The yearlong program pairs up to five Revelle third- and fourth-year students with each involved faculty member based on the student's major.

In addition to promoting ties between students and faculty, Revelle Senior Representative and Next Step Coordinator Aria Jafari said that a major goal of Next Step's partnership is to provide publicity for the Grove,

See **PARTNERSHIP**, page 7

## Bomb Threat Empties Campus Medical Complex

Union leader alleges that campus officials knew of threatening calls prior to discovery of phony device in Leichtag building.

By Matthew L'Heureux  
NEWS EDITOR

Hundreds of staff and students were evacuated from the School of Medicine complex on Dec. 5 after a suspicious package was discovered in the Leichtag Biomedical Research Building. While the device was ultimately determined to be a hoax, questions regarding campus officials' prior knowledge of the threat persist, according to a local union representative.

All buildings in the School of Medicine, along with the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Cellular and Molecular Medicine East building, were evacuated after the package was discovered inside Leichtag at 10:26 a.m., according to FBI Special Agent Darrell Foxworth. At approximately 1 p.m., a campuswide e-mail from Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs Steven W. Relyea announced the evacuation and advised students and staff members to avoid the buildings.



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN  
FBI Special Agent Darrell Foxworth speaks to the media about a Dec. 5 bomb scare that evacuated UCSD's medical and pharmacy schools before being revealed as a hoax.

Employees from the FBI, San Diego Police Department, UCSD Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol responded to the scene, which was then swept for other suspicious devices.

"The Metro-Arson Task Force

took the necessary steps to render safe the device," Foxworth said. "It was determined that it was a hoax device and not an actual device."

After determining that the package was not an actual bomb, officers turned the scene over to the evidence response team at approximately 5:15 p.m. The evacuation was contained and no one was hurt, Foxworth said.

Skaggs research associate Wenru Yu said that she received a phone call from a friend at Leichtag telling her to evacuate, but continued working until the alarm in her building went off.

"No one panicked," Yu said. "We get lots of false alarms."

After waiting outside their build-

See **THREAT**, page 7

## National Investigators Probe Fraternity Hazing Allegations



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN  
Sigma Nu President Robbie Holmes (front) stands firm amid allegations of hazing within his fraternity.

By Kimberly Cheng  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

UCSD's Kappa Rho Chapter of Sigma Nu is under investigation by the organization's national headquarters for alleged hazing, according to Timothy Braddick, director of fraternal operations at Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.

The accusations stem from an anonymous source who sent an e-mail to the fraternity's anti-hazing hotline, claiming that Kappa Rho violated

fraternity codes and alcohol policies. Several photos were attached to the e-mail.

"I can't give specific details about the content of the pictures, but a few of them were fairly dated, at least a few years old," Braddick said.

The source obtained the pictures from the Facebook profiles of Sigma Nu brothers, said Sigma Nu President Robbie Holmes. Apparently, several brothers received "harassing" mes-

See **HAZING**, page 3

## Overflow Housing Planned for Muir, Revelle

Planning committees continue projects to expand cramped colleges, including 900,000 square feet in academic space.

By Hadley Mendoza  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

In response to last year's housing strain caused by an unexpectedly large freshman class, campus planners are working on two new infill housing projects in John Muir and Revelle Colleges in the context of previous planning studies. The projects, still in the design phase, are part of larger neighborhood projects that will be completed incrementally over the next 10 to 20 years to provide more first- and second-year housing.

Preplanning committees for each of the infill projects formed in fall 2006 to brainstorm and discuss concepts for the buildings.

"There was a lot of enthusiasm to complete our living environment," committee member and Muir Resident Dean Pat Danylyshyn-Adams said.

Muir's new housing unit, projected for completion in fall 2011, will be approximately 10 stories tall and provide about 275 beds. It was designed to integrate the floor plan of the college's apartments into the lounge-centered structure of its Tioga and Tenaya residence halls.

Originally, there was discussion to place the building in the nearby parking lot, but the committee decided to keep all housing close to Muir's central quad.

"The idea really was to keep it within the Muir community," Danylyshyn-Adams said.

In addition to housing, future Muir building projects include a renovation of Sierra Summit dining hall and adjustments to nearby pathways, in order to accommo-



KAREN LING/GUARDIAN  
Revelle College freshman Crystal Wong studies in her Beagle Hall triple. Revelle could gain about 500 undergraduate beds over the next 10 to 20 years.

date the increase in residents. The college will also be adding about 200,000 square feet of space for academic use.

Revelle will be expanding even more, as it stands to gain about 700,000 square feet of new academic space in addition to about 500 undergraduate beds and an

See **DORMS**, page 3

### HIATUS

## Shallow Waters

En route to Broadway, John Waters' re-camped musical makes a splash at the La Jolla Playhouse.

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### SPORTS

## The Right Foot

The men's basketball team looks to extend its strong league play into nonconference contests.

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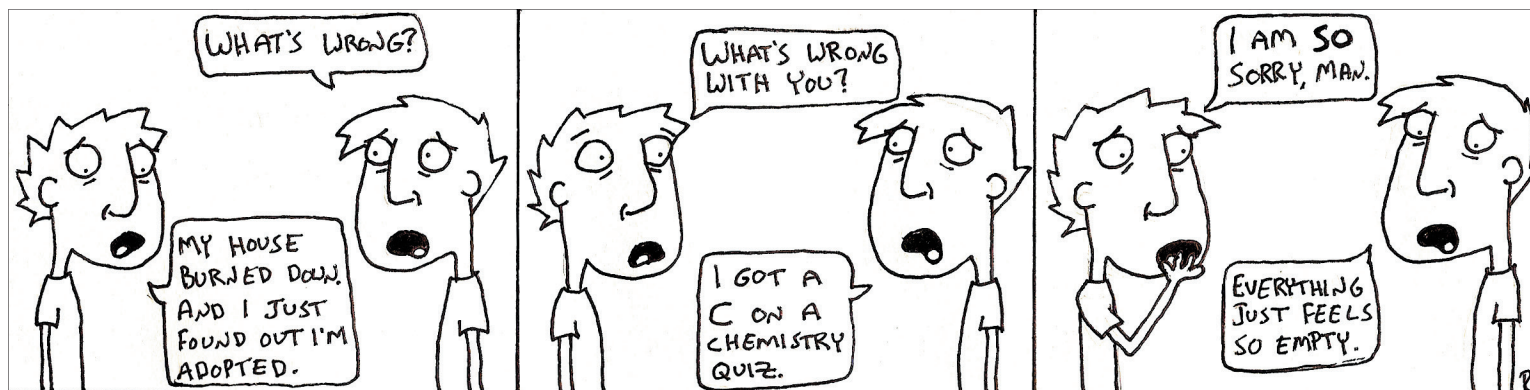
### WEATHER

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Dec. 8 H 54 L 44	Dec. 9 H 59 L 40



# POORLY DRAWN LINES

BY REZA FARAZMAND



## CURRENTS

### PIKE Brothers Not 'Smarter Than a 5th Grader'

Six UCSD students from the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity competed on an episode of the national television show "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" that aired Nov. 29 on the FOX network.

Hosted by comedian Jeff Foxworthy, the show featured John Muir College junior Tyler Van Buren, the main contestant who had to rely on advice from either a group of fifth-graders or his fraternity brothers to answer a series of questions. The PIKE brothers ultimately proved unsuccessful against the fifth-graders, but the experience was very rewarding, Van Buren said in a press release.

In the episode's final round, Van Buren had to admit he wasn't smarter than a fifth-grader after he was asked whether Buddhism originated from China or India — he answered China.

### UCSD Offers Free Post-Exposure HIV Test

The San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency is collaborating with UCSD's Antiviral Research Center to offer free and confidential HIV testing to people who may have recently been infected with the virus.

The Early Test Program provides a new test method that checks for the presence of the HIV virus, which can be detected within a week of infection. A regular HIV test, in contrast, looks for antibodies in the blood, which can take three months or lon-

ger to detect.

"This is especially important because newly infected individuals have a very high viral load," said Susan Little, an associate professor of medicine in UCSD's division of infectious diseases, in a press release.

### University Gets Grants for Math, Science Program

The University of California has been awarded nearly \$5 million in grant funding to improve teacher education in math and science, university officials announced this week.

UC Irvine and UC Berkeley were given two of the 12 grants from the National Math and Science Initiative to implement programs modeled after UTeach, a successful math and science teacher preparation program at the University of Texas at Austin. Grants of up to \$2.4 million were awarded following a competition that included submissions from more than 50 universities nationwide.

"These grants will allow UC to build upon its existing collaborative efforts to fill an important need — training qualified math and science teachers for California classrooms," UC Provost Wyatt R. Hume said in a press release. "Addressing this teaching shortage is critical to helping keep California's economy and communities strong."

The NMSI grants will also contribute to UC's Cal Teach program and its commitment to quadrupling the number of UC students trained annually to be math and science teachers from 250 to 1,000 by 2011.

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# Local Affairs Rep. Calls Out Council for Raining on Her Non-Parade

Last night's A.S. Council meeting started off smoothly, but hit roadblocks while reviewing finance bills and confronting the council's lack of participation in local affairs.

The council arrived at a general consensus while amending its election rules to make use of single transferable votes. The adoption of STV, which required years of collaboration with TritonLink programmers, will allow students to rank A.S. candidates during elections instead of only voting for their top choices.

But consensus did not make a return appearance. A finance bill sponsored by Eleanor Roosevelt College Senator **Stephanie Usry** encountered a surprising amount of council scrutiny.

Usry requested \$459 to orchestrate "Triton Tuesday" next quarter. She is seeking to bolster school spirit campus-wide by setting up a screen printer on Library Walk (on Tuesday, for alliterative effect) and offering to print "Triton Pride" logos on students' otherwise spiritless unadorned shirts.

Thurgood Marshall College Senator **Kyle Samia** said that the project should be funded by Triton Tide, UCSD's "elite spirit crew," and debate continued about purchasing the equipment instead of renting it, use of the printer by other organizations, the need for further research on pricing and a string of additional concerns.

Sixth College Senator **John Cressey** expressed his disappointment with the council's skepticism over the proposal.

"She's done her research," he said. "If you don't trust finance committee then I'm not very happy about that. Finance Committee has done their research."

After the bill passed, the council considered establishing a public events manager for A.S. Programming. The new position, which would cost about \$47,000 a year, is designed to ameliorate the council's growing need for event planning.

Vice President of External Affairs **Dorothy Young** said the position shouldn't be created until the council secures funding, but the group still voted in favor of its creation.

At current funding levels, the position can only be supported for three or four years unless students approve a fee increase or the council cuts other areas of the budget.

Tension returned during open forum, when Associate Vice President of Local Affairs **Aida Kuzucan** took the floor to talk about the council's lack of participation at the Dec. 2 La Jolla Christmas Parade.

"This past Sunday I sat on a sidewalk for a half-hour," she started, before being interrupted by Biological Sciences Senator **Emma Sandoe** for speaking about council matters during open forum, which Sandoe said was a violation of Robert's Rules.

"Are you serious?" Kuzucan asked repeatedly over Sandoe's protests. "Let me finish. I sat on Sunday on the sidewalk for a half-hour dressed as an elf. No one showed up. No one felt the initiative to show up."

Kuzucan had to inform event organizers that UCSD would not be participating in the parade.

Although she was visibly upset at the meeting, her dismay changed to a desire to increase council participation in local affairs next quarter, and just in time for New Year's resolutions.



**New Business**  
**Michael Bowlus**  
mbowlus@ucsd.edu

# Unidentified Informant Found Pictures on Facebook

**HAZING**, from page 1  
sages from the source that, coupled with low security settings, established a thread allowing access to the brothers' profiles. The informant logged on under the alias of "Trent Jacobs" and was not part of any network.

"We never responded to the messages and have absolutely no idea who it is," Holmes said.

The evidence presented to Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. brought officials from the organization to UCSD's campus last month. The fraternity's undergraduate members were individually interviewed by officials, and pledging has been delayed while the investigation continues.

"We are working closely with university officials to resolve these issues," Braddick said. "The candidate program has been suspended until we finalize a plan to assist the chapter to move forward from this."

As hazing rumors continue to circulate, charges against other organizations within the Greek community have yet to be substantiated.

"While I cannot speak to any specific allegations, as a leader of the Greek community I can say that hazing is not tolerated by our Greek community and that any allegations are taken seriously," said Liz Hill,

president of UCSD's Panhellenic Council.

However, accusations of fraternity hazing have not been presented to the Interfraternity Council, according to IFC President Ken Schwartz.

"I do not know who made this claim nor why they made this claim," Schwartz said. "All chapters have

campus. "Hazing is a very serious matter," Student Organizations Adviser Marilyn Russell said. "Hazing is physically and emotionally damaging and can be degrading and humiliating for group members. It has no place in any organization."

If allegations of hazing surface, the Center for Student Involvement immediately conducts an investigation, evaluating the evidence using Student Policies and Judicial Affairs to determine if a violation of the Student Conduct Code has occurred.

Russell said she was unable to provide specific details about any hazing allegations on campus at this time.

According to the Sigma Nu Web site, the fraternity aims "to develop ethical leaders inspired by the principles of love, honor and truth" by overcoming "traditional recruitment practices and challenges." Sigma Nu enforces value-based recruitment, described as "the fraternity world's most cutting-edge recruitment program" to help "increase both the quality and quantity" of chapter membership.

Readers can contact Kimberly Cheng at k2cheng@ucsd.edu.

**The candidate program has been suspended until we finalize a plan ... to move forward."**

— Timothy Braddick, director of fraternal operations, Sigma Nu Fraternity Inc.

been advised to review their Risk Management Policies."

Hazing is a violation of both the UCSD Conduct Code and state law. Students found guilty of hazing can incur monetary fines, academic suspension and possibly prison time. Student organizations linked to hazing can lose their affiliation with the

# New Projects Could Cost Over \$160 Million

**DORMS**, from page 1  
extensive dining-commons renovation.

The physical planners will also incorporate extensive landscaping that will "capitalize on La Jolla's climate," according to the project's executive summary.

Ridge Walk will also undergo improvements so that it can act as the primary walkway for increased foot traffic.

The infill housing and support facilities, estimated to cost up to \$160 million, are still in planning phases, and UCSD Design and Construction Project Architect Mark Nelson is currently forming a building advisory committee to oversee the projects and provide student and faculty input.

Readers can contact Hadley Mendoza at hsmendoza@ucsd.edu.

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# Employee: Leichtag Workers Knew of Threat by 9 a.m.

► **THREAT**, from page 1  
ings for several hours, employees were informed they would receive administrative leave for the day and were permitted to go home, Deputy Director of University Communications Dolores Davies said.

Classes in nearby Center Hall were not canceled, though signs were posted warning passersby that there was a bomb scare across the street.

Foxworth declined to comment on the timeline of events leading up to the evacuation, and said he did not know when UCSD was initially aware of the threat.

However, Professional and Technical Employees Local 9 President Carolan Buckmaster said that campus officials were informed of the threats as early as the evening of Dec. 4, but still had School of Medicine employees report to work the next morning.

Buckmaster said that workers in the building's vivariums — facilities in which animal research is performed — were told that threats were directed toward "the animal facility." They were also asked to "look for any more suspicious objects" before they evacuated, she added.

"The UC received a threat last night against an animal facility and they let employees into the building this morning," Buckmaster said. "As one of the workers and a representative for the workers, we were very disappointed that the university let the employees into work today."

A timeline of the day's events will be released when more details are made public, Foxworth said.

Leichtag researcher and UCSD graduate student Minh-Ha Do, one of the employees evacuated from the building, said that her coworkers appeared to have been aware of a threat more than an hour before the device was discovered.

"People knew of the threat by 9 o'clock, and the alarm went off between 10:30 to 11 o'clock," Do said.

Revelle College senior Rachel Intriago, another researcher at Leichtag, said the building had received harassing phone calls from an animal-rights group the day before the threat was received.

Buckmaster said that the Animal Liberation Front, a prominent animal-rights activist group, contacted Leichtag the night before and the morning of the threat.

"They said, 'This is going to be huge,'" she said.

ALF representatives could not be reached for comment as of press time.

UPTE officials are planning to write a letter to Chancellor Marye Anne Fox detailing their grievances about how administrators handled the situation, Buckmaster said.

"We'll be writing her to tell her how unhappy we are, and that we don't want this happening again," she said.

Readers can contact Matthew L'Heureux at mlheureux@ucsd.edu.

# Campuswide Expansion Would Require A.S. Assistance

► **PARTNERSHIP**, from page 1  
which last year was languishing in funds. He said that the Grove is an ideal place for informal meetings with faculty members.

"Having students and faculty go to the Grove is a good, cheap alternative [to the Dine-With-a-Professor Program] and also helps an on-campus business," Jafari said.

According to Revelle Junior Representative Shibani Rajadhyksha, the program's benefits include a \$4 pastry and beverage deal as well as the opportunity to meet with a professor at the Grove twice per quarter, in contrast to the one-time policy of a similar but older Revelle program, Dine-With-A-Professor.

Jafari credits the success of the program to the communicative improvements made the process of pairing of students with faculty.

"Next Step has become a tighter-run program and still has potential for continued growth and success," he said. "The new partnership with the Grove can only offer more opportunities and a pleasant venue for relationships to develop."

While both Jafari and Rajadhyksha feel that the program has been beneficial to Revelle students, they agreed that expanding it to become a campuswide program would be problematic. They already struggle to recruit enough faculty members from the most popular discipline choices, and said that campuswide recruitment would be an even more difficult task.

According to Rajadhyksha, the program's current success is due to the close personal relationships between program coordinators and specific students and faculty. However, she said that she would support a larger-scale program if the A.S. Council agreed to organize it.

Barnett-Terry said she supports the program, and would also like to see it implemented throughout campus.

"I don't think any college has a program like this," she said. "Some of these faculty members are inviting students into their homes. How many programs allow you into the life of a faculty member at UCSD?"

Readers can contact Connie Shieh at cshieh@ucsd.edu.

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## END OF THE WEEK 10

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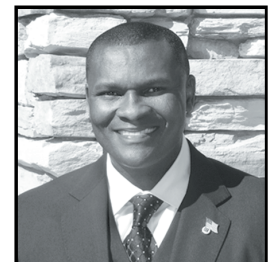
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MON. JAN. 7, 2008



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## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHANCELLOR'S CHALLENGE 5K RUN/WALK FOR SCHOLARS





Props to the Wachovia Foundation for its recent \$5-million donation to fund further construction of UCSD's Rady School of Management.

Flops to tree-sitters at UC Berkeley, who recently celebrated their one-year anniversary blocking construction of a sports facility, costing the campus \$367,000 in security fees.



## EDITORIALS

## Student Input Imperative in Free Speech Battle

Though the comment period is now over regarding changes to UCSD's free speech policy, the future of student freedom on campus remains nebulous. Input on the new guidelines was overwhelmingly negative — over half of respondents were against any form of regulation. The American Civil Liberties Union's San Diego chapter has also jumped in the fray, concerned about the proposal's legality — particularly the section dictating that students who assemble would need to obtain permits in advance, which would illustrate prior restraint on free speech. Now the university is forming a revision committee charged with addressing the comments and revising the proposal to accommodate students' right to free speech while protecting their study environment.

There is no doubt that the current proposal dangerously ignores student freedom. The changes transform a fair and effective policy, which has functioned for decades, into a tyrannical set of restrictions prohibiting even the most innocent of gatherings. By severely limiting the times and places people can congregate — even demanding that a group of 10 or more acquire a reservation to meet — the changes

would be catastrophic to UCSD's already-crippled campus livelihood. Meanwhile, the document's cloudy language regarding enforcement and reservation rejection leaves the door open for administrative abuse.

The question now is what can be done to update the policy, while protecting and promoting free speech. The committee, which will have 16 members selected by the A.S. Council, Graduate Student Association, Academic Senate, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs Steven W. Relyea and former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Watson, needs to listen carefully to the dissent, and work diligently to consider the views of the over 90 respondents completely against the policy.

The administration has been characteristically secretive about its specific motives for the changes, denying that religious activists or last year's Dimensions of Culture debate influenced the proposal. This, however, leads students to be rightfully wary of the extreme measures. The committee should participate in an open dialogue with university officials to better understand their concerns, and then incorporate that input with student comments to create a draft that accommodates



UCSD's research and study emphasis without impeding on students' First Amendment rights.

The fact that the administration would present such an inherently oppressive draft, regardless of its motivation, speaks volumes about its disrespect for the student voice. The committee needs to carefully counterbalance this with meticulous consideration of every possible implication that the final changes present. The group has the hugely important duty of guarding freedom in an instance that will impact students for decades to come.

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## A Pocket Guide to English: What's Mo'Fug and What's Not

Sorry, but I'm going to bypass the hole in the ozone layer, the Iraq War and the humanitarian crisis in Darfur and get straight to the meat: your mouth.

You may be asking why I'm choosing to explore such an overlooked part of everyday life. But language is so much more important than we realize, because it not



### Word Up

Matthew McArdle  
mmcardle@ucsd.edu

only conveys what we think, but also offers listeners a chance to find out a little about who we are.

For example, if you're one of those people who enjoy saying "irregardless" or "supposively," you're an idiot. If you say "amongst," you're stuck in the 1650s. If you pepper your speech with words like "impuissance," "abstemious" or "sesquipedalian," you're a pompous asshole. If you like to joke around with sexual words, you're probably not funny. And if you hand over your card to the bartender and say "Keep it open," you're my best friend.

Language is constantly evolving, and for good reason. As social creatures, we need to be able to communicate effectively. If you're not in on the latest lingo, you might find yourself unable to participate in common conversational topics. That's why it's so vital to understand the words around you, and, when necessary, invent your own words or phrases to accurately describe your personal life experiences.

Take, for example, the Q-gasm. It was invented to convey that ultra-gratifying feeling of clean satisfaction you get when you swab your ear canal and finally pull out the wax chunk that has been impeding your hearing for the last hour.

To describe such a golden feeling in one word, you have to be savvy.

See **WORD**, page 5

## Law School Partnership Could Soil UCSD's Prestige

The possibility of erecting a juris doctorate program at UCSD has always been just that — a possibility which, despite student support, has never fully materialized.

Although such an implementation would broaden the narrow focus of the university's graduate opportunities, funds have always run too short to realistically consider the prospect any time in the near future.

Recent talks with the California Western School of Law, however, hint at bringing a legal-study program to UCSD's science-oriented campus.

According to officials from both schools, they are currently considering partnership proposals that would support a joint program.

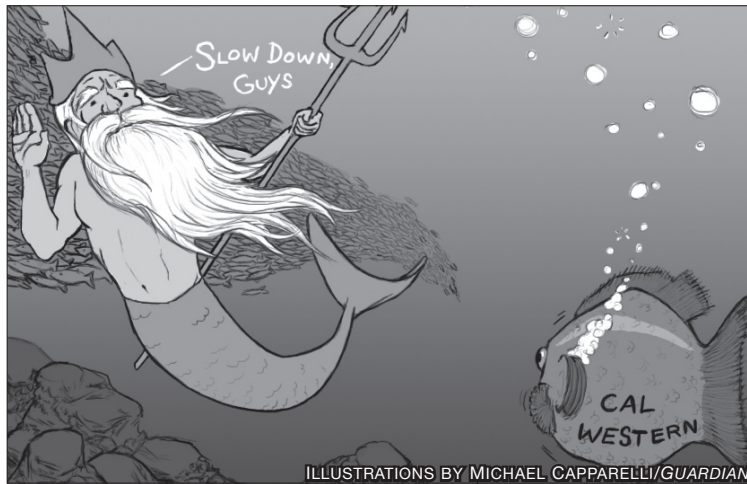
Though the alluring opportunity may win the hearts of faculty and students — many of whom have long hoped for a more developed

legal-study program — campus officials should be cautious not to rush into a hasty partnership with Cal Western. Doing so, especially without an extensive plan to implement sweeping improvements to Cal Western's currently mediocre program, would significantly weaken the strength and prestige of UCSD's academic reputation.

It would be like jumping onto an already sinking ship.

Unlike the UC law schools, which are typically ranked among the top 50 law programs in the nation (known as tier-one schools), according to U.S. News and World Report, Cal Western consistently ranks among tier-four schools (the bottom 50, out of the nearly 200 American Bar Association accredited institutions nationwide).

Unless campus officials have a plan to boost its disappointing ranking — a near impossible task given that jumping up in rank requires



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL CAPPARELLI/GUARDIAN

overtaking other already well-established universities — UCSD would be best to continue wishing for the day when it has the funds to found its own law school.

Otherwise it risks pouring money into an endeavor that would not

only disappoint the UCSD community but the rest of the UC system as well. And after that, there are no second chances.

Given these current circumstances, the prospect of a merger with Cal Western is simply too dangerous.

## Despite Lofty Ambitions, Upcoming Campus Nightclub Misses Mark

Administrators make honest effort to improve student satisfaction with new club but fail to appeal to target audience.

By James Yoon  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**STUDENT LIFE** — As ambitious as it is, changing the otherwise-barren social landscape of UCSD is possible. The creation of the Loft, a social lounge with a nightclub feel, represents the administration's earnest effort to respond to concerns over the lack of an on-campus community. Although the intentions behind the Loft are good, the presentation of the venue — even according to the administration's own standards — is slightly off the mark.

According to Seth Klonsky, production manager at the University Events Office, the Loft was designed

to have a relaxed and mellow feel and challenge the student body to become "a part of the club." Ideas ranging from an iPod jukebox to an LCD screen that momentarily displays the faces of entering customers are just a few ways to make people feel a much more personal connection with the space.

While these ideas are nice in theory, to play music through an interactive medium such as an iPod jukebox would only cater to the musical tastes of the iPod's owner, thereby alienating and possibly irritating the rest of the students in the club.

Furthermore, these new ideas will be experienced by a relative few, as the nightclub will have a capacity of approximately 130 people — extremely small considering that it is supposed to be a bonding mechanism for the entire UCSD community. This detracts from the core mission which, according to last year's Undergraduate Student Experience and Satisfaction prog-

ress report, should aim "to address the need for a greater physical, social and emotional community." To envision a tighter knit student body through a venue that can only

“These amenities ... seem to be designed for an older audience and are not appropriate for the undergraduate community.”

accommodate a fraction of one college is strange enough, but to expect that such a goal can be achieved within a campus that is nearly 200 times the venue's size is simply posterous.

Another alienating attribute of the Loft is the way it aims to be chic. The club will try to achieve this with a color palette that will undergo subtle changes — the lighting in the club will slowly dim as the day passes — and an open interior with a variety of ottomans and communal-oriented circular tables.

The overly artistic and mature environment of the Loft also poses an issue, as it fails to serve diverse audiences. The narrow focus on the details of the nightclub may backfire, as it could seem too fancy and over-the-top for many college-age undergraduates. Furthermore, the food and drinks served in the Loft may disappoint — a menu of wine and tapas doesn't exactly cater to the entire college crowd.

All these amenities, while nice, seem to be designed for an older audience (such as UCSD graduates) and are not appropriate for the undergraduate demographic. Simply put, wine-sipping and for-

eign food will likely target too narrow an audience to fully achieve the community bonding the campus so desperately needs.

The University Events and Student Life Offices should look at other successful off-campus venues to get a better sense of what students want.

By modeling itself to be more in tune with popular venues, the Loft could attract the students who would otherwise spend weekend nights at San Diego hot spots. In addition, the administration should increase student involvement in planning these sorts of programs so it produces a venue that interests several sectors of the student body. This can be achieved simply through a comprehensive survey that clearly demarcates one taste from another. Doing this would circumvent the possibility of creating a venue that is far too mature for undergraduate tastes, as

See **LOFT**, page 6



## If You See a Badonkadon't, Call It Out

► **WORD**, from page 4

I mean, you *could* simply say that it feels good to dislodge a stubborn wad of earwax, but Q-gasm is so much better. So next time you and your friends are discussing otolaryngology, feel free to bust out the term. You won't be sorry.

But it doesn't stop there. There are many more words and phrases that everyone should know and use in order to maximize their vocabulary and overall conversational skills.

The next time you see a flat ass walk by, call it a badinkadink. Or if the ass is big, yet ugly, it's a badonkadon't.

Ever wondered about all those big-sunglasses-wearing girls on Library Walk who advertise Greek letters on their badinkadinks and badonkadon'ts? They're called sorostitutes.

And for those of you keen on homophones, the fun just keeps on coming. If you've ever called your friend dawg, homie, brohound or, god forbid, BFF — just stop. Not only do my ears bleed, you're way behind the times.

There's a new breed of word for you to use. And pronunciation-wise, it's interchangeable with a different word that means ugly. (All you need to do is add an apostrophe for good measure. It's as simple as that.)

That word is mofug, and it's based on a modification of everyone's favorite expletive. Used in an example sentence, the word means "friend": *Hey mofug, what's going on?*

But the fun begins when you strategically insert that aforementioned apostrophe between the O and the F to get mo'fug. Then, the word means "more fugly." Again, used in an example sentence: *Damn, she's mo'fug than a fruit bat.* (If you don't think that's funny, check out what a fruit bat actually looks like and then reassess your opinion. If you still don't think it's funny, die.)

Finally, I have to say that people need to stop acting so self-righteous and get over the constant taboo associated with certain words. For example, the words "nigga," "retarded" and "gay" are for some reason considered globally offensive in all situations. But definitions are constantly evolving, and these words should only be labeled insulting when critically examined in conjunction with the conversation's context and tone.

Don't get me wrong. True, legitimate hate speech is disgusting, disturbing and hurtful, but there are those occasional situations that are literally so stupid that they can only be described as "gay." And where's the harm in greeting your close friend as your "nigga"?

A word's meaning is much more than what "Webster's New World Dictionary" lists; it's about how you use it, when you use it and what your true intentions are.

However, as with any term, don't overuse these words or you'll come off as a boring, uncreative idiot — save them for when they're truly necessary to capture the essence of the moment you're describing.

Language is an amazing tool. It lets us describe anything and everything, and if there's a term we can't think of, we can invent something else in its place.

And believe it or not, new language happens in front of our eyes every day. In fact, it was just two years ago that Merriam-Webster adopted spyware, biodiesel, manga and unibrow. And this year saw the addition of crunk, microgreen, ginormous, smackdown, sudoku and telenovela.

That's the beauty of language: fluidity. It's interesting, it's funny, it's provocative, it's exciting and it's infinite.

So use it to your advantage, nig-gaz.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Campus Officials Failed to Warn Employees of Threat

Dear Editor,

We are not paid enough to be sacrificial victims, and we are not trained to be a bomb squad.

On Dec 5, one of the staff working in the Leichtag Biomedical Research Building found a bomb.

The bomb was a propane tank strapped with nails and shotgun cartridges. We were extremely worried for the well-being of all our research staff and animal technicians that might have been harmed if the bomb had exploded. We are relieved that all ended well.

As the crisis abated, however, our relief turned to outrage. As we realized how our employer had dealt with the threat, UCSD received a bomb threat from an animal-rights group on the evening of Dec. 4 and again on the morning of Dec. 5.

Rather than calling for trained bomb experts to thoroughly investigate the threat and warn all the staff working in the building, the animal technicians were just told to keep their eyes out for anything suspicious.

Sheer luck avoided what could have been a massive humanitarian catastrophe leaving many injured or even dead.

That administrators at UCSD value our lives so little truly astounds and grieves us.

We demand an investigation and consequences for the supervisors and administrators that failed to warn employees first thing this morning and call in the appropriate authorities.

Our animal technicians are among the lowest-paid and hardest-working employees on campus. They have a true dedication to the wellbeing of the animals under their care.

They deserve better, as do the rest of the staff in the building.

— **Carolyn Buckmaster**  
President, UC Professional and  
Technical Employees Local 9

### This Season, Opt for an Animal-Friendly Holiday

Dear Editor,

The holidays are upon us, and for most people this season conjures up images of friends family, and, of course, lots of food.

However, this time of the year reminds me of UCSD, where, as a biology major studying animal behavior in 1997, I celebrated the holidays, for the first time, with vegetarian feasts.

My decision to become a vegetarian stemmed from my experiences working with bonobos (pygmy chimpanzees) during a special project at UCSD.

I started seeing these intelligent and inquisitive animals in a whole new light and began extending this new vision to other animals — namely the animals I ate for breakfast, lunch and dinner. It was also at this time that I discovered many of the hidden horrors of factory farms: Egg-laying hens are crowded in tiny wire cages so restrictive that they can barely move, let alone nest or spread their wings; mother pigs spend months at a time nearly immobilized inside narrow metal crates; and turkeys are bred to grow large so quickly that their skeletons often cannot keep up with their abnormal body weight. Standard practices also include castrating male calves and pigs without painkillers.

How could I, someone who was a self-proclaimed animal lover, continue to eat some animals while working to protect others? The answer was easy: I couldn't.

After celebrating my 11th meat-free Thanksgiving this past November I'm now creating another delicious animal-friendly holiday feast for friends and family to enjoy. The options are endless: cashew nut

roast with herb stuffing or a "meaty" mushroom loaf with mashed potatoes, gravy and traditional sides, that will satisfy everyone's taste buds. Alternatively, I can run to the neighborhood grocery store and pick up a meat-free Tofurky roast with all the fixings.

I'm hardly alone — millions of Americans are sharing their holiday spirit with the animals by celebrating with vegetarian foods. Make this holiday season a compassionate one by visiting TryVeg.com for quick and easy recipes that everyone can enjoy.

— **Noelle Callahan**  
Outreach Assistant,  
Compassion Over Killing

► *The Guardian welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be no longer than 500 words, typed, double-spaced and signed with a name and applicable title. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the Guardian office on the second floor of the Student Center or e-mailed. Send all letters to:*

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# Prohibition Smokes Out San Diego's Youth Culture

By Charles Nguyen  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

**LOCAL NEWS** — Call me a political tourist, the kind that visits a place and wishes it was home. Right now, San Diego is far from home for this young local native, who has visited a bevy of major cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco, which are more likable and liberal in policy. The problem with San Diego seems to be a political resume where old-school reigns. The city's latest crusade against alternative lifestyle sees City Attorney Mike Aguirre standing against water bong. Before that, he targeted beer on the beach. Even before that, the city took on medicinal marijuana. And in between, it was mini-dorms. All of California is moving to the left as America's Finest City edges right-wise, meanwhile showing out the city's youth.

Flubs routinely come administratively from all the aforementioned scandals, city officials adopting hard-line stances that inherently excise the interests of their younger constituents.

The latest issue involves the local sale of all water bong, which is now prohibited under Aguirre's cease-and-desist mandate. Under the regulations, distributed citywide late November, every smoke shop must stop the sale of all paraphernalia — the expansive blacklist includes glass and water pipes, scales and any smoking accessories.

Aguirre hasn't understated his mission's intensity: the city attorney calls the shops "exploitative" places that sell a lot of "crap." Breaking the rules can result in up to a year of jail time or a \$1,000 fine per type of displayed illegal equipment. Aguirre said part of the problem is jargon-related flexibility, where the shops dub paraphernalia with euphemisms to comply with state and federal laws. Supplies are used for legal tobacco smoking and, beyond that, the customer is liable.

What Aguirre considers com-

mercial deviousness, I consider a great moment in civic compromise. Much like the brown paper bag that conceals illegal alcohol presence in public, rewording terminology as it comes to paraphernalia provides the needed legislative space between the city and its citizens — it's a "see-no-evil" understanding that this city seems to totally ignore. And until crime and drug use spills into the streets of Pacific Beach and Hillcrest, where many of San Diego's smoke shops reside, there is no need for Aguirre to disturb that compromise.

Aguirre's effort is the latest step in shrinking the world for college-age San Diegans.

Recently, the city and he went after beachside alcohol presence. The ridiculously overbearing proposal instated a temporary ban of alcohol on local beaches.

**San Diego is becoming undeniably inhospitable to citizenry aside from its elderly, home-owning demographic."**

Aguirre also masterminded the city council's city-wide move against mini-dorms. That plan was passed, and currently bars large groups of students from living together. In 2006, San Diego County offi-

cials targeted medicinal marijuana, appealing a San Diego Superior Court decision to uphold state law permitting marijuana's medicinal use.

As devil's advocate, Aguirre is simply catering to his customer base.

The bulk of San Diego's populace is some combination of conservative, military, elderly and rich — all are voter types whose interests clash with smoking, drinking and college kids living together.

But where is the love for yuppies? What politician will stand for San Diego's burgeoning young-adult population that supports the region's most profitable industries, such as biology research? San Diego is becoming undeniably inhospitable to citizenry aside from the its elderly, home-owning demographic.

Readers can contact Charles Nguyen at [charles\\_nguyen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:charles_nguyen@sbcglobal.net).

## Limited Access Will Hamper Loft's Ability to Evoke Community Feel

► **LOFT**, from page 4

The Loft is currently doing.

In a school where social hierarchies and parties have been replaced by study groups and weekly "Super Smash Bros." tournaments, the Loft represents a fresh new challenge to nerdy norms.

However, despite the genuine

effort put into the venue's environment, the future success of the nightclub is hampered by several qualities that contradict the administration's own guidelines for student-life services.

Readers can contact James Yoon at [jamesjyoon@gmail.com](mailto:jamesjyoon@gmail.com).



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THE GUARDIAN



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 • "Rec-Room Therapy"  
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## Let *it* Show

DITCH GRANDMA'S FRUITCAKE FOR BLOOD PUDDING, BUNS IN THE OVEN & CHIPMUNKS ON AN OPEN FIRE

### 12.7 *The Golden Compass*

In the void left behind by "Lord of the Rings," fantasy-adventure "The Golden Compass" arrives just in time to submerge kids and kids-at-heart in another children's-novel-turned-movie trilogy. This time, the mystical land is more familiar as an alternate-universe Oxford, where people's souls physically manifest themselves as animals. The heroine, Lyra Belacqua (newcomer Dakota Blue Richards) must rescue her friend from the claws of villainous "gobblers," using her

trusty Alethiometer (a truth-telling gadget) and balls of steel to hunt for, of all things, dust. Throw in witches, talking polar bears and Nicole Kidman and you have one hell of a thrilling fantasy epic. And though there has been some grumbling about the film's quality of special effects (not to mention the God-killing subtext), the lively pace and quirky storyline compensate for a shoddy-looking critter or junior theology lesson.

— Autumn Schuster



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA

### 12.14

#### *Alvin & the Chipmunks*

Hip-hop may claim the chipmunk sound effect as its own, but the founders of the movement were none other than Alvin and his two bros Simon and Theodore. It all started when Dave (Jason Lee), a failed musician, found the wily chipmunks causing a ruckus in his cupboard, and made a deal to adopt them only if they'd sing on his next album to impress his boss Ian (David Cross).

The plot gets deeper, but going into detail would spoil the twists. Tim Hill, Hollywood director of "Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties" fame, takes command of the 3-D animal actors as well as their 1-D human counterparts. Fingers crossed for a "Marmaduke" movie with Ted Danson.

— Chris Kokiousis



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

### 12.21

#### *Margot at the Wedding*

On the heels of his acclaimed divorce downer-comedy "The Squid and the Whale," director Noah Baumbach returns with another talky expose on the family unit, "Margot at the Wedding."

Margot (Nicole Kidman), a narcissistic writer who draws upon her own twisted family dynamics, shares an inferiority complex with her betrothed sister Pauline (Jennifer Jason Leigh). Meanwhile groom-to-be Malcolm (Jack Black) loves Pauline dearly but is rebuked by Margot, branded the type of awkward putz the sisters rejected in high school. Hilarity ensues as the neurotic sisters jab at each other with the worst intentions. Go if you like biting exchanges between wasps, or if you're into Jack Black shtick.

— Chris Kokiousis

### 12.7 *Atonement*

"Atonement" is exactly what it was intended to be: a World War II uber-melodrama about love and lies, and the most belligerent Oscar bid since "Forrest Gump." It's brilliantly written, beautifully filmed, sublimely acted, courageously directed and guaranteed to take home every single gold-plated Mr. Clean that the Academy can press out. It's so good it will almost make you sick.

James McAvoy ("The Last King of Scotland") and Keira Knightly are the grotesquely attractive lovebirds, who journey through a physically and

emotionally deteriorated 1940s Europe as the war rages and hope begins to fade. Before the war, the two would have lived happily ever after if it weren't for a sheltered, naive little girl, who jealously accuses Robbie (McAvoy) of a crime, not understanding the consequences and eventually regretting her allegation. Cue the title, as she spends the rest of her life searching for a way to make things right amid the strains of war, with Robbie as a soldier struggling to find his way home and his Cecilia (Knightly) as a nurse heading toward the front, all hell breaking

loose in the meantime.

Not much more can be said without ruining your holiday trip to the cinema. Suffice to say, people die and Santa Claus isn't real. Even after an endless summer of wrist-splitters like "Surf's Up" and "Pirates," there's something to be said for the Hollywood system if it can so intentionally garner this much talent in one place and produce a masterpiece of such astounding caliber. If only it would do so more often.

— Josh Christensen



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

### 12.14

#### *I am Legend*

The year 2009: Will Smith is Earth's last man. No, this isn't Malcolm X's dream finally realized, it's this winter's leading sci-fi plotline.

American cinema's fourth run at the classic 1954 Richard Matheson novel plops us into an apocalypse where Smith, a virologist turned one-man-army, grapples with day-to-day survival after a self-made infection morphs all humanity into cannibals. Smith spends his nine-to-five collecting food, working out his pecs and touring a desolate New York City. Come night, Smith and his dog try to outlive their hunters, a vampire-like breed bent on bloodlust.

Originally, director Francis Lawrence was hot on the music video circuit, where "Legend's" one-man-saves-the-world motif was Justin Timberlake's one-dude-saves-the-dance-floor. While "Rock Your Body" and "I'm a Slave 4 You" credits are typically resume killers, Hollywood has a way of turning shit to success; Lawrence made his feature-film leap with "Constantine," Keanu Reeves' comic-based foray into the dark arts.

Director aside, "Legend's" main draw is its visuals. Come Oscar season, the film could be sporting some heavy gold for its tech work, which generates flesh-eating humanoids en masse to take a chomp out of Smith's fleeing ass. Also included: cinema's most sweeping, awing annihilation of an American landmark. Forget the Golden Gate's destruction at Magneto's hands in "X-Men: The Last Stand" and all that tripod mess in "War of the Worlds," "Legend's" missile attack on Brooklyn Bridge stands a cut above in visual wonder and thrill.

— Charles Nguyen

## In Which the Editor Swears She's Not a Bitch

Really though, I haven't always been such a bitter old wench. If nostalgia hasn't obscured my self-image too entirely, I was actually quite an enjoyable companion



### Straighter Than Narrow

SIMONE ELECTRA WILSON  
 siwilson@ucsd.edu

and conversationalist in the old days — honest, curious enough to listen and generally nonjudgmental (okay, that last one is the nostalgia) — and by old days I mean pre-Hiatus, or roughly two years ago. We (yes, you and I!) could possibly have had a pleasant little chit-chat about which new film we wanted to attend or respectfully exchange opinions on any album released within the last couple years as if it was "current" — and all without me ripping your throat out for assuming I'd want to discuss such an inconsequential topic as *music* with a fellow mortal such as *you*. Plus, if I've never heard of it — or especially if I have — it's probably not worth clouding the moment of precious free time in which you've cornered me. What's that you say? I'm afraid I don't understand; my only known words belong to an exclusively awesome dialect known as sarcasm.

Most veterans of music writing

See **NARROW**, page 10



### 12.21

#### *Juno*

When tiny Juno MacGuff (Ellen Page) decides to break the news of impending fatherhood to lug-nut Paulie Bleeker (Michael Cera), there's only one way she knows how: She moves an entire living room set to his front lawn and greets him before a morning jog, sitting atop the very chair where they performed the deed, stove-top pipe clenched in her mouth. Such is the charm of Jason Reitman's ("Thank You For Smoking") sophomore effort, a film so sugary sweet and drenched in cute bitterness you'll swear a trip to the dentist's office has long been overdue. For filmgoers who have drawers devoted to multi-colored scarves, or who cried during the last Shins album, your annual indie messiah has arrived.

The encounter between the one-time lovers is only the tip of the iceberg for Juno's unwanted venture into early adulthood. Knowingly incapable of raising a little one, she opts to hand the baby over to Vanessa (Jennifer Garner) and Mark (Jason Bateman), a couple who scream suburbia. As the seasons drift by, Juno gets bigger, the teasing gets worse and her sources of comfort slowly disappear, leaving only best friend Leah (Olivia Thirlby) and her almost-too-understanding parents (J.K. Simmons and Allison Janney). She also finds a confidante in Mark, whose similar taste in punk music and B-horror flicks reveals

See **JUNO**, page 16

COURTESY OF FOX SEARCHLIGHT



# recordings



**Ghostface Killah**  
**▪ The Big Doe Rehab**

DEF JAM

★★★★

VS

**Wu-Tang Clan**  
**▪ 8 Diagrams**

SRC / UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS

★★★★



Though Ghostface threw quite the diva's tantrum when his fellow Clansmen pushed their fifth official group release to Dec. 4, the same day *Big Doe Rehab* was set to drop, the New York rap titan must have known there wasn't much to worry about. After all, he's following up *Fishscale* (and underdog sequel *More Fish*) — arguably the most widely adored hip-hop album of 2006 — and currently holding up all the popular dignity his '90s-royal family still has, while the rest remain rutted in the same apathetic slump they've felt since 2004 (when Masta Killa's *No Said Date* at least made a shadow of a blip on the scene's radar).

RZA, ever the peacekeeper, pushed the Wu's *8 Diagrams* another week (not that it made a difference — both albums leaked early anyway); ironically, it's Ghost that could have used the extra time. His newest foray into the brutally honest day-to-day of a recovering drugie/criminal/playboy is 15 minutes and eight tracks shy of *Fishscale*, but that crunch makes all the difference — especially considering

he has once again overenrolled the guest class (though this time, not behind the production boards, to a fault). "You

gonna have to cut me off the track like cancer," Beanie Sigel threatens on "Tony Sigel," at which point he is actually faded mid-verse from an uneventful beat by Diddy producers the Hitmen.

"Supa GFK" ("Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's Ghost") doesn't even find enough time to separate the Killah's vivid violence from an untouched Johnny Guitar Watson funk line beneath, distracting proof that even the Clan king isn't above the superhero trend. During every phoned-in chunk from members of both Theodore Unit and Wu-Tang, we can't help but imagine how the stretch would instead sound in Ghost's own buggy whimper, his left-field proper nouns and Crayola details scribbled into the dull cracks. (Not that the gigantic posse should be dismissed altogether; its presence gives him a necessary godfatherly, Mother Ginger countenance.)

Lyricaly, Ghost only lets his weird-storm slack in miniscule increments, and even then it's for lack of room; the Doom-less backdrop, however, is a much clunkier giveaway. *8 Diagrams* ends up in quite the opposite predicament. RZA has had so much material rotting in the pipeline for so long that he's obliged to come equipped with an updated set of thrashers to preserve his with-the-times reputation. The George Clinton-featuring "Wolves" creeps with spaghetti-western whistles and handclaps, and "Unpredictable" strains to keep Timbaland pace with skittish, metal-scraping turmoil. But when overlaid with obviously disconnected rhymes from the eight Wu staples and fringe-member Streetlife, the dinner party turns awkward and eerily irrelevant.

In a perfect world, *Rehab* would be extended and tossed the kind of wildfire beats we got on *Fishscale*, and *8 Diagrams* would be compacted into a bonus EP. Or, better yet, Ghost and RZA would make nice already (the former only shows up on 3 *Diagrams* cuts) and admit that they're meant for each other. The slow tin slide and Roots-y chorus of "Killa Lipstick," *Rehab's* signature elevator-eyes number, can't handle the heat of snaky quips like "Double cokeheads who love cartoons/ Tight chicks who eat pussy, listen to Prince and play with they womb." Conversely, Wu's chorusy, Busta-esque "Starter" ticks with dark, schizo potential, but mundane lines like "All my independent Women/ Time to let your hair down" (from U-God) beg for the squirrely, nosy fetishes of Ghost, his flow permanently caught in an upward slant that never seems to hit the ceiling. But until these Clan heads find it in them to zen their midlife-crisis cranks, theirs is one hell of a racket to observe.

— **Simone Wilson**  
 HIATUS EDITOR



LARS INGELMAN/GUARDIAN

# The Final Review Session: Art, Or Something Like It

► **NARROW**, from page 9

that I know look back on their time with an almost pitying fondness that's often worse than the overpuffed importance of those still immersed in the practice. Entertainment journalism is widely considered the least pressing of the journalistic practices, wrapped up in romantic details too specific to the artist or isolated scene in question to solve any major political problems or expose social injustice or otherwise better the world for those more unfortunate than we.

And there is probably enough bad music writing (thoughtless, lauding press releases disguised in vague quirky-talk) to back up this brush-off a thousand times. But what I try to keep telling myself, tossing the front page aside for a sleepless night of squeezing chord sequences for meaning and attempting to wrangle the impossible debate of what makes something *good* or *bad*, then assembling a self-satisfying string of perfect adjectives to form sound-imitating literary music of my own (or something retardedly optimistic like that), is that art is ultimately what the rest of all that "important" crap is for. Why try to be free, try to survive, try to better our economic situations if not to finally just *enjoy* the rewards of human creativity?

So you see my dilemma. After being holed up in a dark room atop the Student Center (otherwise known as the Internet) for two years, trying to prove to myself there's a purpose in tanking classes and relationships to obsessively write and design shit nobody even sees, I've become this confused, foggy-brained introvert — half wistful prophet and half music snob (coincidentally the two types of people I think I hate the most). Then there's this over-analysis of self to top off the mix with a seal of doom. So if I've brushed you off or alienated you with wordy pretensions, as I tend to do — maybe it's only because I'm jealous. I get so caught up in writing and thinking about it that I forget to be *part* of it — I, the artless, who makes a life of observing and deciding the art of others.

In final review of myself, Hiatus Editor: two very enthusiastic thumbs down, but a few extra stars for effort, I suppose. And now to the three brave souls taking my place this winter. Christ: You're a better man than I. Thanks for putting up with my Wednesday-evening breakdowns, and good idea resisting my party pleas to stay home and watch movies instead. Koko Kisses: You made me remember what it feels like to be genuinely excited about music, and I want to fucking *talk* about it again. Seriously. Sonia (who could be heard saying, as I glared at a bloodied page of reads, "I hope Hiatus doesn't turn me into a bitch"): You're beautiful, and there's no doubt in my mind you'll keep the pages beautiful, no matter how you may doubt yourself. I've been there; it sucks, but there's nothing like the feeling once you've made it out alive. Now pardon me while I hobble out like the old sap I am, off to a country where I can't speak the language and Hiatus is nothing but an absence; where, with any luck, I can start acting like a normal person again. And maybe even liking it, just a little.



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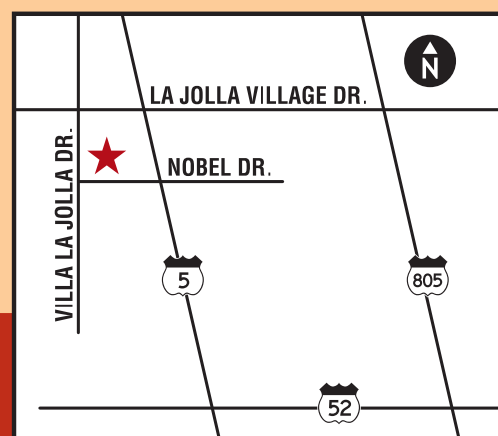


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# Giving Tree 2007

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



## Nintendo Wii

The Nintendo Wii is a unicorn, an urban legend — it doesn't exist. At least, that's what Mr. Mario would like you to believe. Secretly, about a week before Christmas, another few hundred thousand Wii consoles find their way onto shelves so hungry hype-drunk shoppers can buy them just in time for Santa day. If you're lucky enough to spot the motion-controlled, all-ages fun box in your local Gamestop or Wal-Mart this season, do yourself a favor and snag it. The console also comes packed with Wii Sports, a collection of simple multiplayer games that allow dad, grandpa or baby to compete. Make sure to grab a couple retail games too: The trippy space platforming in Super Mario Galaxy and mammoth 50+ hour adventure in the Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess will make any pre- or post-puber giddy.

— Chris Kokiousis



## Do-It-Yourself

Are your pockets feeling the punch this winter? Don't worry — with the help of a few easy do-it-yourself gift ideas, you can still dazzle your friends without breaking your budget. The best thing about DIY gifts is that (if skillfully executed) they're more personal than slapping a few hundred bucks down for the latest techie gadget.

An "inside joke" box is the perfect present for your BFF, who's sure to recall the moments of hilarity that make your friendship special. Cut a hole at the top of a sealed cardboard box, then write shared jokes on individual cards and place them inside. Decorate with sentimental photos (bonus points if they're embarrassing middle-school snapshots).

For your significant other, a book of massage coupons is both easy and, more importantly, free. This is the gift that keeps on giving, and involves a mutual experience guaranteed to set the mood. Feel free to experiment with any other personal services you can think up (i.e. breakfast in bed coupons, lap dance coupons).

For a brother or coworker, try fashioning a personal beer bong. Ask the nearest pimply teenager working your local Home Depot — he'll know what supplies work best and where to find them.

Finally, there's the reason why DIY gifts were invented: mom. Of course, this is the one person who will love you unconditionally, no matter how much money or time you invest in her Christmas present. Regardless, the priceless macaroni picture frame or hand-drawn card is always a safe call and will evoke memories of those elementary school gestures of affection (before you totaled the car).

— Sonia Minden

## "Lars" Sex Doll

Made famous by "Lars and the Real Girl," an anatomically correct sex doll may just be the best present you'll ever give. After all, hasn't that bachelor brother of yours been lonely for long enough? What about the poor widow in your church choir? Everybody needs lovin' — and Abyss Creations has the perfect solution. At [www.realdoll.com](http://www.realdoll.com), you can choose from 10 customizable body types, 15 faces and five different skin tones to create your recipient's ideal PVC partner. Though the dolls may appear a bit expensive at first glance, who can put a price on stress-free, undeniably faithful companionship? To the tune of \$6,500, these silicon beauties are a steal for that forlorn friend, who can have his/her wish list of "female," "male," even "she-male" sex appeal granted at the click of a mouse. The best part about the dolls is that they're disease free, not to mention versatile — some models can change faces to spice things up at their owner's whim. And if that's not enough, you can order accessories like glow-cocks, extra wigs, or the flat-back torso of either gender. So, why not give the gift of a partner that never says no (or anything, for that matter) this holiday season?

— Autumn Schuster

## giPOD200 grill

Do you have a friend who longs to heat things up to the bangin' beat of Britney Spears' "Gimme More"? Well, the wait is finally over — culinary genius George Foreman has finally found a way to combine two life essentials: music and meat (or vegetables, if that's your thing). From the mastermind behind the grill that promises to "melt the fat right off" comes an MP3-playin', indoor/outdoor electric grill. Complete with 10-watt amps and a speaker at its base, the new GiPOD makes roasting a whole chicken while simultaneously

"supermanning that ho" a complete possibility. The GiPOD also features a 200-square-inch cooking surface and the same fat-separating technology as its older cousin. This is the perfect present for friends who have backyard parties or that spunky granny of yours who loves to gangsta lean while she grills. In any case, youuuuuuuuuuu too can grill and groove.

— Autumn Schuster



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**Giving Tree 2007** CONTINUED

*High-Def Holiday*

**Lakai:**  
"Fully Flared"

I know only four things about this highly-anticipated video — how it begins, how it ends, that it's seriously hardbody and will change street skateboarding forever. From what I've heard, the flick starts with everyone on the Lakai team doing a trick down a custom-made stair set — loaded with explosives. After the trick gets stomped, the stairs explode. So, if you know someone who likes skateboarding and shit that explodes — or skateboarding on shit that explodes — pick up "Fully Flared."

Pyrotechnics aside, this video is supposed to be as revolutionary as Girl's 1998 classic "Mouse." This shouldn't be surprising, given how much the two videos have in com-

mon: parts from Eric Koston, Mike Carroll, Rick Howard and — you heard me right — Guy Mariano. But, apparently the coup-de-grace is Marc Johnson's epic three-song-long part at the end of the video. Johnson was recently crowned 2007's Skater of the Year by Thrasher magazine, and rightfully so — he makes even the most hardbody of tricks look easy. His last trick, an ender-ender, has caused quite a buzz in the skateboarding rumor mill. If you care to find out why, go to your local skateshop on Friday, cop the DVD and see for yourself.

— **Willy Staley**

**BBC's "Planet Earth"**

If you want to do nature shows right, pick British. If you want to do nature shows even better, pick marijuana.

Both worlds can be simply combined for maximum environmental intimacy: Pop in BBC's award-winning up-close documentary on the Earth's myriad habitats. One puff, and that meerkat is wildly funny. Two, and you're running with the meerkat. Three, and you *are* the meerkat. No show has better put us in mother nature's shoes than "Planet Earth," and no drug besides bud is able to do the same.

The box set of the David Attenborough-narrated series is 550 minutes of nature's pure

visual glory. Viewers' favorite images include the unadulterated gore on Africa's plains to heartbreaking polar bears starving in a shrinking Arctic environment.

The show surveys the globe's remote territories with every eye-pleasing device known to man: couch-grabbing time-lapses paint extended visions of night turned to day and slow-motion sees wolves devouring mice at painstakingly slow frame rates. "Oh snap!" has personally been a regular exclamation following such eye pleasers. Buy the high-def version to evoke more stoner glee.

— **Charles Nguyen**

*"Flight of the Conchords"*

The "Flight of The Conchords" season-one DVD is the mothaflippin' gift for that special (non-Aussie) friend. The foot-tapping HBO comedy series features New Zealander duo Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie — aka Flight of the Conchords — trying to make it in New York's Lower East Side. Without money or a competent band manager, the crazy kiwis must deal with gig drought, racism and threesomes (not to mention Bowie). In each of the 12 episodes, the Conchords break into hilarious folk-parody acts to comment on various painfully ironic situations and on their attraction to American women ("Yes, sometimes my lyrics are sexist/ But you lovely bitches and hoers should know I'm trying to correct this").

— **Jeff Wang**

**THE NEW COAL**

*Barnes & Noble gift card*

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— **Willy Staley**

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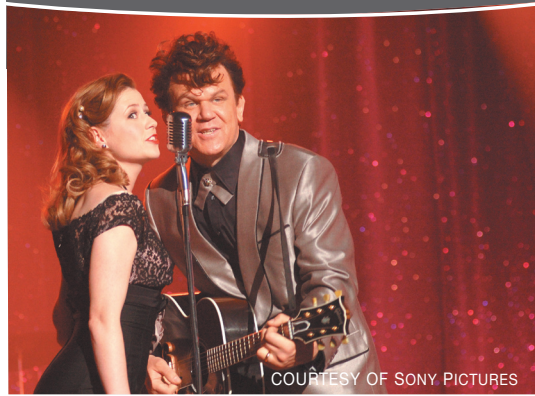
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Winter Movie Preview CONTINUED



COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES

12.21 *Walk Hard*

After “Knocked Up” and “Superbad,” the armies of Judd Apatow try to go three for three with “Walk Hard,” a blitzkrieg strike on popular musician biopics. The “Spinal Tap” offspring parodies Hollywood rags-to-riches narratives, following the fictional Dewey Cox (John C. Reilly) through a traumatic childhood, backup-singer affair and rock-star demise, brought on by his addiction to every drug under the sun. Witnessing John Lennon (Paul Rudd) call Paul McCartney (Jack Black) “a fat cunt” will likely be worth all ten bucks.

— Jeff Wang



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

12.21 *Sweeney Todd*

Director Tim Burton puts scissors back into the hands of Johnny Depp, this time with a barber’s smock in the screen adaptation of Stephen Sondheim’s powerhouse musical “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.” As an unjustly imprisoned man, Depp’s Todd submits to the madness and grief of losing his loved ones and vows to use his barbershop upon escape to exact bloody revenge. Recycling what seems to be half the “Harry Potter” cast, “Todd” features Alan Rickman (the evil Judge Turpin), Helena Bonham Carter (partner-in-crime Mrs. Lovett) and Timothy Spall (slimy henchman Beadle Bamford) alongside the man who polished the role of the nobly immortal antihero as Captain Jack Sparrow. Full of entrancingly horrific imagery and armed with an experienced cast, “Todd” is poised to be another prized addition to the Burton/Depp wall of fame, right between “Corpse Bride” and “Edward Scissorhands.”

— Neda Salamat

12.25 *The Great Debaters*

Everyone knows how smoothly eggnog goes down, especially with some Denzel Washington: that cheek-to-cheek grin; that curdled intensity; that cock-eyed stare; that timbre-rattling cackle are all holiday mainstays as much as Santa’s fat ass.

This year, America’s storied tradition of “Christmas-then-a-movie” flaunts its expected pomp and tinsel with Washington’s latest vehicle, the unabashedly uplifting “The Great Debaters,” which follows a group of quick-lipped kids through Jim Crow-era racism. The budding upstarts don’t lack in heart, but need Denzel-caliber direction to beat out their highbrow competitors at Harvard.

Washington’s return to the director’s seat, after a terrific directing/acting turn in the expertly tenderized “Antwone Fisher,” jumpstarts what could otherwise be a holiday-day yawn. Naysayers envision another “Remember the Titans,” and it’s not that far a stretch: “fight for your right to play football” turns into “fight for your right to debate,” and both see Denzel doing the father-figure thing against a civil-rights-movement backdrop. But only in “Debaters” will audiences get Denzel laying verbal whoop-ass on snooty ivy-leaguers — surely a new way to enjoy Christmas.

— Charles Nguyen

12.25 *Youth Without Youth*

We thought that influential “Godfather” and “Apocalypse Now” director Francis Ford Coppola had ended his career with “Jack” back in 1996. But now, Coppola steps off his Napa Valley vineyard to tell the story of an aging professor’s life-awakening hours before the onset of World War II. That the professor is played by the

finest of character actors, Tim Roth (“Pulp Fiction”), makes Coppola’s stab at cinematic resuscitation all the more curious. Whispers surrounding “Youth” say Coppola’s in fine (if slightly flawed) form. While he may not have rediscovered his own youth, he’s at least set the moviemaking wheels back in motion.

— Chris Merten

12.21 *Charlie Wilson’s War*

How do Americans conduct politics, and how do Americans conduct war? “Charlie Wilson’s War” has the same answer for both questions: with charisma. And with Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts and Phillip Seymour Hoffman behind the masks of the power players involved, the charisma is palpable.

If you’re not a poli-sci major, you likely know next to nothing about U.S. involvement in the Russia-Afghanistan war of the 1980s. Or even that Russia was ever in Afghanistan, or that our covert involvement helped us in the Cold War. But neither did Charlie Wilson (Hanks) — that is, until political operator Joanne Herring (Roberts) got a hold of him.

Before that, Wilson was just like any other coke-snorting, whisky-guzzling, womanizing congressman. Sure, he’s still a guileless son-of-a-bitch when the movie’s over, but his accomplishments in the meantime

— with the help of CIA operative Gust Avrakotos (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) — is astounding. Wilson wheels and deals with foreign dignitaries in a thick Texan drawl, building a tenuous alliance to buy and distribute Russian weapons for Afghan insurgents while keeping domestic scandals under wraps. Gust makes deadpan remarks as Wilson sips booze, surrounded by his army of gorgeous secretaries. Although Roberts may be just another wide-eyed starlet who takes up screen time, Hanks and Hoffman are masters of the acting craft, and their scenes together are the heart of the film.

But “Charlie Wilson’s War” isn’t just about cocaine and strippers, fast-talking congressmen and low-cut blouses. As witty as the characters are, their story teaches a tragic lesson about the way our country conducts itself in the world, and about the consequences of our shortsightedness.

— Josh Christensen

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# Hunky-Dory 'Baby' Floods Playhouse in Parody

By Simone Wilson  
HIATUS EDITOR

The only way one could hope to butcher a parody as hardened as John Waters' 1990 Americana campfest "Cry-Baby" — starring a fresh-from-puberty Johnny Depp at its gyrating rocka-hillbilly core — would be to miss the humor in its more subtle cultural jabs. But subtle in a Waters piece could still sock us in the eye from clear across the drive-in; tucked into the cozy La Jolla Playhouse cavity, we are positively pummeled. The stage adaptation of Waters' youthful "Not Another Teen Movie"-strain celebration in 1950s stereotypes was guided through all stages of production by the strangling himself — following up the Broadway success of his slightly less-perversed "Hairspray" — and the new script hammers the film's original mocking points so hard that "Cry-Baby" even begins to parody its own parodies.

We begin, of course, at the annual anti-polio picnic, where diseases are icky (along with UFOs, weirdos and communists) and square is the only way to roll. But when a gazebo-crashing gang of big-bad drapes roar in from stage right, the small get-together soon balloons into an all-company summarization of the film's entire first quarter, squished into a polio-vaccination needle and rammed up our overstimulated behinds. How mean are these greasy leather-jackets from across the tracks? "So damn mean that we don't like Ike!" Why does this grown baby cry? "It's like callin' someone curly when they don't have hair!" That's right — the woeful orphan's nickname was born of cold irony, because one solitary tear is all his lonely left cheek will ever wick.

Lead actor James Snyder (resem-

bling a baby-fattened, more flamboyant Robert Downey Jr.) may not writhe with the same knee-weakening smolder as Johnny — hell, who could — but his stupider sexlessness allows us to snap any last longings of belief and sit back for this upgraded parade of bubbling superficiality, never without a few extra helpings of American cheese. But Cry-Baby's rock-star spasms are apparently enough to win over one particular square in pink: the blonde-blonde Allison, played by an abrasive, almost rubbery-voiced Elizabeth Stanley. By the time the garden-party number has wound from its whirling class war, the devil's-music posterboy and his object of repressed lust are already in the throes of professing "infection" with each other's sudden love. It's certainly one of the faster-moving Romeo/Juliet relationships, but in a Pleasantville *this* sexually deprived, one can't help but get a little carried away. (So far, in fact, as to request a slip of pink mouth-muscle later that night on a racy escape to makeup point. Ooh la la!)

For all its inevitable exaggerations, "Cry-Baby" does admirably dodge a few key cliches of musical theater, with some scenes reaching a novel level of strangeness. Psycho groupie Leonora loosens one more screw with every scene-stealing cameo, taking the lopsided Turkey Point stage for a feverish solo and acting out her matrimonial fantasies alongside head-square Baldwin (Christopher J. Hanke) in a brilliant bridal-shop romp. Though the film's original climax — Alison's siren-steamy "Please Mr. Jailer" — is sidestepped completely, its memory is soon stomped out by the passive-aggressive tension of "A Little Upset," a feat in gymnastic "Stomp" choreography that sees

a herd of pent-up inmates ("I must have woke up on the wrong side of my rat-infested cot") give the Wiffle cheerleaders a shackle-shattering run for their bake-sale money.

In an overkill only musical theater could aspire to, the Playhouse's closing scene looks "We Go Together" from "Grease" straight in the eye for the most obvious of all the play's parodies, "Nothin' Bad's Ever Gonna Happen Again." As if to prove there's no way they could have taken this Waters business too far, the cast's three nonwhite members skip center stage, lit up by a glittering rainbow Ferris wheel, and declare racism a thing of the past; "Kumbaya!" harmonizes the line of cracker-jacks behind. "That's the moral of the story," the squares and drapes sing, finally finding something they can agree on: "Everything is hunky-dory!"

"Cry-Baby" continues its run at the La Jolla Playhouse until Dec. 15.



COURTESY OF LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

## druthers

HIATUS PICKS  
THE WEEK'S  
BEST BETS

### "Eraserhead"

KEN CINEMA / DEC. 6 & 7 / MIDNIGHT

Is there any better way to kick off your holiday merriment than with David Lynch? There's more than your usual share of weird in this industrial tomorrowland of foreboding black and white, as Henry Spencer must play daddy to his girlfriend's mutant baby, unaware of the truths that underlie the tot's genealogy. "Eraserhead" was our invitation to Lynch's carnival of confusion manifested in later masterpieces like "Blue Velvet," and it's grainy brilliance is clearer than ever in a new 35mm print at two midnight screenings at the renowned Ken Cinema. (CM)

### Shonen Knife

THE CASBAH / DEC. 7 / 8:30 P.M. / \$15

Way before the 5678's became the quintessential cutesy all-girl group after woo-hooing in "Kill Bill," Japanese exports Shonen Knife fused raw Ramones chord progressions with Hello Kitty in the early '80s. Tracks like "Lazybone" and "Twist Barbie" charm listeners with schoolgirl rock-and-roll naivete and thickly accented vocals. Ls and Rs aside, the Osaka cult trio flies back to the U.S. to support its new record *Fun! Fun! Fun!*, making a pit stop at the Casbah this Friday. (CK)

## exit strategy

THIS WEEK'S  
ON-CAMPUS  
EVENTS

### UCSD WIND ENSEMBLE

Mandeville Auditorium  
Dec. 6, 8 p.m.  
FREE

### UNWRITTEN LAW, MURS & MORE

Price Center Plaza  
Dec. 7, 8 p.m.  
FREE

### "GOOD LUCK CHUCK"

Price Center Theater  
Dec. 11, 6 p.m.  
FREE

### "BURIED CHILD"

Galbraith Hall  
Dec. 6, 8 p.m.  
\$4

### THE SESS, THE SO SO GLOS & MORE

Che Cafe  
Dec. 7, 8 p.m.  
\$5

### ALLEGIANCE, BITTER END & MORE

Che Cafe  
Dec. 15, 7 p.m.  
\$8

### "TRADE"

Price Center Theater  
Dec. 6, 6 & 9 p.m.  
\$3

### LA JOLLA SYMPHONY

Mandeville Auditorium  
Dec. 8, 8 p.m.  
\$15

### CELTIC CHRISTMAS

Mandeville Auditorium  
Dec. 15, 8 p.m.  
\$39

## Season's Greenings

Open your presents without fouling our future. Follow these tips to enjoy a holiday that won't harm the planet:

**Gifts:** Show good taste while cutting the waste.

- Buy locally made gifts.
- Choose gifts made from recycled materials.
- Reject battery-powered products.
  - "Regifting" is OK.
  - Use gift bags or wrap with environmentally friendly paper secured with ribbon, not tape.

**Lighting:** Bright ideas help lessen impact.

- Reduce the size of outdoor lighting displays.
- Use LED lights for house and tree lighting.
- Minilights save energy.
- Turn off decorative lighting at bedtime.

**Reuse and Recycle:** Give gifts that keep on giving.

- Reuse or recycle packing materials.
- Save any special gift wrap, ribbons and bows.
- Recycle old electronics.
- Bring Christmas trees to municipal chippers for composting.

Find these tips and more at [www.eartheasy.com](http://www.eartheasy.com).

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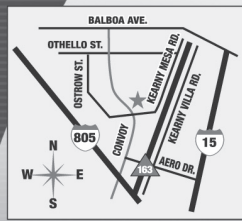
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BILD	1	BIOLOGY	7	\$158.70	3%	\$153.94
BILD	1,2,3	BIOLOGY BUNDLE (TEXT+S.G.+PRS REBATE CARD)	7	\$210.70	16%	\$176.99
BIPN	100-05	HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY BUNDLE (TEXT W/CD+WKBK) FUND OF GEN , ORG & BIOL CHEM BUNDLE (TEXT W/MEDIA PACK+S.G./FULL SOLN MAN.)	4	\$205.00	6%	\$192.70
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CHEM	132	PHYS CHEM BUNDLE (TEXT+SOLN MAN.)	5	\$241.40	11%	\$214.85
CHEM	114B	FUND OF BIOCHEM BUNDLE (TEXT+COMPAN.+TAKE NOTE)	2	\$250.70	6%	\$235.66
CHEM	120B, 140A,B, CHEM C	INORGANIC CHEMISTRY BUNDLE (TEXT+SOLN MANUAL) ORGANIC CHEM BUNDLE (TEXT+S.G./S.M.+EBOOK+Q'AIRRE)	5	\$329.55	38%	\$204.32
CHEM	149B	ENVIRONMENTAL CHEM BUNDLE (TEXT+S.M.+UCSD FLYER) CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES BUNDLE (TEXT+S.M.+QUESTIONNAIRE)	3	\$154.80	33%	\$103.72
CHEM	6A,B	CHEM 6A,B	4	\$216.95	18%	\$177.90
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ECON	110A,B, 120A	MACROECONOMICS W/ OR W/O CD INTRO STATISTICS FOR BUSINESS & ECONOMICS	4	\$154.00	29%	\$109.34
IRGN	431	IRGN 431	4	\$133.35	35%	\$86.68
LIFR	1B,C	MACROECONOMICS W/ OR W/O CD DEUX MONDES BUNDLE (TEXT+WKBK)	4	\$154.00	29%	\$109.34
LIGM	1B	LIFR 1B,C	5	\$180.05	12%	\$158.44
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LISP	1B,C	LIIT 1B	5	\$157.70	5%	\$148.87
		LISP 1B,C	6	\$189.35	12%	\$166.63

\*Prices and discounts subject to change without notice.

UC San Diego Bookstore

# Reitman Births a Thrift-Store Heroine in Label-Rebel 'Juno'



► **JUNO**, from page 9

a new image of him, as well as hidden tension between the married W.A.S.P.s

But what will capture you, dear populist hipsters, is Reitman's attention to character detail, from Paulie's addiction to tic-tacs to Juno's obscure reference to her unborn child as a "sea monkey." It seeps all the way into the dialogue, laced with verbal oddities like "Wizards!" to indicate Paulie's deep awe, or Juno shouting "Thundercats Ho!" to imply her water has broken. Half the fun is waiting to hear what absurd thing will be uttered next. This seamlessly combines with the chilly Michigan neighborhood the characters inhabit, every color of the land so stark that the environment changes with the characters.

The film owes more than its fair share to predecessors like "I Heart Huckabees" and granddaddy "Rushmore," which is probably not a discredit to Reitman, whose "Smoking" two years prior proves he's more than a style-stealer — yet the signal from audiences is that they've already



**Juno**  
 ★★ ★  
 Starring Ellen Page, Michael Cera & Jason Bateman  
 Directed by Jason Reitman  
 92 min.

grouped "Juno" into the grotesque genre of "quirky comedy." It's a shame, since "Juno" is a fine film — albeit not a new initiate into the classic cinematic canon, like "Rushmore," but deserving far more credit than another predictable marketing label slapped across its forehead. And yet after the sudden success of "Little Miss Sunshine," every studio and thrift-store stock girl wants to buy in on the next big thing, and it looks like festival-darling "Juno" is the latest casualty. Soren Kierkegaard wrote: "Once you label me, you negate me," so do this enjoyable slice of 2007 a favor — stop the branding and let it bask in its own fleeting beauty.

— *Chris Mertan*

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The junior guard hit three of four three-pointers and finished with 17 points in 31 minutes to lead the Tritons over Chico State on Dec. 1.



## CHEATING SHOULDN'T BE SUBJECTIVE LABEL

Barry Bonds, the all-time home run king, has finally been indicted.

So to all you Barry-haters out there, before you pop open a bottle of your finest champagne to celebrate the demise of baseball's legendary villain, ask yourself why Bonds' indictment is being hailed as the ultimate victory against cheating in professional sports. Ask yourself why so much attention has been focused on the exploits of one man, while the sports world around him cannot itself boast a spotless record.

As hard as it is for me to admit, Barry is an asshole. Being a die-hard Giants fan, it took me years to realize it — and it breaks my heart to this day. A childhood spent idolizing the man led me to develop a glorified image of him. No matter how many times he turned down my requests for a simple autograph throughout my youth, I still adorned my walls with his posters and



### Blanc on Base

Jake Blanc  
jblanc@ucsd.edu

memorized all of his Hall of Fame-worthy statistics.

With the indictment charges, it now seems that Bonds began dabbling with the juice in 1998, setting in motion a span during which he broke both the all-time single season and career home run records and won four straight MVP awards from 2001-04. And he did it all at a point in his career when most ball players retire because of tired knees or blown-out elbows.

Of course, Bonds skeptics ignore the fact that he batted .360 and won the National League batting title one year removed from breaking the single season mark. Surely, having bigger muscles must allow you to have the patience and hand-eye coordination to take a breaking pitch to the opposite field for a clean single, right?

Also left out of the Bonds debates are his 500 stolen bases, most of which were recorded before his supposed steroid use. Now, with public opinion vehemently against him, it is ironic that Bonds was the leading vote-getter for the All-Star Game for over a decade, chosen by fans year in and year out as their most respected and idolized player.

But none of this means anything anymore, because I guess Bonds is a cheater. Every single one of his home runs should have an asterisk next to them and Marc Ecko should be made the new commissioner of baseball. And the Hall of Fame? Forget about it; no way should a cheater like Bonds have a plaque that graces the same sacred wall as Ty Cobb, an unimaginable bigot and self-admitted murderer.

Bonds' critics abound, and reasons for his standing as baseball's anti-hero range across the spectrum from morality to racism. To those of you out there who blindly hate Bonds, but cannot give me any more reason than "he cheats," take a good look around and open your eyes to the sad reality that he's not sports' only cheater. Unfortunately for him, he just happens to be the only one who holds a major record and is harder to get along with than a strand of syphilis.

As baseball's bad-boy, Bonds could never be given the benefit of the doubt

See CHEATERS, page 19

# Strong Start Brings High Hopes



Junior forward Henry Patterson's play in the paint is a big reason for the Tritons' early success with opponents regularly focusing on and fouling Patterson, which creates open shots for his teammates.

By Joe Tevelowitz  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After impressive victories over California Collegiate Athletic Association rivals Cal State Stanislaus and Chico State, the men's basketball team has opened its regular season home schedule with back-to-back victories for the first time since its 2004-05 season. The Tritons will look to win their third-straight home game to open the season on Dec. 6 against Alaska Fairbanks, something the team has not accomplished since the 1998-99 season, prior to UCSD's move to Division II.

With a 2-0 conference record and 2-2 record overall, UCSD will attempt to even up the all-time series with Alaska Fairbanks, currently in the Nanooks' favor at 2-1.

Sophomore forward Andrew Browning was pleased with the Tritons' fresh start at home and attributed the wins to the team's preparation.

"I think that the two wins we pulled out this weekend were very important," he said. "We have been working really hard in practices, preparing for league [games] and winning our opening games gives us some momentum."

According to Browning, home-court advantage played a role in the team's victories.

"Starting off the league season at home ended up being beneficial for us," he said. "It was great to see some support from the students who came out and I know that we fed off their energy."

In the season's early stages, UCSD has exhibited a deeper lineup, with 10 players having played in each

of the four games, and three players averaging double-digit points, led by sophomore guard Jordan Lawley at 11.5 points per game. The Tritons also have three players averaging over two assists per game, led by senior guard Clint Allard's 5.5, and three players averaging four rebounds or more per game, again led by Allard at 6.8 per game. In comparison to last season, only two UCSD players averaged more than two assists per game — junior guard Kelvin Kim at 3.8 and Allard at 3.7 — and junior forward Shane Poppen was the only Triton to average more than four rebounds per game.

As a team, UCSD holds advantages over its opponents in assists and rebounds, as well as three-point field goal percentages. The Triton offense this season has appeared much more fluid, yielding more open shots and opportunities, with the team collectively shooting 39.5 percent from long distance.

Poppen, who is averaging four rebounds this season in addition to 6.3 points in 19.5 minutes per game, credited the squad's better cohesion for its marked success.

"Unselfishness is key in our offense," he said. "Our offense is a lot less rigid this year allowing for more freedom on the offensive end. The freedom allows our team to be more creative, but we also know to stay within the framework of the offense and set hard screens getting other people open."

Some of this season's early success can be attributed to the Triton's new head coach Chris Carlson. In his first-year at UCSD, Carlson has demonstrated strong leadership

See BASKETBALL, page 19

## Club Hockey's Playoff Spot Not on Ice Yet

By Janani Sridharan  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

UCSD's club ice hockey team is looking to improve upon a mediocre start to the season, including a 5-4 overall record, in order to earn a playoff berth and make a push to the national championships when their schedule continues after winter break.

UCSD's latest game was a 7-4 road loss to UC Irvine on Nov. 30, during which the Tritons got off to a bad start and allowed three early goals in the first period. The Tritons managed to take one of those goals back with a score by freshman wing Stephen Lockwood at the end of the first period.

The Tritons picked up the pace in the second period as junior wing Ken Yamashita scored two goals.

"We were feeling really positive going into the third period with the score 5-4," Yamashita said.

The Tritons' fortunes turned in the third period, as the Anteaters outscored them 2-0 to seal the win. Penalty troubles hurt the Tritons in their comeback attempt and ultimately contributed to the loss.

"We got out to a bad start in the game," junior wing Alex Azuma said. "We were disorganized in the beginning and weren't playing cohesively. We battled back but then had some unlucky calls that didn't go our way near the end."

The Tritons have had some disappointments this season, which is to be expected from a team that has only one senior on its roster.

"I think that we could be playing a lot better, but we have a pretty young team this year," Yamashita said. "We only have one senior, and the majority of team is underclassman."

Even with their struggles, the Tritons have had success this season

and their record, despite the loss to UC Irvine, is evidence of the team's resilience. UCSD's wins have come against Sacramento State University, Cal State Northridge, the University of Redlands and two against College of the Canyons.

According to Azuma, UCSD's 8-5 win over CSU Northridge on Oct. 13 was its greatest victory so far this season.

"We played a consistent game in all three periods against CSU Northridge," he said. "It was physical, hard-hitting game and we played aggressively on our zone defense."

The Tritons have a break before their next game on Jan. 18 against Loyola Marymount University. UCSD will then take on the University of Redlands on Jan. 19, playing the Bulldogs for the second time this season.

The Tritons will be looking for continued production from a few key players who have stepped up in the first half of this season. In addition to Yamashita, junior center Troy Miller and sophomore wing Kenny McCubbins have been key offensive players for UCSD. On defense, sophomore goaltender Ben Cohen has stepped up in his first season as the starting goaltender.

"He's definitely been a big factor in our games, stepping up and making really good plays," Azuma said.

UCSD has high expectations for the rest of the season, hoping to acquire a good position in the playoffs and a shot at the national championships.

"I expect nothing less than winning all the way through the rest of the season," Yamashita said. "We still have our toughest game against Northern Arizona and we could really boost our rankings if we win our games."

Readers can contact Janani Sridharan at jsridhar@ucsd.edu



UCSD's club ice hockey team is depending on its young players to turn things around in the second half of the season in order to earn a postseason spot and chance to win a national championship.

WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN FILE



# Tritons Responding Well to New Coach



SANH LUONG/GUARDIAN

Junior guard Kelvin Kim finds a lane to drive to the basket between two Cal State Stanislaus defenders during UCSD's Nov. 30 win over the Warriors.

► **BASKETBALL**, from page 18  
skills and basketball knowledge while establishing a solid connection with his players.  
"Carlson has definitely had a positive impact," Poppen said. "He drives us to be the best team we can be and truly believes in us."  
Browning, who has more than doubled his points- and rebounds-per-game totals from last season and emerged as a key Triton reserve and frontcourt stalwart, echoed Poppen's sentiment, saying that Carlson is taking the Tritons in the right direction.  
"Coach Carlson has done a great job [in] his first year here," Browning said. "He has made the transition of the coaching change go smoothly and has really exceeded my expecta-

tions coming into the year."  
According to Browning, Carlson's rave reviews stem from his approachability.  
"He is a great player's coach [and] is very easy to talk to on and off the court," Browning said. "His style of coaching sets us up for success. He incorporates competition into everything we do in practice and makes sure that we are always playing as hard as we can to win."  
The Tritons will look to push their early-season record to above .500 against Alaska Fairbanks, but the Nanooks will not bow easily.  
"Alaska Fairbanks is a really good team and have beaten some good Division I schools," Browning said. "They are going to be a tough team to beat, but if we bring the intensity

on defense we played in our last two games, we will have a great chance of winning."  
Following their matchup with Alaska Fairbanks, scheduled for 7 p.m. at RIMAC Arena, the Tritons will continue their homestand against William Jewell College on Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. and against Wayne State on Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.  
The Tritons will play two more games in January before UCSD classes resume for Winter Quarter, traveling to face CCAA opponents Sonoma State on Jan. 4 and Humboldt State on Jan. 5, with both games scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tipoffs.  
Readers can contact Joe Tevelowitz at [jtevelow@ucsd.edu](mailto:jtevelow@ucsd.edu)

# Belichick, Patriots Should Forfeit Pefection for Honor

► **CHEATERS**, from page 18  
for his actions. For the public to forgive a player, or a team, for cheating, they have to be able to win the hearts of fans and portray an image of good old-fashioned Americana.  
Take the case of the unstoppable New England Patriots, for example. Winning three Super Bowls usually tends to put you in fans' good graces, and right now the Pats have a fan base as big as their average margin of victory. It can't hurt to have a quarterback like Tom Brady, who is just as comfortable on the cover of GQ as he is under pressure from a safety blitz, either.  
But the New England Patriots are cheaters. Their head coach, Bill Belichick, was fined for stealing signals from the opposing team, and according to sources, it wasn't the first time. Many football fans and players will say that what Belichick did isn't a big deal, that all teams steal signals. But statements like that is eerily similar to the fact that Bonds is by no means the lone juicer in baseball. Within the ranks of baseball's nice guys, names such as Gary Matthews Jr., Miguel Tejada and Matt Williams have been linked to steroids. So why is it that the Patriots' brand of cheating is virtually ignored while Bonds faces a nation-wide witch-hunt?  
Arguing that New England's cheating is not as bad as Bonds' is like trying to justify one murder over another. I don't care if you think Bonds cheated — he did — but you should not be allowed to pick and chose which cheaters you want to persecute.  
Around the time that Bonds was approaching Hank Aaron's all-time home run record, a columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Gwen Knapp, suggested that Barry retire one home run short as a sign of respect for the game and as a way to make amends for his previous wrongdoings. However

unrealistic it may have been, it was a nice thought and would have surely quieted the majority of Bonds' critics. Let's not abandon that noble gesture, but instead apply it to the aforementioned cheaters: the Patriots.  
Only one team in NFL history, the 1972 Miami Dolphins, has ever gone undefeated for an entire season, but this year's Patriots seem to have a legitimate shot at repeating the incredible feat. If the Pats are 15-0 going into the season's final Sunday, I call on Belichick to forfeit the game to acknowledge his fraudulent ways and teach all of America's youth that it is unacceptable to cheat. Retiring before hitting number 756 would have been the greatest sign of honor to Hank Aaron and to the morality of the game. Likewise, conceding the 16th win of the season would illustrate Belichick's willingness to play the game the right way, and would be a tribute to the 1972 Dolphins, who we can safely assume didn't use video technology to cheat.  
Obviously we all want to move past this tainted era of cheating and scheming and hope that our beloved sports teams can return to the days of yore when games were decided by grit and determination. But using Bonds as a scapegoat will not help us get there any sooner; it will only create animosity and foster future discontent among both players and fans. Just be happy with the fact that Bonds has been indicted and will most likely now retire from the game. Let him steal away into the night, leaving his home run total to be broken by a future slugger. I implore you to show him respect that, as a player, he never fully showed you as a fan. Be the bigger person and remember him as the great player that he was, one who loved the game and loved his team. To err is human, to forgive divine, so cut Barry some slack and move on.

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TUES. DEC. 18th - Men's Basketball vs. Wayne State, 7pm at RIMAC.

FRI. DEC. 28th - Women's Basketball vs. Seattle Pacific, 7pm at RIMAC.

SAT. DEC. 29th - Men's Basketball vs. Western Washington, 7pm at RIMAC.

THE  GUARDIAN  
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Final movie quote: email the name of the film classic where the following was heard to mfulks@ucsd.edu and get a Green Card and Guardian pen. "Yeah, but you are aware that there's an invention called television, and on this invention they show shows, right?" (12/6)


The end of an era: The Ad Bros. officially disband after today, except for a few debriefs at Carl's Jr, and parked on the side of the 15. To Michael Foulks, I wish you and your family the best. I will miss the laughs and challenges we had together, and the Guardian was a great place to call home because of your friendship. Now I will have to make a pest of myself in your pool next summer. Stay connected, love Mike. (12/6)

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 **GUARDIAN SUDOKU**

Level: **1 2 3 4**

		9	6	4	
6		5	8	4	7
4					8
	2		3		
3	4			6	9
			4		1
2					6
8		4	7	5	3
	1	8	2		

Level: **1 2 3 4**

		2	1	7	3	
	8		2			1
			9			
	1	8	3	5	7	6
	7	3	6	2	9	4
			2			
	3			6		7
		9	7	1	8	

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

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Find SUDOKU solutions at [www.ucsdguardian.org](http://www.ucsdguardian.org)