

THE



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STUDENTS WILL VOTE ON \$22 SPORTS FACILITIES FEE IN SPRING

By Lauren Adams • Contributing Writer
Photo by Brian Yip

A fee referendum of \$22 to maintain student recreation facilities, such as the Canyonview swimming pool and two jacuzzis, was approved at the Feb. 23 A.S. Council meeting for Spring Quarter's all-campus election.

If students pass, the measure — proposed by Sports Facility Advisory Board — will take effect Fall Quarter 2013 to renew the 1981 student recreation facilities' \$12 fee that lasted 30 years.

The fee would continue funding the construction, maintenance and operation of the pool, two Jacuzzis, five racquetball and handball courts, and a shower and locker room located north of the Warren West Field, as well as night lighting on the Muir Field.

If passed, \$6.38 of the collected fees, or 29 percent, will go back to financial aid.

The proposed fee increase will not be added to the current RIMAC activity fee of \$92 per quarter, but act as a line-item agenda for separate expenses. The fee proposal is partially in response to the Return-to-Aid financial policy that was not included in the original referendum.

According to Campuswide Senator Anish Bhayani, the proposed fee increase is also due to inflation the last 30 years.

"To follow the numbers exactly, inflation from 1981 to now would result in a higher fee than \$15.62, but since the debt for the construction of these sports facilities has been paid off, the fee is reduced to maintenance, operations and improvement," Bhayani said.

According to Sports Facilities Planning and Management Director Donald Chadwick, the \$22 fee is determined by three factors: the Canyonview Aquatic Center's current operating expenses, enrollment projections and the return-to-aid fraction.

The \$22 increase will generate around \$1.8 million per year for operations and maintenance, including the three quarters and summer sessions. That figure assumes about 26,938 students for the academic year — including undergraduates, graduates and students at UCSD School of Medicine and Skaggs School of Pharmacy — and 10,080 students during the summer sessions.

The \$1.3 million of expenses for maintaining the Canyonview facility includes \$294,743 for staff salaries, \$34,895 for the weight room and \$825,730 for maintenance and operations. There is also \$25,000 for temporary funds and capital equipment and a reserve contribution of \$126,000.

"I also see benefit in this fee," Bhayani said. "Much more money will be flowing into financial aid because of this new fee, which will assist those who are struggling to make all their payments. The actual fee is not increasing by much, only accounting for inflation."

Bhayani said that if the referendum is not passed, sport teams and the aquatics department would suffer the most due to increased enrollment. He said the facilities would be increasingly unavailable for practice use.

"Although the debt service for the complex is retired, operational costs remain a continuing cost that rises with inflation," Chadwick said. "There is not another mechanism in place to pay for these services so, unless the fee

See **POOL**, page 3

A CLOSER LOOK

BATTERY CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST STUDENT REGENT

By Jonathan Kaslow
STAFF WRITER

The Orange County District Attorney decided not to charge UC Irvine senior Jesse Cheng with sexual battery. Cheng is the current UC Student Regent, the only student who is allowed a vote on the board.

A 22-year-old UCLA Law School student identified as "Laya" accused Cheng of sexually assaulting her on Oct. 3, 2010 and reported the crime on Oct. 26. Cheng was arrested on Nov. 4 based on Laya's accusations.

The District Attorney's office decided not to press criminal charges against Cheng in December, citing lack of evidence as the reason for dropping the case.

"[W]e cannot file a case unless we can prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt," Orange County District Attorney Chief of Staff Susan Kang Schroeder told *New University*. "And in this incident, we could not. The deputy on this case was not aware of any position that Cheng held, nor would it have made a difference."



NOLAN THOMAS/
GUARDIAN FILE

Laya presented e-mail evidence from Cheng in which he apologized for allegedly committing the crime.

"I'm sorry for sexually assaulting you," wrote Cheng on Oct. 19. "I am a horrible person for what I did for [sic] you. I tried to rape you, and I thank you every day for not letting me do that to you."

The incident came to light after Laya approached *New University* with the situation.

"I was scared Jesse would retaliate and with someone in his position, he has people around him who can and who have gone out of their way to silence me and convince me not to report the assault," Laya said in the Feb. 16 issue of *New University*.

Cheng spoke on the record for the first time this week, after months of silence. Due to an ongoing investigation, he finally clarified the matter.

"I am innocent of all accusations made," Cheng said in a statement. These accusations have been extremely painful ... My former partner and I were in a committed relationship for almost a year. Near the end of the year, it was clear that the relationship was not working out, and I initiated the break up."

Cheng explained why he responded to Laya's e-mail. "She was calling me 50 times a day for two hours on the phone a day," Cheng said in a statement. "To be honest, my life was cracking because of these phone calls. They were extremely

See **CHENG**, page 3

Reported Service Worker Injuries May Cause Steam Machines to be Banned

By Sarah Kang
STAFF WRITER

The steam machines that custodians use to clean students' dorms and apartments have become a safety issue. A.S. Council is now encouraging the Housing, Dining and Hospitality department to ban them.

Campuswide Senator Victor Flores-Osorio proposed the resolution against steam machines at a Feb. 16 council meeting. The resolution aims to call HDH's attention to safety concerns and conspicuous water usage.

The machines operate at temperatures above 240 degrees Fahrenheit, and have caused about 28 custodians to report injuries — such as steam burns, nerve damage, chronic neck pain and back pain — to HDH this quarter.

Flores-Osorio said he counted the number of injured workers by speaking with custodians and the Student

Workers Collective.

Many of the custodians are over the age of 50, so Flores-Osorio said it makes them vulnerable to back injuries in transporting the heavy machines on the stairs.

Custodians use the Karcher DE 4002 steam cleaners — which cost about \$1,000 — to sanitize bathroom surfaces, such as showers and counters. According to the online petition, these machines have a capacity of 10.5 gallons, but HDH only allows its workers to use 1 gallon of water per machine.

According to the manufacturer's website, however, the machine can produce up to 1,585 gallons of steam from its boiler capacity — which has 1.2 gallons with a run time of a maximum of five hours.

The Facebook event, called "Petition to Ban Steam

See **STEAM**, page 3

CANDLE IN THE WIND



ANDREW OH/GUARDIAN

About 100 friends and family of Revelle College senior Barbara Cano — who passed away on Jan. 20 in a car accident — held a candlelight vigil on Wednesday, Feb. 23 in Revelle Plaza to celebrate her life.

WEB POLL

DO YOU SUPPORT THE \$22 SPORTS FACILITY FEE?

- ✓ Yes
- ✓ No
- ✓ I don't know

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FORECAST

THURSDAY H 58 L 45	FRIDAY H 58 L 47
SATURDAY H 51 L 38	SUNDAY H 56 L 40

SUNRISE

6:23 A.M.

SUNSET

5:42 P.M.

NIGHT WATCH

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SATURDAY	SUNDAY

SURF REPORT

THURSDAY Height: 3-5 ft. Wind: 5-6 mph Water Temp: 60 F	FRIDAY Height: 4 ft. Wind: 6-8 mph Water Temp: 60 F
SATURDAY Height: 4-10 ft. Wind: 9-14 mph Water Temp: 60 F	SUNDAY Height: 6-10 ft. Wind: 3-15 mph Water Temp: 60 F

GAS PER GALLON

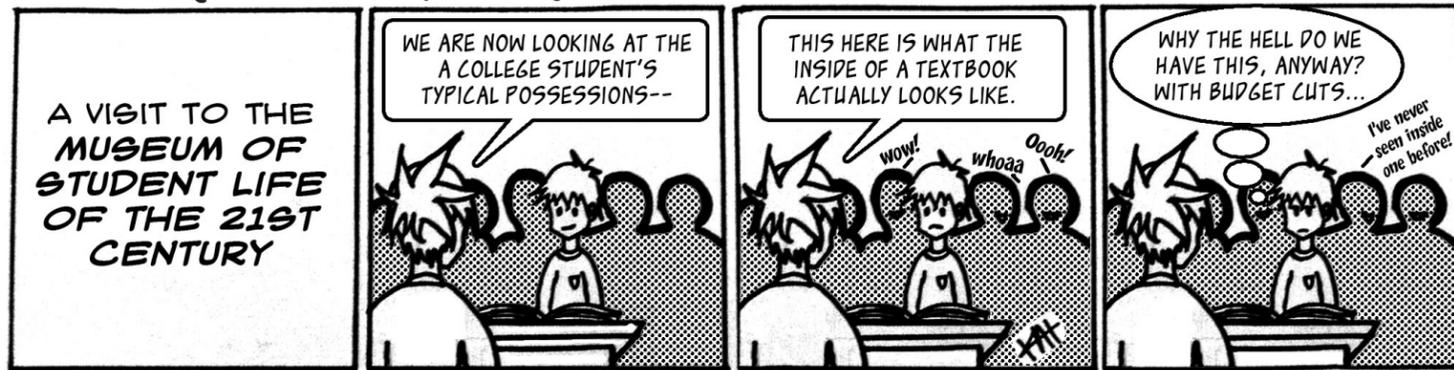
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\$3.39
Mobil, Escondido
2004 E Valley Pkwy & N Midway Dr.

HIGH
\$4.19
76, Southeast San Diego
2919 Alta View Dr near S Woodman St

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CLOSED QUARTERS By Kat Truong



AS PER USUAL By Dami Lee



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Researchers Discover How Neurons Wire Brain in Embryos

By Nisha Kurani
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Researchers have discovered how nerves wire the brain during embryonic development. The findings provide insight into generating new therapies for spinal cord injury patients suffering from nerve damage.

Using spinal tissue from mice embryos about 11 days into gestation, neurobiology associate professor Yimin Zou and his research team uncovered how nerve pathways are paved during

the early stages of development, when cells disperse to specific regions to form the nervous system. Until now, people didn't know how neurons moved and which chemical signals helped them.

The neuron movements are caused by growth cones, which are highly sensitive and motile structures located at the tips of growing nerves. The growth cones use *Wnt* proteins, which act as the molecules that move the neurons by creating a signal called planar cell polarity (PCP).

Although growth cones find their destinations by reacting to varying chemical cues in the developing nervous system, no one knew how they responded to the different chemical concentrations.

The findings also indicate the importance of the molecule Vangl2 — used in PCP to help the growth cone develop — in leading the axon toward its target. The molecule is highly concentrated in the filopodia, which make up the tips of the growth cones.

"This suggests that the tips of the

growth cone at the filopodia are the most sensitive part of the growth cone," Zou said. "It is not the entire growth cone that is evenly sensitive."

The research shows that Vangl2 responds to the signals created by the *Wnt* protein, which tells the growth cone where to move.

"While the growth cone is turning in a certain set of directions, the axon will grow longer, [which leaves] behind neuronal connections," Zou said.

The pathways neurons use to develop can be used in therapies for spinal cord injury patients.

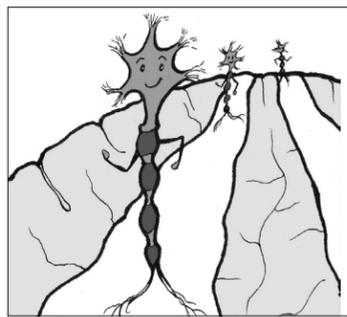
During severe spinal cord injury, neurons that allow for sensory input and motor output are damaged, and patients lose sensation and movement below the affected area.

"After axons are damaged, they can no longer regrow, and we get paralysis," Zou said.

The axon guidance system can be used to help neurons grow by using the *Wnt* signaling mechanism to try and repair axons after spinal cord injury, for both sensory and motor systems

"Once development is over, these axon guidance systems are temporarily put to rest — they are not working anymore," Zou said. "But if there is traumatic injury to the spinal cord, they can quickly re-induce those guidance systems."

Readers can contact Nisha Kurani at nkurani@ucsd.edu.



NICOLE OLIVER/GUARDIAN

CORRECTIONS

A Feb. 22 article entitled "UCSD Receives a 'C' Grade for Following Calif. Public Records Act" incorrectly said in the headline that the grade was a 'C'. The correct grade is a 'D'.

The Guardian corrects all errors brought to the attention of the editors. Corrections can be sent to editor@ucsdguardian.org.



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A PAPER FOR HER INTERNATIONAL MARKETING CLASS.

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Council Supports Researcher Who Faces Deportation

President **Wafa Ben Hassine** praised council last night for having moved through 11 new business items at such a fast pace — three hours may be longer than the average meeting, but council got much more done.

Council passed the recreation facility fee referendum, which would charge \$22

per quarter to maintain facilities like Canyonview Pool. The referendum will go on the spring ballot as long as the Graduate Student Association passes it on March 7.

Council approved the appointment of Revelle College freshman **Shounak Ghosh**, Sixth College junior **Polina Tsvetikova** and Muir College freshman **Kevin Hsaio** as new judicial board members.

Council also approved a letter addressed to California Governor Jerry Brown in retaliation against the proposed \$500 million cut to the UC system. There were a few amendments to the original letter, which included fixing punctuation errors and incorrect data.

Then council approved a resolution seeking justice for stem cell researcher Wilda Helen's appeal process for her termination and possible deportation.

The University Centers fee referendum of \$5 — which changed the Consumer Price Index from five to two percent — was approved.

Ben Hassine introduced a survey for the technology fee — which charges \$4 per unit for each student in its first year of implementation — to go on the Spring Quarter ballot. After many arguments about the confusing and misleading wording of

the question, council approved it with a few amendments.

The athletics committee presented information from a 2010 report about the feasibility of bringing football to

our campus and the feasibility of becoming a Division I school.

To start football team, would cost between \$20.8 and \$33.8 million. Title

IX states sports teams are required to have gender equality, so at least one other female sports team would be created alongside football.

The startup cost of becoming a Division I school is about \$11.5 million. After that, an increase of at least \$4.8 million in the athletics budget would be required.

The committee's recommendation was to concentrate on becoming a Division I school. They said a football team would not be feasible.

AVP of Enterprise Operations **Brian McEuen** introduced **Johnny Simkin**, founder of SwoopThat — a website that serves as a go-between for online textbook vendors. Councilmembers liked the website, which shows users every textbook listed online and seller ratings.

The site has a deal with *Amazon.com*, where they receive an amount of every purchase. It then gives UCSD 50 percent of the cut and our student government can decide what to do with it.

Sixth College Senator **Parminder Sandhu** responded to Ben Hassine's statement about quick meetings by posing the question of whether the meetings go quickly because councilmembers understand the issues they're voting on, or because everyone's in a rush to go home.

New Business

REBECCA HORWITZ
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UNIV. CENTER FEE INCREASE ON SPRING BALLOT

By **Laira Martin**
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A referendum to increase University Center fees by \$5 will be on this year's spring ballot and, if passed, will go into effect Fall Quarter 2011.

The referendum — presented to A.S. Council by University Centers Advisory Board Chair Nicole Metildi — would fund maintenance, support and repairs for Price Center and Student Center.

Both undergraduate and graduate students will vote on the referendum when the final language is approved by both A.S. Council and the Graduate Student Association, according to Office of the President Press Secretary Reem Ateyeh.

"Council and Wafa support it," Ateyeh said. "It is an amount that students will be paying to keep one of the most used centers on our campus afloat. Students get the final say in whether they think this is an important enough increase."

If passed, the quarterly fee — which would be raised from the current \$76.50 to \$81.50 per student — would return 29 percent of the proceeds to financial aid.

UCEN's sole source of funding comes from student fees and vendor rates.

"The student fees are around 63-65 percent of our budget," Metildi said. "It wouldn't exactly be feasible for us to seek funding elsewhere."

The most recent draft of the referendum allows the fee to be

adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index, with annual adjustments of no more than 2 percent.

The original referendum would have allowed annual adjustments of up to 5 percent.

"If the fee does not pass, UCEN will most definitely need to cut hours of operation of the facilities and seriously consider charging [services]," Metildi said. "Students will see a deterioration in facilities as we will not be able to keep up with maintenance projects."

University Center Director Paul Terzino could not be reached for comment.

Readers can contact *Laira Martin* at lmm002@ucsd.edu.

Sports Facilities Will Discontinue if Students Fail Proposed Fee

► **POOL**, from page 1

is continued, the complex will cease to receive these funds in 2013, and the services as we know them will be discontinued."

The Sports Facilities Advisory Board charter must be approved

before implementing the referendum to a student vote by A.S. Council, GSA, Vice Chancellor Penny Rue, Chancellor Marye Anne Fox and the UC Office of the President.

If GSA passes the proposed

fee increase on March 7, the all-campus student election during Spring Quarter will determine if the referendum is passed.

Readers can contact *Lauren Adams* at lnadams@ucsd.edu.

UC Irvine Student Newspaper Criticized for Publishing Story

► **CHENG**, from page 1

disruptive and I was extremely stressed out. So I lied in the e-mails to do whatever I could to move forward with my life."

Cheng also addressed the issue on a larger scale.

"I recognize the privileges that I have as a man, and I recognize that gender violence and violence against women is a serious issue," Cheng said. "But I'm innocent. I've been working on those issues my entire

college career. I would never engage in behavior that would compromise those values," Cheng said.

New University received criticism from students for using condemnatory language against Cheng while only citing the anonymous source, Laya.

Students expressed doubts about the accuracy of *New University's* Feb. 16 "Student Regent Under Investigation" article.

"Personally to me, NewU has often inaccurately reported certain events

(to some extent), especially this event," one comment read.

Some also resented the article's insinuation that Cheng was not charged due to his status.

According to *New University*, UCI Student Conduct office is still investigating the case.

Editors at the *New University* could not be reached for comment.

Readers can contact *Jonathan Kaslow* at jkaslow@ucsd.edu.

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Want to apply for a College Council position? Get more info at your college dean's office.

as.ucsd.edu

Campus Service Workers Will Submit Grievances to Housing, Dining and Hospitality on Steam Machines

► **STEAM**, from page 1

Machines at UCSD," claims campus service workers used Diversey-Glance chemical products before starting to use steam machines this year to clean and disinfect surfaces.

The petition, which was launched on Jan. 28, said the discontinuation of the chemical products — which are considered environmentally friendly cleaning solutions — had a negative impact on the standard of hygienic cleanliness in all of the college dorms.

Flores-Osorio said that, although there is a benefit to not using chemicals, the machines require more water to adequately disinfect the housing facilities.

According to a custodian who wished to remain anonymous, HDH said they use steam machines because they are more environmentally friendly compared to chemical cleaners.

In addition, Flores-Osorio said the issue is also about the human rights of the workers.

"We wanted to point out the minor issue of the machines not being environmentally sustainable and link that to the greater issue at hand — fair labor rights or essentially just human rights," he said.

But the Student Work Collective and MEChA's *Trabajadores*, which launched the Facebook petition, said there are more environmentally friendly alternatives that HDH is not considering due to the low costs of using steam machines that only require water.

Flores-Osorio took up the cause to promote a safe work environment for the custodians.

"A petition can only do so much here on campus, so they approached me, and it was something that I cared about also," Flores-Osorio said.

Flores-Osorio said students and council members support the resolution to ban the machines at the Feb. 16 A.S. Council meeting, though the proposal garnered criticism for its wording.

"Basically, council said it was too direct," Flores-Osorio said. "The resolution made it seem like HDH was a villain. And I think that might have just been the Student Work Collective being passionate about situations [more] than them having one perspective of HDH. I work under Canyon Vista as a student supervisor, so I know that Housing and Dining have the best intentions when it comes to their workers and when it comes

to students."

Council discussed the merits of the resolution for about an hour and if it was the proper channel of action, as campuswide senator Michael Raimondi stressed the need for careful deliberation.

Raimondi opposed passing a rushed resolution and wanted to discuss the issue during the meeting instead.

Eventually, the resolution passed after edits.

Council struck out a clause stating HDH refused to revoke the banning of the steam machines for being too directly critical of HDH.

A.S. Council President and HDH representative **Wafa Ben Hassine** will present the resolution to Housing, Dining and Hospitality Advisory Committee on Feb. 28.

"If HDH [were] to ban steam machines, hopefully the workers

won't be in any risk of being injured again," Flores-Osorio said. "Any potential students [who] might have been around that area won't be in any risk of being injured also."

According to SWC, workers will be writing up a grievance against HDH pertaining to both their injuries and the inefficiency of the steam machines.

Flores-Osorio said student organization leaders and he will be meeting with HDH administrators.

"We are in the works of collaborating with the workers to meet with [HDH] prior to March 10 to hopefully alleviate the situation and permanently ban the machines," Flores-Osorio said.

A March 10 press conference will be held at the Chancellor's Complex by AFSCME 3299 — a union that represents 17,000 workers in the UC system.

HDH director Mark Cunningham could not be reached for comment.

Readers can contact *Sarah Kang* at sak019@ucsd.

WEB POLL
WILL YOU SIGN A POSTCARD TO SUPPORT THE D.R.E.A.M. ACT?

Yes. 45%
No. 39%
I don't know. 16%

Out of 33 votes.

OPINION

CONTACT THE EDITOR: opinion@ucsdguardian.org



Props to the Obama administration for stating it won't defend the Defense of Marriage Act — an anti-gay piece of legislation passed in 1996 — in federal court.

Flops to Gov. Rick Perry (R- Texas) and half the state House for supporting a bill that would allow college students to carry concealed weapons on campus.



EDITORIAL

An End to the Smoke and Mirrors

The student-led petition to ban steam cleaners has made important gains for custodians, and suggests that campus grassroots efforts aren't all for naught.

In the Internet age, we're no stranger to stagnant online petitions: Between appeals for a campus football team and more absorbent dining-hall napkins, no cause is too small for a new Facebook event. Most of these halfhearted efforts at activism, of course, don't make it beyond the Firefox browser. But the Student Work Collective's petition to ban steam cleaners has made its way to the A.S. Council floor, and will be presented to the campuswide Housing and Dining Committee this Monday.

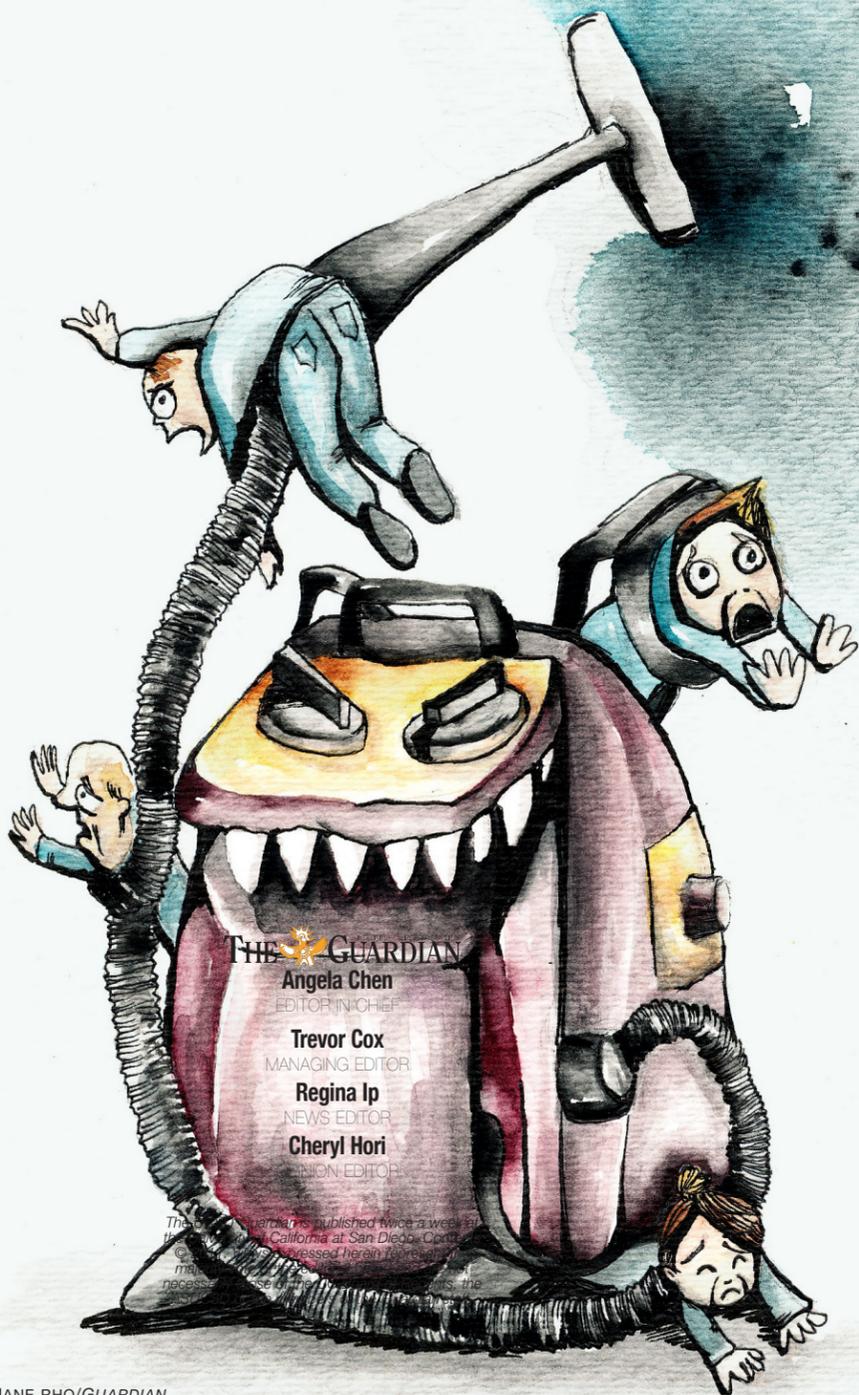
The Facebook event, which has 402 student attendees, is meant to bring awareness to the steam cleaners custodians use to sanitize bathroom surfaces. According to an anonymous HDH employee, the cleaners that operate at 240 degrees have injured 28 employees since the beginning of the quarter.

While the steam cleaners are a more eco-friendly alternative to chemical cleaners, and while UCSD prides itself on being such a green campus, people's health should come first. And when it comes down to toeing the line between reducing HDH's carbon footprint and employee safety, the employees always have to come first, whether this means looking into alternatives or investing in more accident prevention training for the employees.

Unlike many of A.S. Council's resolutions, which serve merely to take an ideological stance, this one is the first step toward change. Though the results of Monday's presentation are up in the air, at least the resolution's existence shows HDH that students are concerned about the safety of UCSD employees. For a student government that, like any government, is notorious for its bureaucracy, it's remarkable that this grassroots effort has gone from Facebook event to A.S. resolution to the Housing and Dining Committee with relative speed.

Of course, even if HDH recognized its folly in using such dangerous machinery, the department's not likely to immediately abandon the campuswide supply of steam machines, which run for about \$1,000 apiece. There's serious fiscal and environmental factors to consider, and if the department does decide to replace the steam cleaners, it'll need to look into safer alternatives that are as efficient and eco-friendly.

Still, we have to hand it to the Student Work Collective. While banning steam cleaners might seem like a small-scale reform that won't directly affect the lives of most students, it would be an important victory for on-campus custodians — and also sends the administration the boldfaced message that despite our campus's now-notorious apathy, grassroots student reform isn't so easily silenced.



JANE RHO/GUARDIAN

Don't Give a Damn 'bout My Bad Reputation

At a recent party, someone asked my friend which sorority she was in. Her response was immediately countered with a suspicious, "Do you do coke?" This stereotyping of different chapters is an unfortunate occurrence for those of us in fraternities and sororities. Many people could name two-word reputations — good and bad — for the different chapters at UCSD. But more often than not, individual members don't really fit the mold.



Life in Letters

MADELINE MANN
memann@ucsd.edu

When someone calls me a "sorority girl," I almost want to disagree, like I'm somehow the exception — but despite all the false stereotypes, I'm not. The clichés are all the more specialized (and random) for individual chapters: One anecdote seems to be enough for people to assume everyone in a chapter is Christian, a klepto or vegan.

These stereotypes usually stem from some facts, but as with almost all stereotypes, the image is often exaggerated and only describes a few. For example, if a member of a frat takes advantage of a girl at a party, that frat is labeled the "date-rape" frat, even long after all of the members involved have graduated.

Anyone in the Greek community will tell you that there's too much variety within each chapter for a single label. Members in the same chapter don't always hang out together, and it's natural to not like everyone in the chapter — they are, after all, supposed to feel like family. (This is where "brothers" and "sisters" come to mean "people you are stuck with," rather than "group of exclusive clones.")

My closest friends at UCSD, in fact, are in other sororities or not affiliated at all, and it isn't uncommon to come across an apartment of girls who all belong to different sororities. (It seems a little different for frat boys, for some reason — maybe due to the different rushing process, which often leads a group of existing friends to all rush the same frat.)

When I rushed last quarter, no one involved who knew the different sororities would share their impressions of each chapter, to keep me from being swayed by a false impression — which I respected, though I was dying to know if I was about to pledge to an allegedly drug-addled chapter.

When I joined a sorority, I'd tell friends at other schools its name, which usually yielded a generic, one-word response. One friend cut to the chase: "So, what's your sorority's stereotype?" Without a clear answer, I spat out adjectives that could describe any group of 100 people, and the only one that is true for everyone is "female." The stereotypes vary by school, which makes it even harder to make sweeping generalizations. Every chapter tries to keep a good reputation, because every Greek represents a larger national organization.

It's sort of like different international branches of McDonalds: There may be different options on the menu, but every establishment is built to the same brand standard. We are, after all, people with different interests and, if you're still wondering, none of us have a coke requirement.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Muslim Student Association: Threats Won't Deter Our Efforts

By Anna Torres
MSA COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

This past week, UCSD's Muslim Student Association hosted its 11th-annual Islam Awareness Week. This year's theme was "Straight from the Source," aimed at addressing misconceptions about Islam and Muslims. The MSA was on Library Walk Monday through Thursday with a mosque and poster exhibit about various topics such as the concept of God, Jesus in Islam, the role of Muslim women in society and the perspective of Islam on human rights.

Along with the posters, free barbecue, spoken word, cotton candy and henna table, the Muslim students of UCSD were present to answer any questions their classmates posed. The atmosphere fostered dialog and education. One of the prime objectives of the MSA is to educate other students about their beliefs and way of life in order to advocate tolerance and understanding. The MSA's doors are always

open to the questions and ideas of all UCSD students, Muslims and non-Muslims alike; Islam Awareness Week is held annually to formally provide a forum for conversation and education, with the ultimate goal of creating understanding among students at UCSD.

Islam Awareness Week was initiated with Dr. Jamal Badawi, a professor emeritus from St. Mary's College in Halifax, Canada to speak about *Commonly Misinterpreted Verses of the Quran*. Often, many of us wonder what the Quran really states about violence and the honor of women, especially when these topics float across the screens of Western media without any background, explanation or context.

The following evening, the MSA held *New Mosque on the Block*, which focused on the lives, contributions and histories of Muslims in America, and also addressed the growing instances of Islamophobia in American culture. The presentation by Hussam Ayloush, Council on American-Islamic Relations director for Orange County, showcased the lives

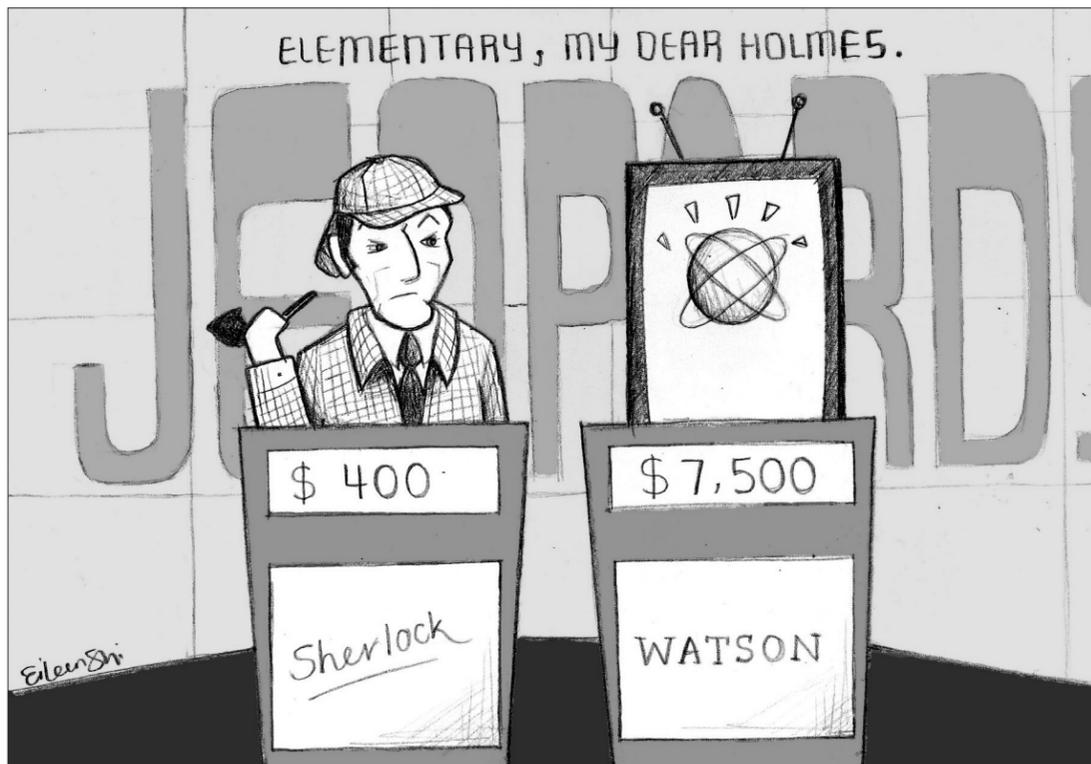
and contributions of Muslims in America, like Malcolm X, Hakeem Olajuwon, Congressman Keith Ellison, Google executive Wael Ghonim and of course, UCSD students. Despite the perceptions of Islam in the media, Islam reinforces the values of our Constitution, such as freedom of religion and speech, tolerance, coexistence and enhancing the society for the benefit of all.

Thursday we held an event on women in Islam entitled *Demystifying the Headscarf/Hijab*, featuring international journalist Yasmin Mogahed. Throughout the week we had a table on Library Walk offering information about women in Islam and also inviting students to take the challenge of wearing the hijab for a day. Many people were surprised to learn that the hijab is more than just a scarf, and that it also refers to the way we act and carry ourselves. Over 100 women decided to participate.

In the evening we held an event featuring a lecture on the idea of modesty, womanhood and

See **MSA**, page 5

THE LITTLE RINTRAH By Eileen Shi



Hate Messages and Threats Only Brought Muslim Community Together

► **MSA**, from page 4
 feminism from an Islamic perspective. The participants came up and gave their reflections on the day. This brought tears to many of our eyes not because they highlighted the struggles we face as Muslim women, but because even in one short day, the women were able to see what so many of us Muslims often forget. The scarf has the transformative power to act as a constant reminder for us to act with modesty, charity and in remembrance of the true worth of our inner selves.

While this week was filled with enthusiasm, dialogue and learning, it did not come without its challenges. The previous week, a set of our posters was defaced with hateful and discriminatory slurs. A group of San Diego Evangelical Community members picketed our displays and threatened both our members and other UCSD students.

The administration, including Vice Chancellor Penny Rue, met us with resistance, refusing to send out an e-mail to the student body encouraging tolerance for all groups

and people on campus, even after witnessing the consequences of discrimination occurring around this time last year.

The goal of Islam Awareness Week was to educate the UCSD community in order to combat stereotypes and foster tolerance. What I was not expecting was that even as an MSA member, I would learn and grow so much from this week.

I saw firsthand the willingness of UCSD students to step into the shoes of another person, only to realize that their similarities outweigh their differences and that true brotherhood and sisterhood is being able to see yourself within the struggles, hopes and successes of another.

I saw the power of interfaith dialogue in not only the effort to understand each other, but also in the power to build lasting friendships.

I saw the power of interfaith dialogue in not only the effort to understand each other, but also in the power to build lasting friendships. So maybe we should raise our goals beyond achieving tolerance, and realize the continuing need and powerful potential of education as a means for discovering the sameness and similarities of all of our goals and struggles.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Christian Picketers Not Meant as Muslim Protest

Dear Editor,

In regards to the article entitled "Ignoring All the Signs," I would like to respond on behalf of the Christian preachers.

First off, no one was there to "protest" anything. We made no mention of Islam, Muslims, Mohammed, 9/11 terrorists or anything else on our banners or our literature. All of the banners are the same ones we use on every campus and they only speak about Jesus Christ, sin and the judg-

ment to come, etc.

No one was there to protest the Muslims and certainly no one said that "speaking to those people would land a person in hell." In fact, that is the very purpose we visit any campus and that is to speak to people about their eternal destiny. We have love for Muslims, Jews, atheists, homosexuals and any other group regardless of their beliefs. Though sometimes some of the discussions get heated and people misunderstand our message, it is not one of hate but one of love for our fellow man, and concern for the eternal destination of their souls.

We invite open dialogue with peo-

ple at all times about Christianity and are disappointed by the lack of willingness by the Muslims on campus to allow free and open discussion.

—Neil Konitshek
 Resident, San Diego

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OPINION

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Who are you?

Award-winning filmmaker, slam poet and author, alumnus Kip Fulbeck featured on CNN, MTV and NPR uses his multiracial background as a springboard to inspire audiences

"Who am I?"

Keynote Speaker: Kip Fulbeck
 IDEaS Innovation Day Expo
 Friday, February 25 at 3PM

Join the celebration, then stay to meet Kip and other world-renowned artists, scientists and researchers as part of this interactive networking Expo.

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 Winner will be announced at the Expo between 4-4:30pm. Must be present to win.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2011

THE HIATUS GUIDE TO THE 83RD

AND BEST PICTURE IS . . .

WILL WIN



"BLACK SWAN"

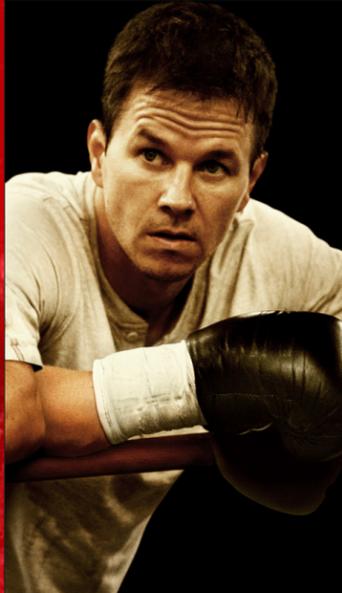
Don't hold your breath, "Black Swan" won't take Best Picture this year. But director Darren Aronofsky's knack for tapping into our insecurities makes for an unsettling movie-going experience unlike any other.

"Black Swan" transcends logic as its simple premise disintegrates into a series of dark encounters: obsessive weight loss, self-mutilation and one of the most disturbing mother-daughter relationships in recent cinematic memory. Yet despite the Gothic theatrics, the film never loses sympathy for its characters, creating a surreal tapestry of both realism and melodrama.

Aside from Clint Mansell's eerily pompous score and a triumphant performance by Natalie Portman, "Black Swan" is above all a statement of Aronofsky's blaring importance in modern cinema. Like a burgeoning Stanley Kubrick, the director has honed his distinct voice, creating his first American classic and the best film of the year — an achievement that needs no validation.

—Ren Ebel

ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR



"THE FIGHTER"

Director David O. Russell's sports flick "The Fighter" could very well take the night's biggest prize. The boxing film moves past the familiar underdog sports saga in its exploration of the relationship of two brothers, low-level boxer Micky Ward (Mark Wahlberg) and his half brother Dicky Eklund (Christian Bale), former boxer and current drug addict.

Wahlberg's compelling performance was snubbed for the Best Actor nomination, but both Bale and Melissa Leo — who plays the pair's mother — are expected to win their respective supporting actor/actress categories. Bale's method acting and weight loss make Dicky a fully realized human being, while Leo's performance balances humor with heartbreak. Despite her pushy nature, Leo is able to portray her as a caring mother. Combined with Russell's direction, which provides the film with an essential sense of wit, "The Fighter" is one of the most compelling and entertaining films of the year, and a worthy Oscar recipient.

—Rusteen Honardoost

STAFF WRITER



"INCEPTION"

Inception," like most blockbusters, received astronomical hype — but unlike most, it deserved the attention. Directed by Christopher Nolan and featuring a star-studded cast including Leo DiCaprio, Ellen Page and Marion Cotillard, (not to mention '95 UCSD grad Dileep Rao), the film crafted a heroic journey through mind-bending dreams.

Unlike any of the other films in the category, "Inception" is a three-hour adrenaline rush that keeps you guessing, allowing you to watch shit blow up and think at the same time.

Nolan put the estimated \$160-million budget to good use: With jaw-dropping special effects — buildings fold over like a piece of paper, Joseph Gordon-Levitt sprints down the ceiling of a chic hotel — and grandiose sets (catch the Geisel snow fortress?), the visuals are unmatched. But it's not all on-screen flash — the conceptual gymnastics of the premise and the awe-inspiring scenery take a backseat to the best and oldest trick in the book: interesting storytelling.

—Marie Sbrocca

CONTRIBUTING WRITER



"THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT"

Nearly every year, Oscars pay tribute to the films that make strides in telling neglected gay narratives (e.g. "A Single Man," "Milk," "Brokeback Mountain"). As groundbreaking as they are, these films make gayness their primary focus, which is where "The Kids Are All Right" distinguishes itself: This isn't a gay movie — it's a family dramedy that happens to feature a pair of lesbian leading ladies.

The finesse with which director Lisa Cholodenko dodges that pitfall is what qualifies "The Kids Are All Right" for this year's Best Picture award. With nuanced performances and subtle plotlines, it avoids "coming out of the closet" drama in favor of showing what a contemporary gay family looks like.

The comedy even has school pride: UCSD theater grad Rebecca Lawrence (MFA '09) takes a bit part as a dreadlocked white girl who makes innuendos to sperm donor Mark Ruffalo while heaving around a basket of organic vegetables.

—Leila Haghghat

SENIOR STAFF WRITER



"THE KING'S SPEECH"

A prince is thrown onto the British throne and finds help for his ongoing stutter so that he can rally the country together — sounds uplifting, doesn't it? That's exactly why "The King's Speech" will likely take home the top prize come Sunday evening.

Colin Firth's Bertie, aka King George VI, works with speech therapist Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush), forging a friendship that makes the film more buddy-movie than war-time drama. Amongst the silliness of humming, arm flailing and Firth's constant failure, there lies a story of perseverance (and boy, does the Academy love perseverance).

Director Tom Hooper has the benefit of a pitch-perfect cast, which helps deliver a drop of history and a uniquely British experience, with all that signature dry wit. The film's entertaining, inspirational and perfectly executed — making it a frontrunner over less feel-good choices like "The Social Network" and "Black Swan."

—Kirsten Mauro

STAFF WRITER

THE REST OF THE SHOW . . .

BEST ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE

JAVIER BARDEM - "BIUTIFUL"
JEFF BRIDGES - "TRUE GRIT"
JESSE EISENBERG - "THE SOCIAL NETWORK"
COLIN FIRTH - "THE KING'S SPEECH"
JAMES FRANCO - "127 HOURS"

Colin Firth, in all of his hesitant, twitchy, stammering glory, will take home the prize for his role as King George VI in "The King's Speech." While it might seem possible that young stars James Franco or Jesse Eisenberg could pull off an upset (for "127 Hours" and "The Social Network," respectively), Firth has been unstoppable this awards season, claiming victories at the Golden Globes, the Critics' Choice and the Screen Actors Guild Awards. The reason's simple: Firth's portrayal of the speech-impaired George VI is without a doubt the subtlest, most masterful display of acting talent this year.

The other nominees (Eisenberg and Franco in particular) put up strong performances, but none of them achieve the level of precise characterization and empathy that Firth exhibits in "The King's Speech."

—Andrew Whitworth

STAFF WRITER



BEST ACTRESS IN A LEADING

ANNETTE BENING - "THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT"
NICOLE KIDMAN - "RABBIT HOLE"
JENNIFER LAWRENCE - "WINTER'S BONE"
NATALIE PORTMAN - "BLACK SWAN"
MICHELLE WILLIAMS - "BLUE VALENTINE"

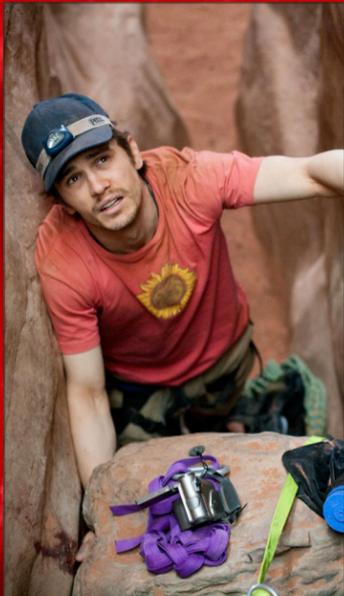
Long before "Black Swan" hit screens, Natalie Portman was a household name over the Internet. A year of regimented ballet lessons and a performance that it all seemed overhyped, and it was still difficult to believe she was pulling the kind of dark, deeply personal roles we've come to expect from Aronofsky.

Yet from the opening scenes of the film, it is impossible to say Portman lost herself in the performance. She captures Nina Sayers' complexity — her fragility, her fear, that effect is truly unnerving. By harnessing an emotional intensity, Portman navigates warped mother-daughter interactions, turning a disturbing animal ferocity to a frighteningly real degree. The contrast between the two are such a stark contrast that at times, it's easy to forget they're the same person.

Like Heath Ledger in "The Dark Knight," Natalie Portman is taking us in new directions, gracing audiences with the thrilling and terrifying of metamorphosis. Her performance in "The Black Swan" is a moment in cinema, heralding the definitive p

RD ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS

SHOULD WIN



“127 HOURS”

Known mostly as “the film in which James Franco cuts his arm off,” Danny Boyle’s (“Slumdog Millionaire”) fast-paced docudrama “127 Hours” packs every frame with high-energy entertainment.

You read that right: Self-amputation is entertaining.

The cramped premise — mountain climber Aron Ralston (James Franco) gets lodged underneath a boulder, spending the titular length of time struggling to get out — should have been unfilmable. But Boyle makes it work with a heavy dose of stylistic adrenaline: Saturated flashbacks are cut between harrowing moments in the desert; A.R. Rahman’s organic, guitar-driven score weaves you through the plot, exploding at its climax; split screens whiz by at a frenetic pace.

Most importantly, Franco gives his most nuanced performance to date. In the midst of Ralston’s nightmare, he transitions from paralyzed fear to exhausted delirium and survivalist exaltation in a way that is so natural, so pure, it hardly feels like acting.

—Arielle Sallai
HIATUS EDITOR



“THE SOCIAL NETWORK”

As calculated as its protagonist, “The Social Network” brings together the biggest talent in Hollywood — David Fincher’s subtle directorial hand, Aaron Sorkin’s cutting screenplay and Trent Reznor’s infectious score. Loaded with cinema’s brightest young actors, the film is less concerned depicting the semantics of big business than the alienation, hatred, insecurity and youth of today’s tastemakers. In the captain’s seat, Jesse Eisenberg secures his first Oscar nod as Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, spitting Sorkin’s lines with expert timing.

But in the pre-Oscar shuffle, the film somehow went from being a sure thing to an underdog. But despite “The King’s Speech”’s nomination lead, “The Social Network”’s sure wins in the directorial, screenplay and score categories bodes well for the drama. “The King’s Speech” may have a historical background, but “The Social Network” has the future of the Internet at its virtual fingertips.

—Angela Chen
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



“TOY STORY 3”

With flawless animation and a tearjerker of a script, Pixar’s “Toy Story 3” had viewers laughing and crying as Buzz, Woody and the gang fought all the odds to get back to Andy from the clutches of a corrupt daycare.

Director Lee Unkrich avoided the sequel slump by maintaining the signature “Toy Story” charm. Despotic daycare leader Lots’O — voiced by southern-accented Ned Beatty — was the surprise antagonist bent on stopping Spanish Buzz and his amigos from fleeing Sunnyside Daycare.

The film succeeds where other nominees don’t, however, by forcing viewers of all ages to bawl their eyes out. The toys’ final moment with Andy was the poignant ending the saga needed — and a damn good excuse for a quick cry in the aisles.

The film continues Pixar’s blemish-free legacy, achieving a sense of warmth that most films — animated or not — fail to reach. So to all those who thought that “Up” was snubbed last year, stay tuned: This could be the animated breakthrough.

—Joshua Irvine
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



“TRUE GRIT”

After more than two decades of critical acclaim, the Coen brothers have become such an integral part of the Academy Awards that it’s easy to overlook just how powerful their filmmaking still is. Their adaptation of the darkly comic Charles Portis cult novel is a resilient reminder that the hardest working duo in filmmaking is still a force to be reckoned with.

Like their 2008 Best Picture winner “No Country for Old Men,” “True Grit” is another shoot-’em-up western with serious style, consisting of the stark cinematography and multidimensional characters that are so distinctly Coen. This time around they’ve replaced “No Country”’s meditative, scoreless approach with thundering Protestant hymns, whip-cracking shootouts and one hilarious, ass-kicking grizzly of a U.S. Marshall played by the endlessly talented Jeff Bridges.

Everything about “True Grit” is rough and masculine. And with a string of quiet, subdued releases this Oscar season, it’s a welcome change of pace.

—Regina Ip
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



“WINTER’S BONE”

Stuck in a perpetual, muted frost, “Winter’s Bone” seems at an immediate disadvantage to its flashier peers. But it’s remarkable in its realism — “Bone” lays bare the unsung hardships of struggling middle America, opting to strip its actors of heavy make-up and fancy lighting while exposing them to caked-on grime, dried blood, rocky terrain and a scorched, desolate countryside.

The bare-bones approach paid off — both Jennifer Lawrence (for her unflinching, hardnosed Dee) and John Hawkes (as the menacing and slight Teardrop) earned Academy nods. Though the indie flick may be the darkest “Best Picture” horse, its unflinching examination of human perseverance is the truest show of cinematic grit this year. In an Oscars race in which major plot conflicts include such white-collar problems as a billion-dollar lawsuit and a competition for a ballet lead, we could all use a touch of “Bone”’s reality.

—Neda Salamat
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

ROLE

RE ALRIGHT”

’S BONE”

SWAN”

LENTINE”

rtman’s transformation was all lessons, the dramatic weight loss — to imagine Queen Amidala tackling the expect of director Darren

mediately clear just how much s every minute detail of ballerina deep-lingering evil — and the range well beyond her years, ions, giddy high-school joy and ree. The protagonist and villain get they’re the same person.

ortman pushes the craft in brave experience of witnessing her full n” is one of those rare, instantly presence of a great actress.

—Ren Ebel
ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR



BEST DIRECTING

DARREN ARONOFSKY - “BLACK SWAN”

DAVID O. RUSSELL - “THE FIGHTER”

TOM HOOPER - “THE KING’S SPEECH”

DAVID FINCHER - “THE SOCIAL NETWORK”

JOEL AND ETHAN COEN - “TRUE GRIT”

David Fincher (“Fight Club,” “Zodiac”) — long overdue for a Best Directing Oscar — delivered a tour de force with “The Social Network.” With a relentless grasp on every aspect of the film, Fincher didn’t delete a word from Aaron Sorkin’s dense screenplay; instead, he demanded perfection, forcing his actors to nail the film’s now-signature fast-paced dialogue. The first scene of the film, in particular, took a whopping total of 99 takes.

Others did fine work this year, too. Russell’s “The Fighter” and the Coen brothers’ “True Grit” are also indebted to their directors, but neither stand a chance against Fincher. The only real competition comes from Darren Aronofsky and his moody “Black Swan,” though it may prove too bloody for the Academy. (That cinematic aesthetic will likely

be imitated in film schools for years.) Fincher, however, shoots for exacting perfection in “The Social Network” and for that, he should be awarded.

—Tanner Cook
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



OTHER NOMINEES

HERE ARE OUR PICKS FOR THE REST OF THE CATEGORIES. TAKE NOTE BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR BETS ON SUNDAY.

ANIMATED FEATURE FILM

"HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON"
"THE ILLUSIONIST"
"TOY STORY 3"

ART DIRECTION

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"
"HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS, PT. 1"
"INCEPTION"
"THE KING'S SPEECH"
"TRUE GRIT"

CINEMATOGRAPHY

"BLACK SWAN"
"INCEPTION"
"THE KING'S SPEECH"
"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"
"TRUE GRIT"

COSTUME DESIGN

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"
"I AM LOVE"
"THE KING'S SPEECH"
"THE TEMPEST"
"TRUE GRIT"

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

"EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP"
"GASLAND"
"INSIDE JOB"
"RESTREPO"
"WASTE LAND"

FILM EDITING

"BLACK SWAN"
"THE FIGHTER"
"THE KING'S SPEECH"
"127 HOURS"
"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"

FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

"BIUTIFUL (MEXICO)"
"DOGTOOTH (GREECE)"
"IN A BETTER WORLD (DENMARK)"
"INCENDIES (CANADA)"
"OUTSIDE THE LAW (ALGERIA)"

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY

"127 HOURS"
"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"
"TOY STORY 3"
"TRUE GRIT"
"WINTER'S BONE"

Regardless of how you feel about Jesse Eisenberg, the stylish cinematography or Trent Reznor's brooding score, "The Social Network's" screenplay — written by Aaron Sorkin — is nothing short of a masterpiece. What's more, Sorkin, who also wrote outstanding screenplays for "A Few Good Men" and "Charlie Wilson's War," is long overdue for an Oscar victory. The other nominees are strong: "True Grit" and "Winter's Bone" would ordinarily stand a strong chance, but sharp dialogue and intense personal interactions make "The Social Network" a shoo-in for the award. The film's strength is a testament to the power of Sorkin's writing.

—Andrew Whitworth
STAFF WRITER

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

"ANOTHER YEAR"
"THE FIGHTER"
"INCEPTION"
"THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT"
"THE KING'S SPEECH"

Veteran screenwriter David Seidler took almost as long as his protagonist, Bertie, to find his voice, but the resulting script is Oscar bait. "The King's Speech" showcases tongue-in-cheek humor comparable to Sorkin's witty "The Social Network" (the frontrunner in the adapted category) and was a painstaking 25 years in the making. The script's an old Oscar favorite: a story of trying, lifelong hardship miraculously overcome; the fact that British royalty's featured front and center is just an added bonus. Though Seidler doesn't have the established lead over his competitors that Sorkin does, his film's late surge in popularity should only bolster the writer's edge — making him damn near impossible to dethrone.

—Neda Salamat
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

BEST ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

AMY ADAMS - "THE FIGHTER"
HELENA BONHAM CARTER -
"THE KING'S SPEECH"
MELISSA LEO - "THE FIGHTER"
HAILEE STEINFELD - "TRUE GRIT"
JACKI WEAVER - "ANIMAL KINGDOM"

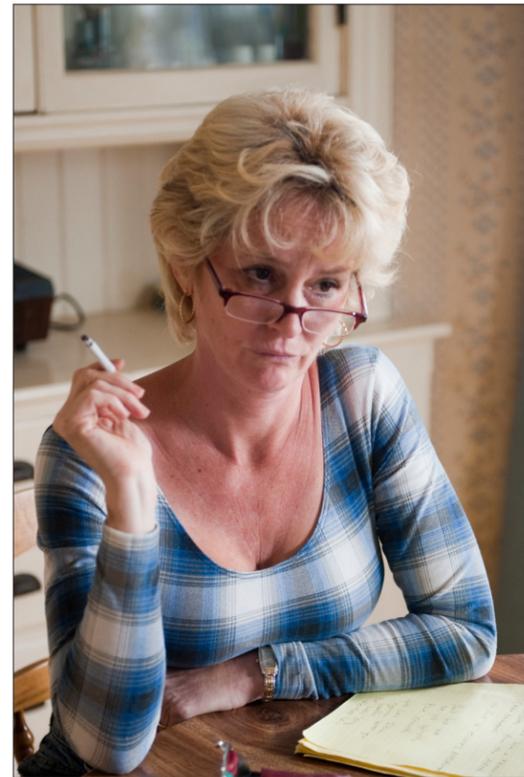
This year's Best Supporting Actress has three favorites in for the running, with one of them only narrowly outshining her co-star. Fourteen-year-old Hailee Steinfeld's breakthrough performance in "True Grit" was no supporting role, but her youth leaves her out of the running, while Aussie nominee Jacki Weaver's "Animal Kingdom" is too under-the-radar for the Academy.

Amy Adams is back for a third grab for her feisty performance in "The Fighter," but will lose in a face-off against co-star Melissa Leo, who has swept most of the prizes this season as the boxer's hellcat mom.

Leo's latest campaigning foibles (she designed her own Oscar ads), however, might have undone her in this popularity contest, paving the way to victory for second-time nominee Helena Bonham Carter as Queen Mum in "The King's Speech," the most nominated film of the night.

But whatever faux pas she may have committed, it would be a crime to take away the gold from Leo's dynamic performance come Sunday.

—Krystle Wong
STAFF WRITER



BEST ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

CHRISTIAN BALE - "THE FIGHTER"
JOHN HAWKES - "WINTER'S BONE"
JEREMY RENNER - "THE TOWN"
MARK RUFFALO - "THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT"
GEOFFREY RUSH - "THE KING'S SPEECH"

After years of abusing his body more than a bulimic school girl, Christian Bale's method acting is finally churning out Oscar gold. Bale was unrecognizable as scrappy former pro-boxer Dicky, sporting darkened teeth, sweat-coated garb and an emaciated physique. His performance is electric: loudmouthed, stubborn, bleary-eyed and spoken in an affected lisp, his Dicky is miles away from the aloof Batman. The clincher is Bale's interpretation of Dicky's writhing, pained meth withdrawals on a prison bed. The retired boxer recovers quickly thereafter, though the same can't be said of his awed audience.

—Neda Salamat
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



THE SNUBS

Some of the best films and performances of the year were unfortunately left out of the show. Here are the best of the forgotten:

Jim Carrey - Best Actor, "I Love You Phillip Morris"
Ryan Gosling - Best Actor, "Blue Valentine"
Greta Gerwig - Best Actress, "Greenberg"
Barbara Hershey - Best Supporting Actress, "Black Swan"
Christopher Nolan - Best Director, "Inception"
Martin Scorsese - Best Director, "Shutter Island"
"Blue Valentine" - Best Picture
"Shutter Island" - Best Picture
"The Town" - Best Picture
"Waiting For Superman" - Best Documentary Feature
"Catfish" - Best Documentary Feature
Daft Punk - Best Original Score, "Tron: Legacy"
James Murphy - Best Original Score, "Greenberg"



PLAYREVIEW

Stir Crazy

Ibsen's classic, bitchy heroine gets an update.
By Leila Haghighat • Senior Staff Writer



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UCSD THEATER DEPARTMENT

HEDDA GABLER

Starring:
Zoë Chao, Kyle Anderson & Hugo Medina
Directed by:
Anthony Luciano
Mandell Weiss
Forum Theatre
Feb. 24-26
B+

fling with Hedda — until she pointed a pistol at his face. He now taunts her by calling her out for her cowardice.

Once George finds the manuscript of Eilert's sequel carelessly dropped on the side of a road, Hedda snatches it from him, eager to foil the life of its author and prove she's no coward.

It's an opportunity to shake up the ennui otherwise plaguing her daily life. Hedda spells it out for us: "I've been so dreadfully bored"; "I have talent for only one thing in life — boring myself to death." What she ultimately does with the manuscript ends up unraveling the thread that so loosely ties all the characters to one another and to their own sanities.

As Hedda, third-year MFA student Zoë Chao carries the weight of the discursive play on her petite shoulders. Her unflinching swings from Hedda's stoic glares to diabolical laughs make for a character that is wholly unpredictable and, with perfect comedic timing, reason enough to watch the play. So commanding is Chao's take on Hedda that the other

characters rise to the foreground.

Though Lovborg's in a hush-hush relationship with Mrs. Elvsted (Sara Garcia), he

performances merely serve to complement hers. The heartfelt dialogue that Medina and Garcia exchange, for example, ends up exhibiting Hedda's judgmental ways as soon as Chao interrupts with one-word quips. (Her ritzy accoutrement also helps keep our eyes glued onto her. Think Catherine Zeta-Jones in "Chicago" — Louise Brooks bob, garish getups, and all that jazz.)

Under the direction of second-year MFA student Anthony Luciano, the production's efforts to present Ibsen's play in a contemporary setting are remarkable. Rolf Fjelde's translation of the Norwegian play, originally published in 1890, adheres to the contemporary and colloquial American language. Such a faithful translation, however, seems to come at the expense of obscuring the play's salient themes and commentary on gender.

To compensate for the hazy plot, Kathryn Lieber's scenic design drops major clues. The most intriguing (and distracting) prop on set, for example, is a tank filled with live goldfish, a tangible representation of the characters in their own myopic tank of life. Hedda, in fact, often stares off through the house's large-paned windows, as if domesticity and the expectations of womanhood are the walls of a tank entrapping her.

Even in the play's nuanced blocking we see the dialogue come to life. Judge Brack (Scott W. Pateson)

maintains that Hedda can guiltlessly be involved with two men at once and boldly suggests that he, George and Hedda have a "triangle relationship." That motif then projects itself subtly onto the stage: Characters often appear on stage in groups of threes, spatially arranged in a triangle as they frantically exchange dialogue.

In contrast to Hedda's antics, the location of the play never changes — it always stays at the Tesmans' home. Through such constancy, the set is able to ground a play that otherwise skims over the audience's head with vague plotlines. Is Hedda pregnant? George and Aunt Julia certainly seem to think so, but Hedda's in denial.

Then there's Hedda, whose role of being a good or bad girl is never made certain. She's either a pitiless villain or heroic feminist who retains her maiden name in a show of girl power. She's the embodiment of *savoir faire* on crack but a tragic hero in her own right. Though the questions are never directly answered, they are what maintain the pace of the play and tantalize us.

In the midst of the chaos she's wreaked upon everyone else, Hedda self-righteously affirms to the audience, "There is beauty in all this." The same could be said about the production itself—though the plot leaves us with inconclusive and loose ends, it's certainly a beautiful character piece that showcases the chops of its lead actress and does Ibsen justice.

Hedda Gabler, the backstabbing wife of men's nightmares, has never been bitchier. The latest production from the UCSD Theater Department is an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's play that manages to contemporize the playwright's 19th-century dialogue while staying true to its dark humor.

The play opens to Hedda (Zoë Chao) and her husband George Tesman (Kyle Anderson) arriving home after their honeymoon. The newlyweds are a far cry from a match

made in heaven: George cherishes a pair of ratty slippers while Hedda struts the stage in purple pumps; he taps away on his laptop, she taps her fingers on a grand piano. Ever the disgruntled wife, Hedda is disillusioned by marriage, as she increasingly feels neglected due to her husband's devotion to his studies.

When a figure from the past, Eilert Lovborg (Hugo Medina) rolls into town hot off the heels of publishing his latest manuscript, the unresolved tensions between the play's

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G	R	O	W	C	L	A	S	H	C	H	I	C
R	E	D	I	L	E	C	H	E	L	I	M	O
A	T	I	T	A	F	T	E	R	O	F	I	D
P	R	U	N	E	D	T	R	E	E	S	A	N
H	O	M	E	S	W	E	S	E	E	L		
		S	Q	U	A	S	H	E	D	B	U	G
J	O	E	S	S	R	S	B	O	Y	T	O	Y
A	T	M	F	T	D	R	E	M	I	A	N	
M	O	B	I	L	E	C	A	R	A	N	T	E
B	E	A	N	E	D	B	A	T	T	E	R	
		R	C	A	O	B	S	N	A	C	H	O
Z	E	R	O	C	O	R	N	E	D	B	E	E
E	X	A	M	O	K	I	E	S	I	L	W	U
A	P	S	E	M	I	D	S	T	A	L	E	S
L	O	S	S	S	E	E	T	O	N	O	D	E



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SUDOKU

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

Level: 1

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

Level: 1

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

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Tritons Lose Battle of Top Conference Teams in Rematch of 2010 WWPA Tournament Title Game

► **W. WATER POLO**, from page 12

not give up all game long, and that run they passed there in the third quarter was awesome.”

At the beginning of the match, the teams traded goals, with LMU scoring first in the first minute of the game. The Tritons returned the favor with under three minutes to play in the quarter, but the Lions ran off three goals in the last two minutes to make the score 4-1 at the end of the quarter.

LMU also scored first in the second quarter, running off four unanswered points before the Tritons could mount any force.

“LMU is smart; they’re really proficient in every part of the game,” Kreutzkamp said. “If we give them any little crack, they’ll take advantage of it.”

Senior attacker Felicia Orozco scored a left-handed shot past the goalkeeper to end LMU’s scoring onslaught. Senior attacker Hanalei Crowell also scored in the quarter, but the Lions still went into the half with a four-goal advantage.

Coming out of the half, the Lions

scored first in the third quarter to take their largest lead of the night. Orozco then scored her second goal of the matchup to bring it back to four, but shortly after, the Lions took a five-point lead again.

Senior hole set Kirsten Bates was the first to ignite the Tritons’ initiative. She scored to make the score 9-5 with three minutes left in the quarter, and an LMU ejection led to Orozco’s third goal. Triton goalkeeper Kristen Oshtosh blocked a point blank shot, and a fast break goal by freshman hole set Melissa Bartow reduced the gap to 9-7.

“We got off to a slow start and had to dig ourselves out of it a little bit today,” Kreutzkamp said. “I was really happy about how we bounced back in that third quarter.”

After Oshtosh made two more great blocks, the Tritons were in position to bring it within one at the start of the fourth, but referees’ confusion gave the ball over to the Lions, who made it 10-7 at the start of the fourth. The Tritons’ energy faded shortly after the misman-

aged finish, and their play suffered.

“The confusion on our end of the pool after the whistle really hurt us in that situation,” Kreutzkamp said. “I thought that was a little unfortunate, but I thought we were still in a good position to have a chance to win the game at that point.”

In the final quarter, the Lions scored three unanswered goals, and their goalkeeper stopped strong shots from Crowell and Orozco to shut the Tritons down.

Orozco led the Tritons with three goals on the night, while Bartow scored twice. Oshtosh tallied eight saves for the game.

The loss is the first for the Tritons in conference play, and stand at 3-1 in conference play and 6-5 overall.

The Tritons next play at the UC Irvine invitational tournament Feb. 26-27 and will face off against USC in their first match. The Tritons return home Friday, March 11, when they square off against Cal State Bakersfield at Canyonview Pool.

Readers can contact Tyler Nelson at tcnelson@ucsd.edu



BRIAN YIP/GUARDIAN

UCSD will return to action at the UC Irvine Tournament this weekend.

Gaito, Romero Get Player of the Week Honors as Tritons Up to No. 10 in National Rankings

► **SOFTBALL**, from page 12

The Tritons won the first game 9-0 via the mercy rule, and took the last game by a score of 6-1. The Otters won the second game of the day 5-3.

In the first game, the Triton offense took advantage of four Monterey Bay errors, as UCSD scored seven unearned runs. CSUMB third baseman Brittany Romero had a nightmare game with three errors, including two in the third inning.

The Tritons scored four runs in the inning despite only getting one hit, a leadoff single by Caitlin Brown. UCSD added five more runs in the top of the fifth — with two

RBI from Katrin Gabriel and one from Jennifer De Fazio. The Otters were unable to get anything across in the bottom half of the inning, and the game ended early.

Mya Romero, Gabriel and De Fazio each had two RBI. Camille Gaito (7-0) allowed four hits and struck out six batters to get the victory.

In the second game, UCSD struck first but was unable to hold onto the lead. De Fazio hit a lead-off single in the top of the second inning, and Sara Woofter moved her to third on a sacrifice bunt. Jennifer Manuel’s sacrifice fly gave UCSD the lead.

The Otters came back with

five runs in the bottom half of the inning, led by Jacki Serna’s three-run home run off Tess Granath (4-2). UCSD put up two runs in the top of the seventh, but was unable to force extra innings. Gabriel stepped up to the plate with two out and two aboard, but popped out to third base to end the game.

In the last game of the day, Gaito again took the mound and pitched another solid game to get her second win. The junior allowed six hits and one run, while again going the distance to pick up the victory.

The win gives Gaito 37 in her career as a Triton, which ties her for fourth-most all-time.

Monterey Bay scored first, after

an error by Gaito brought in a run in the second inning. But Romero hit a two-run double in the third inning to give the Tritons the lead. The Tritons then hit the Otters for four runs in the fourth inning, with RBI doubles from Romero and Esther Strom leading the way. Taylor Sepulveda also had a single that scored two runs.

Gaito was named CCAA Softball Pitcher of the Week and Romero was named CCAA Player of the Week for their efforts. Gaito pitched 12 innings, allowing 10 hits and one run while picking up two victories. Gaito’s ERA of 0.30 is the lowest in the conference.

Romero went 4-for-9 with three

doubles and five RBI, and had a .500 on-base percentage in the three games.

Kris Lesovsky became UCSD’s all-time leader in walks in the final game of the series.

After the series, the Tritons are 11-2 overall and 6-1 in conference play.

The Tritons return to action on Wednesday with a doubleheader against University of San Diego. UCSD will then host Cal State San Bernardino with a doubleheader on Friday and Sunday, starting at 4 p.m. and noon, respectively.

Readers can contact Liam Rose at lfrose@ucsd.edu



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SPORTS

CONTACT THE EDITOR: sports@ucsdguardian.org

UPCOMING UCSD GAMES

BASKETBALL	2/25	AT Cal Poly Pomona
	2/26	AT Cal State San Bernardino
BASEBALL	2/25	AT Cal State Monterey Bay
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL	2/24	AT BYU
SOFTBALL	2/25	VS Cal State San Bernardino

TRITON WATER POLO FALLS TO LOYOLA MARYMOUNT

By Tyler Nelson
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

WOMEN'S WATER POLO — The UCSD women's water polo team faced Loyola Marymount for the first time since the Lions ended

the Tritons' season last year. UCSD fell into an early deficit and was unable to climb out of the hole, falling to the Lions 13-7.

Last year, in the Western Water Polo Association conference championship game, the UCSD wom-

en's water polo team fell to Loyola Marymount in a close match. The Tritons finished 10th in their home tournament a week before, while LMU finished second. The No. 18 Tritons came in looking to upset the No. 6 Lions this past Friday at

Canyonview Pool.

"This is a new team, and I was really stoked tonight, because I wanted us to be tested," head coach Brad Kreutzkamp said. "They did

See **W. WATER POLO** page 11



BRIAN YIP/GUARDIAN

In a rematch of last year's WPA Tournament Championship, the Tritons fell 13-7 to Loyola Marymount. UCSD fell to 3-1 in conference play while LMU stayed perfect at 3-0.

Tritons Win Rainy Series Against CSUMB



NOLAN THOMAS/GUARDIAN FILE
Mya Romero had five RBI over the weekend, and was named CCAA Player of the Week.

By Liam Rose
SPORTS EDITOR

SOFTBALL — The UCSD softball team continued its hot start over the weekend, taking two of three from Cal State Monterey Bay in a series cut short by the rain.

The squads were initially scheduled to play doubleheaders on Friday and Saturday, but heavy rains in the Monterey area postponed the games until Sunday, when the teams played a tripleheader.

See **SOFTBALL**, page 11

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