



A League of Their Own

After one season, the WAFL and the San Diego SunFire have shown the sports world that women can play the hard-hitting game of tackle football.

see Sports, page 12

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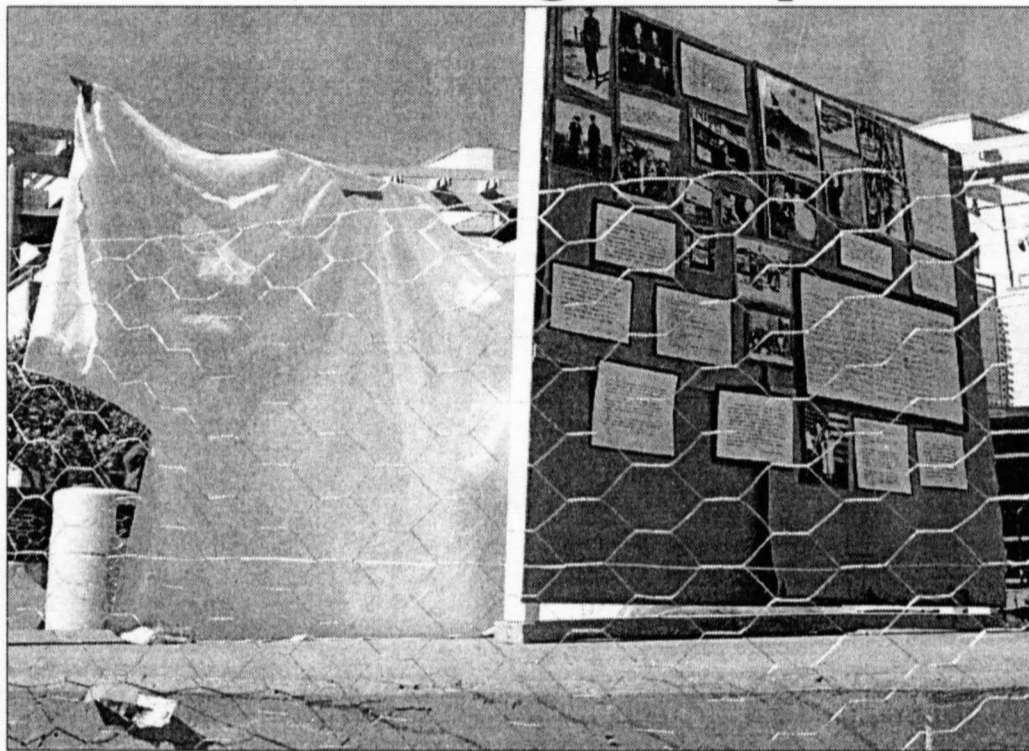
THURSDAY
February 28, 2002

UC SAN DIEGO

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Remembering the past



Colin Young-Wolff/Guardian

Model memories: A model relocation camp was set up by the UCSD Nikkei Student Union for "Day of Remembrance" on Feb. 26. The display was created to remember the Japanese internment camps of World War II.

JSOE dean of nine years to step down

Conn to return to classroom after leading school to new heights

By **DANA WEST**
Senior Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of UCSD

Robert Conn, dean of UCSD's Irwin and Joan Jacobs School of Engineering, will step down from his position July 1 in favor of returning to the position of professor.

"This is the right time to step down for me and for the Jacobs School," Conn stated in a press release. "With as much as has been accomplished, there is still much more to do. Over the next nine years, UCSD will continue to grow at a robust rate, and engineering on our campus will continue to grow along with it."

Troy Anderson, associate director of communications at the Jacobs School, added, "It's his ninth year as dean, and he just sort of felt it was time to step down. He's been doing academia for a long time, and it had been a long appointment for a dean."

Stepping aside: Robert Conn has served as engineering dean since 1994.

Under Conn's leadership since 1994, the Jacobs School has become one of the top 10 public engineering schools in the nation. Conn led the school through a period of

See **DEAN**, Page 3

Top Israeli official speaks on U.S.-Israeli relations for week

Vapni is one of Israel's senior representatives

By **DANIEL WATTS**
Staff Writer

Deputy Consul General of Israel Zvi Vapni spoke on the history and significance of the United States' relationship with Israel in a lecture titled "America and Israel: Partners in Peace," sponsored by the San Diego Israel Public Affairs Committee.

At the Tuesday night lecture, Vapni outlined major events in Israel's 50-year history and explained their historical implications to an assembly of students and other members of the community.

Vapni's position in the Los Angeles Israeli Consulate makes him the second-most senior representative of the state of Israel to the southwest United States.

"Eleven minutes after Israel



Anna MacMurdo/Guardian

Speaking out: Deputy Consul General of Israel Zvi Vapni (left) speaks to a student following his lecture. Vapni outlined major events in Israel's history.

See **AWARENESS**, Page 3

Ché Café strikes a deal with university



Tyler Huff/Guardian



Tyler Huff/Guardian

Coming together: After an agreement, the Ché Café has cleared the obstruction (top) for the new storage shed. The space is now clear for the shed (below).

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Opinion

Dissenting opinions have been largely condemned by Americans since Sept. 11.

see page 4



Hiatus

'Riverdance' thrills audiences with its mixture of Irish culture and entertainment. The world-famous production is now in San Diego.

see page 6



Weather

Thursday, Feb. 28: High 70 | Low 50 ☀

Friday, March 1: High 67 | Low 42 ☀

Saturday, March 2: High 72 | Low 43 ☀

Sunday, March 3: High 71 | Low 46 ☀

Spoken

"This is the right time to step down for me and for the Jacobs School."

—Robert Conn

Dean of Jacobs School of Engineering

EVENTS

Thursday, Feb. 28

Exhibit: 'Sophomore Spectacular'

The A.S. Council sponsors the "Sophomore Spectacular" at 4 p.m. at The Stage at Porter's Pub.

The event is a showcase for sophomore talent while presenting information regarding campus life and events.

The showcase is free and open to UCSD students only.

Lecture: Dr. Frank Ross

The Cross Cultural Center sponsors "Faculty in Residence: Dr. Frank Ross presents a guest lecture on 'History, Ethnic Studies and the Tribal Digital Village'" at 4 p.m. at the Cross Cultural Center.

Ross will discuss the effect on culture of inter-ethnic contact among Native Americans.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Saturday, March 2

Social Event: 'Dances of the World'

The International Club sponsors a dance party at 8 p.m. at the International Center.

An international DJ will feature music from various countries of the world. Guests are asked to wear the flag colors of their country.

The event is free and open to the public.

Performing Arts: Chinese Heritage Festival

The Chinese-American Student Association sponsors the Chinese Heritage Festival at 10 a.m. at the Price Center Plaza.

Performances will include Chinese dancers, singers and kung-fu.

The event is free and open to the public.

Movie: "Purple Rain"

The University Centers present Cinemaddicts, Movies That Rock: "Purple Rain" at 8 p.m. at the Price Center Theater.

General admission is \$1.

Sunday, March 3

Music: Brad Nolen

The University Centers present Roma Nights featuring Brad Nolen at 8 p.m. at Cafe Roma.

The performance is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, March 6

Music: Open mic

The Open Mic Music Celebration will be held at 10 a.m. in the Price Center Plaza.

Various performers from the UCSD community will present their music and poetry.

The event is free and open to UCSD students only.

Social Event: All Sisters' Day

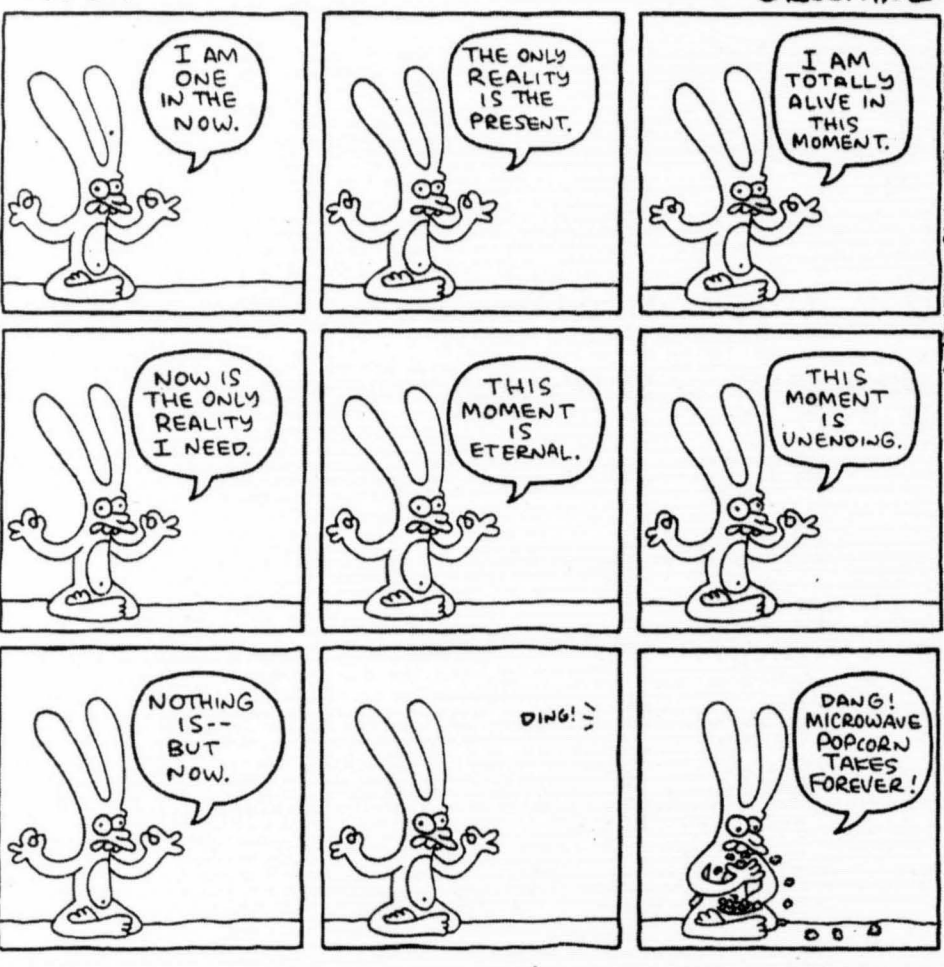
The Concerned Allies of Women of Color sponsor "All Sisters' Day Annual Celebration of Women of Color" at 5 p.m. at the Cross Cultural Center.

The event is designed to engage women of color in an evening of expression, entertainment and food.

The event is free and open to the public.

ETCETERA

LIFE IN HELL



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Awareness:

Vapni spoke on various aspects of Israeli life

Continued from page 1

was created, President Truman sent a letter of recognition," Vapni said.

The United States was the first nation to officially recognize the state of Israel. Most postwar presidential administrations have supported Israel, according to Vapni.

Some students attended the lecture to find out more about the relationship between the two nations.

"[The American-Israeli alliance] is an alliance everyone knows about, but nobody really knows why," said attendee Nimrod Pitsker.

The United States gives \$2.86 billion in foreign aid to Israel each year, \$820 million of which is used for nonmilitary expenditures. Israel receives a total of \$10 billion to \$12 billion of foreign aid.

"Israel has always supported the United States," Vapni said. "Even in Western Europe there's anti-American sentiment; you won't find that in Israel."

Vapni described the United States and Israel as two similar nations, saying they are both democracies and are both built on immigration and the absorption of persecuted peoples. In the past 10 years, Israel's population has increased by nearly 20 percent, largely through immigration, Vapni said.

"Israel is the only democracy in

the middle east," Vapni said. Other Middle East countries may claim to have democracies, he said, but "when the Syrian president is re-elected with 99.9 percent of the vote, it makes you wonder what the other 0.1 percent were thinking, and will they be around for the next election?"

Vapni said that terrorism is another commonality between the United States and Israel, especially after Sept. 11, and highlighted Iraq as a threat to peace.

Responding in part to an audience member's question, Vapni said that "getting bin Laden and the Al-Qaida will not be the end of the war on terror ... Saddam Hussein is a time bomb."

He criticized former President George Bush for not removing Hussein from power during the Persian Gulf War, and said that part of the other Arab nations' distrust of the United States comes as a result of its failure to capture Hussein.

"We can't live with ignorance of what's going on, especially with Sept. 11 — UCSD

students can't remain ignorant," said Shira Landau, Union of Jewish Students member. "We are doing this to try to communicate to the student body the reasons why America supports Israel. I don't think this is ever properly explained, and the lack of explanation causes confusion and hostility."

Avshalom Vilan, a member of the Israeli Parliament, will give the final lecture, "Prospects for Peace," on Thursday night at 8 p.m. in Center Hall Rm. 212. The talk is open to the public.

'We can't live with ignorance of what's going on, especially with Sept. 11. UCSD students can't remain ignorant.'

—Shira Landau
Union of Jewish Students member

Dean:

Conn led the school of engineering to prosperity

Continued from page 1

growth that brought increases in the number of faculty, graduate students and undergraduates.

Conn was a fundamental part of fusing the school with the developing engineering industry. The Center for Wireless Communications, the William J. von Liebig Center for Entrepreneurism and Technology Advancement, and the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology were all founded under Conn's tenure.

During his deanship, the Jacobs School's research funding has grown from \$33 million to \$112 million and is now third in the nation in average research funding per faculty member.

"There's a solid foundation that he's laid down, and [the administration] is going to be conducting an extensive national search for a replacement," Anderson said.

Marsha Chandler, UCSD's senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, added praise.

"We feel that Conn has done a terrific job, and the school is in great shape," Chandler said. "He leaves a legacy that will ensure the quality of UCSD's engineering education program for decades to come."

Average annual private funding for the Jacobs School has dou-

bled since Conn became dean, with over \$145 million raised during his tenure. His influence on engineering education has been equally important. Conn chaired an advisory council to UC President Richard C. Atkinson that resulted in increased engineering funding and enrollments throughout the UC system.

"This enviable legacy is due to Conn's innovative thinking, strategic focus, passion for educational excellence and outstanding faculty recruitment," Chancellors Robert C. Dynes and Chandler stated in an e-mail signed by both and sent to all students.

Conn arrived at UCSD in 1994 after serving as professor of

engineering and applied sciences and founding director of the Institute of Plasma and Fusion Research at UCLA. While at UCLA, he co-founded Plasma & Materials Technologies — now Trikon Technologies.

Conn's distinguished career is complemented by numerous honors including the Outstanding Research Achievement Award from the American Nuclear Society in 1979, the Curtis W. McGraw Research Award from the American Society of Engineering Education in 1982, and the Distinguished Associate Award in 1996 from the U.S. Secretary of Energy, Department of Energy.

"As a campus, we are indebted to the dedication and contributions of this exceptionally distinguished educational leader," Dynes said.

'He leaves a legacy that will ensure the quality of UCSD's engineering education program for decades to come.'

—Marsha Chandler
Senior vice chancellor of academic affairs

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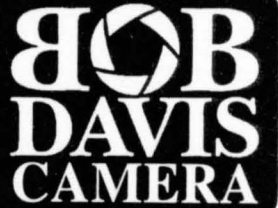
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Watson steps on plans to boost friendly rivalry

In an effort to bolster the brewing rivalry between UCSD and University of California at Davis, the Triton Tide recently worked with UCSD's athletics department to have a beer garden at the upcoming basketball game against the Aggies.

The proper paperwork was being processed smoothly until the event was reportedly nixed by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph Watson. The Guardian feels that this was an unwise move that will only hurt the potential rivalry between the two schools.

With virtually no athletic games between the Tritons and the Aggies prior to UCSD's jump to Division II two years ago, there really isn't a rivalry. A rivalry is not something that can be established overnight. It is something that develops over time and needs to be fostered by the people it involves.

Take a look at the great collegiate rivalries of today: Army and Navy; Duke and North Carolina; UC Berkeley and Stanford. The one thing that all of these rivalries have in common is history. These teams have met hundreds of times over several different sports. Their rivalry wasn't something that an administrator decided on in an instant.

While our "rivalry" with UC Davis is slowly developing, the fostering of the notion was dealt a severe blow by Watson's proverbial ax. Apparently, the reason behind the dismissal of the event was that UCSD needs to re-evaluate its alcohol policy. In reality, it was probably more like Watson's continued mistrust of the UCSD student body to have a good time and be responsible.

The proposed beer garden would have been on RIMAC Arena's gym floor and would have had responsible supervision. Only people of legal age would have been allowed to drink the frosty beverages. This would have allowed people to be a lot looser for the game against the Aggies, which is what a rivalry is all about.

It is hard enough for the UCSD Athletics Department to get anyone to come to games, which makes it hard to start a rivalry. While the beer garden would not have been the ultimate solution, it would have been a great start.

It would have put butts in the seats and put people in a good mood, something that UCSD home games have been lacking in recent memory.

When you look at it, the beer garden was a great idea to promote this rivalry and the Triton Tide should be applauded for its efforts. This idea shows that the group is really trying to create a rivalry.

To Watson and anyone else who thought that this was a bad idea: Shame on you for not trusting the students to have a good time and act responsibly at the same time. You only put a bigger wedge between the concept of a rivalry with UC Davis and the reality of it.

OPINION



Kenrick Leung/Guardian

Dissent: It is as American as baseball and apple pie

Let freedom ring, not be stripped away by the current American administration

By ANDREW QUADRI
 Senior Staff Writer

French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine recently accused the United States of ignoring outside viewpoints. The conclusion from many U.S.-based Internet message board users: The French don't know anything and because they've challenged us, they're terrorists, so we should bomb them, too. The irony there is rather thick.

I cannot believe I share a country with those people. But this is America, where everyone is guaranteed the right to express his or her opinion, no matter how misguided or unpopular that opinion may be. That, in fact, is a good thing. That's the First Amendment for you.

Unfortunately, sometime between Sept. 11, 2001 and now, a lot of people — including President Bush — seem to think that the First Amendment only allows you to say things that don't criticize the status quo or the U.S. government.

Did I miss something? Did President Bush become the only reputable judge of America's best interests the instant the first plane hit the World Trade Center? I thought we were supposed to be pulling his strings, not vice versa. At the rate we're going, we won't be able to criticize his necktie next February. But maybe that's what the president wants: unquestioned authority.

At a press conference at the Texas State House on May 21, 1999, Bush said, regarding a Web site satirizing him, that "there ought to be limits to freedom." Being unable to take criticism is one thing, but wanting to silence criticism contradicts core American values.

Now more than ever, our leaders should be first in line for criticism. We place our lives in their hands, even though we haven't trusted the government since Richard Nixon was president. I was as shaken as every other American on Sept. 11, but if we are going to trust the government, this seems like the wrong time to start.

Criticism is essential to maintaining democracy and freedom. Unified opinion belongs only in a totalitarian state. We

should not support stifling domestic dissent or sacrifice freedom under the guises of "national security" or "patriotism," especially in a so-called democracy.

The day after the terrorist attacks, Bush said that "we will not allow this enemy to win the war by changing our way of life or restricting our freedoms."

'Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger.' Goering's assessment is too familiar for my comfort.

Does that mean it's only bad if terrorists restrict our freedom? Why are we giving our government a collective thumbs-up when it restricts freedom, as it did when it passed the USA Patriot Act? I assume it's because we don't ever want to wake up to horror again, like we did on Sept. 11. It's a lousy trade, if you ask me.

The USA Patriot Act — who would vote against it with a name like that? — states that it aims to preserve freedom. But it can't do that when it gives such broad surveillance powers to domestic law enforcement and international intelligence agencies by eliminating the checks and balances that previously allowed courts to police the police. Previous misuses of power by such agencies prompted those checks and balances, after a 1974 revelation that the FBI and foreign intelligence agencies spied on over 10,000 U.S. citizens.

You or I could be the next target of espionage. As a result of the act, police

now only need to tell a judge that their spying could lead to information that is "relevant" to an ongoing criminal investigation. What's "relevant" is anyone's guess, since you don't even have to be the target of the investigation to be spied on. The act states that in such a case, an application for espionage must be granted and that the government is not obligated to report what it has done. Forget terrorists, *this* scares me. I am not free if someone is spying on me.

I fear the government more than I fear terrorists, but I still like America. To paraphrase a libertarian motto, we can love our country very much but still fear our government. I don't know why such a view is so difficult to accept in post-Sept. 11 America.

One might find an explanation from Nazi Air Force commander and war criminal Hermann Goering. At his 1946 trial in Nuremberg, he said "Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger." Goering's assessment is too familiar for my comfort. We have witnessed variations on that theme every day since the terrorist attacks.

The emerging black-and-white, "you're either with us or you're against us" mindset enrages me. There is a gray area in between, which I will discuss later. But many people don't see that and so they are frighteningly quick to label others "un-American" if they don't blindly support popular opinion on government policy. It is their right to call someone "un-American," but that does not mean they are right in doing so.

It is every American's basic right and responsibility to state his or her honest opinion, regardless of that opinion's popularity. Even a flawed argument or a poorly uttered opinion creates vital debate if it is printed or vocalized instead of kept to oneself. Speak out and ask questions before it's too late to do so.

See FREEDOM, Page 5

Freedom:

Liberty must not be undermined

Continued from page 4

Thinking critically is not treason: Without free thought, the democracy that we claim to love cannot exist.

In case you have forgotten, our ancestors didn't come here because they wanted to wave flags and unconditionally kiss their leaders' asses. They came for freedom. They wanted to fight tyranny, not propagate it. A lot of Americans seem to have forgotten that.

What does America value? Liberty and justice for all, or shiny things and security at any price? America was founded on the former, but I see it heading toward the latter at the cost of the former. That scares me.

Sticking a U.S. flag to your imported sport-utility vehicle — which runs partly on Middle Eastern oil — does not necessarily mean you are a patriot. Wearing an Old Navy T-shirt with a U.S. flag on it — which, ironically, was probably made by some Muslim kid in an Indonesian sweatshop — also does not necessarily mean you are a patriot.

By itself, waving a U.S. flag doesn't make you a patriot any more than eating a carrot makes you a rabbit.

That is not to say that patriots don't wave flags, but if you are going to wave a flag you should be very clear about why you are waving it. Ask yourself why you support America before you become a patriot in its name.

Merriam-Webster's definitions of "patriot" and "patriotism" are not as similar as one might think.

The former, with emphasis

added, is "one who loves his country and supports its authority and interests;" the latter is simply "love for or devotion to one's country." Similar, but not the same.

I love freedom and I love democracy. I assume that you do, too. I hope that our renewed patriotism results in record voter turnout in the next election. Voting is patriotic because, unlike simply waving a flag, it supports a claim — that one loves American democracy — with a meaningful action.

We should expect a record turnout, but I have a nagging feeling that voter turnout will be as lousy as ever. I hope that feeling is wrong. After all, if the "attacks on freedom" don't prompt more than the usual one-third of registered voters to vote, what will?

I do not support all U.S. domestic or foreign policies or the government's habit of spying on its citizens, but I love the soil I stand on and I love the principles represented by our Constitution.

I question people who try to stand in the way of those principles. You could say I practice patriotism, but I am not necessarily a patriot. Maybe I'm just a semi-patriot.

I think there are a lot of "semi-patriots" out there. Feelings about America cannot be divided into just an "I love America and all the good and bad it does" camp and an "I hate America and want to destroy it" camp.

There is a third camp, to which I belong. It's the "I love America and think it is nice but know it is not perfect" camp, and I suspect there are a lot of Americans who are with me.

The United States is great, but it's not perfect. We need to realize this as soon as possible. As any decent businessman knows, a company can lead an industry

without being perfect. Microsoft leads the software industry not because it makes the best software, but because it devoured its competition.

That tactic may work in business, but it's no way to run a country.

There is always room for improvement. America and Americans should always strive to improve on the status quo. That's the only moral way to stay on top. If we benefit from "changing our way of life" for the better, that hardly means that the terrorists have won.

Taking away our freedom because we are scared of terrorists is not an improvement; it's un-American.

Bona fide patriot Patrick Henry asked in 1775, "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?" No one — whether it is terrorists, our own government or fellow citizens — should be allowed to stunt American liberty.

Henry's question bears repeated asking now. Ask yourself, ask your friends and ask your leaders what Americans really want.

You will find that many Americans now want guaranteed safety at almost any expense. We want safety because we were used to thinking that we were safe before Sept. 11, 2001.

Well, we were never safe and we never will be, so suck it up already.

Our rights are guaranteed, while life is inherently risky and has a 100 percent chance of death as its result.

We should not be so willing to trade guaranteed rights for a gamble on "safety." Given a choice between freedom and safety, I choose freedom. Henry phrased that more eloquently as "Give me liberty or give me death."

Pablo Picasso
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Movie review: 'We Were Soldiers'

see page 7



Mary J. Blige comes to Copley this Friday

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Kevin Smith chases after new film projects

'Silent Bob' talks about retiring his character, confesses dislike for pot

By MARA EVANS
Staff Writer

Kevin Smith, the creator of "Dogma," "Mallrats," "Chasing Amy" and the more recent "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" looks like his voice. This perplexing concept is not difficult to grasp considering that Silent Bob is the character Smith is best known for playing.

The multitalented Smith, who heralds from Red Bank, New Jersey, has been in the movie business since 1994 with the release of "Clerks," for which he won the Filmmaker's Trophy Award at the Sundance film festival that same year.

Smith's latest work to arrive on DVD, "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back," has followed a mainstream Hollywood approach. Unfortunately, this adventure is proving to be the duo's last.

"Sometimes you just want to leave the party before you're the last one there," said Smith when asked about his decision to retire his two most popular characters. Smith also said he is done acting and will not appear in his upcoming movie, "Jersey Girl."

Removing himself from the limelight will force fans to get to know Smith on a more personal level. Most will be surprised to discover his vehement dislike for marijuana, given that Smith's best-known characters treat a joint with reverence.



Kevin Smith

Director, 'Jay & Silent Bob Strike Back'

"I could really count on one hand the number of times I've smoked pot," Smith said. "I really don't like the taste of alcohol, either. I'd much rather drink Yoo-Hoo or chocolate milk."

While some may consider Smith a Hollywood heavyweight, Smith holds a more humble view of himself. When asked what it takes in order to create a successful Hollywood film Smith responded, "A hom run movie should please you, the audience and the distributor."

He went on further to add, "A home run movie takes a commercial ability that I don't possess. I'm not really a home run guy, I'm more of a double guy."

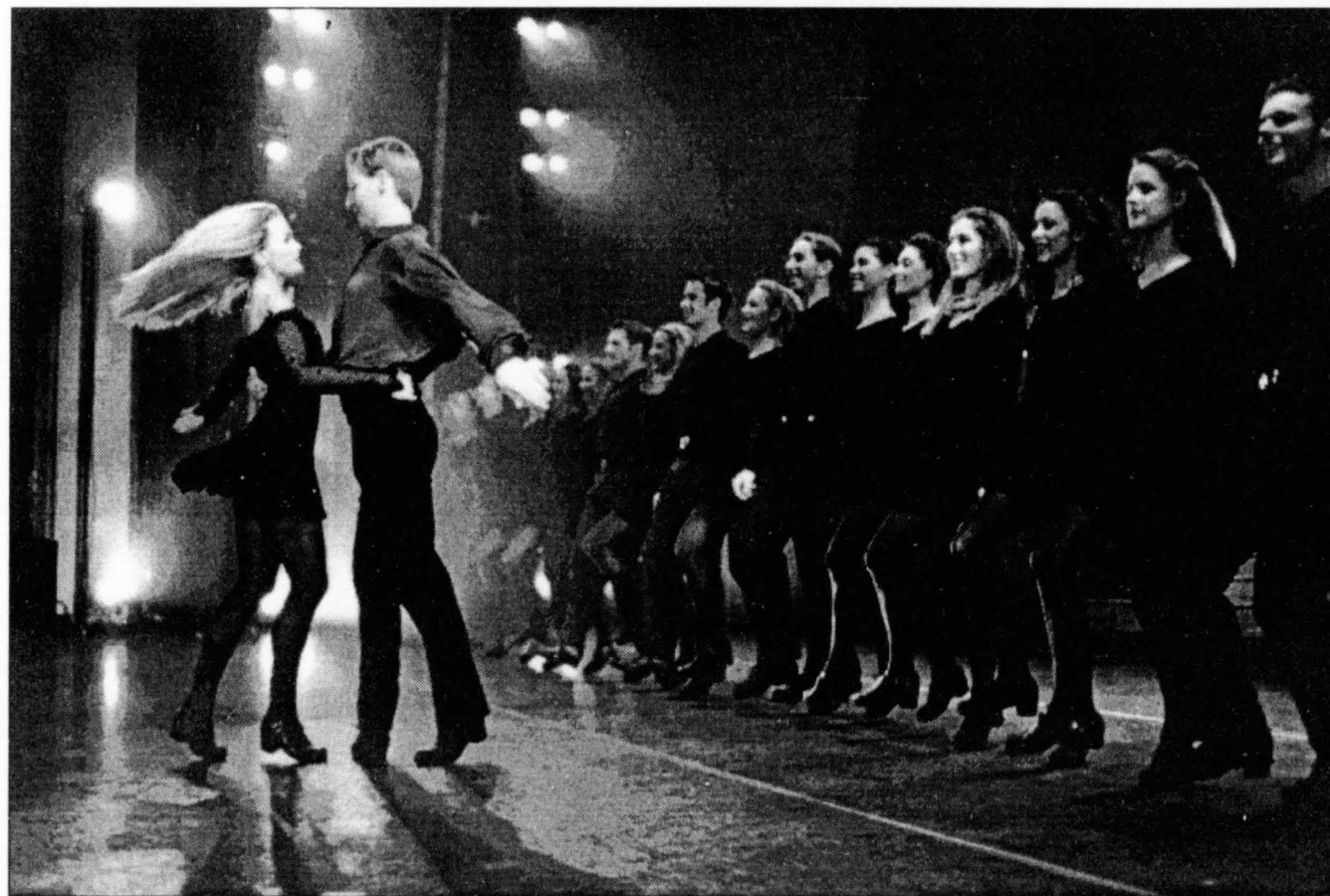
With his ability to "double," however, Smith has garnered a large following for himself. Among his less-avid fans, Smith is best known for his acting, writing and directing skills. It is little-known that he has also conducted many college tours around the country in the past several years. Some of the footage of Smith's question-and-answer tours will be released the summer of 2002 on DVD.

Smith attributes the success of his college tours to students' ability "to laugh at a good dick or fart joke." Smith also pointed out that the shows appeal to students because "they have a lot of time to watch movies."

Smith has a relaxed, impartial attitude that he relays through his expressive eyebrows as Silent Bob.

As Smith's public exposure increases, so does his public recognition. Yet while the popularity of many of today's top names in the entertainment industry such as Britney Spears depend greatly on their sex appeal, Smith believes he defies this principle.

"There is nothing remotely sexual about me," Smith said. "And my tits are bigger than Britney's."



Courtesy of Broadway/SD

The Irish dance into town

By CHARLIE TRAN
Hiatus Editor

Since when can something "cultured" be so much fun and entertaining? All it takes are the taps and footsteps of dancers in "Riverdance: the Show" to be mesmerized by a lively festival of Celtic music and "Riverdance" performers amaze audiences with the near-impossible speed of their footwork.

Although "Riverdance" tries to convey a story of Irish folklore and the immigration from Ireland to America, the show doesn't have much of a choreographical order and story line. But who cares? "Riverdance" isn't as much about a complex story as it is a celebration of dance. Attempts to create a story, such as John Kavanagh's narration, seem to draw away from the true essence of the performance: dance and song.

Male lead Michael Patrick Gallagher's lightning speed and graceful footwork is utterly amazing. His performance is superb, but his on-stage interaction with

female lead Tara Barry is sorely lacking. Although the leads prove that they are experts at dance, they have little chemistry together.

The Irish dance troupe of about 30, support the leads is not a group of second-rate performers. Their dance steps are in near-perfect unison and bring about an amazing, rapid choreography that would put just about any chorus line to shame. "Riverdance" is a group effort, and it shows with strong performances from the entire troupe that elevate the show from being just a mere highlight of the leads.

Supporting the dancers is the festive "Riverdance" orchestra, with an eclectic mix of instruments that range from fiddles to uilleann pipes to accordions. Unlike many Broadway shows, the orchestra plays a major role and actually performs on stage, bringing together both music and dance under a fun atmosphere.

Although widely synonymous with Irish dance, "Riverdance" also showcases a rich mix of other forms of dance, including flamenco, Russian folk ballet and African-American tap. Each of the other

forms of dancing merges with the theme of "Riverdance," creating a wide showcase of dances without losing the underlying element of Celtic music and dance.

The Irish dance troupe may be the soul of the production, but it is the three African-American tappers who steal the audiences' hearts. "Trading taps" is a scene in which Irish dance meets equally fast jazz tap and the two forms get a chance to duel each other. Not one to let the Irish dance troupe steal the spotlight, African-American tappers Aaron Tolson, Ronald Bastine and Jason Bernard infuse hip, modern tap rather than straightforward Celtic tap. It's a fun, lively scene that manages to not only make fun of "Riverdance," but also gets the audiences into a charged atmosphere.

The biggest flaw of the performance was something that the performers could not control: the minut size of the Civic Theater. With a show grand in size and performance, the dancers sometimes seemed preoccupied with not bumping

See RIVERDANCE, Page 7

'40 Days' brings the need for abstinence in film-watching

Plain plot doesn't add much to this attempt at a sex comedy with Josh Hartnett

By MARA EVANS
Staff Writer

Hollywood is so horny. Hollywood is so horny it will do anything to produce a movie about sex, including making a movie that concentrates on not having sex. The result is ridiculous.

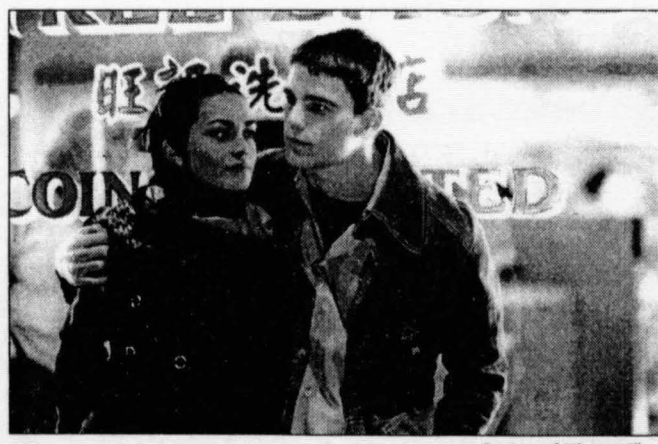
Josh Hartnett plays Matt Sullivan, a 20-something whose dot-com job looks like the set of "The Real World." Sullivan is desperately trying to get over his ex-girlfriend Nicole (Vinessa Shaw). As a last resort, he takes a vow of abstinence for Lent. It's a horrible idea according to all of his male friends, including his priest-in-training brother.

Of course, Sullivan's trial is anything but easy. In his path lies love interest Erica (Shannyn Sossamon), whom he can't sleep

with. In addition, a large betting pool forms among Sullivan's co-workers, who try everything to sabotage his progress.

The movie brings a relatively new angle to the "tired-but-true" teen-age sex movie, and Hartnett plays the haggard, sex-deprived Sullivan well. Sullivan's transformation is painfully amusing as the days go on without any form of sexual contact. He goes from a dashing ladies' man to a twitching bundle of nerves who has to douse himself with ice water in the morning.

Besides presenting audiences with the unique concept of being a sex movie with more talk than action, "40 Days" has a few redeeming qualities. Sullivan's hallucinations incorporate a limited use of animation, which contributes to the lightheartedness



Courtesy of Miramax Films

Love in the air: Matt Sullivan (Josh Hartnett) and Erica (Shannyn Sossamon) share a hug, but can Matt resist Erica's temptations?

of the film. Also, while "40 Days" doesn't go for the gross-out caliber of "American Pie," audiences should look for the scene where Hartnett fakes an orgasm. Despite Hartnett's best efforts, the scene is a disappointment. See COMEDY, Page 9

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'Soldiers' breathes life into Vietnam heroes

'We Were Soldiers' portrays the lives of soldiers and their wives

By ANNE CONG-HUYEN
Staff Writer

From the very first gun shot to the last narrated words, "We Were Soldiers" exemplifies the humanity and courage of those who fought and died in the battle at Ia Drang Valley in North Vietnam.

Basing the movie on the book "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young," director and producer Randall Wallace does a commendable job of turning the respected book into an equally respectable film.

Relating the experiences of the first platoon of the seventh cavalry regiment (eerily the same regiment as that of General Custer) led by Lt. Moore (Mel Gibson) and Sergeant Major Plumley (Sam Elliott), "Soldiers" tells the story of the men who fought in that battle and the people affected by it. With scenes of horrific violence contrasted with somber scenes of wives awaiting news, the lives of those involved are



Film REVIEW

made realistic and touching. With strong performances from the entire cast, the emotions of the characters are beautifully portrayed — from the fear of fighting to the dread of losing a loved one, evoking tears and sniffling throughout the theater.

Gibson perfectly portrays Moore as a father and husband reluctant to lead his young men into battle. All other soldiers were equally realistic, but one really commendable performance was given by Barry Pepper. Pepper flawlessly portrays Joe Galloway, a man naive to the ravages of war and who grows to fully understand the scope of the atrocities committed by men.

The actresses portraying the wives of these soldiers deliver equally tangible performances of

courageous and emotionally tortured women who must be brave to maintain a cohesive community, yet are internally agonized by the possibility of losing their husbands.

Incredibly strong performances make "Soldiers" a remarkable movie that tries to incorporate the lives of everyone involved in the battle. It is not only the Americans who are glorified; there is also an admirable attempt to portray the opposing North Vietnamese as being equally human. The new manner in which this film depicts war and its success in doing so make "Soldiers" a great and innovative war movie.

We Were Soldiers

★★★★
Starring Mel Gibson, Sam Elliott and Chris Klein
In theaters March 1
Rated R

Riverdance:

Cast's fun performance lights audience's hearts
Continued from page 6

into each other. This was particularly evident during the final scene when the Irish dance troupe looked like a can stuffed with sardines.

Minus a few technical mishaps during opening night, "Riverdance" shows why it is still popular after all these years. The cast's enthusiasm shows that they are really having fun while performing furious yet tiring dance moves.

"Riverdance" is one of the few shows around that manages to capture everyone's heart. From its beautiful Celtic music to its breakneck

speed and accuracy of dancing, it provides joy for experienced showgoers and first-time viewers alike.

"Riverdance: the Show" is in San Diego in a limited engagement; tickets are selling faster than the dancers' legs can move. For ticket information, contact (619) 570-1100 or go to <http://www.broadwaysd.com>.

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02.28.02 hiatus calendar 03.07.02

28 thursday

Death Cab For Cutie has a melodic indie-rock sound, but with some splashes of punk. They will be joined by **Dismemberment Plan** and **Aveo** at the Mira Mesa Epicentre. The event starts at 8 p.m. Call (858) 271-4000 for ticket information

1 friday

Regardless of what **Mary J. Blige** has been in her life, she has still been able to create quality, soulful tunes with a hip-hop flavor. She is guaranteed to put on a solid show at the Copley Symphony Hall. The concert starts at 8 p.m. and tickets start at \$39.50. Look to page 9 for more on Blige.

Being Frank Sinatra's god-daughter isn't **Nikka Costa's** only claim to fame. This eclectic singer-songwriter has tunes that can feel like jazz and tracks that are more R&B. **Costa** will be at the Belly Up

2 saturday

Celebrate the culture of hip-hop at **Urban Explosion**. This event will be held at 1 p.m. at Earl Warren College. The event will feature various performers, free food and free CDs. Admission to the event is also free. For more information call (858) 685-9490.

A good chunk of San Diego music can be defined by the energetic rock-stylings of **Rocket From the Crypt**. They will perform at the relatively new 18-and-over club The Scene. Tickets are \$12 and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. Check out <http://www.thescenelive.com> for directions and for more on Rocket From the Crypt visit <http://www.ucsdguardian.org>.

There is something about **Ryan Adams'** music that resulted in a sold-out show at 4th & B.

5 tuesday

Perhaps an examination into his rocking tune "New York New York" and his album "Gold" can reveal this highly infectious sound. For more on **Adams** point to <http://www.theucsd-guardian.org>.

"Rolling Stone" magazine hailed **Rufus Wainwright** as the best new artist of 1998. In 2002, his alternative rock style with lush melodies and his dashing good looks have resulted in a large teen-age girl audience looking for a bit more substance in their music. Wainwright will be at the Belly Up Tavern at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$22.

Look to the hiatus calendar for events in and around UCSD.

All tickets can be purchased through Ticketmaster by calling (619) 220-8497 or by going to <http://www.ticketmaster.com> unless otherwise noted.



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The resilient Mary J. Blige to perform in SD

The 'Queen of Hip-Hop Soul' will grace Copley Hall this Friday

By **MATT HUEY**
Contributing Writer

Leave it to Mary J. Blige to sample the theme song from a daytime soap opera (specifically, from "The Young & the Restless") and create a hit in the process — this for the title track off her latest studio album, "No More Drama."

Following the bass-bumping triumph of the LP's first single, "Family Affair," Blige spent four weeks at the top of the singles chart. She has worked with Dr. Dre, Puff Daddy (pre-P. Diddy), Lauryn Hill, Aretha Franklin and Elton John. Her most recent single, "Rainy Dayz," has already begun playing over the airwaves, along with the most recognizable

collaboration kid of the year, Ja Rule; the video clip premieres this week.

In her decade-long career, the soul-meets-street songstress has carved out an impressive niche in the recording industry. With approval both commercially and critically, Blige has five platinum albums to her credit, as well as a Grammy Award with Method Man in 1996 for Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group.

A main staple of urban and top 40 stations, Blige has also long been in heavy rotation on MTV and B.E.T.

Walking a path that crosses streetwise hip-hop and radio-friendly R&B, Blige has impressively and consistently straddled the line between artist and enter-

tainer. Her more recent work is a series of energized cuts in which the singer eschews the cutting, emotional grittiness that characterized much of her previous work.

When the native New Yorker makes her San Diego appearance this week, it is one stop in a long list of national tour dates in support of her "No More Drama" album.

Despite her many accolades and veteran status in the music business, detractors have often pointed out her habit of wandering off-key in live performances, favoring melodrama over melody. It is this straightforward, no-emotions-barred style that has contributed to her lasting success and her being dubbed the "Queen of Hip-Hop Soul."

Comedy:

'40 Days' adds little to what moviegoers have already seen
Continued from page 6

attempts at comedic acting, "40 Days" is fatally flawed. The scripted nature of the dialogue between Sullivan and his roommate Ryan (Paulo Costanzo) loses the audi-

ence's interest. Sullivan's love-interest, Erica, is grating when Sullivan's forced abstinence becomes a personal affront to her needs. Sossamon is clearly a newcomer to the Hollywood scene: She apparently even neglected to hire a hair stylist.

In all honesty, "40 Days" presents little that moviegoers haven't already seen. While some of the laughs are deserved and Hartnett

does well when sexually repressed, you can abstain from this one.

40 Days and 40 Nights

★ ★ ★
Starring Josh Hartnett, Shannyn Sossamon and Paulo Costanzo
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Rated R

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University City room for rent. \$550. Entrance, patio, large bath, all private. Microwave, small refrigerator. Alex 858.453.3248. (2/28)

Volunteers paid \$30 for an interview. If you are entirely of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean descent, age 21-26, call 552.8585 x5590. (3/14)

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WANTED

To my favorite pal from my home town of Anaheim Hills... Congrats!!! They'll be lucky to have you in Santa Barbara. -Philip (2/28)

Beware of an outlaw socialite gang that's roaming the streets of La Jolla. (2/28)

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LOST & FOUND Lost your celebration pictures? Left them at the General Store maybe? If so, come by the Guardian and pick them up. We'll hang on to them for a week or so! (3/7)

PERSONALS

5000 Family Motors Invitational. In another record-setting event, Loyola Marymount's Mike Farrell

Golf ties for seventh at invitational Bakersfield grabs top spot

By ANU KUMAR Staff Writer

UCSD golf traveled to Bakersfield to take part in the Family Motors Invitational on Monday and Tuesday. In their third tournament of the season, the Tritons finished tied for seventh in the 15-team field.

The Tritons started slowly. They were one of six teams that failed to break 300 in the first round. Scoring 301 in the first round of the tournament placed UCSD ninth — 21 strokes behind the leading Chico State squad.

The Tritons improved by five strokes after their second round, shooting a 296 for the sixth-best score on Monday. UCSD tallied 296 again Tuesday to finish the tournament with an overall score of 893.

Cal State Bakersfield won the tournament. Bakersfield's combined score of 855 edged Chico State, which finished in second place and shot 865. Rounding out the top three spots in the tournament were Loyola Marymount and St. Martin's College, which both shot 877.

The No. 1-ranked Roadrunners battled back from a 10-stroke deficit after the first round. Bakersfield turned in a near-record 279 in its afternoon round Monday. The score is second only to the 274 that Bakersfield produced in the 2000 Family Motors Invitational.

In another record-setting event, Loyola Marymount's Mike Farrell

Men's tennis wins 9th in a row Tritons swat Sonoma State, Point Loma

By STEPHANIE MORIARTY Contributing Writer

Coach Eric Steidlmayer and the Triton tennis squad are still undefeated.

The men's tennis team wasted no time securing its win over Sonoma State on Sunday, bringing its record to 8-0.

The Tritons jumped out to a 3-0 lead against the Cossacks after sweeping the doubles. Sophomores Nick Morton and Blake Wilson-Hayden teamed up for the first time and posted an 8-3 win in the No. 3 doubles position.

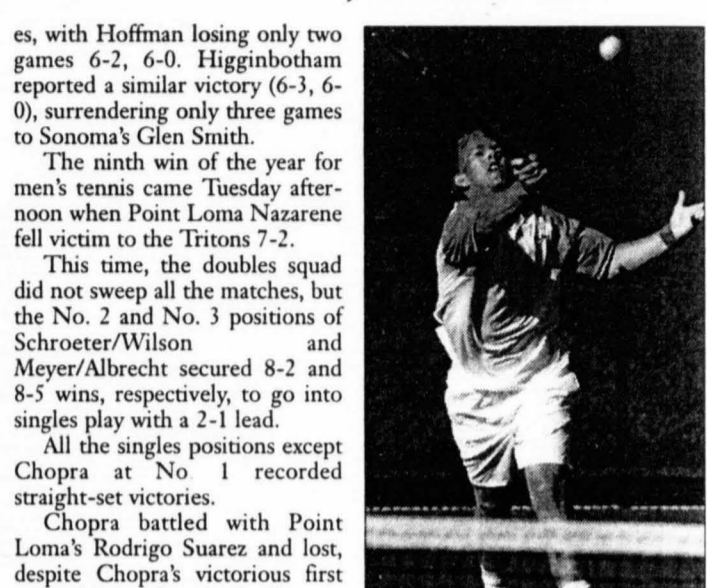
Sameer Chopra and Bryan Swatt played their usual No. 1 spot and scored an 8-5 victory, while the No. 2 team of Jeff Wilson and Everett Schroeter sealed the sweep with an 8-5 win.

Sonoma State put up a better fight in the singles matches, but the Triton lineup stayed strong.

Swatt moved to the No. 1 spot for the day and even though he played tough, Sonoma's Mark Krzyk pulled out the second-set tiebreaker to win in straight sets.

Other notables were No. 5 Doug Hoffman and No. 6 Sean Higginbotham. It was Higginbotham's debut in the singles lineup.

Both players won their match-



Tyler Huff/Guardian

Stretch: UCSD's Jeff Wilson returns a volley Tuesday against Point Loma.

the season, the Tritons beat College of the Desert, the No. 1 junior college tennis program in the nation.

This weekend the Tritons enter the Pacific Coast Doubles Championships at La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club. The team will be challenged by Division I schools such as Pepperdine, UCLA, Stanford, USC and Notre Dame.

Web Exclusive UCSD CLUBSPORTS www.ucsdguardian.org

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"An agreement's been signed that is designed to have a final between Canada and the USA."

—Vyacheslav Fetisov on the officiating in Russia's 3-2 ice hockey loss to Team USA

SPORTS



Men's tennis

UCSD picks up two more victories, improves to 9-0 on the season

See p. 11

12 SPORTS

THE UCSD GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2002

UCSD has tough weekend

Women's water polo goes 2-2 in SB tourney

By **JEFF CHUNG**
Staff Writer

The UCSD women's water polo team hit the road over the weekend for a tournament hosted by UC Santa Barbara. After a series of tough battles with top opponents, the Tritons came away with a 2-2 record for the tourney and a 6-4 overall record heading into a nine-game homestand starting this week.

In its first game of the weekend, UCSD faced a tough San Jose State team. After stumbling out of the gates early, the Tritons fell behind quickly and faced a 7-1 deficit at halftime, eventually losing 10-5.

Head coach Larry Sanders was disappointed by his team's performance.

"We just came out real flat," he said. "We were not connecting offensively or defensively."

Hoping to erase that loss from their minds, the Tritons then took on UC Irvine. Once again, UCSD started off slowly and fell behind 4-0 at the half. However, the team rallied and tied the game at the end of regulation play with a 5-5 score.

Senior Courtney Hemmerly kept the Tritons alive with a clutch goal with about five seconds left to play, and finished with three goals in the Anteaters' 7-5 overtime loss. Junior Samara Silverman added six steals in the victory.

Sanders was impressed by his team's comeback.

"It was good to see they could come back from that kind of situation," he said.

Starting off Sunday's games, UCSD faced host Santa Barbara in a game that came down to the wire. The Tritons displayed some brilliance in the match, converting three of seven ejections into goals. Senior Emma Kruditzki led UCSD with two goals while the teams battled toward the end of regulation in a 6-6 deadlock. During the overtime session, both teams had trouble finding the back of the cage until the Gauchos scored with 5 seconds left, breaking the Tritons' hearts in the process. Even in defeat, however, UCSD pulled some positives out of the result.

"We played a good, solid game," Sanders said. "We had plenty of opportunities and unfortunately the luck was on their side."

The team finished out the weekend against University of Michigan and ended the tournament on a positive note with a 6-4 victory. Juniors Dana Tucker and Danielle Boyle led the Tritons with two goals apiece.

"The second half belonged to us," Sanders said. "We shut [Michigan] down with some superb defense."

University of Michigan and UCSD faced off again Feb. 27 at Canyonview Pool.



Women rule the football field

By Isaac Pearlman, Sports Editor
photos by Scott Thomas,
Guardian photographer

It's been a male adage for years. There's no questioning the assumption; it has been shown countless times in countless scenarios, and stands among males as an irrefutable truth: Women and football don't mix. When guys think of football and women, the most common association tends to be the cheerleaders on the sidelines.

Well, heads up guys: These gals can play, too.

The Women's American Football League capped off its inaugural season Feb. 24 with the league's first World Bowl held at Balboa Stadium in San Diego.

The 16-team league kicked off last November, and culminated with a 30-14 win by the Long Beach-based California Quakes over the Jacksonville Dixie Blues. Quake Quarterback Mary Montgomery threw 17 regular-season touchdowns and led her team to victory by throwing for two touchdowns and 110 yards. Dixie Blues' running back Rocky Brown rushed 29 times for 161 yards and accounted for both of

the Jacksonville touchdowns.

Most importantly, however, is the league, which was first envisioned in a 26-team format, and was able to complete a tough inaugural season Sunday and prove to everyone and themselves that women can indeed hold their own on the football field.

The league basically uses the

same rules as the National Football League, playing on a regulation field with four 15-minute quarters with a 25-second play-clock.

The San Diego SunFire, the local WAFL team, was voted to host the World Bowl I by the league after finishing the season with the highest attendance, aver-

aging 2,400 fans per home game despite its record of 5-5.

However, the league struggled in its first year, as the top-finishing Quakes saw an average attendance of fewer than 500 fans. Most players were unpaid and were forced to buy their own equipment, with the only team funds coming from a few sponsorships and ticket sales.

The SunFires are owned by Donna Fox, a former sports anchor who also plays running back for the San Diego team. Teammate Christina Suggett also pulls double-duty, serving as director of marketing and business development.

The women on the team range from the 5-foot-4-inch, 118-pound Fox to the 5-foot-8-inch 250-pound offensive lineman Michelle "Big Red" Bryant.

Now that the season has ended, many of the athletes will be participating in the San Diego SunFire Women's Flag Football League beginning March 2. Tryouts for next year's team will be held March 16 at Morley Field in Balboa Park.



Gridiron: Clockwise from upper left, a California Quake defender tackles a Jacksonville Dixie Blue; Quake defensive back Dolly Dinning (#29) celebrates with a teammate after winning World Bowl I; the Dixie Blues begin an offensive series.

First-place UCSD splits against Asuza Pacific

Softball gets shutout 1-0, comes back to salvage 8-2 victory

By **BRYCE WARWICK**
Staff Writer

In a rare weeknight doubleheader, the UCSD softball team split with the Cougars of Asuza Pacific University. The Tritons lost a pitchers duel 1-0 in the opener, but came back to win the nightcap 8-2.

The Cougars' Cassie Lakey and Jamie Norman opened the game

with back-to-back doubles, and before the Tritons could record an out, Asuza Pacific led 1-0.

UCSD pitcher Leea Harlan struggled through the rest of the inning, surrendering two more hits, but eventually got a third strike to strand Cougar runners on second and third and prevent further scoring.

The Triton bats were rendered

harmless by Megan Alkire when she pitched a solid outing, allowing only five hits and no walks.

UCSD mounted its only serious threat of the game in the bottom of the third inning when Breanne Cope and Amy Mettee led off with back-to-back singles.

After Kim Aggabao laid down a sacrifice bunt, the Tritons had runners at second and third with only one out. However, Alkire was up to the challenge and she induced a shallow fly to left field and a groundball back to the mound to end the threat.

Harlan was also strong after the first inning, allowing only three hits the rest of the way, but she picked up the loss, dropping her record to 6-2 on the year.

Game two started the same way, with the Cougars picking up a single run in the top of the first inning.

The Tritons atoned for their early mistake in the bottom of the second inning when Kristin Hunstad and Jamie Hurst got on base for Mettee, who ripped a two-run triple to right field.

"In the second game, we knew what we were up against," Mettee said. "We had to come back and show them how we play softball."

The Triton brand of softball picked up another run in the third

inning by capitalizing on two Cougar errors to take a 3-1 lead. However, Asuza Pacific's bad defensive inning in the third paled in comparison to the trouble it had in the fifth. Kristina Anderson opened the inning by hitting a ball to the shortstop that the Cougar Rachel Alkire could not handle.

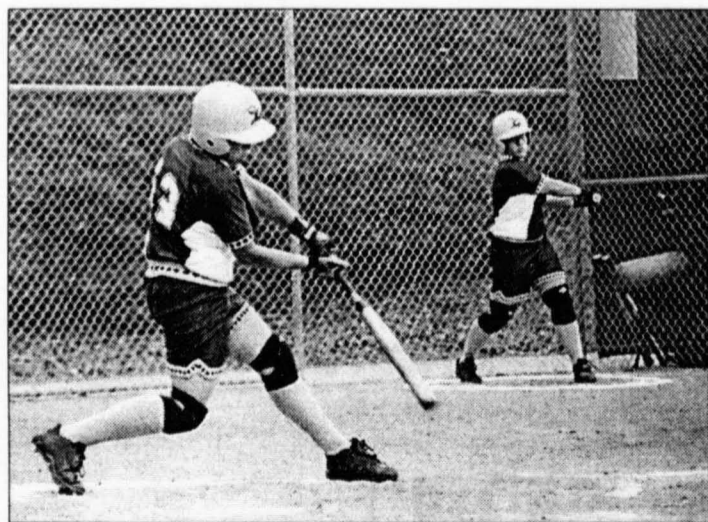
With one out, Christi Martinelli drove another ball at Alkire; this one went through the shortstop's legs and all the way to the wall for a three-base error.

After Cope walked, Mettee came up with her second two-run hit of the day, this one a double into the right-center gap. Two batters later, Mettee scored on yet another Cougar error. In all, the Tritons scored five runs on only two hits with the help of three errors by APU.

The Cougars added a run in the top of the sixth on a long home run by Lorna Lyttle to close the scoring at 8-2 in favor of UCSD.

"We made the adjustments we needed to make," Mettee said about the difference between the two games. "We played as a team and played our game."

The Tritons look to maintain their excellent level of play on the road against Cal State Dominguez Hills and Cal State Bakersfield.



Anna MacMurdo/Guardian

Heft hack: Triton third baseman Amy Mettee, seen here in the foreground, takes a cut Tuesday against Asuza Pacific University.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1: RIMAC Arena: Women's basketball vs. UC Davis, 5:30 p.m.

March 2: Triton Baseball Stadium: Baseball vs. CSUSB, noon

March 2: Canyonview: Water Polo vs. Loyola Maramount, 1 p.m.

March 1: RIMAC Arena: Men's basketball vs. UC Davis, 7:30 p.m.

March 2: RIMAC Arena: Volleyball vs. U. of Pacific, 1 p.m.

March 2: RIMAC Arena: Women's basketball vs. Chico, 5:30 p.m.