

# THE GUARDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

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Monday, September 29, 2008

The Student Voice Since 1967

**FROM THE BOARD ROOM**

ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

Chancellor Marye Anne Fox addresses the incoming freshman class at the 2008 Welcome Convocation and Dinner event Sept. 21 on RIMAC Field. This year saw the largest number of applications in campus history, with a total of 19,690 freshman applicants admitted for fall 2008 and winter 2009. The magnitude of the university's ever-growing applicant pool has UC officials worried over whether the 10-campus system will be able to support such continued growth, considering the stagnancy of state funding.

## Regents Tackle Cash Shortage, Shoot to Deepen Applicant Pool

The passage of a months-late state budget yields a systemwide scramble of campus officials looking to cut nonessential services.

By Sarah de Crescenzo  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Following the longest budget impasse in California state history, legislators early last week signed the final draft of the 2008-09 state budget, ending an 80-day stalemate over the document and guaranteeing the University of California significantly less funding than petitioned for by the UC Board of Regents in its request earlier this year.

Maintaining essentially the same amount of funding the UC system was allotted in the previous fiscal year, the new state budget sets the university's operating funds at a total of \$3.256 billion. This fall, approximately 5,000 new students entered the UC system, an enroll-

ment figure university officials say will be hard to maintain in the future.

"It is difficult to conceive how the university could continue taking additional students year after year when the state is not providing the funding to support this additional enrollment," UC Vice President for Budget Patrick Lenz said.

The UC system kept its promise to enroll all eligible students this academic year, but dwindling state funds will likely jeopardize the continued success of this guaranteed admissions policy.

"We believe very strongly that the state needs to be funding public higher education at a level commensurate with our needs if our institutions

See **BUDGET**, page 7

An eligibility proposal seeks to widen the parameters of guaranteed admission, creating the potential for a more diverse student body.

By Yelena Akopian  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The UC Board of Regents met in Irvine this month to discuss a proposal that aims to rewrite the rules of freshman admission eligibility that would go into effect for fall 2012.

The proposal, constructed by the UC Academic Senate and discussed in the committee on educational policy, would amend the rules concerning guaranteed admission and give students who are not eligible under current guidelines a chance to have their applications considered for admission under comprehensive review.

UC President Mark G. Yudof expressed tentative support for the proposal at the meeting and told the regents that the changes are headed in the

right direction.

Later during the meeting, the regents voted to begin to take measures that would increase systemwide campus diversity among students, staff and faculty in areas including race, geography and socioeconomic status.

According to a systematic study of eligibility conducted by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools that began in 1996, the rules governing admission not only leave out many qualified students, but also exclude a disproportionate number of racial and ethnic minorities.

"The folks on the other side of the line were dense in diversity relative to those who were being included," former Academic Senate Chair

See **ADMISSIONS**, page 7

## Union Pushes for Greater Worker Voice in UC Pension Plan

By Deepak Seeni  
STAFF WRITER

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees announced last week that it will pursue a ballot measure to increase employee participation in the governance of the \$43-billion University of California Retirement Plan.

The union, which represents roughly 20,000 UC patient-care technical and service employees, will begin collecting voter signatures in October for Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5. AFSCME must collect 694,000 signatures in order for the measure to appear on the June 2010 ballot.

Co-authored by Sen. Leland Yee (D-San Francisco/San Mateo) and Assemblyman Anthony Portantino (D-Pasadena) and introduced in February 2007, ACA 5 would amend the California Constitution to establish a board of trustees to govern UCRP.

Hopeful that the ballot measure would not be necessary, in May 2007 Yee authored and shifted his energy toward a similar initiative — Senate Concurrent Resolution 52 — that urged the UC Board of Regents to grant shared governance for its pension plan. SCR 52 passed in both houses of the state Legislature in September 2007, but the regents ignored it. Now, with the support of AFSCME, ACA 5 is moving forward.

There is growing concern among UC workers as their pension plan, once one of the top-performing in the country, now appears to be significantly underperforming its peers.

"Even besides conflict of interest in the plan's management and its unsatisfactory performance over the past years, every other employee in the state has a voice in his or her pension — UC workers do not," said Adam Keigwin, Yee's communications director.

UC spokesman Paul Schwartz said the university is willing to con-

sider new methods of incorporating employee input, but that the UC faculty does not agree with the creation of a new, separate board that would add an additional layer of bureaucracy and threaten the university's ability to construct employment packages that support its recruitment and retention needs.

"Although ACA 5 is consistent with our commitment to employee participation, it does contain some provisions that threaten to undermine a system that has served the state extremely well," he said.

Schwartz added that ACA 5 creates potential conflict of interest issues by giving employees decision-making authority over their own retirement benefits and putting them in the very difficult position of having to choose between the university's broader interests and their own.

AFSCME, however, continues to

See **PENSIONS**, page 3

### Pension Pending

<b>Feb. 2007</b>	ACA 5 introduced to state Assembly.
<b>May 2007</b>	SCR 52 introduced to state Senate.
<b>Sept. 2007</b>	SCR 52 passes in both legislative houses.
<b>Oct. 2008</b>	AFSCME to begin collecting ACA 5 voter signatures.

## PHARMACY SCHOOL FACES FACULTY DEFICIT

By Sharon Yi  
STAFF WRITER

Unable to maintain an acceptable student-to-staff ratio in the face of increasing enrollment and decreased state funding, UCSD's Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will this year receive emergency campus funds intended to bail the fledgling graduate school out of its insufficient-faculty crisis.

Upon a visit from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education next month, campus officials must propose a plan to dramatically increase the size of the

See **SKAGGS**, page 2

### FOCUS Hands-On in Latin America

Project Nicaragua gives students the chance to make a difference in third-world public health care.



### SPORTS Down Goes No. 1

Volleyball: The women's team rallied for a gut-wrenching, five-set victory against No. 1 CSUSB.



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### ONLINE

**Poll:** Do you think the proposed admissions changes will have a significant effect on the diversity of the UC student population? Vote at [www.ucsdguardian.org](http://www.ucsdguardian.org).

### WEATHER

	Sept. 29
	Sept. 30
H 78 L 64	H 80 L 64
	Oct. 1
	Oct. 2
H 81 L 64	H 77 L 62

## STEVE AND LUCKY



BY BEN HOLM

## Review to Determine Skaggs' Future Certification Status

► SKAGGS, from page 1  
pharmacy school's faculty in order to meet the mandated faculty-to-student ratio. Skaggs faces the possibility of being denied accreditation renewal if failing to do so.

The plan — currently under draft with the cooperation of Chancellor Marye Anne Fox and the University of California Office of the President — would open 14 new permanent faculty positions, requiring an additional \$3 million in funding.

In their focus-site visit, the ACPE will analyze the pharmacy school's individual programs in order to ascertain whether sufficient faculty, funds and resources exist to maintain these programs.

Skaggs School Dean Palmer Taylor said he is confident the university will find the resources necessary to maintain the school's accreditation, citing the state's recent budget stalemate as reason for campus officials' failure to finalize the school's assistance plan.

"It would be fair to say that we have a plan already," Taylor said. "It just hasn't been fully agreed upon, and I think that's understandable because of the difficulty and slowness of the state budget."

The Skaggs School budget is composed of state support through UCOP, student tuition and fees, pharmacy allotments from UCSD Healthcare, research support and philanthropy. The latter two categories are directed to specific research objectives and achieving a level of excellence in academic pharmacy.

According to Taylor, Fox

acknowledges that the pharmacy school has been shortchanged by UCOP in the past, and says that the school must now make up for this deficiency.

When the Skaggs School opened its doors in 2002, bolstered by the abundance of thriving pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies in the surrounding area, the school accepted 24 post-baccalaureate students with promising GPAs pursuing graduate degrees in pharmacy or the Pharm.D program. With the grand opening of the Pharmaceutical Sciences building in 2006, the acceptance rate increased to 60 percent, leading to the issue of insufficient faculty.

Taylor said that despite the problems increased enrollment has brought the school, such developments are necessary to propel the institution forward.

"We needed that diversity of income and diversity of programs to be a full-fledged pharmacy school," Taylor said. "You just cannot run a program with a diversity of courses with 25 students per class. When we planned the school, we felt that 60 students per class was the smallest it could be while still having an economy of scale."

Skaggs School Director of Research Communications Debra Kain said she is confident that the school will receive the funding necessary to continue operations.

"I don't think anybody feels like the accreditation is at risk," she said.

Readers can contact Sharon Yi at [sharondipityi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharondipityi@sbcglobal.net).

## WWW.GUARDIAN ONLINE

### [www.ucsdguardian.org](http://www.ucsdguardian.org)

#### ► Future of Undie Run May Be on the Line

From the *Daily Bruin*

UCLA campus administrators and the student government cooperate to solve problems caused by the popular tradition.

#### ► Students March in Support of D.R.E.A.M. Act

From the *Daily Californian*

Protestors marched Sept. 26 to support an act that would allow undocumented students access to financial aid.

#### ► Protestors Rattle UC Regents

From the *New University*

The regents were met by protestors demonstrating in response to key issues under disucssion at the Irvine meeting.

## CORRECTIONS

A news article published on Sept. 23 titled "UCLA Prof. Alleges Admissions Cover-Up" incorrectly stated that UCLA professor of political science Tim Groseclose had resigned from his faculty position on Aug. 28. In fact, Groseclose only resigned from his position on UCLA's Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools, and still holds his faculty position.

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

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## LIGHTS & SIRENS

**Friday, September 19**

12:52 p.m.: Animal call

► A white mini poodle was reported as locked in a car with the windows rolled up at Gilman Parking Structure. Checks OK.

**4:41 p.m.: General disturbance**

► A Latino male supervisor was reported as hitting his employee "in the face" at Lot 402. Arrest misdemeanor.

**5:56 p.m.: Medical aid**

► A student had a "reaction to pine nuts" at the Canyon Vista dining hall.

**8:27 p.m.: Injury**

► A 22-year-old male reported dislocating his shoulder playing Frisbee.

**Saturday, September 20**

**11:15 p.m.: Alcohol contact**

► A male subject was reported as "forcing people to drink" at the Marshall apartments. Arrest misdemeanor.

**11:41 p.m.: Party disturbance**

► Loud music and screaming in Chinese was reported at the North Mesa Apartments.

**Sunday, September 21**

**7:31 p.m.: Alcohol contact**

► A student was found in possession of a fake ID at the La Jolla CVS Pharmacy. Report cited.

**Monday, September 22**

**1:11 a.m.: Theft**

► A white male with a white beard and wearing a black jacket was reported as stealing from an open coffee kiosk at Warren Lecture Hall.

**8:49 p.m.: Fight disturbance**

► A 19-year-old white male wearing a white shirt and a 19-year-old Asian male wearing a black shirt were reported as "yelling and pushing," apparently trying to break into Marshall apartment D12.

**10:45 p.m.: Injury**

► An 18-year-old female was reported as "hit by a water bottle" and unable to stand up or walk at Earl's Place.

**Tuesday, September 23**

**2:07 a.m.: Noise disturbance**

► A student was reported as running through the Sixth College Apartments, yelling "white power" repeatedly.

**4:35 a.m.: Citizen contact**

► Two male students were seen walking off campus, chased by a group of males telling them "college sucks." Subsequently, the two students "ran back to campus," but reported being followed by cars. *Unable to locate.*

**10:45 a.m.: Escapee**

► A 5-foot, 10-inch bald male wanted for a felony was reported as escaping from the Costa Verde apartment complex by jumping off a fourth-floor balcony.

**1:48 p.m.: Grand theft**

► A fire hydrant was taken from a construction site at Eleanor Roosevelt College.

**5:58 p.m.: Hazard situation**

► Three containers of unmarked, unclaimed hydrochloric acid were reported as sitting in the Lot 607 loading dock.

**Wednesday, September 24**

**3:19 a.m.: Welfare check**

► An 18-year-old Asian male with a small build and wearing a blue jacket was described as slurring his words and searching for the Revelle College campus. *Unable to locate.*

**10:03 a.m.: Suspicious person**

► A white male was seen on foot, trying to open various cars at Lot 103. *Gone on arrival.*

**10:44 p.m.: Marijuana possession**

Students were reported as smoking marijuana at the Africa, Asante and North America Halls.

**Thursday, September 25**

**3:36 p.m.: Unknown injury**

► A UCSD van hit a bicyclist at the Che Cafe. *Gone on arrival.*

— Compiled by Sonia Minden  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

## Yee: Advisory Board Neglects Worker Inclusion

**PENSIONS**, from page 1

push for shared governance of the UC pension plan, especially in light of recent reports of pension fund mismanagement. The *California Chronicle* reported last year that John Hotchkis, a member of the investment advisory committee at the UC system, retained a 1.1-percent interest in his former firm Hotchkis & Wiley Capital Management, which was chosen in July 2004 to manage more than \$430 million in UC equity funds.

In addition, the *East Bay Express* reported that recent changes in pension fund management have led to decreased investment revenues for the university. Specifically, it said that contracting with high-priced pension consultants and money management firms has resulted in the pension plan's unsatisfactory growth performance over the past year.

In response to past pension reform efforts, Schwartz said the university has now proposed a new advisory structure that incorporates union representatives into the advisory board.

According to Keigwin, UC employees were allocated positions on the advisory board, but union members have not had a fair chance to take advantage of this opportunity. "The current advisory group has 'electable' workers, but these are not effective," he said. "The election of these workers was a sham, requiring an e-mail address and password. Many workers for [the UC system] do not have this and many do not speak English. The two worker positions ended up being filled by members of the administration."

Readers can contact Deepak Seeni at dseeni@ucsd.edu.

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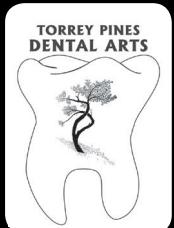
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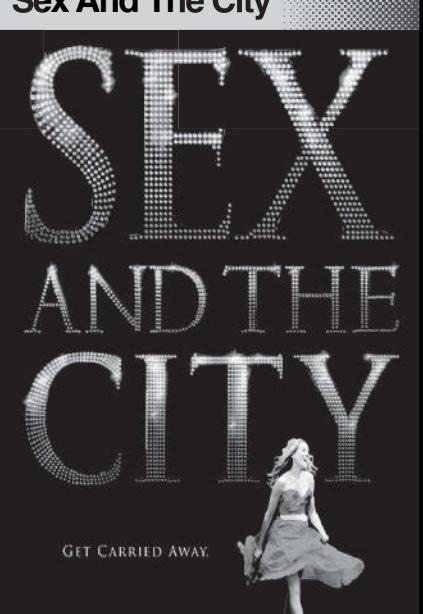
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## Campus Officials Seek \$100M to Compensate for Funding Deficit

► **BUDGET**, from page 1

are to continue serving the people of California well," Lenz said.

Because the signing of the budget was so delayed, the UC system has immediately begun scrambling to find ways of cutting campus costs so as to best fulfill obligations to both students and staff.

"Since the governor signed the budget this past week, it is difficult to project what cuts will have to occur at the campus level," Lenz said. "[The University of California] must protect the quality of education delivered to our students to ensure reasonable class size, the ability for students to get the course sections they need and the opportunity to graduate in a timely manner."

While the final state budget does restore almost \$100 million that was originally scheduled to be cut from the university's budget, campus officials are still hard-pressed to compensate for the lack of a projected \$100-million funding gap by utilizing reserve funds and cutting back on spending to mediate a variety of costs, including those stemming from inflation.

"The year-to-year funding from the state in the UC budget was reduced by only \$20 million," Lenz

said. "However, the additional enrollment growth, current compensation costs, increasing health benefits and increasing energy costs will require campuses to find over \$100 million to support these costs."

As the budget stalemate dragged on in the Legislature, anxiety arose over how the UC system would cope with the lack of a finalized budget at the start of the 2008-09 academic year. The regents' final budget could not be officially enacted until a signed state budget had been produced.

Had the impasse continued, the UC system would have resorted to the use of "non-state" resources, including student fees, research funding and endowment funds, Lenz said.

"State funding pays for the core educational program at [the University of California], but as a whole, the university has a variety of funding sources," UC Office of the President spokesman Brad Hayward said. "Because of those multiple funding sources, we were able to borrow internally to get through the state budget impasse without a great deal of pain, and that probably would have continued through November."

*Readers can contact Sarah de Crescenzo at sdecresc@ucsd.edu.*

## New Admissions Policy Would Lower Minimum GPA Requirement

► **ADMISSIONS**, from page 1

Brown said, adding that this information led Academic Senate data analysts to re-examine the university's eligibility construct.

Current policy guarantees UC admission to high-school students with GPAs in the top 4 percent of their senior class and to those among the top 12.5 percent of all California graduates.

The proposed changes, if implemented, would guarantee admission to students in the top 9 percent of their senior class, but limit the number of students who are guaranteed admission based on statewide ranking to the top 9.7 percent.

The university would use its standard process of comprehensive review, extending consideration to students who fall outside the requirements for both ranking-based categories but who meet an unweighted GPA requirement of 2.8 instead of the current requirement of a weighted 3.0.

Under comprehensive review, factors for admission include an applicant's special talents, outstanding performance in a particular subject and notable improvement in one field. Low family income, disadvantaged personal background, lack of opportunity and need to hold a job would all receive consideration.

"We brought forward a proposal that tries to introduce more fairness and more excellence, so we can look at more

information more closely and give comprehensive review," Brown said.

Although the proposal was written with the objective of increasing applicant diversity, several regents agreed that it is impossible to predict how the changes may affect diversity on UC campuses.

"It is truly a modest proposal because most of it will be determined basically like it is now, but there is a greater fairness and greater accuracy by bringing to bear the instrumentality of our comprehensive review," Brown said. "We are hopeful that greater fairness and excellence will translate to somewhat greater diversity, but we truly don't know."

Brown acknowledged that the comprehensive review system implemented in 2001 has shown a tendency to increase diversity in admits. B.O.A.R.S. studies show that the proportion of admitted students from low-income families, rural areas and low-performing schools has increased since adopting comprehensive review.

After using new data from the California Postsecondary Education Commission to reanalyze the proposal, the regents will vote on the measure at their November meeting. If approved at this time, the changes would go into effect fall 2012.

*Readers can contact Yelena Akopian at yakopian@ucsd.edu.*

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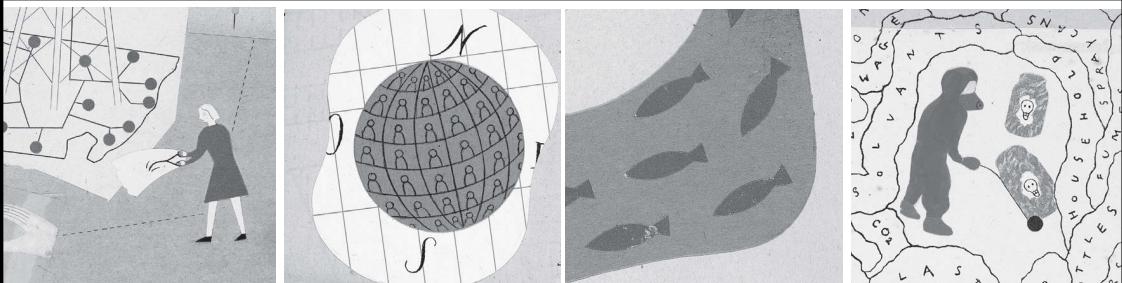


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### UC SAN DIEGO INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, September 30, 2008, 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Price Center, College Room (formerly SF/SC)

West Eleanor Roosevelt College

RSVP: Audrey Lapiner, [acl2130@columbia.edu](mailto:acl2130@columbia.edu)



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p. 12**

**UCSD student rate  
at Sporting Club of  
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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2008

## Seek Election Guidance Outside Media Madhouse

Trying to figure out what to do on flights has always been a challenge for me. I always bring a book, but almost certainly end up next to the family with crying quintuplets. I also bring my iPod, but for whatever reason, my music collection just doesn't seem as cool 30,000 feet up. If I'm lucky, I can fall asleep, but this normally doesn't happen and more often than not I end up simply contemplating

### State of Disunion

Brent Westcott

bwestcot@ucsd.edu

life or engaged in some awkward conversation with the not-always-so-interesting person next to me.

On my most recent flight, however, I was lucky enough to fly JetBlue, which finds the kindness in its heart to bless all passengers with over 30 channels of cable TV and several more for watching movies (that is, at \$5 a pop). Sure, they didn't feed me a single scrap of food on a six-hour cross-country flight, but free entertainment is better than vital nourishment any day!

So after stowing my carry-on luggage in an orderly manner and attentively watching the preflight safety instructions, I was able to spend over four hours switching between cable news channels such as MSNBC, Fox News and CNN. Over this span of time I found myself laughing, crying, staring in disbelief and experiencing a queasy feeling deep inside my stomach that could only have resulted from a cross between depression and disgust.

On MSNBC, I had the wonderful opportunity to catch "Countdown with Keith Olbermann." I had watched Olbermann only a few times before and was genuinely shocked when I heard what was coming out of his mouth. In less than 10 minutes, he accused presidential candidate Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) of claiming to invent the Blackberry and single-handedly ruining the United States' economy.

It is truly amazing what clever editing of sound bites can do to a politician's speeches. I honestly believe that Olbermann was on the verge of standing up out of his chair, ripping off his clothes and claiming that Sen. McCain was the devil incarnate and calling upon the American people to strike out against the demonic minions of the hated Republican Party.

After tiring of Olbermann's rants and raves, I attempted to find solace in switching over to CNN for the legendary insight of Larry King. On his panel he had four women, two supporters of presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), and two supporters of Sen. McCain. After each fine lady was allowed to make her initial remarks, the scene quickly melted into the inevitable shouting match, as participants took turns rolling their eyes and scoffing at one another. Mr. King himself tried to maintain his journalistic

See DISUNION, page 6

# Right Place, Wrong Dime

*Tightening constraints on the UC budget can't support a progressive push to include minority applicants — valiant as it may be.*

By Matthew McArdle and Simone Wilson  
SENIOR STAFF WRITERS

**I**t's no secret that the University of California's undergraduate population is disproportionate to the racial makeup of the state — enrollment figures for blacks, Latinos and other underrepresented minorities lag far behind their white and Asian counterparts, especially at first-tier campuses like UC Berkeley, UCLA and UCSD.

What's also clear is the danger of completely disregarding the disadvantages of lower-resource schooling in the UC admission process. The solution to the larger national problem of self-sustained poverty must be institutionalized, because if there is no chance provided to climb the occupational ladder that is higher education, economic scales have little to no chance of shifting.

When California voters approved Proposition 209 in 1996, race consideration ceased to be a legal factor in admission to the 10-campus system, and university officials have been seeking ways to compensate ever since. Community outreach programs directed toward minorities were founded in an effort to boost enrollment, and some campuses imposed holistic admissions systems allowing a more subjective examination of applications. Student-provided information about character and background alongside grades and test scores are now considered in admission decisions — a change that has indeed seen increased minority enrollment. At UCLA, a switch to this system led to a 100-percent increase in the number of blacks admitted to the campus over the previous year.

Now, after receiving UC President Mark G. Yudof's blessing, the Board of Regents is preparing a significant alteration to the university admissions process that will change decades-old policies regarding the percentage of high-school graduates guaranteed a spot within the university, as well as offer students who have not completed all of the required "a-g" college-prep courses or taken certain standardized tests an avenue to higher-education opportunity. UC proponents believe the changes would create more diversity within the student

population by providing a larger and more varied applicant pool.

Specifically, the plan calls for reducing guaranteed admission (to at least one UC campus) from the top 12.5 percent of all California high-school graduates to 9.7 percent, while in turn promising a slot on at least one university's acceptance list to those in the top 9 percent of their senior class, up from the current 4 percent. Though this would not hugely affect the pool of high achievers who are accepted based on the current system, it would widen the doors for those attending high schools in poorer areas, perhaps lacking Advanced Placement opportunities and the proper counseling to assist them through the rigorous UC admission requirements.

The proposal would also give — for the first time — students with a minimum unweighted grade-point average of 2.8 a chance to receive a full comprehensive review of their application by their preferred campuses, instead of the previous bar at an honors-weighted 3.0. It would drop the SAT II Subject Test requirement for all applicants and offer students who are missing one or two required classes a chance to apply under a new category called "entitled to review." In these ways, the new plan is a fair solution to the disappointingly low numbers of minority students currently being accepted to the university.

There is, of course, one glaring contradiction to this proposal, and it's one none too foreign — money, or lack thereof.

The state's 2008-09 UC budget, announced early last week, will maintain UC spending possibilities at their currently strained state, hardly even supporting the growing number of admits the university already sees under the more exclusive system currently in practice. The new alterations

would allow about 20 percent of California high-school graduates the opportunity to be considered for admission to the university instead of the current 12.5 percent. So, up against each other, how could the ever-tightening budget possibly support a 7.5 percent review increase in the number of college-bound Californians?

Most obviously, more applicants means a need for more manpower in the assessment process, already a monstrous operation that takes time and unavailable dollars to sustain.

Most frighteningly, unless we are to sacrifice the quality of existing student life — including class size, campus resources and affordability — there will have to be a greater rejection rate to balance out the ballooned eligibility. And, if the new system is to be effective and a greater number of minorities are accepted who wouldn't have been academically eligible before — and they aren't all just sent to UC Merced or UC Riverside, as often does happen in the "guarantee" process — there will be an inevitable increase in rejection letters sent to the pool of applicants who had better access to resources, and who perhaps reached higher academic marks.

What the comprehensive review process will see is a magnification of its most controversial parts — those which center around trickily subjective applicant traits. How to determine exactly who didn't have the opportunity to fulfill a requirement, or where a personal hardship should outweigh an academic achievement?

So, if there doesn't magically appear some endless source of outside funding, and this new all-inclusive plan does pan out as planned, just let it be known that progressive inclusions will not come without a sacrifice of many university-qualified students on the other end of the spectrum. With a wishing well so shallow and dreams so big, this cake can't be had and eaten too.

Readers can contact Matthew McArdle at matt.mcardle@gmail.com.



CHRISTINA AUSHANA/GUARDIAN

## A DROP FROM THE INKWELL By Priscilla Lazaro



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Going Green Threatens Food Quality

Dear Editor,

This school year has brought a sustainable approach to our growing green university. Visiting my old residence last year at the Sixth College residence halls, I was amazed at the new carpet and furniture made from recycled material, the low-flow showerheads and the energy-efficient lighting. We have indeed taken one big step into the future. I applaud all those who contributed to making us green.

A few nights ago I visited my favorite dining hall, Sierra Summit. Expecting its signature chicken patty sandwich to be as good as always, I was deeply disappointed when I found that the bread bun took three-fourths of the sandwich, while there lay a sliver of chicken in between. It's not just sandwiches or Summit — it's all the dining halls. Visiting other dining halls, I've seen the increase in meal prices, limit in variety and the downgrade in the quality of food.

I've only been living in Sixth College Apartments for about a week, but I've already seen the change.

Freshmen now receive 2,750 meal points, which would be more than enough for food, even with the increase in prices. But that leaves sophomores with 2,100 points and the mindset to conserve and cook on their own since dining-hall dinners cost \$8 or \$9 per dish. Does serving food with plastics made from plants and using Fair Trade products really cost us that much more?

Don't get me wrong, I'm all for the green revolution and doing my part. But I know I'm not alone when I ask: Does going green really limit the ability of dining halls to serve good quality food?

— Amina Ahmad  
Sixth College sophomore

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## Lopsided On-Screen Politics at 30,000 Feet

► **DISUNION**, from page 4  
integrity, but I almost certainly caught a glimpse of his "Obama '08" undershirt when he was cutting to commercial.

Then, I reluctantly settled in to watch the undisputed king of cable news mudslinging: Fox News and Bill O'Reilly. I have a family friend who says he tunes in to Fox News ever so often to "find out what all the crazy people are saying." I was not disappointed. "The O'Reilly Factor" presented me with a panel similar to the one on "Larry King Live," except that this selection of keen political minds was all men. Of course, the same shouting match ensued, O'Reilly cutting off his distinguished participants midsentence with seemingly little remorse.

Next up was "On the Record with Greta Van Susteren" and Part I of her exclusive interview with Todd Palin, husband of Republican vice presidential candidate, Alaskan governor and bona fide superwoman Sarah Palin. Mr. Palin has come to be known on Fox News as the first dude, and his professionally groomed facial hair and grown-out crew cut left no doubt that he could indeed kill a moose with his bare hands and lift it into his F350 without anybody else's damn help. Van Susteren attempted to drag interesting answers out of the first dude but he simply was not up to the task of offering any single bit of insight into the political accomplishments or know how that would make his wife a viable vice-presidential candidate.

As I watched hour upon hour, I found myself hoping that the average American or student at UCSD is not honestly considering these laughable TV shows and political pundits as reliable sources of information on which to base their vote.

Unfortunately, I realize that television and the Internet sites that accompany it are the dominant outlets when it comes to getting political information and these programs, no matter how blatantly biased, are certainly shaping the opinions of millions of voting Americans. Sure, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert host really funny and informed shows, but they are hardly political experts.

These facts are nothing new, but election season is upon us and most people truly believe this election will be one of the most important decisions we make as a country in decades. Certainly, the next president will have a profound effect on the lives of college students, as we watch tuition rise in a troubled economy and attempt to find jobs after graduation. I encourage everybody to skip the cable TV and find more reliable sources when seeking out information about the various candidates and their ideas for the country. Newspapers, while still biased in some regard, usually try to present the facts in a much more objective and informative manner. And there is usually less screaming and old men wearing hairpieces. Better yet, visit the Web sites of both candidates and their respective parties where you will find exactly how they intend to approach nearly every issue. Take the time to fashion your own opinions and make an informed decision.

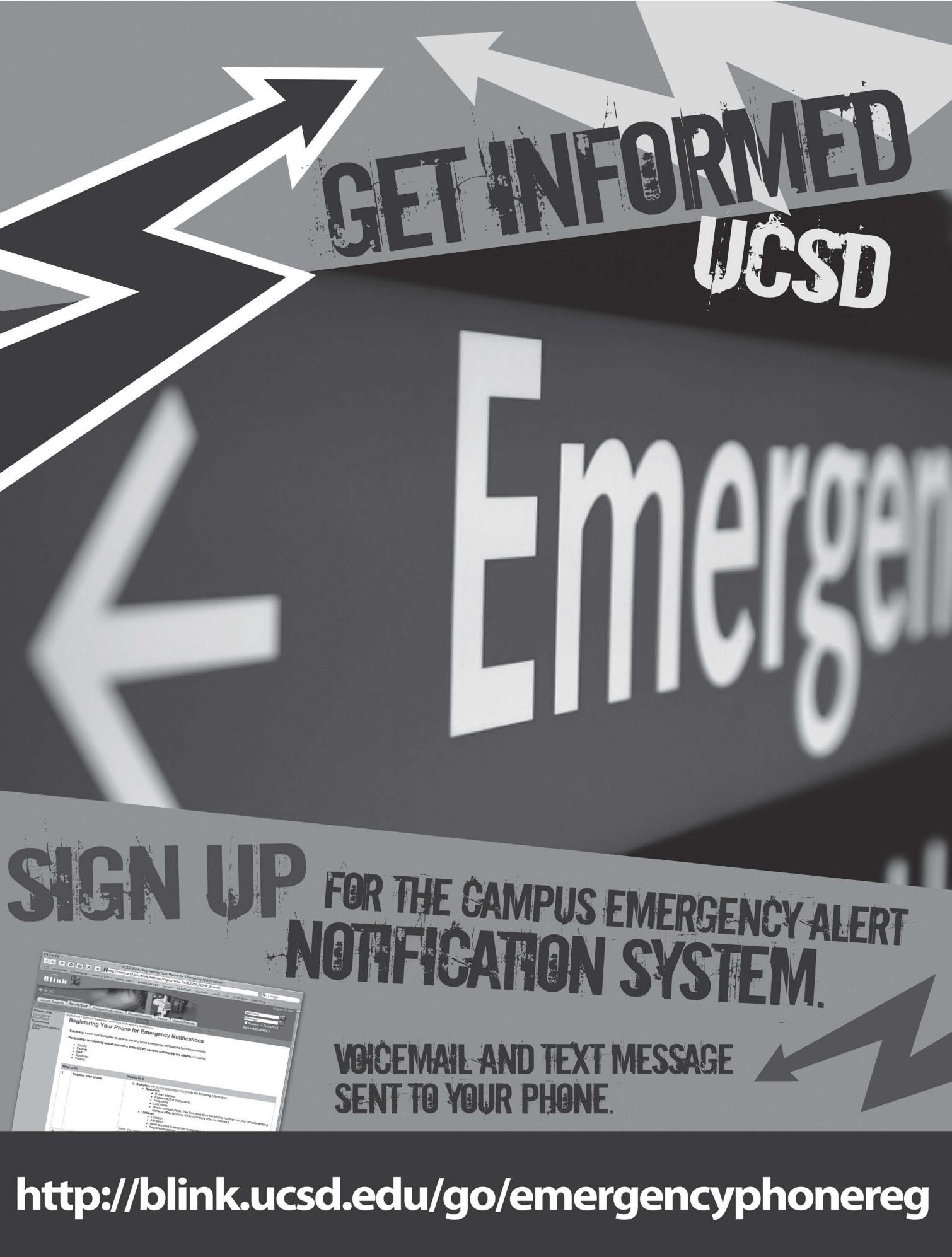
And, of course, tune into the various cable news channels to find out what all the crazy people are saying.

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► The approximate number of viewers who tuned into the 2008 presidential debates, according to Nielsen TV ratings.

# SCRUBBING IN

*Tritons help foster health care in Latin America from the ground up.*

By JOANNA CARDENAS  
*Associate Focus Editor*

After a six-hour flight and five-hour truck ride through winding dirt roads and a lush, green jungle, Eleanor Roosevelt College senior Amber Fiutko arrived at her summer destination. However, Fiutko would not be lounging on exotic beaches or exploring ancient ruins while in Latin America. As a pre-med student, she would be building a health clinic in rural Nicaragua and gaining valuable experiences through one of UCSD's lower profile medical volunteer opportunities.

Project Nicaragua, founded two years ago at UCSD, is a community-service-oriented organization dedicated to improving health conditions in Nicaragua, the second poorest country in the western hemisphere after Haiti. With approximately 80 percent of the rural population living on less than two U.S. dollars per day, health care is a low governmental priority.

"We buy soda for \$2 and don't even think twice about it, but for them, it's their entire living," Fiutko said.

As a nonprofit organization, Project Nicaragua generates its funds from concessions sold at Qualcomm Stadium, donations from corporations, partnerships with programs like the International Neurosurgical Children's Association (INCA) and A Ministry of Sharing (AMOS) and through the project's own fundraising events, such as the upcoming Poker Tournament Fundraiser on Nov. 22. All funds generated by Project Nicaragua are used to update the country's current health care equipment to first-world standards, leaving travel expenses to be covered by individual members. From these funds, the project is able to provide basic, yet much-needed supplies such as gloves, gowns, gauze and other surgical equipment.

Since its inception, Project



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARPAN PATEL

Student volunteers suit up to shadow doctors and observe medical procedures in the operating room of Nicaragua's central hospital, El Hospital Antonio Lenin Fonseca, located in the capital city.

Nicaragua has facilitated at least five trips per year, each lasting roughly a week, where groups of four to five members have the option of working closely with Nicaraguan doctors in the capital city's major hospitals while also conducting vital research on *Spina bifida*, a major childhood neurological disorder common in the region. Members can also venture into the rural communities of Nicaragua to build local health clinics. According to Whitney Kelsch, Project Nicaragua undergraduate co-director, both types of excursions allow students to experience third-world health care first-hand through

close interaction with doctors and patients.

"Everything [about Project Nicaragua] is hands-on, from volunteer work to fundraising," Kelsch said. "Members are out there talking to [Nicaraguan] kids, giving blood tests and learning how to analyze blood work. You get to do everything that interests you on a small scale. You get to do now what you would be doing in four years."

Arpan Patel, a Thurgood Marshall College alum who visited Nicaragua earlier this summer with the project, opted to volunteer at Managua's main hospital, El Antonio Lenin Fonseca, as well as a children's hospital called La Mescota. For Patel, the disparity between U.S. health

care and Nicaraguan health care was evident within seconds of stepping into El Antonio Lenin Fonseca — he witnessed flies buzzing around an emergency room crammed with ailing Nicaraguans, with many more forming a line outside in hopes of seeing a doctor.

"If all you know is hospitals in America, you're going to be shocked when you see [a Nicaraguan hospital]," Patel said. "These are not ideal conditions for medicine. They try [to maintain a sterile environment] by cleaning people off as they come in, but they are just so underfunded."

At this hospital, Patel had the opportunity to observe Nicaraguan residents in the operating room, but received the most hands-on experience at the children's neurosurgery ward at La Mescota, where he shadowed Carolina Cantarero, a doctor who gave up her residency at El Antonio Lenin Fonseca to be La Mescota's only

neurosurgeon. At La Mescota, Patel witnessed how poor funding prompted the various surgeons to fight for their time in the operating room. Although *Spina bifida* is a major childhood disease in Nicaragua, currently at a rate of 2.7 cases per 1,000 live births, Cantarero is limited to performing neurosurgeries on Thursdays only.

"Even though she has this ward full of kids with *Spina bifida*, some as extreme as a kid with his brain exposed and hanging out the back of his head in a sack, it's the lowest priority at the hospital as far as surgery goes," Patel said.

In an effort to eventually lessen the number of cases of *Spina bifida*, Patel conducted research on behalf of Project Nicaragua to explore the possible causes of the disease. One cause that accounts for 70 percent of cases is a lack of folic acid during prenatal nutrition.

After conducting several surveys with mothers of children with the disease, Patel noticed that nearly all families surveyed were exposed

See **NICARAGUA**, page 10

## SITE SEEN | The Tilted Stick



Left: Bar-goers watch Sunday Football on the Stick's many flatscreen televisions while having a meal and a beer. Top right: The well-stocked bar and cozy kitchen serve up a broad selection of food and drink, despite the dive bar reputation. Bottom: The stylized, custom-made bar sign welcomes visitors to the Tilted Stick with a bit of flair.

If you can get past the dirt — the dirt of the bar, the dirt of the customers, the dirt of the dogs fresh off of Dog Beach — then you can probably get past the dirty kitchen and enjoy what is almost universally known as the most delicious bar food in San Diego. The Tilted Stick, one of the divey dive bars in Ocean Beach, has a reputation and a surf shack decor that can intimidate classier beach-goers. Nonetheless, this reputation is part of the draw for most of the bar's patrons.

The bartenders are renowned for their moodiness and the rule list posted behind them accentuates the myth. Rule one: If you can't afford to tip, you can't afford to be here. Rule Eight: If you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong. The third rule on the list tells patrons, in more colorful terms, to keep their dogs behaved. Located right off Dog Beach, the Tilted Stick may be OB's only dog-friendly pub.

It's almost tradition to have a basket of wings — served hot, medium, mild, teriyaki, barbecue, Caribbean jerk or naked — or an order of mahi tacos and wash the meal down with one of the 20 beers on tap, all while holding off some drunk patron's wandering canine.

A sporadically stocked jukebox partially obscures the

closet-door entrance to the women's bathroom and when sports games aren't playing on the bar's 12 television sets the music can go from Journey to Slayer without anyone skipping a beat. One rundown pool table gets heavy use, and it shows in its torn felt and crooked cues. But the table is free, a real rarity. An outside patio offers a quiet, shaded and secluded spot to down a beer and a burger and fight through a basket of heavenly Cajun fries.

None of the food costs more than \$7.75 and half-orders of wings are available as well as simple starters like chips and salsa for as little as \$2.75. On top of the fantastic food, the Stick has a monthly beach cruiser and surfboard giveaway. If you want a great meal after a great surf, and you don't mind a little grime and a lot of character, swing into the Tilted Stick. You probably won't regret it.

— David Harvey  
*FOCUS EDITOR*

The Tilted Stick  
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# Front and Center to the Nation's Political Debate

I might have made the realization once I crossed the Potomac River and saw the tall, marble column of the Washington Monument standing sentinel over the city. Or perhaps it was once I dropped off my things and, through the flurry of flyers advertising the presidential debates, immediately found myself at a seminar hosted by the Brookings Institute on congressional campaigning. And later, when passing by the White House, I was blocked by a police barricade so a stream of sirens and Suburbans, all bulletproof, stole down the road at more than 50 miles an hour — I might have understood it then, too.

But the day I walked back from work in the misty rain and suddenly saw Senator and Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama emerge from the Mayflower Hotel and wave to a crowd of onlookers, it hit me: I'm in a different kind of town.

Leaving San Diego to attend the University of California, Washington Center, located in the heart of the District of Columbia, I had traded in tank tops for think tanks and earthquakes for earmark spending. Here in Washington, suits and ties are the uniform of the people and it's not at all unusual to see foreign dignitaries stuck at a traffic light while you hurry through the crosswalk. The Australian Embassy is across the street from where I will be living, working and taking classes for the next two and a half months. The White House is only a four-block stroll away.

In Washington, politics flood the streets. Here people passing by hold flyers out for interest groups or walk around with briefcases containing

secret security clearance codes and intelligence on foreign affairs. It's on the metro, where at 8 a.m. in the morning the line is crowded with an assortment of people dressed in professional attire and reading the latest copy of the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post*. It's even carved into the side of the historical monuments, most of which I'd only ever seen in history books or movies. Politics here thrive on a grander stage, a national stage, where decisions made down the street impact the lives of Americans living in Galesburg, Michigan and Palehua, Hawaii. It's a strange power, an intoxicating one, one that seizes the people here with a vehemence that I've never before heard of, let alone witnessed.

Of course, there are those who don't care as much about politics and live life as normal citizens, without bringing up the latest Gallup polls or the Wall Street bailout package in every sentence. My sandwich maker at Subway did not mention one thing about President Bush, or Congress or the Pentagon while chatting with me over turkey and, of course, American cheese. He was a high school kid just working the rounds. But that's not to say he didn't know the game himself — when I threw my trash away 15 minutes later, I heard him arguing with another customer over successful campaign strategies for third-party candidate Bob Barr. And everyone that I talked to — from the producers at my internship who were ordering from the Cheesecake Factory and watching the presidential debate coverage until 2 a.m., to the random guy who stopped me in the street to demand that I watch the

debate or else suffer from treason — everyone was going to watch the debates with a fervor only felt during Monday night football.

I knew that debate-watching parties would not be hard to find. There were no less than two dozen events within a mile radius of the Washington Center, all with different themes and hosted by different organizations. The gay and lesbian community hosted an Obama Pride party with free food and cheap drinks at a nightclub; the DC for Democracy group hosted a Drinking Liberally party above the 17th Street coffee shop; Busboys and Poets, a local cafe, showed the debates on large HD screens with the in-house band performing American themed songs afterward. The Ventor Sports Cafe even offered \$1 shots for any group who could guess which word would crop up frequently during the debates. If I had bet on "fundamentally" I wouldn't have made it through the end of the broadcast in a coherent state of mind.

Watching a political debate with such a well-informed and clever crowd was different from watching the debate with my friends back home in the dorms. The Washington crowd of college-age students, middle-age businessmen and senior citizens not only criticized most of the dispute over war strategies — one student in the crowd shaking her head and getting up for another drink when John McCain had trouble pronouncing the name of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — they knew exactly who was spinning and what the spin was. Honest answers, which delved into the candidate's background or sponsored legislation, received applause while weak responses, mostly about the candidates' love for veterans and soldiers, prompted disbelief and disappointment.

Some onlookers cheered for



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE COROTTO  
The Washington Monument stands as one of D.C.'s proud landmarks, architectural proof of the city's political prominence. The obelisk stands 169 meters tall and its construction was completed in 1884. McCains speech on learning from the past in Afghanistan and listing his experiences, while others stood up for Obama when he reiterated the need for withdrawal in Iraq. One student even had his laptop out in the middle of the bar, reviewing ABC's fact-check listings online as each candidate threw out figures and totals, telling the bar "That's complete bull!" or "Spot on with that one!" As the debate wore on and the replies became more convoluted and less informative, another student, clearly

See ELEPHANT, page 10

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### Green October

Watch for details in The Guardian

## Volunteers' Efforts Put Health Care in Reach

► NICARAGUA, from page 8  
to pesticides because of their rural lifestyle.

Project Nicaragua aspires to change the health conditions of these rural areas, offering members the opportunity to improve the quality of life, one community at a time, through well digging, promoting health education and building regional clinics for the many rural citizens who do not have a vehicle and must walk days to the capital city for treatment.

Last week, Fiutko and four other volunteers initiated the construction of a health clinic in the community of El Bejuco. Rising at 5:30 a.m. to roosters crowing, Fiutko, along with John Muir College juniors Brian Champagne, Erika Go and ERC alumnae Rachel Peterson and Jacqueline Suyuo, cleared grass with a machete and dug holes waist-deep until sundown.

While Fiutko and her team started construction on the clinic, American doctors Laura and David Parajón finished training a group of rural citizens who were elected by their communities to become health promoters for the various clinics the two doctors hope to implement throughout Nicaragua. Upon completion, this clinic stands to serve 400 to 600 residents of El Bejuco and its surrounding areas.

Along with building a clinic, this aspect of Project Nicaragua afforded Fiutko extended interaction with townsfolk, allowing her to not only make a medical difference, but also to interact culturally during her time in a third-world country.

"They were so welcoming; it was just a different society," Fiutko said. "Through translation they kept saying 'we are so honored to have you here, we have so much love for you all,

thank you for helping us' and it really puts in perspective how such a little thing can make a huge difference in these communities."

Without the conveniences of electricity or running water, Fiutko, Champagne, Go, Peterson and Suyuo experienced life as Nicaraguans. The elderly women at the jobsite taught the group how to make fresh tortillas while Fiutko learned a bit of Spanish from a child named Celsia who toted a tattered textbook with pictures accompanied by their Spanish word equivalents.

"Just because we showed an interest in their culture, we got to learn so much more," Fiutko said. "We really got to know the people we were staying with and helping."

While Project Nicaragua is still a fledgling organization, boasting a modest 10 to 15 members, the scope of opportunities it offers to both premed students and students with a general interest in public health and third-world relief may rival those of bigger organizations in terms of hands-on experience.

"Compared to other medical organizations on campus like P.A.S.S. [the Pre-Medical Association of Students for Service], an organization that gets you in the door with the MCATs and things like that, the difference between that and [Project Nicaragua] is that we are very direct and we immerse ourselves specifically in public health — we have a direct focus on Latin America and South America," Kelsch said. "While other organizations are concerned with getting you into med school, our club is about the reason why you wanted to go into the medical field in the first place."

Readers can contact Joanna Cardenas at [jocarden@ucsd.edu](mailto:jocarden@ucsd.edu).

## Opinions Fly at Washington Debate Party

► ELEPHANT, from page 9  
slurring his words and gripping the back of his chair for support, yelled above the volatile buzz of analysis, "I don't care who has a goddamn bracelet, it's not the prettiest senator who gets to be president!"

The middle-aged crowd, clearly at ease with the 20-somethings who shouted obscenities at the bar's television, seemed interested in what the younger crowd had to say. One woman asked me what I thought about McCain's insistence to suspend the campaign until the crisis was solved. When I told her my answer — that I felt the idea had good intentions even though it backfired when Obama called his bluff — she smiled, sipped on a glass of red wine and said, "That's politics for you. If you're going to point the gun, you better be prepared to pull the trigger." Then she engaged another student in a conversation centered on the Paris Hilton campaign advertisement, trying to figure out who exactly Paris Hilton was. Luckily, the student was from California and clearly up on his popular culture as well as his economics.

After a long week spent adjusting and settling into a city that is as different from San Diego as liberals are from conservatives, the debates highlighted the fact that politics, in every form, dominate the ways and wills of the people. It's not a town built on rock 'n' roll but policy and politics, a town built more than 200 years ago that continues through the efforts of half-crazed, half-genius people who know the difference between boondoggle and a blacklist and want to make a change.

For this writer's column page, visit [www.ucsguardian.org](http://www.ucsguardian.org).

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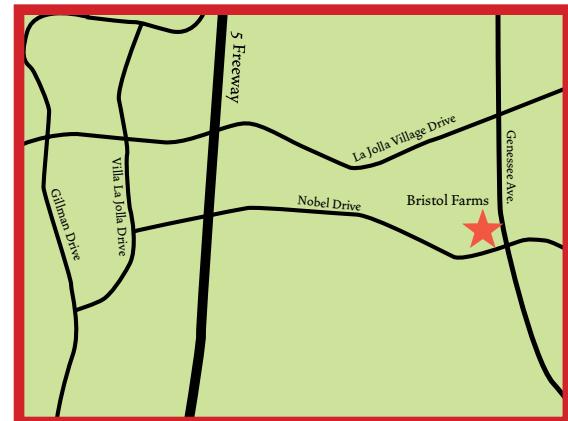
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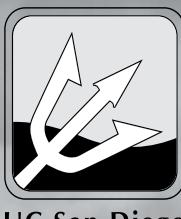
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## Men's Soccer Earns Split at Home

► M. SOCCER, from page 16  
offensive display.

"Our success came from being extremely active around their goal," Pascale said. "Our guys were a little more alert and we were able to score on some scrambles in front of the goal."

Senior midfielder Joe Shah chalked the offensive outburst up to high energy play and determined finishing.

"We just kept pushing the ball up the field and at the goal," Shah said. "We made our shots really count; we had a lot of shots and a high conversion rate."

Pascale said that in order for the Tritons' offensive success to continue they must be even better in front of the goal than they were against Pomona.

"We have some days where we are pretty sharp up front," Pascale said. "As the season goes on, we will see fewer opportunities to score and we need to take care of goals when we get the chance."

Shah said that the team must improve its technical skills as it goes forward if it hopes to continue winning.

"We are looking to improve the smoothness of our play and moving the ball well," he said. "Like our coach has mentioned, we are bringing the intensity every game and the soccer aspect will come later."

The squad will enjoy two more matches in the friendly confines of Triton Soccer

Stadium, before hitting the road again on Oct. 10 when they face Cal State Stanislaus. Both players and coaches recognize the importance of racking up the conference points at home.

"Our conference is based on points and anybody can sneak into the conference tournament," junior forward Tony Choi said. "There is always good competition and we take every game seriously."

Pascale said he recognizes the advantage of playing at home, but like a true skipper he is preaching patience and focus as the season heads through the midway point.

"We are trying to take it day by day and game by game," Pascale said. "Every game is going to be a war and we need to make sure to bring the effort."

The Tritons took on Cal State Bernardino on Sept. 28 and were dominated early en route to a 3-0 defeat. Offensively, UCSD couldn't get much going, settling for only two shots on goal, while allowing all three goals in the first half. The Tritons were unable to take advantage of their corner kicks even though they had five more than the Coyotes.

The squad will finish its home stand against No. 23 Sonoma State University on Oct. 3 and Humboldt State University on Oct. 5.

Readers can contact Brent Westcott at [bwestcot@ucsd.edu](mailto:bwestcot@ucsd.edu).

## Volleyball Serves CSUSB Its First Loss

► VOLLEYBALL, from page 16

Entering the fourth set, the Tritons altered their attack to go around the Broncos' blocking, focusing on better passing. Though behind in points, Schmidt said she didn't feel under pressure, and described the team as mentally tough.

"We are used to fighting back, so when we got down tonight we tried to focus on serving and passing and playing as a team," Schmidt said. "We focused a lot on serving targets and trying to break down their passing to get them out of their offense, and to get ours going."

The change in strategy worked for the

Tritons as they went up by as many as 10 points in the fourth set and seven points in the fifth to easily take the remaining sets 25-14, 15-9.

Schmidt finished the game with 18 kills on 0.410 hitting to go along with three aces and five blocks while Chen continued to spark the offense, recording a double-double with 54 assists and 11 digs.

With their latest win, the Tritons improve to 11-2, 5-1 CCAA. They will take on Chico State in an Oct. 3 away game at 7 p.m.

Readers can contact Robert Ingle at [ringle@ucsd.edu](mailto:ringle@ucsd.edu).

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## Lions Stun Crowd With Last-Minute Goal

► WATER POLO, from page 16

Tritons added two more goals in the period to put the Tritons, putting them up 4-1.

"We got off to a good start, shooting the ball well," head coach Denny Harper said. "We caught [LMU] off guard a little bit."

The Tritons continued the offensive onslaught early in the second quarter, scoring another quick goal.

But with less than two minutes remaining in the half and leading 5-1, the Tritons began to unravel. LMU scored back-to-back goals to cut UCSD's lead to two. With 18 seconds left in the period, the Lions scored a man-up goal to end the half down only 5-4.

With the momentum on LMU's side, UCSD had to come out strong in the second half. Senior utility A.J. Kotanjian scored two goals early, giving UCSD a 7-4 lead. The Lions, however, capitalized on UCSD ejections to score three unanswered goals and tie the game at seven.

With 48 seconds left in the period, Kotanjian drew a penalty shot and junior two-meter defender Donohoe drilled the attempt in the corner of the cage to regain the lead for UCSD.

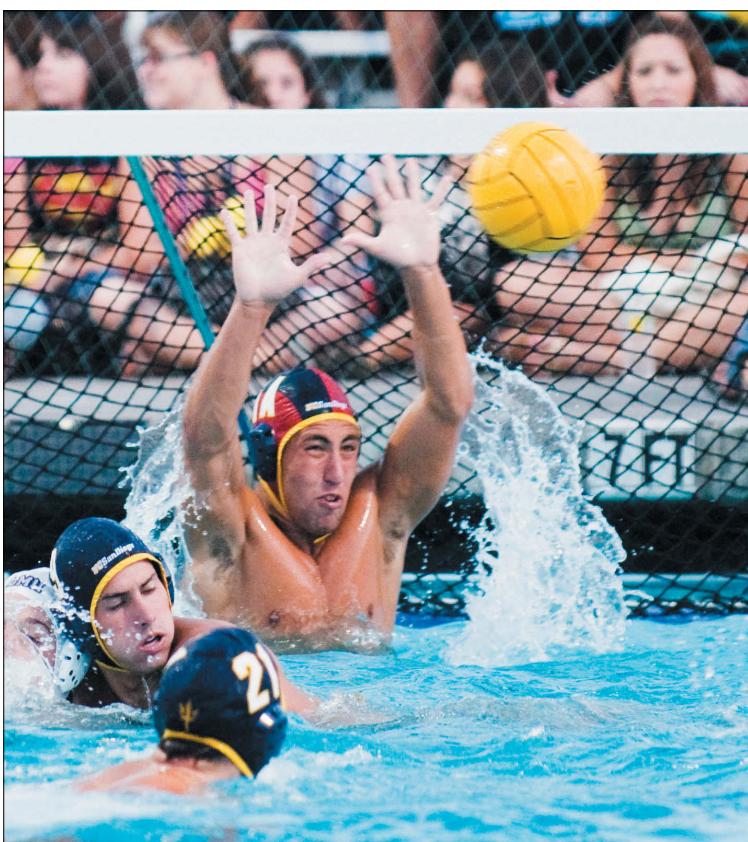
"At times our offense looked balanced and at other times it fell apart and we were crowded to one side of the cage," Donohoe said.

Even while struggling, the Tritons entered the final quarter with an 8-7 lead, looking to add. Instead, UCSD failed to convert on a six-on-five opportunity in its first possession of the quarter and allowed LMU to tie the game at eight after a counterattack goal with 6:58 left in the game.

After both teams added a goal, the Lions quieted the crowd with two scores that gave them an 11-9 lead.

Just when things were looking grim for the Tritons, Hunt drew a penalty shot in the Tritons' six-on-five offense. With 1:32 left in the game, Donohoe converted on the penalty to cut the Lions' lead to one goal.

The Tritons needed one more defensive stop when senior driver Adran Jerkovic stole the ball away from LMU with 39 seconds left and passed to Hunt, who drew another penalty.



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

Freshman goalkeeper David Morton led the Tritons in a solid first-quarter defense against LMU, giving up only one goal. The defense faltered late, allowing LMU to come back from a 5-1 deficit.

With the entire crowd on its feet, Donohoe made his third penalty shot and fifth goal to tie the game. The enthusiastic UCSD fans were unable to help the Tritons on the ensuing possession when, following Donohoe's ejection, utility Tim Hummel of LMU netted the winning shot for the Lions and silenced the still-standing crowd.

UCSD had four seconds left in regulation to score and send the game into overtime, but the Tritons were unable to get a shot off and settled for defeat.

LMU's last goal, which was made in a man-up situation, accentuated the problems that UCSD had on its own six-on-five opportunities.

"We started out the game two for two

on six-on-fives and then we got tired and got away from what we were trying to do," Harper said.

The loss brings the Tritons' record to 10-3 and 2-1 against Western Water Polo Association opponents.

Coming off the loss, UCSD faces a tough game with Cal State Long Beach on Oct. 2. The Tritons have undoubtedly circled the game against Cal State Long Beach on their schedules considering UCSD has lost their two previous meetings.

UCSD will then return home to face No. 8 UC Irvine on Oct. 3 at 6 p.m.

*Readers can contact Janani Sridharan at jsridhar@ucsd.edu.*

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HOT CORNER

## Hillary Williamson Women's Volleyball

The freshman had a career-high 17 kills in leading the Tritons to a five-set come-from-behind victory over top-ranked Cal State San Bernardino.

# MEN'S SOCCER CRUSHES BRONCOS

By Brent Westcott  
*STAFF WRITER*

**MEN'S SOCCER** — The UCSD men's soccer team got its four-match home stand off to a superb start with a 3-0 thrashing of Cal Poly Pomona in front of a lively crowd at Triton Soccer Stadium. Sept. 26 marked the beginning of a crucial run through California Collegiate Athletic Association play, and the Tritons did little to disappoint.

With points at a premium in a stacked division, the men from UCSD made sure to take care of business against a Cal Poly Pomona team that looked overmatched throughout.

The victory over the Broncos earned the squad another three points, moving their record to 3-1-1 in league play and 6-1-1 overall. UCSD now has 12 conference points and currently sits in a second-place tie in the south division with Cal State Dominguez Hills.

The Tritons wasted little time early on, pressing the Broncos from the outset of the match. Their attacks led to a multitude of chances in the first half and their efforts were rewarded with two early goals.

In the 30th minute, senior forward Tony Fernandez nearly connected on a spectacular score as he controlled the ball and fired a bicycle kick on goal. Pomona goalkeeper Thomas Ryan was able to make the initial save, but sophomore defender Jared Kukura managed to get his head on the ball and put it in the back of the net. The goal was the second of the season for the Tritons' impressive young defender.

Rather than settle for a one-goal advantage going into halftime, UCSD continued the attack and got a boost of energy from some well-timed substitutes.

Senior forward Ali Shams entered the match and quickly scored the first goal of his career on a beautiful cross from junior midfielder Kyle Parton just before the half in the 44th minute. Shams' entrance into the game was his first action of the season and he took advantage of the opportunity, showing that he will be ready to play when called upon in the future.

After dominating the first half, the Tritons picked up right where they left off as they netted an early goal in the second frame to put the match out of reach. In the 49th minute, senior forward Tom Caplan got some space on the right side and unleashed a shot on goal. His attempt was blocked but the rebound was put right on the doorstep of Pomona's goal and sophomore defender Brandon Yee was there to clean it up for his first tally of the season. Pomona attempted to fight back but simply could not get anything past senior goalkeeper Peter Akman and the stellar Triton defense. The shutout was Akman's fifth of the season and eighth of his career.

Head coach John Pascale praised his team for being extremely focused in the final third of the pitch, allowing them to put on an impressive

# Tritons Topple No. 1 Coyotes

By Robert Ingle  
*STAFF WRITER*

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL** — Heading into the weekend, the No. 16 UCSD women's volleyball team was on a three-game winning streak and felt confident about taking on perennial California Collegiate Athletic Association powerhouse and No. 1 ranked rival Cal State San Bernardino at RIMAC Arena. After the first two sets however, the Tritons were in a 0-2 hole and fighting to stay alive. Instead of panicking, UCSD head coach Tom Black focused the team on playing the women across the net, and not their ranking.

"We just needed to stay within our system and play each play," Black said. "Play the team on the floor and not their rep."

The Tritons went on to take the next three sets, 25-16, 25-20, 15-12, and took the win against the previously undefeated Coyotes. The win was big for UCSD as it dealt Cal State San Bernardino (12-1, 5-1 CCAA) its first loss of the season and its first CCAA loss of the season for the third consecutive year. The win was also a reminder of last season, when the Tritons fell behind in the first two sets and had to rally in the final three to take down the then-No. 2 Coyotes.

UCSD dropped the first set in heartbreaking fashion, coming back from a four-point deficit to take the lead 24-23 on a kill by freshman outside hitter Hillary Williamson. Cal State San Bernardino battled back with a block and a Triton error gave the Coyotes a 25-24 advantage for the set point where freshman middle blocker Samantha Middleborn finished the set for the Coyotes with a block.

The second set was another hard-fought struggle for the Tritons, as they dropped the game 25-22, coming within two points near the end of



Sophomore middle blocker Cara Simonsen (middle) rises up to block an attack from Cal State San Bernardino. Simonsen recorded a team-high eight blocks in the match.

the set. While the set remained close, UCSD committed 10 errors in the second set and had 16 errors for the opening two sets compared to only having eight for the three final sets.

Cutting down on errors and sticking to their game plan, the Tritons rallied behind Williamson in the third game. The freshman phenom had four total kills in the set including the team's last three of the set. Junior outside hitter Sylvia Schmidt felt that in addition to limiting mistakes, UCSD upped its intensity after the first two sets, which contributed to the turnaround.

"There was a newfound sense of urgency where we felt like we had to pick up our game right now," Schmidt said. "After we got rolling it gave us more hope and we started clicking."

In the fourth and fifth sets the

Tritons proved worthy to be contenders for the Division-II championship, taking the games 25-20 and 15-12 respectively and seeming in control throughout, hitting 0.333 and 0.391 respectively.

Williamson finished the match with a career-high 17 kills, while senior outside hitters Rebecca Bailey and Kimberly Carpenter added 12 kills apiece. In addition, sophomore middle blocker Cara Simonsen had a standout game with a career-high eight blocks for UCSD.

After toppling Cal State San Bernardino, the Tritons took on No. 20 Cal Poly Pomona Saturday night in the second game of their weekend series. After taking down the first ranked team in the country, the Tritons knew that the Broncos were not going to just give them the game.

As play unfolded, Cal Poly Pomona's reputation as the CCAA conference's top blocking team became apparent against UCSD, taking the Tritons out of their element. The Broncos' senior middle blocker Vanessa Williams and junior setter Jasmine Davis stood in the way of UCSD all night, defending the net and throwing off Triton offense.

After leading 20-18 in the opening set, Cal Poly Pomona (7-4, 4-2 CCAA) scored the final seven points to take the first set 25-20; the Broncos' blocking had disrupted the Tritons, resulting in several attack errors. UCSD battled back with Schmidt and Williamson to take the second set 26-24, but lost the third set 25-22, after being unable to build momentum as a team.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page 12

# UCSD Rises to Top of CCAA

By Matt Croskey  
*STAFF WRITER*

**WOMEN'S SOCCER** — "Every game is a war," said head coach Brian McManus of his top-ranking squad.

The UCSD women's soccer team is the primary target in the California Collegiate Athletic Association. Picked by the coaches of the conference to win the south division, the Tritons just want to make it through their conference schedule.

"We have the most difficult conference in the country in Division II," McManus said. "Our goal is to make it to the conference playoffs and anything is possible from there."

The team is already well on its way to the playoffs. Currently, UCSD sits atop the south division with a 7-1-1 overall record and a 3-1-conference record.

Opening the season in Washington, UCSD posted victories over Central Washington University 2-0 and Western Washington University 2-1 in overtime. Junior midfielder Alexia Zatarain was the hero against WWU, scoring both goals for the Tritons. The two wins catapulted the Tritons to a No. 3 ranking in the nation.

UCSD finished its preseason play with a double-overtime tie against Cal State San Marcos 0-0 and a 4-0 demolition of Texas A&M University-Commerce.

After losing at San Francisco State to open up CCAA play, the Tritons rallied off four straight victories.

The most recent victory came against Cal Poly Pomona on Sept. 26. Two first-half goals by senior forward Natasha Belak-Berger led the Tritons to the victory. Her first came in the 29th minute on a laser from 15 yards out, and the second came just before halftime when she out-



Freshman midfielder Shelby Wong holds off a Cal Poly Pomona opponent as she dribbles the ball down field. The Tritons shut out the Broncos 2-0 at home on Sept. 27, improving their record to 7-1-1.

maneuvered the Bronco goalie and sent the shot to the back of the net.

In what McManus considered one of the team's worst performances of the season, UCSD still found a way to win.

"You're going to win some games playing well, and others ugly," he said. "Our players have set a benchmark, and that is to find a way to win. We were able to do it against [Cal Poly Pomona]."

UCSD is captained by its four seniors, who lead a team with 14 talented freshmen. According to McManus, the recruiting class has been plucked from some of nation's most elite club teams.

"All I want the freshmen to do is play like they did for their clubs," he said. "They all came from good club teams and my goal is for them to keep enjoying the game."

# Men's Water Polo Falls in Thriller

By Janani Sridharan  
*SPORTS EDITOR*

**MEN'S WATER POLO** — The packed crowd of excited fans who came out to watch the UCSD men's water polo match on Sept. 25 could not have asked for a more exhilarating contest. Unfortunately, the Tritons ended up on the wrong side of it.

Netting a goal in the last five seconds of regulation, No. 7 Loyola Marymount University broke an 11-11 tie to defeat the No. 10 Tritons in a game that UCSD controlled most of the way. UCSD was unable to hold on to a lead against a late-charging LMU team.

The Lions scored a goal right off the bat on a backhand shot from the two meters, but from that point on, the quarter belonged to the Tritons. With 6:22 left in the period, UCSD capitalized on a six-on-five opportunity as senior driver Adnan Jerkovic found junior driver Jeff Hunt inside for the score. With the game tied at one, the Lions had a chance to get that goal back from the Tritons with a six-on-five of their own. However, freshman goalkeeper David Morton stuffed LMU's attempt.

UCSD took the lead on a breakaway goal from junior two-meter Daniel Garcia, who stripped the ball from LMU. The

See **WATER POLO**, page 15

Readers can contact Matt Croskey at *mccroskey@ucsd.edu*.

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**CULTURE**

Imperio/Empire: Reading Contempoetry from Latin America with Rocio Ceron - Rocio Ceron won the Gilberto Owen National Poetry Prize in 2002. She is the founder of the interdisciplinary collective MotinPoeta and editor of El billar de Lucrecia, a small press dedicated to latinoamerican contemporary poetry. 3:45pm in the Literature Building, Room 155.

ArtPower! Film Presents San Diego Asian Film Festival Selects - Join us for live DJ music, a surprise animation short, and a feature film juried by the San Diego Asian Film Festival. Catch these films at The Loft before they hit the festival circuit! Students: \$4, Faculty/Staff: \$6, GA: \$7. Tickets @ UCSD Box Office: (858) 534-TIXS Ext. 7:30pm at the Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

**ORGS**

Circle K Meeting — Interested in community service? Then come to UCSD Circle K's first meeting of Fall Quarter! We'll meet at designated locations in each college and walk together to the meeting. For more information, check out [www.ucsdcirclek.org](http://www.ucsdcirclek.org). 7pm at Peterson Hall 110.

**TUES SEPT 30****ACADEMIC**

Open House at Engineering Student Services - Jacobs School of Engineering students are invited to learn what the office of Engineering Student Services provides and how we may assist you. Free refreshments. 3-5pm at Engineering Bldg. Unit 1.

Science, Engineering, and Mathematic Majors:

Information Sessions - 7pm at 4500 Pacific Hall.

**CAREER**

UCDC Information Session - Live and work in the nation's capital while earning UC credit! All majors are invited to hear about requirements, deadlines, and the application process. 12:30-1:30pm at the Career Services Center Horizon Room.

**RECREATION**

Sound Off: Hip Hop and Justice - Brown like Dat: South Asians and Hip-Hop gives a voice to South Asian MC's, beatboxers, spoken word artists, and producers. Food and drink compliments of Bombay Coast. Limited capacity. First come, first serve. Line up to guaranteed entry. 6pm at The Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor. Free.

Block Party 08 - Join us for the Greek Block Party 2008! Hear music from Electric Mistress and various DJs, play on the inflatables, and mingle with the Greek Community. There will be free food and drinks! Open and free to all! 7-11pm at North Campus Athletic Field.

Upright Citizens Brigade TourCo. - The UCBTourCo is the freshest longform improv the nation has to offer. These performers are the next wave of comedy superstars from the theatre that brought you Amy Poehler, Horatio Sanz, Rob Corddry, Ed Helms, Rob Riggle, Paul Scheer, Rob Huebel, and many many more. Cast credits include Late Night with Conan O'Brien, MadTV, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, and VH1's Best Week Ever to name a few. Students: \$5, Faculty/Staff: \$9, GA: \$10. Tickets @ UCSD Box Office: (858) 534-TIXS Ext. 7:30pm at the Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

**WED OCT 1****CAREER**

Peace Corps Info Session - Learn about the adventure of a lifetime in one of 70 countries for education, business, health, computer science, agriculture, and environmental projects. 12:15pm at the Career Services Center Horizon Room.

Alzheimer's Association at UCSD: Student Org Info Session - Come find out about the many internships available at the Alzheimer's Association San Diego Chapter. Come help us plan fundraising for the annual Memory Walk at Balboa Park on Oct. 25th. And come find out about the new support group we have created on campus for those who have friends or family affected by Alzheimer's Disease. 6:30pm at the Student Services Center, Room 450.

**LECTURE**

Greenovation Forum: Water Issues Everywhere - The Greenovation Forum will examine complex

water issues both locally and globally and hear from experts in academia, industry, government and the non-profit community. Program begins at 4:30 pm at the Atkinson Pavilion at the UCSD Faculty Club.

Eucarist and Speaker Series — Join us at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church (corner of Genesee and Eastgate Mall, two blocks north of UTC) for a unique liturgy followed by a speaker/discussion. Rides leave Price Center/Chancellor's Office parking lot at 5:15. 5:30pm at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church.

**ORGS**

Weekly Celtic Compline Service — Join us at the head (top) of the snake path by Geisel Library for compline, a calming and reflective Christian liturgy. We'll walk to get coffee after the brief service. Sponsored by Episcopal and Methodist Campus Ministry @ UCSD. 7:30 pm Head of the snake path.

**SPECIAL EVENT**

Get Involved at Partnership Schools: Lincoln, GCMS, The Preuss School - UCSD's Lincoln High School is looking for UCSD students to volunteer as tutors during class time, after-school and before school. For more info contact Evelyn Lucio at elucio@ucsd.edu or attend one of our information session (25 minutes long) which be held at Thurgood Marshall College in Conference Room 127 in the Admin Building: Wed 10/01- 1pm, Thurs 10/02- 3pm, Fri 10/03-11am, 2pm, and 4pm.

**THURS OCT 2****ARTS**

Architecture + Cinema: My Architect - Documentary filmmaker Nathaniel Kahn undertakes a five-year, worldwide journey to understand his long-deceased father, Louis I. Kahn, the internationally renowned architect of The Salk Institute. 7pm at Calit2 Auditorium. Part of ArtPower's presentation of Sanctuary, a site-specific performance installation at the The Salk Institute. [2003, USA, 116 min.] Students: \$5, Faculty/Staff: \$9, GA: \$10. Tickets @ UCSD Box Office: (858) 534-TIXS.

ArtPower! Presents The Loft-Off Closing Party with Vagabond Opera. Students: \$5, Faculty/Staff: \$9, GA: \$10. Tickets @ UCSD Box Office: (858) 534-TIXS Ext. 7:30pm at the Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

The Third Story - Omaha, 1949 ... Peg, a brazen screenwriter of Hollywood's Golden Age, has been a stowaway on a Chinese junk, escaped a cannibal village and had her ankle kissed by a young Tyrone Power - but now that the boys have taken over Hollywood, she's out of work. Wild and imaginative, this world premiere comedy from

Charles Busch, who will perform two of the roles, delights in the stories we tell to make sense of our lives. 2-for-1 Discount for UCSD Faculty/Staff & Students. Students: \$21, Faculty/Staff: \$42, GA: 42, Sr. Citizens: \$39. 8-10:30pm at Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre.

**CAREER**

Von Liebig Entrepreneurial Seminar Series: Hiring and Compensating Employees and Consultants - Interested in Starting a Company? Join us for the next seminar in the von Liebig Center's 2008 Seminar Series: Entrepreneur's Guide to Starting a Company. Sponsored by McDermott, Will & Emery LLP. 12-1pm at PC Gallery B.

Law School: Preparing and Applying - Find out from UCSD's pre-law advisors how to prepare for and apply to law schools and how the admissions process works. Learn about the Law School Admission Test and the resources that can help you pick schools and write your application essay. 2-3pm at the Career Services Center Horizon Room.

**LECTURE**

Alumni Lecture: Dr. Jeffrey Bennett — Jeffrey Bennett, astronomer and author, will present a lecture based on his critically acclaimed book "Beyond UFO's: The Search for Extraterrestrial Life and its Astonishing Implications for Our Future". A book signing will follow. 6:15-7:30pm in the Basic Sciences Building, Liebow Auditorium, School of Medicine.

**FRI OCT 3****ARTS**

The Third Story - 2-for-1 Discount for UCSD Faculty/Staff & Students. Students: \$21, Faculty/Staff: \$42, GA: \$42, Sr. Citizens: \$39. 2-4:30pm and 8-10:30pm at Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre.

**CAREER**

Resume Writing Seminar - Find out how to draw employers in, impress them with your experience, and stand out above the rest as we show you the essential steps to developing an eye-catching cover letter and a powerful resume. 10-11:15am at the Career Services Center Horizon Room.

**CULTURE**

Helena Maria Viramontes Book Signing and Talk - Helena M. Viramontes' writing is informed by her childhood experiences in East Los Angeles and the impact of Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers in the life of her family. She will discuss her latest novel Their Dogs Came with Them. 12-2pm at the Cross-Cultural Center (2nd Floor New Price Center East).

**LECTURE**

The U.S. Financial Crisis - A distinguished panel of experts will address the causes of the current financial crisis. 5-6:30pm at the Institute of the Americas Building, Weaver Center.

**ORGS**

NACURH 2010: Fall Recruitment Event - Get involved in UCSD's bid to bring a national residential life conference to UCSD in June 2010. We are looking for people to help plan all the logistics of a national conference. For more information, check out <http://nacurh2010.net>. 7pm at the Student Services Center Multipurpose Room. Free pizza!

**RECREATION**

The Jump Off - The DJ club will provide three hours of live music during the Jump Off series, which features food and drink specials every Friday. 1-4pm at Round Table Patio, Price Center West.

Fall Fest 2008 - Associated Students Presents: FALL FEST 2008 featuring Lupe Fiasco, Ben Kweller, and We Are Lions - Entirely free for UCSD undergraduates with valid student ID! \$18 for others at the UCSD Box Office. Tickets on sale now! -- First come, first served, space is limited, arrive early. 8pm at RIMAC Arena.

Sip: Wine Tasting - Must be 21 or over with ID. Students: \$5, Faculty/Staff: \$7, GA: \$7. 4pm at The Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

Sip: Wine Tasting II - Students: \$5, Faculty/Staff: \$7, GA: \$7. 5:30pm at The Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

**SPORTS**

Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Sonoma State, 4:30pm and 7pm respectively, at RIMAC field.

Men's Water Polo vs. UC Irvine, 6pm at Canyon View pool.

**SAT OCT 4****ARTS**

The Third Story - 2-for-1 Discount for UCSD Faculty/Staff & Students. Students: \$21, Faculty/Staff: \$42, GA: \$42, Sr. Citizens: \$39. 2-4:30pm and 8-10:30pm at Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre.

**ORGS**

Audition for Beat, UCSD's Co-Ed Acapella Singing Group - 8am at Center Hall 212.

**RECREATION**

Stunna Shades Dance - Tired after your first full week of class? It's time to Get Your Shades On and dance the night away. Featuring UC San Diego's own DVC. 9pm at the Loft, Price Center East, 2nd Floor.

**SUN OCT 5****ARTS**

The Third Story - 2-for-1 Discount for UCSD Faculty/Staff & Students. Students: \$21, Faculty/Staff: \$42, GA: \$42, Sr. Citizens: \$39. 2-4:30pm and 8-10:30pm at Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre.

**SPORTS**

Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Humboldt State, 12pm and 12:30pm respectively, at RIMAC field.

**WEEKLY**

Volunteers Wanted! Civic-minded Asian Students are needed to help raise breast cancer awareness in Asian American communities. Check out our Facebook group "Pacific Asian Grocery Store Based Cancer Education Program. Weekly meetings are Wednesday, 5:30-6:30pm at the Moores Cancer Center Rm 3106 or contact Mandy ([shung@ucsd.edu](mailto:shung@ucsd.edu)), Joyce ([j2won@ucsd.edu](mailto:j2won@ucsd.edu)), John ([jtat@ucsd.edu](mailto:jtat@ucsd.edu)), or Rey ([raltre@ucsd.edu](mailto:raltre@ucsd.edu)).

# Don't miss the 25th anniversary of **FFOG**

## Student Organizations Information Fair

**Friday Oct. 10th 11am-3pm on Library Walk**

**CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT**

<http://getinvolved.ucsd.edu>

*Meet the members of over 100 undergraduate and graduate student organizations*

*Sample great food and enjoy exciting demonstrations and performances*

*get the scoop on UCSD's student organizations!*

