

THE GUARDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

www.ucsdguardian.org

Monday, October 22, 2007

The Student Voice Since 1967

Senate Reconsiders Course Withdrawal Policy

Believing that the current process encourages abuse of the "W" mark, Academic Senate debates limiting its availability.

By Justin Gutierrez
STAFF WRITER

The UCSD Academic Senate, the governing on-campus body that dictates policies on academic integrity and procedures, is currently considering revamping its policy on the accessibility of the withdrawal mark on academic transcripts.

Use of the withdrawal mark — denoted on transcripts as a "W" — is universal throughout the University of California system. This course mark is assigned to students who decide to drop a class between fifth week and the end of ninth week. The mark does not affect a student's GPA, and the class may be retaken for a grade.

Currently, UCSD students may drop a class after the fourth week of class without any sort of petition process. The ease of the current

withdrawal policy has raised concerns of various faculty and administrative members, who brought their concerns to the Academic Senate.

The Committee on Educational Policy, the committee in the Academic Senate that possesses grading jurisdiction, investigated the policy, and committee members have remained attentive to the possibility that students may be abusing the grading option, which is designed for use as a last resort.

Physics professor and CEP Chair Kim Griest said the senate has been mulling the "W" policy for several years to see if it needs updating.

Though dropping a class later in a quarter may give a student another chance to improve his or her performance, it produces wasted space in sometimes overpopulated classrooms.

A.S. Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Long Pham, who serves as the sole student representative in the Academic Senate, brought the senate's consideration of policy change to the A.S. Council at its Oct. 11 meeting.

See **POLICY**, page 7

O.A.S.I.S. Survives Funding Drought



O.A.S.I.S., which tutors students in subjects such as math, science and English as a second language, had its funding cut by \$46,000 in 2006.

By Casey Lo
STAFF WRITER

Despite a drastically reduced budget, the Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services survived threats of closure last year, continuing to deliver a number of academic support services such as the Summer Bridge Program for freshmen, English as a second lan-

guage workshops and the highly popular math and science tutoring program to the student body.

Due to budget cuts to the Student Affairs Office ordered by former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Watson, O.A.S.I.S. faced a \$146,000 loss in funding in 2004-05, as well as a permanent reduction of \$46,000 the following year. However, research by a task force on

the Coordination of Undergraduate Academic Support Services, charged with investigating academic student support services such as O.A.S.I.S., indicated a clear sentiment from academic departments and colleges that O.A.S.I.S. programs were vital to student success.

Thereafter, further cuts to

See **FUNDING**, page 8

Campus Parking Gets Summer Makeover

Department plays give-and-take with student spaces in order to maximize efficiency of parking on campus.

By Kimberly Cheng
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In an effort to ease congestion and facilitate access to campus, UCSD Transportation and Parking Services established several changes over summer, including the introduction of new parking structures and revised uses for those already in existence. While some of the changes have been met with support, others were greeted with skepticism by frustrated students trying to adapt to the new schedules and restrictions.

The modifications made over summer are small steps toward a universitywide commitment to reduce carbon emissions, energy consumption and reliance on imported fossil fuels, T&PS Director Brian d'Autremont said.

One of the changes is an online tracking system for campus shuttles, designed to enhance transit efficiency and encourage students to use alternative forms of transportation. The Automatic Vehicle Location system works through a global positioning system unit installed in each shuttle, allowing students to track where the shuttles are on their routes in real time,



The Hopkins Parking Structure may see its spaces reallocated to compensate for underused "A" and "B" spots.

along with the percentage of passengers on the shuttle.

"AVL can keep buses spaced out and cut the time students spend waiting," d'Autremont said.

AVL is accessible through any Web-enabled device on the Blink directory or at www.ucsdbus.com.

In 2004, during his tenure as associate director of transportation services at UCLA, d'Autremont was president of a panel that sought to select a similar system for the university. However, the panel turned down an offer to implement a tracking system similar to the one used by UCSD.

"UCLA now has a system, but it is only tracking by Nextel phone and not available as a database for

See **PARKING**, page 9

Days of Our Lots

Before Summer

Spots	Space Type
1,725	"A" Spaces
4,800	"B" Spaces
6,331	"S" Spaces

After Summer

Spots	Space Type
1,826	"A" Spaces
5,305	"B" Spaces
6,219	"S" Spaces

SOURCE: UCSD T&PS

FOCUS

Stirring the Melting Pot

Despite a ban on affirmative action, legal loopholes allow UCSD to pursue a more diverse agenda.

page 12



SPORTS

Back on Track

Women's soccer bounces back after its second home loss, crushing Cal State Stanislaus 4-0.

page 24



INSIDE

Lights and Sirens	3
Column	4
Letters to the Editor	5
InFocus.....	15
Classifieds.....	20
Crossword.....	20

WEATHER

Oct. 22 H 80 I. 59	Oct. 23 H 84 I. 62
Oct. 24 H 86 L. 60	Oct. 25 H 84 L. 58

BLOCKHEADS



BY LARS INGELMAN

CURRENTS

UCSD Medical Center Joins Lung Disease Study

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute provided UCSD Medical Center with a \$37-million grant to be used to conduct a comprehensive study of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, the fourth leading cause of death in the United States.

The medical center is one of only 16 clinical study centers nationwide selected to participate in the trial. Its goal is to identify the genetic, epidemiological and radiological characteristics of COPD.

The study, led by the National Jewish Medical and Research Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital, will provide a better understanding of the disease and shed light on more effective treatments.

"This study will help us determine why some smokers get COPD and others do not," Joe Ramsdell, director of the division of general internal medicine, geriatrics and professor of clinical medicine at the UCSD School of Medicine, said in a press release. "We want to understand the specific genetic factors that protect a particular smoker or make someone else more susceptible. We look forward to a day when medical teams are no longer cleaning up the damage caused by COPD but intervening early enough to initiate individualized therapy."

COPD encompasses a variety of progressive lung diseases, most commonly emphysema and chronic bronchitis, which damage lung tissue and cause breathing difficulties. The primary cause of COPD cases is cigarette smoking.

However, inhaling other kinds of lung irritants may also cause the disease.

UC Faculty Appointed to Institute of Medicine

Along with 65 new members, four UC staff members were elected to the National Academies' Institute of Medicine.

Regarded as one of the highest honors bestowed upon professionals in the fields of medicine and health, membership is determined by current active members. Candidates are nominated based on their professional achievements and commitment to service.

Out of the current 1,538 active members, 163 of them are affiliated with the University of California.

Webster K. Cavanee, director of the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and distinguished professor, represents UCSD as one of the institute's newest members.

"I congratulate these members on their accomplishments and their dedication to public service," Wyatt R. Hume, UC provost and executive vice president for academic and health affairs, said in a press release.

Other newly elected UC members from UCLA and UC San Francisco include a cancer researcher, a chief of emergency medicine and a neurology professor.

The function of the Institute of Medicine is to provide scientifically informed analysis and independent recommendations to the nation's policymakers, professionals and leaders in the areas of health and science.

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Catch the latest news, without those dirty hands.

OPINION

Web poll: Would you attend a public Sun God planning forum?

HIATUS

Boss ditties: Hear samples of your favorite tunes.

FOCUS

Local directions: Map out the driving routes to Site Seen.

SPORTS

Schedules: Find the best games for Fall Quarter.

CORRECTIONS

A news article published on Oct. 18 titled "A New Face for Sun God?" incorrectly stated that 355 people were arrested at last year's Sun God festival, due to an error in the planning report released by A.S. Programming and the University Events Office. In fact, 355 people were either arrested or issued a citation at Sun God.

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

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UCSD Shuttles

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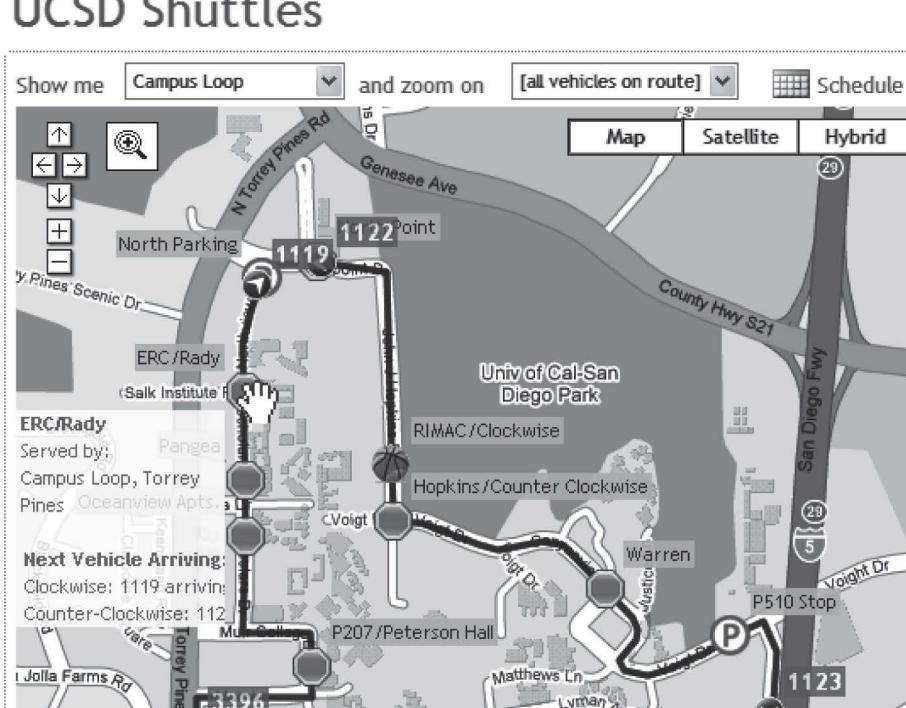
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Word on the Street

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LIGHTS & SIRENS

Friday, Oct. 12

5:14 a.m.: Gas leak

► A possible leak from a rolling nitrogen tank was reported at Rebecca and John Moores Cancer Center.

11:50 a.m.: Medical aid

► A male was reported as having seizures in the middle of Solis Hall.

6:36 p.m.: Lost property

► A pair of brown Chanel sunglasses was reported as missing, after being left at the Faculty Club pasta station.

Saturday, Oct. 13

1:37 a.m.: Noninjury accident

► A car ran over a rock in Lot 510.

4:40 a.m.: Medical aid

► An 18-year-old female at Argo Hall reported throwing up after injuring her neck at a concert, and was worried about the possibility of a concussion.

Sunday, Oct. 14

1:55 a.m.: Welfare check

► An 18-year-old female was found unconscious and breathing outside Sixth College. *Field interview administered.*

2:35 a.m.: Citizen contact

► A female resident of Black Hall reported people standing outside her apartment door, knocking while covering the peephole.

4:25 a.m.: Drunk in public

► A white male with short blonde hair in his early 20s, wearing jeans and no shoes, was reported as drunk in public at Muir Commons.

Monday, Oct. 15

12:27 p.m.: Stolen vehicle

► A white male in his 20s was seen driving a stolen vehicle in circles at Lot 702, with the alarm going off.

5:45 p.m.: Medical aid

► A 17-year-old female hit her head on a wall at Argo Hall, but remained conscious and breathing.

10:48 p.m.: General disturbance

► Students at the Thurgood Marshall College Residence Halls were throwing water balloons at pedestrians. *Unable to locate.*

Tuesday, Oct. 16

12:56 a.m.: Suspicious person

► A male was seen on Regents Road, but only in the shadows. *Unable to locate.*

10:38 a.m.: General disturbance

► A male refused to leave the tennis courts at Spanos Athletic Training Facility, although they had been reserved for another party. *Gone on arrival.*

7:38 p.m.: Suspicious person

► A black 18-year-old male with dreadlocks was reported as selling magazines outside the Matthews Apartments. *Unable to locate.*

11:18 p.m.: Under influence of drugs

► A 6-foot tall male with a shaved head was seen dancing around the bus stop at Gilman Parking Structure.

11:44 p.m.: Suicide attempt

► A male wearing a white sweater was threatening suicide at Gilman Parking Structure.

Wednesday, Oct. 17

12:39 p.m.: Noninjury accident

► An electric motorcart was reported as hitting a pole near the Cognitive Science building.

Thursday, Oct. 18

1:40 a.m.: Suspicious person

► A male transient in blue jeans and flip-flops was seen at Douglas Hall, "hanging around" an event intended for residents.

7:54 p.m.: Animal call

► A little black dog without a leash ran toward Mandeville Auditorium on Library Walk.

— **Compiled by Sonia Minden**
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Spirit Group's Purchase Divides Council

A.S. Council criticizes Triton Tide for suggestive foam fingers, approves funds for replacements.

By Michael Bowlus

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Campus spirit group Triton Tide's purchase of sexually suggestive novelty foam fingers over summer came under scrutiny by A.S. councilmembers at their Oct. 17 meeting, where they debated and ultimately passed a finance bill granting the group an additional \$4,000 to buy more merchandise.

The \$2,100 shipment of foam fingers arrived at the start of the school year and was immediately prevented from distribution upon inspection by A.S. President Marco Murillo and Vice President of Finance and Resources Sarah Chang.

The foam fingers resembled a sexual hand gesture known as a "shocker," which is similar to a trident hand gesture that UCSD fans wave at athletic events.

The novelty items have since been put into a trash compactor.

"My reaction was, 'Oh my God, what just happened?'" Chang said of her first sighting of the foam fingers. "We saw a few reactions from female students and staff workers ... and an executive decision was made not to distribute [them]."

Murillo said the fingers' gesture was also not what he had envisioned as the design.

Chang said after she and Murillo spoke with Triton Tide Director Dave Payne, they agreed on sponsoring \$4,000 finance bill for the spirit club in order to allow Triton Tide to buy appropriate custom-made foam fingers. The bill passed by a vote of

13-9-3.

The discussion between Chang and Payne became part of the debate about the additional funding.

"[Payne] was promised \$4,000 to purchase new foam fingers," said All-Campus Senator Meghan Clair, a supporter of the item. "From that I formulated my decision that it would be in the best interest of A.S. [Council] to give the money to Triton Tide."

Chang refuted claims that she had promised money to Payne, and reiterated that she had told him that the finance bill would be on the agenda but a majority vote by the council would decide whether the funding would be granted.

us if we fund people flippantly? [Payne] didn't show anyone anything ... he just bought them. When Triton Tide makes a mistake, they shouldn't be pardoned. There are some people who have no concept of students' money."

Samia noted a lack of communication surrounding the purchase of the foam fingers.



Dave Payne
Triton Tide Director

Samia noted a lack of communication surrounding the purchase of the foam fingers.

Triton Tide followed through with the purchase plans by buying foam fingers from a retailer who specializes in "shocker" merchandise, Samia said.

Although Samia saw the council's willingness to let Payne make the buying decision on his own as a "big misplacement of trust," Clair said that Payne shouldn't be blamed for making a decision on which no one else provided input.

"No one except Dave had been involved in purchasing them," she said. "I hope that the people who found them inappropriate are involved in the purchase of the new fingers."

Clair said Triton Tide has already allocated its funding for this year, which is why it did not have its own additional funding to draw on to replace the unusable fingers.

"Other student organizations received additional funding this fall too," she said.

Readers can contact Michael Bowlus at mbowlus@ucsd.edu.

**My first reaction was,
'Oh my God, what just
happened?'**

— Sarah Chang, A.S. Vice
President of Finance and
Resources

At the meeting, Thurgood Marshall College Senator Kyle Samia joined Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Long Pham in strongly opposing the finance bill, and the two still stand by their objections.

"Clearly, there was a lack of judgment ... [but] no one is out there to get Triton Tide," Samia said. "We just want Triton Tide to be held accountable."

Samia characterized the incident as one of fiscal irresponsibility and poor leadership, questioning Payne's decision-making ability.

"It's really, really irresponsible," he said. "What does that say about

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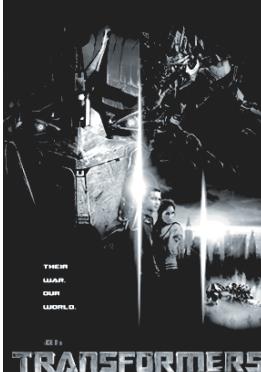
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Withdrawal Procedures Vary Across UC Campuses

► **POLICY**, from page 1

He said that the senate is considering restricting the accessibility of withdrawing from a class, based on a review of withdrawal policies at other UC campuses.

CEP dedicated a significant amount of its research to gathering information from other UC campuses about their withdrawal policies, and found that they vary widely from campus to campus, Pham said.

UC Berkeley and UC Irvine require students to fill out a petition form and give a valid reason for withdrawing, whereas UC Riverside, like UCSD, does not require a petition process.

According to Griest, many faculty members and administrators have expressed strong concerns about students easily withdrawing from classes and retaking them multiple times.

Griest has recommended that a formal subcommittee be formed to research UCSD's withdrawal policy to find if there is a legitimate problem.

The proposal was rejected by

CEP, which determined such decisions would be made during its meetings. No changes have yet taken place, and research into the matter is likely to occur throughout the year.

"The CEP is only at a very early data-gathering stage in this pro-

CEP will propose any change to the 'W' option at all, and there's certainly no existing proposal to do so."

Some students value the policy's current flexibility, which allows them to make last-minute decisions without bureaucratic delay.

"Restricting the 'W' option is a bad idea," Eleanor Roosevelt College junior Madeline Phillips said. "So many circumstances could lead to a student deciding to withdraw from a class."

Other students worry that restricting the policy could harm students dealing with extenuating circumstances that affect their academic performance.

"Students do not always take a 'W' just because they are slacking off in a class," Roosevelt senior Kayta Orlova said. "It may be because of sudden circumstances such as a death in the family, or because they realize they just have too much on their plate, which sometimes cannot be foreseen."

'At this point, it is very unclear whether the CEP will propose any changes to the 'W' option at all.'

— Jim Posakony, Chair, Academic Senate

cess — determining the frequency and pattern of 'W' option usage at UCSD, as well as seeing how this compares to what is conducted at the other UC campuses," Academic Senate Chair Jim Posakony said. "At this point, it is very unclear whether

Readers can contact Justin Gutierrez at j3gutier@ucsd.edu.

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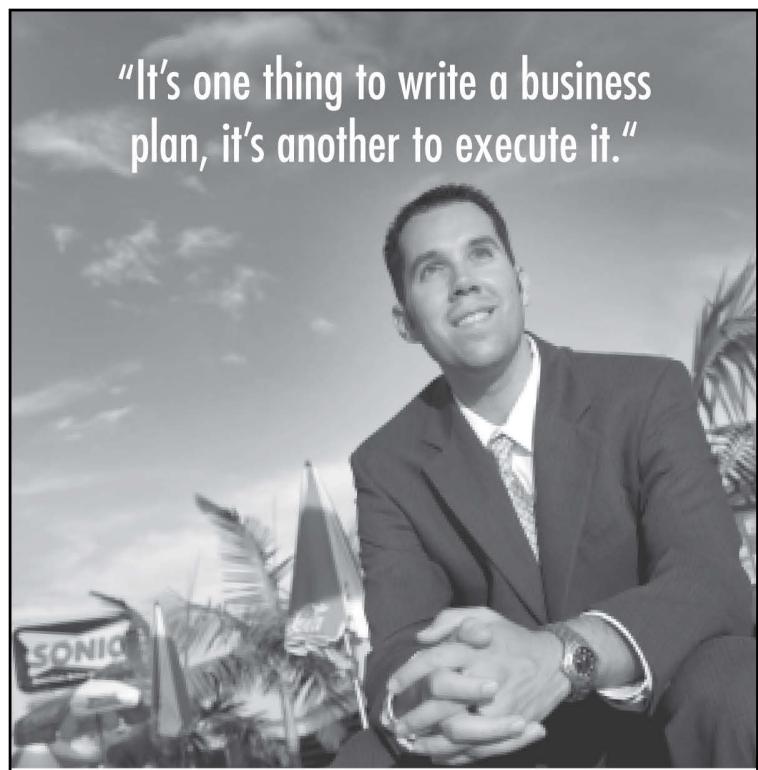


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Grant Program Demands Higher GPAs for Athletes



SANH LUONG/GUARDIAN FILE

Men's water polo is one of the 23 teams that received a boost to its budget following the passage of the undergraduate athletics fee referendum last year.

► **REFERENDUM**, from page 1 parts to the program that need attention," Senior Associate Director of Athletics Ken Grosse said. "The election proved successful in opening up a dialogue with the students to find problems. Now we can correct those problems and create the best program possible."

The department has increased the operating budget of each of the 23 teams to assist with travel expenditures, purchasing new equipment and uniforms, and secondary health insurance — costs that students and their parents used to pay — that the program had previously compromised due to budget deficiencies. Each team is permitted to use its budget at its own discretion, and some teams may have additional costs, Grosse said.

The department has also hired another full-time athletic trainer in

addition to the two already staffed, allowing for full accommodations for the more than 600 student-ath-

We were at the bottom of the scale in our conference in terms of salary."

— Ken Grosse, Senior Associate Director of Athletics

letes to train safely with staff supervision.

Moreover, staff salaries have been increased, with the earnings of the 20 head coaches raised by

20 percent and the wages of the assistant coaches also augmented to cover the high cost of living in San Diego.

"Our coaches were very underpaid before this year," Grosse said. "We basically paid our full-time coaches part-time wages. We were at the bottom of the scale in our conference in terms of salary."

This year's fiscal budget will also be utilized to pay the \$800,000 loan used to complete Canyonview Pool. By addressing these costs this year, the department hopes to free up the budget for long-term planning improvements to other areas of the program, including publicity and marketing to get students interested in attending games, conferences and tournaments, Grosse said.

Although many athletic facili-

ties to train safely with staff supervision.

Moreover, staff salaries have been increased, with the earnings of the 20 head coaches raised by

Offices Weigh Options to Alleviate Stress of Cutbacks

► **FUNDING**, from page 1 O.A.S.I.S. were no longer discussed.

So far, O.A.S.I.S. has managed to operate smoothly, relative to its new budget parameters. According to Rabia Paracha, former A.S. vice president of academic affairs and undergraduate representative to UGASS, the math and science tutoring program has been so popular that it has had to turn students away.

However, O.A.S.I.S. is restricted to being a basic tutoring program that cannot fully respond to the needs of a growing student body, Paracha said. For example, O.A.S.I.S. offers writing tutorials for students in ESL or Subject A, but does not have the resources to implement a more comprehensive program to serve native English speakers who need help in college writing courses.

Patrick Velasquez, director of O.A.S.I.S., said that academic support should be based on a culture of excellence, and that it would be disastrous for O.A.S.I.S. to become a program relegated to remedial help only.

The budget downsizing has also affected resource options for upper division math, chemistry and services for transfer students.

However, Velasquez said O.A.S.I.S. has suffered the most from students' perceptions that its services had been impaired by the budget cuts more than they actually were.

The image of O.A.S.I.S. as an abandoned and underfunded program seriously hurt its ability to recruit tutors when in reality, most of O.A.S.I.S.' previous services are still being offered, with the exception of the study skills program, Velasquez said.

Paracha said that possible solutions to alleviate the effects of the

cutbacks are still being evaluated. Specifically, there have been suggestions to move O.A.S.I.S., currently a program under the Student Affairs Office, to the division of Academic Affairs, where there appears to be a greater willingness to put more time and resources into the program.

In addition, regular meetings with the vice chairs for undergraduate affairs and O.A.S.I.S. staff are necessary in order to keep the administration informed of academic support services, she said. The administration can in turn

For this reason, all academic support services should be geared toward all students."

— Rabia Paracha, Former A.S. Vice President of Academic Affairs

coordinate communication between O.A.S.I.S., academic departments and colleges to ensure that overlaps in services between these three branches can be integrated to reduce overall costs.

There has been considerable debate on whether UCSD should gear academic support services toward incoming freshmen who require additional assistance and encouragement in their first year, or spread services throughout the rest of the student body to promote a higher academic bar. In a discussion with Paracha, Watson was very adamant about structuring O.A.S.I.S. to fit the needs of underclassmen — not senior students.

However, Watson dealt a crip-

pling blow to the office's Community for Learning and Academic Success program, which provides counseling, networking and tutoring workshops to freshmen, when he cut \$100,000 two years ago.

"The temporary funds to run CLAS were eliminated because former Vice Chancellor Watson lost interest in serving a broad degree of new freshmen who would benefit from services that facilitate their transition to UCSD," Velasquez said in an e-mail.

Paracha, on the other hand, said that academic support should be spread out evenly among all UCSD students.

"As students, some days are good and others are bad and there is no telling whether our bad days will come earlier on in our education or whether we will encounter obstacles later on in our years at UCSD," Paracha said. "For this reason, all academic support services should be geared toward all students."

John Muir College sophomore Jeremy Lee, who uses O.A.S.I.S. as a study tool for his chemistry courses, said that the office is a valuable resource for students enrolled in historically difficult math and science classes.

"It kind of cements some of the things you hear in lecture, and it goes a little bit faster than lecture, too, so you don't get lost," he said.

However, Lee said that long wait lists are problematic for the large number of students who need help in particular courses, but that offsetting the cuts in funding would likely alleviate that problem.

"More funding could maybe allow them to hire more people and get people off the huge wait lists," he said.

Readers can contact Casey Lo at cwllo@ucsd.edu.

Director: West Campus' Arena Spaces Exhausted

► **PARKING**, from page 1
management purposes," d'Autremont said. "They are looking at adapting [UCSD's] system in 2008."

While d'Autremont seeks to boost the use of public transportation, numerous other sites on campus are undergoing construction, including the North Campus Housing project that will encompass parking lots P-355 and P-356. Both of the lots are currently home to student parking spaces.

Overnight parking in Gilman Parking Structure has also been eliminated, a move necessary to realign the structure's function with its original purpose, according to A.S. Transportation and Parking Committee representative Alex Miller.

"Gilman is a commuter-minded structure that was being occupied by resident students," Miller said.

About 94 percent of the parking spaces in Gilman were used for storage — overnight parking for students living on campus.

"The way it operated was unfair to students who park there for classes," d'Autremont said. "I have received positive comments about this change predominantly from students."

Two floors of student spaces were also eliminated from Gilman, a change to which students were not necessarily as receptive.

"I don't understand the changes," Thurgood Marshall College senior Robert Cordon said. "Parking on campus used to be more convenient for me. It's such a hassle to get to campus now. Buses are always overcrowded, and now finding parking is more difficult."

D'Autremont hopes that the new \$30-million Hopkins Parking Structure will alleviate student parking issues caused by these changes. However, the cost of building such a structure has inevitably increased permit prices.

"The true cost of a lot is \$275 [per space] per month," d'Autremont said of the Hopkins structure.

Completed for use in September and located near RIMAC Arena and the San Diego Supercomputer Center, Hopkins contains 1,406 parking spaces. About 800 of those spaces are reserved for undergraduate students, and overnight parking is permitted.

After building Hopkins, there will be no new "S" spaces on west campus unless another parking structure is built, which would further increase parking permit prices, d'Autremont said.

An Oct. 19 public forum regarding the Hopkins Parking Structure presented an opportunity for students to voice their opinions and concerns

Gilman is a commuter-minded structure that was being occupied by resident students."

— Alex Miller, Representative, A.S. Transportation and Parking Committee

about a possible temporary reallocation of parking spaces within the structure.

"We want to gather input before making any decisions," d'Autremont said. "This is one way for us to communicate better."

D'Autremont revealed at the forum that Hopkins currently contains 107 "A" spaces, 368 "B" spaces and 808 "S" spaces. During peak use, all "S" spaces are filled while 318 "A" and "B" spaces remain empty.

Since faculty and graduate spaces are not being completely occupied, the parking reallocation will open more spaces to students. The proposed space redistribution will be 92 "A" spaces, 233 "B" spaces and 958 "S" spaces.

After taking away faculty and graduate spaces, the department's goal is to leave a 70-space cushion for "B" spaces and a 40-space cushion for "A" spaces.

During the forum, d'Autremont also expressed the need to make parking spaces more contiguous for safety. The new space allotment will add 306 "S" spaces to levels one and two in Hopkins while 156 "B" spaces will be added to levels five, six and seven. The consolidation of spaces will eliminate the need for drivers to hunt for spaces in different parts of the structure.

In addition, East Parking and Regents Express shuttles will be combined into a single East/Regents shuttle, effective Oct. 25. Consolidation of the two routes is meant to increase the frequency of service while saving the costs of fuel.

Last spring, there were 1,725 "A" parking spaces, 4,800 "B" spaces and 6,331 "S" spaces on campus. After the changes made during summer, there are now 1,826 "A" spaces, 5,305 "B" spaces and 6,219 "S" spaces, d'Autremont said.

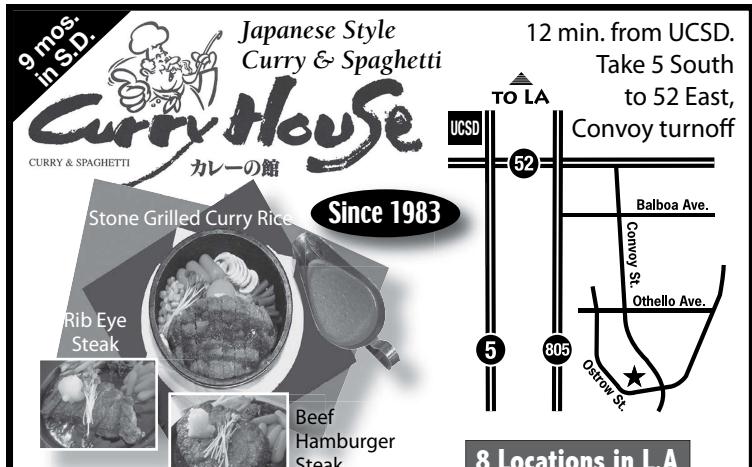
He added that the summertime changes, as well as future plans, emphasize the need for environmental awareness among students and staff at UCSD. Getting students out of their cars and encouraging them to utilize alternative forms of transportation such as the free shuttles and buses will cut back on air pollution as well as parking issues.

D'Autremont said that transportation and parking operations differ greatly between UCSD and UCLA.

"At UCLA, essentially, undergrads get no parking," d'Autremont said. "The shuttle system is minimal compared to UCSD. Their [Metropolitan Transport Authority] system is more advanced compared to UCSD's."

— Additional reporting by Nimesh Rajakumar, Contributing Writer

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



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Attendance at Sports Games Higher Than Last Year

► **ATHLETICS**, from page 8
ties, including the baseball field, are in need of renovation, Grosse said that the department will rely primarily on fundraising and donations to cover the costs, as most of the department's new budget is focused on the student-athletes and their growth.

"It was tough to maintain morale with no funds for travel, equipment and other expenses," he said. "We just couldn't afford to do the things other teams could, but now our athletes know that the school supports them and it's shown in their performance."

The athletics program has also budgeted \$250,000 for student-athlete scholarships, mandatory for a NCAA D-II status, which were not previously funded.

This year, each athlete will receive a \$500 scholarship, and although the NCAA requires only a 2.0 minimum GPA to be on a team, the Athletics Department and the Student Affairs Office have coordinated a new grant-in-aids stipulation that requires students to maintain a 2.5 GPA during their first year, 2.6 after their second year and a 2.7 after their third year at UCSD.

This new requirement corresponds with the academic tradition of UCSD athletes, according to Stephanie Chang, A.S. associate vice president of athletic relations and member of the women's crew team.

"As one of the most rigorous academic institutions in the United

States, more than 60 percent of the more than 600 student-athletes carry cumulative GPAs of 3.0 or above and the average GPA of that group is routinely higher than the average of the student body at-large," Chang said in an e-mail. "The athletic department has always prided itself in its student-athletes."

Grosse said the athletics department will pursue the implementation of various fiscal changes as it gauges where the money is needed most. But, it hopes that students will continue to support athletes as the year progresses.

The athletic department has always prided itself in its student-athletes."

— Stephanie Chang, A.S.
Associate Vice President of
Athletic Relations

Triton Tide Director Dave Payne said the student support of athletics has already begun to show.

Attendance at many sporting events, including water polo and basketball, has gone up, and students are more engaged in the games and status of their favorite teams.

"Sports are important because they give students something to rally behind, something to believe in, something to get really excited about," Payne said in an e-mail. "It gives them bragging rights and makes things a lot more fun. Yes, we have awesome academics, but who goes home and brags about rankings to their friends? There is more to what you get from college than your education."

Readers can contact Katie Corotto at kcorotto@ucsd.edu.

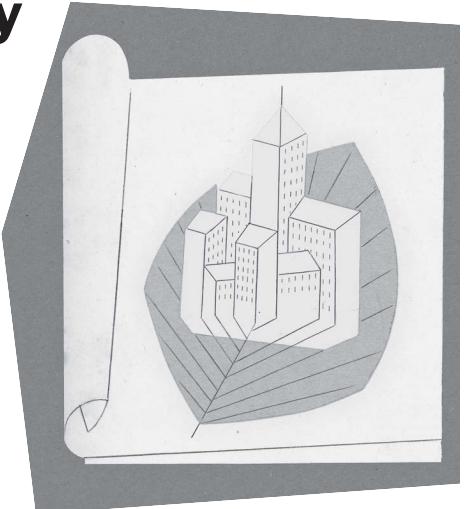
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Amjed Mustafa is director of Kaplan's Pre-Health Programs at Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions' New York City headquarters. During his MD/PhD candidacy, Amjed started working with Kaplan, eventually moving to head up Kaplan's Pre-Health program Research & Development efforts. Since teaching his first MCAT class 9 years ago, Amjed has spent much of his time holding workshops and seminars for potential medical school students on topics ranging from MCAT preparation to applications to personal statements and interviews.



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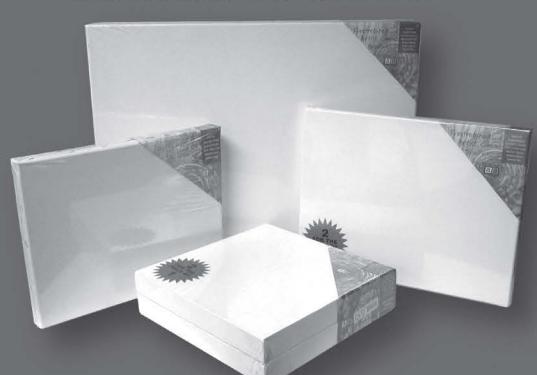
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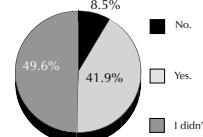
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Breaking Out of UC Bubble Helps Dispel Self Delusions

Let me be one of the first to admit: We college kids are a rather pretentious and arrogant bunch.

Most of us love feigning that we've been around the block a few times, acting like we know what we're doing with our lives and criticizing everyone around us because



we clearly know better than the rest of the world. We also enjoy deluding ourselves by thinking that we're the most cultured, globally concerned, politically knowledgeable and talented group of scholars out there. To be frank, in spite of all our book-smarts, the majority of us shouldn't be giving ourselves *that* much credit.

I, too, have often fallen into this unsavory category of overconfident, self-entitled university students. I hardly ever fail to find a good excuse as to why my teachers are completely unjust in their grading systems, and hardly acknowledge advice from friends and family because I like to believe that I'm always right. In fact, it took an entire summer of being emerged in the culture and lifestyle of a foreign country before I finally began to realize how little I actually knew about the world.

Fortunately, this startling realization was one of the most rewarding and enlightening experiences that I could hope for, and I can't say that the rest of my ever-so-brilliant and culturally-aware colleagues wouldn't benefit from the same sort of experience.

For a great number of us, it is

See **SATISFACTION**, page 6

SPIRITING AWAY MONEY

The A.S. Council bailed Triton Tide out of a \$2,000 blunder last week after the campus' "elite spirit crew" squandered the money on unapproved, obscene foam fingers.

By Hadley Mendoza

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

STUDENT LIFE — At its Oct. 17 meeting, the A.S. Council approved a \$4,000 funding allocation for Triton Tide — as though the now \$3.6 million athletics budget (thanks to last year's fee referendum) and the already-allotted \$13,400 of council money just wasn't enough.

This recent allotment is particularly surprising, as it comes from a council that, just last year, made strides to stop funding duplication. In fact, the 2007-08 budget approval meeting spurred great debate over Triton Tide specifically, because the council gave the organization \$4,100 less than it had the previous year. However, it appears that in light of an overwhelming \$264,000 carryover, the council has decided to throw logic to the wind, kneeling to Triton Tide's ever-persistent leader Dave Payne.

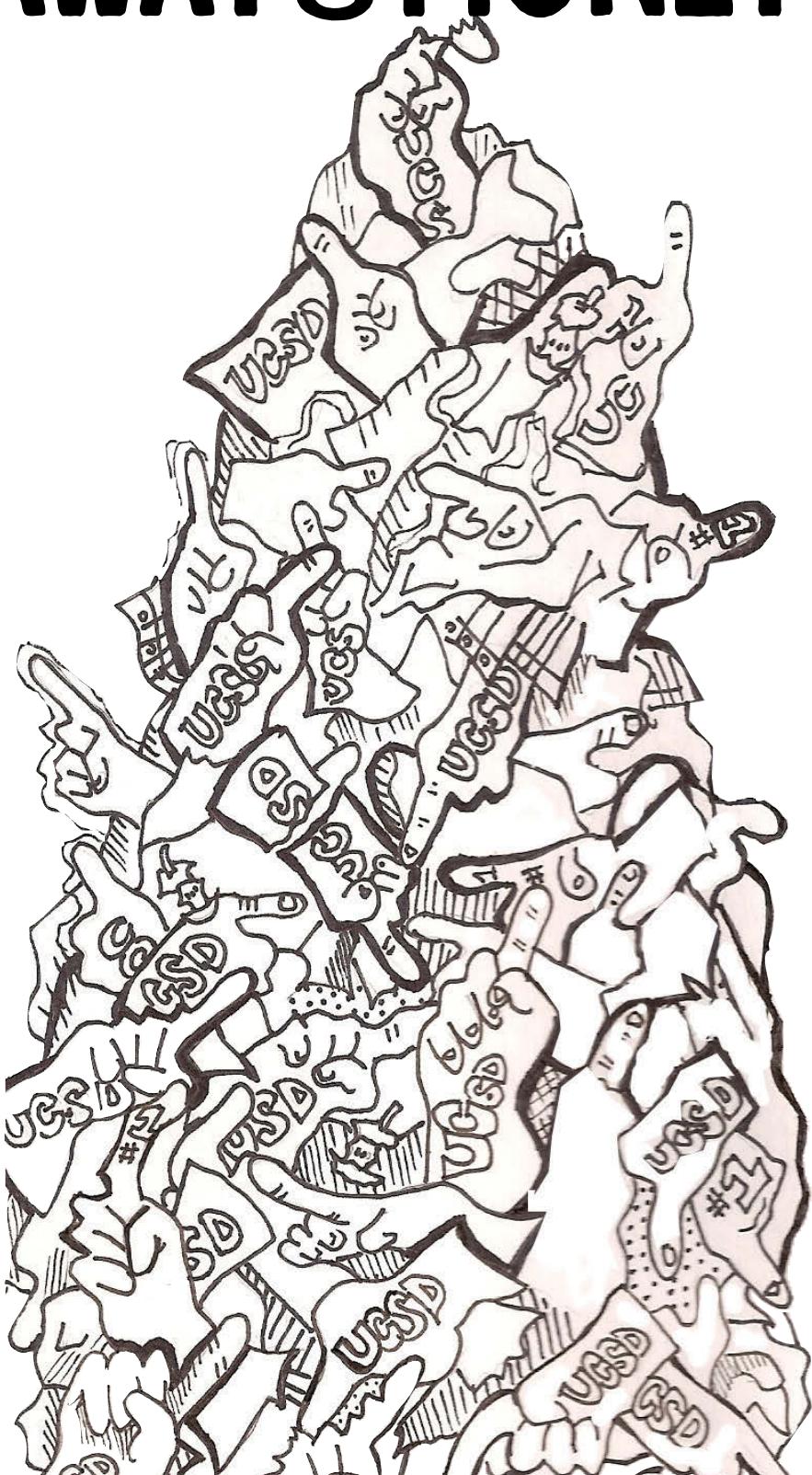
What makes the \$4,000 truly aggravating are the circumstances under which it was allotted. Months ago (and without proper approval) Triton Tide ordered foam fingers to distribute at games. But this wasn't just any we're-number-one, run-of-the-mill type spirit gear. Classy as they are, UCSD's elite spirit crew ordered \$2,000 worth of blue-and-gold UCSD fingers, specially molded into the "shocker" gesture. That's right, nothing says school pride like an obscene hand motion. And though the group claimed the design was meant to represent a trident, anyone who has gone to a UCSD basketball game ("Shock 'em Tritons!") knows this is a transparent defense of the signal's true meaning.

Fast-forward to the fingers' arrival and Payne sat beaming over his brilliant idea. It was A.S. President Marco Murillo and A.S. Vice President of Finance and Resources Sarah Chang that had to break it to Payne that it's generally best not to use explicit or offensive signs to represent yourself, the university or your school pride.

The fingers were reportedly nixed — \$2,000 taken from student pockets and sent to the trash compactor — and Payne, rather than realizing his egregious mistake and apologizing for his flagrant abuse of money, complained for replacement funds and threatened to pass out the peppy contraband despite unequivocal directions not to do so.

Apparently trying to ameliorate an unruly Payne, Chang and

See **SPIRIT**, page 6



CHRISTINA AUSHANA/GUARDIAN

Rising Infections Suggest Need for Increased Awareness

A death from staph infection should prompt schools across nation to educate students about possible dangers.

By Marissa Blunschi
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

STUDENT CENTERS AND HEALTH — In the past few weeks, students across the nation have been exposed to virulent outbreaks of staph infection, including a deadly strain of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* known as MRSA. But it wasn't until Oct. 16, when the death of a senior at Staunton River High School in Moneta, Va. prompted student protests, that the true magnitude and dangers of staph infections in the United States were brought to the public eye.

According to reports from doctors at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 19,000 people in the United States

died in 2005 from MRSA infections — exceeding the number of deaths attributed to A.I.D.S., Parkinson's disease, emphysema or homicide each year. New evidence from the American Medical Association suggests that cases of the antibiotic-resistant MRSA infections may be twice as prevalent as previously imagined.

In view of these recent reports, it's disappointing that local health and education officials weren't the first to shed light on this threat at Virginia high schools, but instead waited for student protesters to be the proponents of disinfecting facilities and preventing the spread of this potentially lethal strain of bacteria. In light of recent outbreaks, it is time for officials in Virginia and throughout the country to treat this situation with the caution and gravity it warrants.

The severity of these staph infections shouldn't be taken lightly — the current strain of MRSA circulating in schools across the nation does not respond to penicillin and other related antibiotics. The infection can be spread easily by skin-to-skin

contact or through sharing hygiene items (such as towels or razors) used by infected persons, especially those with open wounds. Considering there were 11 other reported MRSA cases throughout southern Virginia in the six months leading up to the most recent student death, it comes

It is discouraging that health and education officials failed to take greater preventative measures in the first place."

as a great upset that schools did not make greater efforts to caution students and prevent infections.

At Staunton River High School, students took matters into their own hands by organizing a protest overnight on Oct. 15 using text messages

and social networking Web sites. They brought the Bedford County School Superintendent on a tour of the school on Oct. 16 to show him the filthy conditions of their facilities — especially the locker rooms, a common area for student-athletes to contract staph infections. The students' efforts encouraged county officials to disinfect Staunton River and 21 surrounding high schools in an effort to prevent further outbreaks.

It is discouraging that health and education officials failed to initially take greater preventative measures. Fortunately, the staph infection cases in Virginia were promptly addressed after they were discovered, but had people been more informed, it may have been possible to prevent the Richmond student's death.

According to reports, the student's mother said that her son was originally sent home from the hospital after doctors ruled out appendicitis as the cause for his severe stomach pains.

He was readmitted after a few days, but wasn't diagnosed with MRSA until the staph infection had

spread to his kidneys, heart and lungs. By then, it was already too late.

If schools and medical facilities throughout the area are made more aware of recent bacterial outbreaks, it may be possible to discover MRSA infection sooner so that future patients can receive the proper drug treatments quickly.

Considering that student MRSA infection have already been a problem in Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Florida and Illinois, it is not unreasonable for schools in other states to inform their students about the dangers of staph infections.

In order to ensure infections won't continue to spread throughout the nation, student health centers should provide more information to educate students about the severity of these bacterial strains and what can be done to detect and prevent future infections.

Additionally, schools should take their own measures to promote clean environments instead of hot-spot bacteria-infested areas such as locker rooms, where infections are most often contracted.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Story Misrepresents Plight of Local Immigrants

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Nathan Miklos' Oct. 15 article titled "D.R.E.A.M. Act Encourages Double Standard but Lacks Effective Immigration Solution." Miklos' piece is brimming with factual inaccuracies and logical fallacies. His entire argument hinges on the ill-informed claim that undocumented immigrants do not pay taxes and therefore should not be given the same benefits as "taxpayers." It is widely known that most undocumented immigrants do pay large sums of money to federal and state governments.

For example, federal income taxes that cannot be matched to workers' names and social security numbers grew \$20 billion between 1990 and 1998. This surplus continues to grow \$6 billion a year with 2005's sitting at \$519 billion. It is largely attributed to undocumented immigrant laborers whose employers deduct income taxes and social security payments from their checks to avoid being scrutinized by authorities. In terms of social security, these workers will never receive what they paid.

According to a study by conservative Cato Institute's economist Steve Moore, immigrant households in 1997 paid an estimated \$133 billion in direct taxes to federal, state and local governments. Douglas Massey, a Princeton professor and expert on Mexican migrants, has

found that "illegal migrants pay taxes at high rates while using public services at low rates." Among the 2,100 undocumented immigrants he surveyed, "60 percent of them said they had federal taxes withheld from their pay." Meanwhile, only 4 percent said they used food stamps and 3 percent said they received government welfare payments. In addition, only 11 percent reported that they send their children to U.S. public schools. Also, only 26 percent said they used a U.S. hospital.

Miklos claimed that all undocumented students who would benefit from the California D.R.E.A.M. Act are guilty of committing crimes and therefore should not be rewarded. He neglects to mention that many of these individuals were brought to the United States by their parents when they were minors. They were not directly responsible for crossing illegally and as such, morally speaking, should not be held accountable for their parents' infractions.

Opposing the California D.R.E.A.M. Act is not only unjust but impractical. Our state needs more college graduates. According to the Public Policy Institute of California, 41 percent of jobs will require a college education by 2025 but only 32 percent of workers in the state will have college degrees.

Miklos advocated treating people equally but he contradicts himself, arguing that undocumented students should not get the same chance that "legal" Americans get. Hard-working students, most of whom are only guilty of involuntarily committing a misdemeanor — entering the country illegally is

a minor offense — should not be treated as second-class persons.

Miklos stated he is against "creating an institutional double-standard between legal citizens and undocumented residents." The only double standard here is the one that marginalizes undocumented immigrants, not because they are "bad" but because they are cheap, expendable labor and concomitantly, tend to speak with a different accent or language and have a darker shade of skin.

— José Fusté
Ethnic Studies Graduate Student
and Teaching Assistant

No Merit for Proposed Warren Fee Increase

Dear Editor,

"Warren is really suffering." Those were the words of Brandon Blades, a former Warren College Student Council official in charge of passing the 2004 fee referendum who also called the vote a do-or-die time for the college.

Warren College can hardly claim to be suffering anymore. After spending its first three decades of existence begging for handouts from the campuswide student government, Warren College decided to tax its own students less than four years ago, tripling its student council's budget and becoming the last college to adopt an activity fee. And although Warren College has survived just fine without any activity fees for its first 30 years, here we are in 2007, with its student council

lining up for more money.

Let us consider the arguments offered by WCSC Parliamentarian Dan Palay in a recent *Guardian* article:

1. "Warren has the lowest activity fee on campus." Well, Warren College also has the second most students of UCSD's six colleges. Since the cost of events like concerts and dances are fixed — why would it cost much more to put on a dance for Warren College's 4,132 students than for Sixth College's 2,783? — it makes sense for Warren College to have the lowest activity fee. Though the per-student contribution is smaller, the total pie is still big.

2. "The fee hasn't increased since it began." OK, the fee was first assessed in 2004. So, in this three-year period of low inflation, how much purchasing power has the council really lost? In that same time period, the UC-wide tuition has grown precipitously and the student government has heavily criticized the increases. Isn't it hypocritical for the same student government to now come back to the trough for more?

3. "Warren Live! should be self-sufficient, in case the A.S. Council someday decides to cut off funding." Warren College students vote in campus-wide elections, and with a fifth of all votes, they certainly have clout to keep the A.S. spigot on. If not, why not wait until the day actually comes to ask for more money? (Also, if the goal is to assure self-sufficiency for the concert, why raise an additional \$16,000 for unrelated programming for the events board and the commuter commis-

sion?)

It sounds like Palay thinks the council has other meritorious funding needs. Isn't it time to stop spending thousands of dollars a year on newspapers that students could get online for free? (If things got really tough, the council could also sell the piano it bought during the spending spree it went on the first year the activity fee largesse rolled in. Or not hold its outrageously expensive council retreat each year, which the *Guardian* has amply documented.)

It may be that Warren College students believe the time has come for them to invest more money in the quality of their college's undergraduate life. But they should do so out of a genuine preference for more programming, and with a specific spending plan, not because of student politicians' scare tactics.

— Vladimir Kogan
Political Science Graduate Student

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For A.S. Council's Funding Habits, the Squeaky Wheel Gets the Grease

► SPIRIT, from page 4

Murillo appeased greedy hands by sponsoring a finance committee bill that increased Triton Tide's funding by \$4,000; \$2,000 to replace money already spent on the original fingers and order new ones, and \$2,000 more for "rush shipping" — and whatever else Payne fancies. This brings the council's contribution to Triton Tide to a total of \$17,400, just \$100 less than last year's allotment. So much for not duplicating funds.

Then on Oct. 17 the council, frivolous and blasé from their unusually large carry-over, approved the bill 13-9-3.

Now regardless of the implication of the shocker, or the appropriateness thereof, the bottom line is that Payne's fiscal irresponsibility and a complete lack of council oversight has forced Triton Tide to throw away \$2,000 of students' money. But rather than being reprimanded like the misbehaving child it is, the group's A.S. Council parent organization gave that spoiled brat a \$2,000 reward.

Forget the initial questions: what could Payne have possibly been thinking when he ordered something so obviously distasteful? And why are student fees being spent on something as useless as foam fingers anyway? We should recognize how telling this event is of the council's spending practices.

Where was the council oversight?

And even more importantly, why does the council continue to fund Triton Tide in the first place? Students are now handing athletics \$3.6 million a year, no strings attached, which

the department has spent on who knows what. The least it could do is pump a few grand into publicizing its own events.

But try to suggest that at a council meeting, and feel the irrational wrath of zealots Payne and All-Campus Senator Meghan Clair, an unwavering Triton Tide ally. Apparently, for the 2007-08 council, it isn't about supporting the decisions that make the most sense; it's about who can yell the loudest and what it takes to shut them up.

Instead of an efficient, logical or even priority-based distribution of funds, the council ... is throwing thousands of dollars around like candy."

Instead of an efficient, logical or even priority-based distribution of funds, the council, under constant pressure from Triton Tide supporters, is throwing thousands of dollars around like candy. And students are suckered into paying more and more, just to see their activity fees wasted.

It's good for Payne: In being completely insufferable, his incompetence was ignored and his beloved Triton Tide was allowed to literally throw away \$2,000 of student fees. Meanwhile, many organizations and student services, which actually affect a far greater number of students than the few that attend athletic games, remain underfunded.

Maybe these starving organizations should learn something from Payne: All it takes for their slice of the carryover pie is to harass chunks of it out of the council.

When asked about Triton Tide and the recent funding allotment, Payne declined to comment.

Spreading Wings Gives Students Needed Clarity

► SATISFACTION, from page 4

difficult to see a world outside the cozy confines of Geisel library, Price Center eateries, themed house parties and our happy moments solving the *Guardian's* sudoku puzzles during class instead of paying attention to our oftentimes-bland lectures on thermodynamics or electromagnetism. We get so embroiled in the unending flurry of papers, midterms, lunch dates and reality television shows, that it's often hard for us to look beyond our day-to-day college experiences and explore the world in its entirety.

For these reasons, it comes as a surprise to many of us that there is a realm outside of our demanding college lives and, yes, even outside of the United States, just waiting to be explored. We may read about it in the newspapers, or catch glimpses of it on the evening news (though many of us would rather watch the latest episode of the *Office* instead), but experiencing it for ourselves firsthand is something completely different, and also completely necessary, if we would like to label ourselves as informed and cultured individuals.

When I finally left San Diego's confines to study abroad in Siena, Italy, I was thrilled to learn what the lands beyond California had to offer. My journey from Rome up through the rolling hills of Tuscany was a learning experience in itself. I knew only a few key phrases in Italian, and finding my way to the train station and asking for directions was a lot harder than I initially thought it would be. Carrying close to 80 pounds of luggage while struggling to translate directions and understand train schedules was stressful. To make matters worse, no one had informed me that single-file lines and common courtesy were not all the rage

in Italy, and that no one will ever feel sorry for you if you fall down an escalator in a busy train station.

For the first time in a long while, I honestly felt incredibly humbled. I knew that I shouldn't have expected to immediately plunge into a completely different world to be easy — but even with my attempts at mental preparation and my trusty Italian phrasebook in hand, coming out of my little college utopia to immerse myself in the Italian culture was a much-needed reality check.

As I stepped outside Fiumicino

We get so embroiled in the unending flurry of papers ... that it's often hard for us to look beyond our day-to-day college experiences."

airport into the humid Roman air, I had a number of harsh realizations: No one around me understood English, or my sad attempts at Italian. Not everyone in Europe was in love with my profoundly American accent or impressed with my Jansport backpack and Chuck Taylors. As a matter of fact, many Italians were just as irritated (if not more so) by my cultural ignorance as Americans are with foreigners who speak poor English and mock our love for ice cubes and big cars.

In a way, it was refreshing to be seen as an ignorant foreigner. I had become so accustomed to being in control of everything back at UCSD, and priding myself on my academic achievements, *Guardian*

articles and my dear posse of friends — but none of those things mattered in Italy. What did matter were my abilities to adapt to Italian culture and my efforts to integrate myself into the country's rich customs and traditions. This process was quite a challenge for me, but in the end, my efforts paid off and I was generously rewarded with a deeper look into the society, politics and the way of life in this beautiful country. If I hadn't been able to put my slightly stubborn, slightly haughty, American-college-student ways aside, I'm certain that my experience in Europe would not have had such a profound effect on my life and I probably wouldn't have learned so much about myself and the world around me.

Experiencing life in Europe and seeing the United States and American college students from an outsider's perspective was an eye opener that can never be experienced within the protective shield of university life. It gave me a genuine idea of culture, world issues and lifestyle, and really changed my perspective on the world, which I thought I had already known so well.

So I challenge the rest of you know-it-all college kids to break out of your safe havens and try seeing yourselves from someone else's perspective instead of from your own glorified points of view. If this means studying abroad, traveling or simply seizing opportunities to try things that you normally wouldn't do, so be it.

One thing is for sure, if we stop kidding ourselves and putting on our pretentious-college-student shows, we can experience situations that will help us learn much more about ourselves and our world than any novel, news program or psychology class could ever hope to teach us.

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STENCILING STUDENTS IN

By Alyssa Bereznak
 FOCUS EDITOR

Most students don't notice, but someone's eyes follow them around campus. Whether it's on their way out of the Cognitive Science building, during their evening jog through John Muir College Commons or on a stroll through Mandeville's concrete hallways, they're being watched.

Not through the lens of a hidden video camera or the peepers of a curious wanderer, but by a simple stenciled eye, discreetly tattooed onto the concrete as a signature image of a graffiti artist.

"[Stencil art] makes things prettier," said one sophomore stencil-graffiti artist who wished to remain anonymous. "An interesting stencil can add something. It's always repeated and it's always the same thing, so it's sort of like a stamp or pop art. It's just a question of decorating the campus in a certain way, and that's how a lot of people choose to do it."

Many students contribute to alternative, on-campus art in the form of stenciling, a type of graffiti that is quicker and tidier than the traditional art form. Spearheaded by a British graffiti artist named Banksy,

See **STENCIL**, page 18



Above: A stencil of a very hungry Jabba the Hut in Eleanor Roosevelt College. Right: A common stencil on campus, the graffitied eye is repeated and recognized. Bottom: One artist used his stencil as commentary on political turmoil in the Middle East.

Proposition 209 Spurs Roundabout Approaches to State's Issues of Diversity.

By Jim Casey • Contributing Writer

In 1996, Proposition 209's affirmative action ban in public institutions left the University of California struggling to maintain its diverse population, but while still adhering to state law. UCSD in particular has dedicated itself to promoting the admission of underrepresented

minorities through outreach programs that encourage black, Latino and Native American students to apply to the university, and if accepted, choose to enroll as a student — a roundabout technique that avoids considering race as a concrete admissions factor within the actual admissions process.

The legislation makes it illegal to consider race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in decisions such as college admissions, business contracts and public-sector jobs.

This issue first helicoptered into the UC system in 1995, when the UC Board of Regents passed a resolution prohibiting admissions committees from employing affirmative action. That same year a conservative movement, spearheaded by then-UC Regent Ward Connerly, placed Proposition 209 on the ballot, which passed by 54 percent.

In the past decade UCSD's undergraduate population has grown by 46 percent. At the same time, there are fewer black and Native American students than before the legislation passed. And while the number of Latino student has nearly doubled, it still constitutes the same percentage as

when Proposition 209 arrived.

Many on campus programs that have developed skirt the proposition's language, promoting diversity without falling under the categorization of affirmative action. These "diversity activities" are programs and organized outreach plans that specifically target historically underrepresented minorities. Statistics show that among minority students admitted to UCSD, the number of those that accept their admissions offer is relatively low, which in turn contributes to the low numbers of such students on campus. For these various diversity-minded groups, one key focus is the increase of "yield" statistics — which is to increase the number of already-admitted minority students who choose to enroll at UCSD.

Associate Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer Jorge Huerta chaired a university-commissioned committee that explored ways to increase "yield," and released report in March 2007. The report detailed some of the diversity activities already in place and proposed others to increase yield figures.

The African American Studies minor and the



Chicano and Latino Arts and Humanities minor are two such programs. But these are only some of the many creative solutions that operate within Proposition 209's restrictions while contributing to the growth of on-campus diversity.

Such yield-boosting diversity activities are helping to increase diversity in the context of state laws that prohibit affirmative action.

"It's about getting out there and doing what's legal, [and] reaching out to the students who wouldn't otherwise have this opportunity," Huerta said.

His office is working on a myriad of programs to increase outreach and awareness, in an attempt to expand racial diversity at UCSD.

"The numbers are really striking when you look at the various groups," Huerta said of UCSD's admissions rates. "It's not a reflection of the population."

Meanwhile, supporters of Proposition 209 argue against affirmative action, as a way to increase diversity in higher education. Connerly, for instance, has remained an ever-vocal critic of affirmative action, and many believe his efforts to be largely responsible for the advent of Proposition 209. Since his term as regent, Connerly has helped to bring about similar measures in public

See **PROP 209**, page 17



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID HARVEY
Top: A participant on the expedition stands two rock towers which stand at the entrance of the desert. Bottom: Children from the village of El Haize gather near a pipe that funnels hot springs into a small pool.

At the hot spring of El Haize, a small valley in the Western Sahara, Osam Ahmed rested against a white brick wall under the thatched stick roof of a makeshift hut. His black and white kaffiya, the traditional headdress of the Bedouin, faded gray shirt and dirty blue jeans reveal — along with an emerging beard and sand-streaked face — that he hasn't bathed or changed clothes for days.

"If you see me with a shower, shaved, with nice clothes, you would say, 'Who is that man?'" he laughed, responding to a guess that he is 30 years old. Born in 1985 in the oasis town of Bahariya, Ahmed has spent his entire life in the desert. For the past five years, he has led tour groups through the Sahara, including our group of American study-abroad students on the weekend of Oct. 6.

Some spots still impress Ahmed. "Welcome to the second planet," he said. At the White Desert's opening, where

Jeeps parked between two cliffs atop a sprawling dune. The group then climbed a hill to get the full panoramic view.

The sand pouring into the valley



Dave in Cairo

dharvey@ucsd.edu

crashes into immense stone monuments, shaped by years of heavy wind.

While some in the group descended, others climbed up the side cliffs and gazed upon the smooth skyscrapers of rock jutting out of the earth below. Tracks in the sand marked where Jeeps had passed between the towers and headed off into the vast expanse of horizon.

Ahmed has been all over Egypt — to the Black and White Deserts, to the Great Sand Sea in far western Egypt and to the Gilf el Kabir in the southwest. He leads groups north to the Siwa and Gara Oases, to the Qattara Depression in the central north and to Fayoum and Giza just outside Cairo. He travels to Frafra and Dakhla Oases in central Egypt and to the southeast Kharga Oasis just west of Luxor.

"In November I am going for 22 days from the White Desert," he said. "We will go by camel. This is a fun trip. It is a good time to be going."

Ahmed never worries about spending long spells in the desert or about getting lost in the endless sands.

"It only happened once," he said. "A group of three Japanese; they drank all night and in the morning [the guide] was not clear, he headed off the wrong

See DESERT, page 17

THE GUARDIAN

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pg. 3, 19 **UCSD EVENTS**

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pg. 9

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ORGANIZING THE ORGANIC REVOLUTION

Responding to the growing concern for sustainability, on-campus eateries look to provide healthier options.

For students who enjoy meals comprised of mass-produced ground beef or greasy Chinese food, Price Center offers a smorgasbord of quick and tasty options that may not provide nourishment but definitely leave students feeling full. But where can those students find something more nutritious, healthy and even fresh? Fortunately, UCSD has an expanding amount of options for students searching for organic foods; it just takes a little invested interest to find them.

Students who shop at Groundwork Books or find themselves lost between John Muir and Revelle Colleges might have found the student-run Food Co-op in Student Center, which provides vegan and vegetarian snacks, along with fresh produce and an organic salad bar. Though it is tucked away in a part of campus that is home to more construction than students, the co-op promotes making educated choices about food, not only for personal health, but also for the world.

"The main thing [about organics] is connecting yourself with the communities that provide you food, not having it appear in a Styrofoam box," Muir College senior and Co-op member Adam Calo said. "People don't understand how their individual choice is important."

By cutting out the use of pesticides, distributing locally and using manual labor in place of machinery, organic growers greatly decrease the environmental impact of their food production. Choices as simple as picking up an organic apple or salad influence the way farmlands and farm workers are treated; the effect goes beyond a singular choice.

"I can use my ability as a consumer to choose products, choose practices I support morally and ethically, and not have food be separate," Calo said. "The world is so dependent on agriculture and how it's done, so to separate your meals from what it's actually doing in the world is a big error."

If Student Center is too remote for students only familiar with the campus' main paths, organic options can also be found in Price Center's Sunshine Store. Bonnie Harmon, the store's manager and developer, surveyed eco-friendly chains such as Whole Foods and Sprouts this summer, and has contacted other major organic vendors to give the campus convenience store a healthier variety of foods in preparation for the Price Center expansion project.

"The [UCSD] community has a responsibility to the students on campus to provide them with an environment where they are able to make choices that are healthy

The main thing ... is connecting yourself to the food, not having it appear in a Styrofoam box."

— Adam Calo, John Muir College senior and Food Co-op Member

for themselves," Harmon said. "... I feel responsible for making sure [healthy] options are there."

Though the current selection of organic products is limited, the Sunshine Store will be expanding in February 2008 to become the Sunshine Market, which will not only include not only an organic section, but an international section also. Though the store is growing and will be providing more options, Harmon wants to remain appealing to budget-minded students.

"One thing I want the students to know they can count on at the Sunshine Store is good value," Harmon said.

Harmon also spearheads the farmer's market, another convenient organic option located on Library

Walk and Lyman Lane near the Chancellor's Complex, every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I have seen a revolution brewing ... students are very knowledgeable about what they want to eat, what they want to put into their bodies and what they expect that food to provide for their bodies," Harmon said. "That's why we brought the farmer's market on campus."

The market is currently in its fourth season of operation and has a wide variety of healthy, fresh and organic foods. Vendors representing certified organic growers such as Budwood Farms and Smit Orchards frequent the campus market and also participate in other markets throughout San Diego County.

"[UCSD] is a great place to be selling organic food because fruit isn't something that needs to be prepared," Smit Orchards vendor and UCSD alumnus Matthew Smit said. "You can eat it right away or put it in your fridge ... so [for] students, it's a fantastic thing."

Like most certified organic vendors, the price of Smit produce tends to be more expensive than their non-organic counterparts. However, the increase in price not only accounts for the food quality, but also environmental benefits and labor consciousness.

"[Organic farmers] are growing the products and taking the extra steps to make a really healthy and tasty product; we're not trying to just make as much as possible, grow as much as possible and sell as much as possible," Smit said. "So, because of that, organic farmers tend to be a little more conscious about [their workers] ... [Organic food] is coming straight from the farm to the customer."

Along with Smit, returning vendor Larry Nedeu of Budwood Farms can be found among the vegetable and fruit-laden tables at the farmer's market, selling organic produce to UCSD students. Both Smit and

See **ORGANIC**, page 16



PHOTOS BY ERIC ROUNDS/GUARDIAN
Above: Fresh fruit sold at the Food Co-op comes from local farmers who practice eco-friendly farming methods and avoid using chemicals for growing or weeding purposes.
From Left to Right: Traditionally, the Food Co-op has been the main vendor of organic products, however dining halls and the Sunshine Store have recently welcomed organic products, such as teas, into their product lines. Additionally, coffee carts around campus offer organic options which are also Fair Trade Certified.

By Daniela Kent • Contributing Writer

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PHOTOS BY WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

Price Center Goes Under Fire as Mobbers Imitate a Popular Commerical

On Oct. 19, Sixth College sophomore Juan Vasquez and Thurgood Marshall College sophomore Yuki Murakami (pictured left) aimed their index fingers at one another, their thumbs pointed toward the sky, ready to fire — hundreds followed their lead. Then, Vasquez yelled, "Bang!" and TritonMob madness ensued. Participants on all ends of Price Center aimed mock pistols at other shooters, while imitating gun shots and grenade explosions. "Injured" mobbers began to fall, and within 60 seconds, the event was over.

Inspired by a banned X-Box commercial, the flash mob was the first from the unofficial TritonMob group, a Facebook.com phenomenon that has united students for the simple purpose of holding huge, random gatherings, such as pillow fights or red-light-green-light games, around campus.



G

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Vendors Adopt an Eco-Friendly Strategy

► ORGANIC, from page 14

Nedeu are certified organic vendors and have dealt with copious amounts of paperwork and high expenses to continue sustainable farming. Nedeu has been farming organically for 12 years, working manually without the assistance of tractors or any heavy machinery. Weeding proves to be especially tough for organic farmers that either deal with the problem themselves or have to hire assistants. However, the extra work goes a long way on a grander scale: The food is more nutritious and the land isn't left ravaged by pesticides or heavy machinery.

"It's all about improving the land, not just taking from it like conventional farming," Nedeu said.

These environmentally friendly techniques are evident in the food's appearance.

"We have some really great-looking produce and that just comes from putting in the effort to do it right," Smit said.

For students dedicated to the standard meal-point system, Housing and Dining Services has also introduced organic food to its cuisine. With dining halls such as Foodworx, Sierra Summit and Cafe Ventanas offering organic teas, coffees, yogurts and soups, students can also make healthier choices while still being able to rely on the money allotted to their meal-point plans.

Steve Casad, the director of Dining, Retail and Conference Services, has made a conscious effort to provide organic options, especially for students who live in apartments.

"There is an increasing organic line at Earl's Place," Casad said. "We want to make sure there is an array of organic choices for students to take back to their rooms to prepare."

At on-campus dining halls, organic foods have become ingredients in many of the entrees that dining halls produce, due to the recent addition of a culinary director and dietitian to the staff. The culinary director and dietitian work together to formulate recipes that appear in all of the campus dining halls, and focus on attaining a uniform standard of high quality taste and nutrition.

"It is our responsibility to take care of the students and offer healthy and nutritious meals," Casad said.

While the staff at Housing and Dining Services and other on-campus eateries is looking to expand the selection of organic food, at the end of the day, the choices and students' desires will determine whether organic options are expanded.

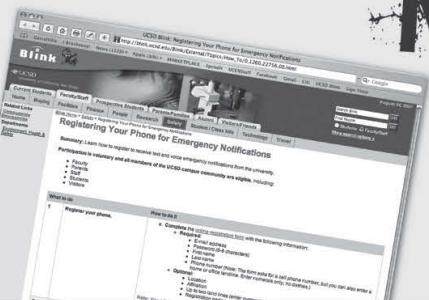
"[What we serve] is based on the masses," Casad said. "The organic, health conscious, environmentally and labor friendly options are out there, and have the potential to expand — the choice is up to you."

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A Picnic on the Dunes, Below Mountains of Sand



Left: Children from the village of El Haize pose for a photo in front of the sand dunes of the desert. **Right:** Just before sunset, a fellow participant of the expedition walks across the rocks of the white desert.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID HARVEY/GUARDIAN

► DESERT, from page 13

way. We know this man is supposed to be back, so when he doesn't show everyone gets their Jeeps and goes out. We found one man, he was far from the others and he led us to them. It happens, but never to me."

Outside the hut in El Haize, several trucks pulled into a dirt lot. They were newer than those of Ahmed Safari Camp, the tour and hotel management group run by the Ahmed family, and no gear was strapped to the roofs. The Ahmed family's three Jeeps hauled stacks of sleeping mats, sleeping bags, oriental rugs, low-lying tables and firewood — all the luxuries of a desert camp.

The other tour group, made of two families, climbed out of their air-conditioned trucks and gathered around the hot-spring pool while Ahmed, his three fellow guides and 14 student tourists rested in the hut's shade. The 3-foot deep, 8-by-12 con-

crete pool is filled by the pressure of the spring fed through a large black pipe, spilling its water into an aqueduct and through the middle of the hut, finally draining into the gardens behind.

An hour earlier, Ahmed had swum in the pool. The desert guides dunked their tourists under the water and splashed around beneath the desert sun. The silky, light blue water filled up with disturbed slick sludge from the pool walls.

Children from the quiet, rustic village nearby gathered to swim, play and fill water bottles in the spring as the second tour group departed. When approached, they smiled and

put up their thumbs. They asked for money and then, giving up the pursuit of cash, asked for pens.

Ahmed grew up in the desert, living a life similar to the children at the pool. He now leads safaris among the soft bleached rocks of the White Desert, the jagged mushroom-shaped stones and waves of clay resembling wind-blown sand. He finds home's comforts

in the echoing silence of the desert night. The environment practically raised Ahmed; he never received an education beyond what the desert has provided him.

Resting under their shelter of reeds and thatched sticks, the

American students consulted guidebooks and discussed future weekend travels to Turkey, Jordan and Greece. Chatting about Egypt, the previous night spent in the Sahara dunes and the luxuries of home, we rested and waited for our meal.

Alongside the trickling water of the shelter's aqueduct, we dined on warm pita bread, platters of grapes and a freshly made tuna salad chopped with tomatoes and onions. After the meal and another round of lounging, Ahmed called out to the group, "Yalla" or "let's go" in Egyptian Arabic.

The Jeeps pulled out from the hot spring and drove past the kids of El Haize, who waved from the side of the road, saying goodbye to another group of tourists on their way to a camp in the midst of the "second planet."

For this writer's column page, visit www.ucsdguardian.org.

California Law Still Debated

► PROP. 209, from page 12
universities in Washington, Michigan and Florida.

Connelly contends that using affirmative action in college admissions hurts students of underrepresented ethnicities. He believes that affirmative action sends a negative message to high-achieving minority students that they need an extra boost in order to be admitted to college.

According to Huerta, historically underrepresented minority students are even disadvantaged long before the admissions process, as they often compete against students from more

They don't have the same privileges, they don't have the same opportunities."

— Jorge Huerta, Associate Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer

affluent high schools that usually sponsor more advanced placement, honors and college-preparatory classes. This contributes to recent downward admissions and enrollment trends for underrepresented minority students at UCSD.

"They don't have the same privileges, they don't have the same opportunities," Huerta said.

However, Huerta remains hopeful that his office can sponsor programs to increase UCSD's overall diversity.

"We're looking for excellence and equity," he said.



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Graffiti Artists Create Close Student Community

► STENCIL, from page 12

stencil graffiti has become increasingly popular in the last decade due to its low risk and appealing aesthetics.

The basic process of a stencil starts when the artist chooses an image and creates a dual-tonal pattern with a computer program such as Photoshop. The artist massages the photo until it's fit to print, then laminates and razors it. Artists can also create more complex multi-layered stencils, which allow for numerous colors within one piece. The final product is an idiosyncratic graphic that can take only a few seconds to spray on a wall, a definite plus for those wary of the law.

"If you're fast you can do it in 10 seconds," the artist said. "That's the appeal of it, that's why it became popular in the first place, because the difference between putting up a huge piece in half a minute and putting up a huge piece in 10 minutes is, you know, you're arrested."

UCSD's official art pieces consist of Stuart Collection pieces like the "Two Running Violet V Forms" (better known as the giraffe catchers), but graffiti artists view creative student areas such as the Mandeville graffiti stairway and the Che Cafe as underappreciated and divided from the rest of the campus.

"UCSD has a really great visual arts department, and it's really supported," the artist said. "Maybe if it were to be more integrated with the rest of the campus, rather than just held in Mandeville, that would be better. Right now it's crammed down in the bottom of a stairway and it's sort of isolated."

In addition to confining the location for artistic student expression, campus officials have recently started painting over graffiti outside

of Mandeville Hall, placing discouraging signs nearby the area and regulating students like Muir College senior and stencil artist Ji-San Lee.

"Being able to paint freely and not have to worry about doing something illegal is great," Lee said. "But recently I tried painting [at Mandeville Hall], and some guy told me I couldn't."

According to Lee, the university's unwelcoming attitude is due to a general misunderstanding of the art form.

"I skate and stencil and there are a lot of faculty members that see painting on the wall or skating and they're frustrated," Lee said. "But a college campus shouldn't be such a rigid environment. With stencils, it's not like we're having gang wars. I think it gives the campus more culture and more diversity, besides having concrete everywhere."

Just as stenciling contributes to a campus' look, it also builds a more cohesive population at UCSD.

"It creates a community, like the Mandeville wall is itself a community," the anonymous artist said. "Not that everyone who does graffiti knows each other that well, but it's more like the art itself. Eventually it's transient, it's going to be gone the next day, so if you can put something up that's really good that people really like, they won't take it down and maybe you'll see it in their styles later which, in a way, makes it so your art is still existing."

Whether or not the university actively supports the stenciling student movement, artists on campus can't help but pencil themselves into the campus agenda.

"Seeing your work around campus is like being in a museum and looking at your painting," Lee said. "It's a hard feeling to beat."

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No. 20 UCSD Tops Warriors and Upsets Wildcats Over Weekend

► VOLLEYBALL, from page 24

their thrashing of Cal State Stanislaus. The Warriors would take the first advantage in game one as UCSD got off to a slow start. Down by one, the Tritons went on a six-point run to take a 25-19 lead and eventually took the game.

Fired up after squeaking out game one, the Tritons blazed to a 6-1 lead early and then stretched the margin to nine at 20-11. The Warriors didn't have an answer for the robust Triton offense on the night, as UCSD was relentless and put down 14 kills in the game to take the win.

Down early in game three, senior opposite Amber Ries powered the Tritons to a 12-7 lead on a monster smash over a Warrior block. UCSD stretched the lead to nine on a pair of kills by junior outside hitter Kimberley Carpenter. Cal State Stanislaus made things interesting in the later stages, closing the gap to 26-23. But the team couldn't pull off the comeback and the Tritons finished off the Warriors 30-25.

Despite the victory, Black was frustrated with the team's slow start.

"I think we came out a little sluggish," Black said. "We know we can't do that and really need to improve there."

Oct. 20 was a different tale. Unlike Cal State Stanislaus, who hasn't beaten UCSD since 2002, the Wildcats from Chico downed the Tritons in the open-

ing weeks of conference play. With revenge in mind, UCSD played consistent and tough volleyball in a well-contested match.

The Tritons cruised in game one by opening a 17-11 lead in front of 979 rowdy fans. They wouldn't be tested the rest of the game, taking the win on an explosive Bailey kill.

In game two, Chico State rebounded, speeding out to a 16-9 advantage. The Tritons regained form after the disappointing start, slowly closing the gap. UCSD took advantage of each service opportunity while down, going on several small runs that helped tie up the match at 23-23.

Black said he enjoyed seeing his squad dig itself out of a hole and catch up to the Wildcats.

"The comeback was really fun to watch," Black said. "We called the timeout and knew all we had to do was get on some service runs and that's exactly what we did. It was really impressive."

The Wildcats showed the maturity of a battle-tested team, edging out a 29-28 lead. However, Bailey denied Chico State's game point with a kill, and sophomore middle blocker Sylvia Schmidt added an ace to take a 30-29 advantage. Junior middle blocker Hannah Gary then threw down the final point for UCSD.

According to Bailey, Gary's joust to finish game two capped a spectacular team effort that was heightened by the

swarming Triton Tide.

"We've really been focusing on the task at hand and playing for the next point," Bailey said. "We just chipped away and chipped away and did it well last night. But we couldn't have done it without that crowd. They really gave us energy."

Junior defensive specialist Michelle Torres picked apart the Wildcats from the service line in game three, and her presence at the game was a pleasant surprise according to Black.

"Michelle had some bad milk earlier and was sick," he said. "She drove in a half hour before the game and warmed up and played spectacular. It was a really gutsy performance."

Up 15-10 after a Schmidt kill, Torres continued to put pressure on Chico State with aggressive serving, extending the lead to 18-10.

The Wildcats continued to play tough, but it just wasn't enough on a night where UCSD totaled 46 kills and nine aces as a team.

"It was probably one of the best nights of my career," Bailey said. "We came together and played together and were extremely loud on the sidelines. Everyone wanted it and the big win is a booster heading into next week."

The Tritons hope to extend their five-game winning streak against Cal Poly Pomona and No. 2 Cal State San Bernardino on Oct. 26 and Oct. 27, respectively.



SANH LUONG/GUARDIAN

Senior outside hitter Casey Wilson helped the Tritons to two straight set wins, totaling 16 kills, 14 digs and three aces in UCSD wins over Cal State Stanislaus and Chico State on Oct. 19 and Oct. 20, respectively.

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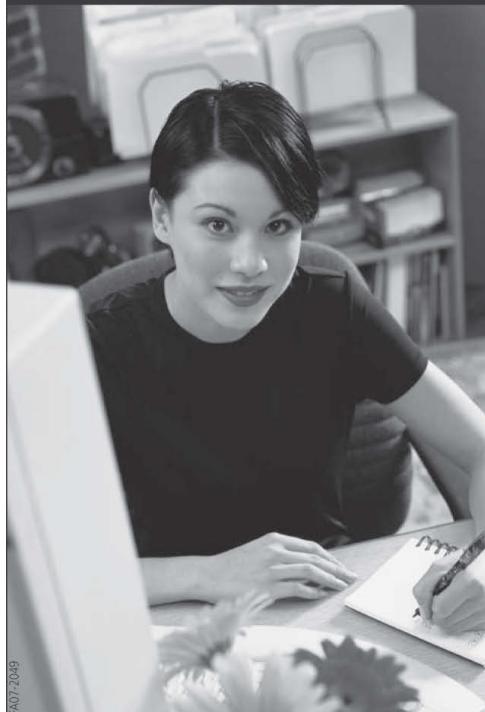
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Two Home Games Left Before Playoffs

► SOCCER, from page 24

5-foot-10-inches [tall] or 5-foot-11-inches and I'm 5-foot-3-inches, so we couldn't get to those balls."

Despite two recent losses, the Tritons are not pressing and taking their season one game at a time.

"We're not starting to crack and we're not losing our composure," Pepper said. "Sometimes you just have those losses. You have those games where you knew you could win, it's just putting it together from the back all the way to the front. We're a really strong team mentally so it's just going to come down to us coming together and showing we can win."

The Tritons realize that they cannot continue their style of play if they hope to play deep into the postseason.

"I think it's getting harder to get away with playing this poorly," Campbell said. "We can't play like this in the postseason. We're good at making the [California Collegiate Athletic Association] league championships but there is no way get away with this in the NCAAs. We'll regroup and play like we know how."

Sunday's win will hopefully get the Tritons back on track for their last two regular season games so they can head into the postseason with some momentum. On Oct. 26, UCSD will take on Cal State San Bernardino at home.

No. 14 Tritons Can't Score Overtime Goal to Upset UCD

► WATER POLO, from page 24

The Tritons scored on their own 6-on-5 opportunity during the ensuing possession with sophomore two-meter Daniel Garcia scoring from the deep wing to cut the UC Davis lead to 3-2. With one minute left in the half, the Aggies added another goal to grab a 4-2 lead at halftime.

The Tritons came out strong in the second half, scoring on another counterattack goal from Vermilyea in the first minute. UCSD continued its strong defense and was able to keep UC Davis scoreless in the quarter by forcing several turnovers. With two minutes left in the third quarter, senior driver Curtis Williamson tied the game with a goal from the flat to even the score at 4-4.

Sophomore utility Peter Gresham said that the Tritons' consistent effort throughout the game allowed them to pull close to the Aggies.

"We had a lot of intensity and we kept it going throughout the entire game," Gresham said. "We played together as a team."

The teams continued their tight back-and-forth play throughout the fourth quarter. Garcia, sophomore two-meter defender Steven Donohoe and senior driver Benjamin Miller added goals for the Tritons to make the score 7-6 with less than two minutes left in the quarter. With 1:41 left in regulation, UC Davis senior utility Nick Arrigo scored the tying goal to send the game into overtime.

Defense was, once again, the main focus in the first three-minute overtime period. The Tritons and Aggies had one 6-on-5 opportu-

nity apiece, but both were unable to score. With 14 seconds left in the period, UC Davis scored a goal from the deep wing to take an 8-7 lead.

The Aggies scored another quick goal in the second overtime period for a two-goal lead. Williamson responded by scoring with 54 seconds left in the period to close within one of the Aggies. UCSD got the ball back with 36 seconds remaining, but was unable to convert.

Despite the loss, the game was the Tritons' best showing against UC Davis this season. UCSD faced UC Davis twice early in its 2007 season, resulting in losses for the Tritons with scores of 11-7 and 13-7 in regulation.

Harper said that his squad is improving and has met his expectations.

"This season has gone just the way I predicted," Harper said. "We'll get better and I don't think Davis will... UC Davis has been the frontrunner in our conference and we nearly knocked them off."

The Tritons will travel to UC Irvine to face the No. 9 Anteaters on Oct. 26, and will face No. 7 Loyola Marymount University on Oct. 27. Since UC Irvine is not in the Western Water Polo Association, UCSD plans to use the game against the Anteaters to get ready for the WWPA championships coming up on Nov. 16 through 18. The Tritons are looking to defend the WWPA title that they won last year over Loyola Marymount University.

"We're right there with five or six teams that could win the conference title," Harper said. "I like where we're at right now."



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

Senior driver Curtis Williamson scored two goals, including the last the Tritons could muster with 58 seconds left in overtime, but No. 14 UCSD fell to No. 10 UC Davis at home on Oct. 19.



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ON CAMPUS
Wednesday, October 24

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Playoffs a Possibility After Draw



Junior midfielder Zachary Migdal splits two Cal State Stanislaus defenders, but both team's defenses prevailed as the Oct. 21 game ended in a 1-1 draw.

By Joo Yoon
STAFF WRITER

The UCSD men's soccer team started its season with an abysmal record of 2-9-2, but has since doubled that win total in its past three games. The Tritons posted their first consecutive wins of the season by shutting out Cal State Los Angeles 1-0 on Oct. 12 and outlasting Chico State in overtime by a score of 2-1 on Oct. 19. The team continued its win streak on Oct. 21 by playing to a draw against another conference opponent in Cal State Stanislaus, keeping its playoff chances alive. The tie improved the team's overall record to 4-9-3 and 3-6-3 in California Collegiate Athletic Association play.

Interim head coach Paul Holohan had nothing but praise for his resurgent team.

"The team is doing very well at the moment," he said. "[The players'] effort and commitment to what they're doing is tremendous. The players are all playing for me ... and as a coach, I can't ask for any more."

The Tritons got their fourth win of the season when they defeated Chico State in a double overtime thriller. Having been held in check for the entire game and down 0-1 with about two minutes left, junior forward Jason Le scored the equalizer in the 88th minute from an assist by senior midfielder Joe Shah.

Shah said that with only minutes to play, he was looking to create any opportunity for the Tritons.

"I saw my options and something opened up on the side," he said. "[Le] was running on the side and I yelled at him to shoot. It was great."

After nearly two scoreless overtime periods both teams seemed resigned to a 1-1 draw. However, the Tritons ramped up their attack with less than two minutes to play and their pressure earned them a corner kick. Le took corner and sent a ball into the penalty box, where both Tritons and Wildcats swarmed around the ball to fight for possession. Somewhere in the scramble, sophomore midfielder Tony Choi managed to knock the ball in for the game winner. The goal was inter-

estingly reminiscent of last year's match against Chico State in which Choi also scored the goal with only minutes to spare in double overtime.

The team carried the momentum from the win into its match against Cal State Stanislaus in its second game of the weekend and was able to play to a 1-1 tie. Choi once again was able to bring the Tritons back from a one-point deficit in the 59th minute after freshman defender Brandon Yee found Choi with a perfect lead pass.

Despite playing a solid 110 minutes, the Tritons bemoaned many lost opportunities throughout the game.

"We should have won [earlier]," senior defender Josh Levy said. "We had so many chances it was ridiculous."

While it was good to get the tie and keep the team's playoff hopes alive, the Tritons lost Le for the rest of the season after he collided with a Stanislaus player and broke his leg in two places, resulting in a compound fracture. Choi was upset about Le's gruesome injury but was ready to take on the extra offensive pressure.

"I was right there when it happened to him," he said. "I was pretty shocked. During the 30 minutes I was sitting on the bench and thinking I have to pick it up now. I guess I'm just going to have to play extra hard and fill in a little bit for [Le]."

Holohan expressed sadness for Le's injury but emphasized that the season must go on.

"Losing Jason Le is a big blow," he said. "He's a very good player and any team would miss him, but unfortunately these things happen in sports and we just have to move on. He's a part of this team. It's an unfortunate thing to happen but we'll look after Jason. We'll just hope we'll have him back for next year."

Despite the loss of Le, the fact that the offense seems to be revitalized cannot be overlooked. Choi explained that a large part of the team's recent offensive production has been the increasing level of comfort that the players have with each other.

"I think it's just because we have a new group of guys and we finally know how all of us play," he said. "We're just clicking and team chemistry is getting better."

Levy did not give a reason for the offensive surge but said he was delighted to see the team perform better.

"We've done a lot better as it shows," Levy said. "We're scoring goals and having tons of opportunities. It's another day and another fight."

Despite the successful weekend, the Tritons still only have an outside shot to make the playoffs. Shah said that the team knew its situation and that the squad had to be perfect to have any chance of extending its season to November.

"We knew what we had to do," Shah said. "We knew straight up that we had to win. Everyone is picking everyone else up. Any loose balls, we know as a team that we all have to go for it not as an individual. We don't care who it is we just know that we have to be there. The team is getting together and making a big final push for the end of the season."

Since taking over the team after the sudden retirement of former head coach Derek Armstrong, Holohan has done a spectacular job keeping the team focused and still in playoff contention. His record is now 3-3-2; though just a .500 mark, his team's play of late has been very impressive compared to the team's performance before he took over.

Choi has appreciated the job Holohan has done since taking over.

"[Holohann] has done a great job with us," he said. "He gets us motivated and gets us pumped up in the game. He's been very good getting the team organized and it's been coming together."

Holohan expressed hope that he would be able to stay on as the team's head coach, speaking glowingly of the team and the players.

"I want to do the job," Holohan said. "I love coaching the boys. We've got a young team and I'd like to continue and hopefully grow together as a team."

Duo Dominates National Competition

► **TENNIS**, from page 24 together again and improve on that ranking."

With their tournament victories, Rubens and Meister will almost assuredly land as the top men's doubles team in Division II when the rankings come out early next month.

Bijan Moallemi also took part in the ITA National Championships as UCSD's sole singles player. Moallemi lost his first round match 7-5, 6-1

to top-seeded Stefan Borg of Drury University in Springfield, Mo., but rebounded to win the consolation bracket and fifth place with two hard-fought victories. The first was a come-from-behind victory over Robert Jendeleund of Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Ga., by a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 score, and was followed by a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 win over William Jacome of the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

From Oct. 26 to Oct. 28 the top four players on the men's tennis team will travel to Berkeley to participate in the Chandler Cup, a competition that will also feature Division I competition. While Rubens and Meister will head to Ohio after the Chandler Cup, the rest of the UCSD squad will compete in the annual Southern California Intercollegiate Tournament in Los Angeles from Oct. 31 to Nov. 4.

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Win Streak Lifts UCSD into Second

By Matt Croskey
STAFF WRITER

It seems that the UCSD women's volleyball team has finally found its groove. After struggling to achieve any kind of consistent play through the first half of the season, the Tritons are at last playing nearly at their peak.

Guided by resilient defense and a powerful offense, the No. 20 Tritons swept their two weekend matches, dominating Cal State Stanislaus 30-24, 30-26, 30-25 on Oct. 19 followed by a stellar performance the next day with a 30-25, 31-29, 30-27 win over No. 19 Chico State. With the victories, UCSD boosted its record to 15-6 overall — and more importantly, took over a share of second place in the California Collegiate Athletic Association with a league record of 9-4.

Head coach Tom Black said that he feels that the players haven't quite reached their highest level but are progressing.

"We're on our way to reaching our peak and last night was a big step," he said. "Hopefully we reach that peak in the final games of conference play and into playoffs."

On a busy athletics night at UCSD on Oct. 19, the Tritons didn't disappoint the loyal fans that came to watch

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page 21

No. 16 Tritons Topple CCAA Foe



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

Five-foot-6-inch senior midfielder Chelsey Campbell had a hard time shooting over the tall Chico State defenders on Oct. 19, but she assisted on a header for a goal in a 4-0 win over Cal State Stanislaus on Oct. 21.

By Jake Blanc
STAFF WRITER

Just as the San Diego sun set over Triton Soccer Field early on Oct. 19, the UCSD women's soccer team made one last futile attempt to push the ball toward the Chico State goal, hoping for an equalizing goal to send the game into overtime. As was the pattern all game long, the Tritons just could not penetrate the Chico State defense and fell victim to the Wildcats, 1-0, for their second straight home loss.

With only three games left in the regular season, UCSD proved that its aspirations of a national championship are not unfounded by bouncing back on Oct. 21 with a resounding 4-0 win over Cal State Stanislaus. The game was accentuated by an overpowering Triton offense that scored three first-half goals and dominated the time of possession.

The recent UCSD losses have coincided with an expanding injured-reserve list. The makeshift lineup has been doing its best to step in, and the Triton bench has performed admirably.

"We've been missing a couple of starters due to injuries lately and that has been really hard on us," senior midfielder Chelsey Campbell said. "[Junior] Amanda Esquivel and [senior] Stacy Johnson are our two outside defenders, so right now we're missing two out of our three defenders and that's hard to overcome. Stacy has been out for almost a month but we're looking to get her

back next Friday, so that should be a big lift."

The first 30 minutes of Friday's game saw UCSD and Chico State trading offensive drives that fell short. Each team had opportunities, especially from corner kicks, but was unable to capitalize.

"We didn't have some luck behind us versus Chico [State]," senior defender Nicole Pepper said. "We had opportunities but we didn't have that extra oomph that we needed. Sometimes we have dry spells. It happens in soccer and sometimes the best team doesn't win."

In the 31st minute when the Triton defense was trying to clear the ball, a UCSD turnover deflects the ball back into Wildcat possession in front of the goal, and Chico State forward Melissa Lindsay was able to beat junior goalkeeper Jessica McGovern with a low, hard shot that was just beyond the reach of McGovern's dive. The goal proved to be the game-winner, as neither team was able to score again.

UCSD simply could not penetrate Chico State's unusually tall defense the rest of the game, managing only five shots on goal. For a Triton team not known for its height, the obstacle of four tall Wildcats blocking the goal was too much to overcome.

"We never really got to connecting good passes and getting good plays together so we ended up having the midfielders playing the ball up in the air," senior midfielder Ali Lai said. "Their entire back line was at least

See **SOCER**, page 22

TOP MEN'S TENNIS PAIR WINS D-II DOUBLES TITLE

By Neil Joshi
STAFF WRITER

Seniors Blake Meister and Eric Rubens are used to success as a doubles team, coming off a 19-4 season and school-best Final Four finish a year ago. The Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Americans trekked to Mobile, Ala. and continued the success, taking home some heavy hardware during the ITA National Championships, a prestigious tennis showcase that took place from Oct. 11 to Oct. 14.

To begin their unprecedented run, the duo claimed the Division II Men's Doubles title, and then won the ITA Super Bowl of Small College Tennis two days later, completing an impressive weekend. The win clinched a spot in the ITA Division I Indoor Championships at Ohio State University from Nov. 1 to Nov. 4, a tournament where the Triton combo will be the only Division II representative in the draw.

The doubles team had to win all five of its matches over the four days to earn a spot at the exclusive Division I tournament and according to Meister, he and Rubens were running on all cylinders.

"We played great the entire tournament," Meister said. "We had to because there were some pretty close matches."

In the D-II tournament, Rubens and Meister took out their first round opponents, Joerg Ekkenga and Leos Jelinek of Valdosta State, by a score of 7-6 (6), 7-6 (7). The win was especially satisfying because it was Valdosta State that took down UCSD in the Final Four of the Division II Team Tournament last season.

Following that victory, the Tritons' top doubles pair defeated Ryan Hudson and Juan Nunez of Abilene Christian

University of Abilene, Texas, 7-5, 7-5, to put themselves in the finals. In the championship match, the top-seeded doubles team took home their first title by getting past Dagoberto Darezzo and Edward Horne of the University of South Carolina-Aiken. The 7-6 (2), 6-3, 10-8 victory was "a match we definitely could have lost," Meister said. Blake added, "Eric came up huge during the late stages of the match, hitting a big serve at 8-8, then a great return at 9-8 to clinch the win for us."

As champions of the Division II Doubles tournament, Rubens and Mesiter were automatically drawn into the ITA Super Bowl of Small College Tennis where the doubles champions from Division II, III, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and junior colleges came together with a spot at the Division I Indoors on the line. First, UCSD's top doubles team faced the Division III champs, Filip Marinkovic and Andrew Thompson from Middlebury College in Vermont, and came out on top with a 6-3, 3-6, 10-3 victory. Rubens and Meister were able to win their second trophy of the trip with a 7-6 (6), 7-5 win over the Fresno Pacific University team of Matt Carroll and Vicente Joli.

Rubens and Meister ended last season as the nation's fourth best doubles team, according to the Fila collegiate tennis rankings. They are determined to improve on that standing, having already beaten one of the teams that finished ahead of them last year.

Meister has enjoyed his opportunity to play alongside Rubens and hopes the pair's cohesion can propel them toward a better finish than last year.

"Last year, it was awesome to finish fourth," Meister said. "But as seniors we relish the chance to play

See **TENNIS**, page 23

UC Davis Drowns UCSD in OT



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

By Janani Sridharan
STAFF WRITER

The UCSD men's water polo season has been filled with close losses at home, and the game against No. 10 UC Davis on Oct. 19 was no exception. The No. 14 Tritons fought hard against the Aggies but came up just short, falling 9-8 in overtime. The loss gives the team a 10-12 season record. And with high-ranked opponents looming in their upcoming contests, bringing their record to an even .500 will be a challenge for the Tritons.

The first quarter of the game against UC Davis was more of a swim meet than a water polo game,

with numerous turnovers and neither team having much success putting the ball in the goal. UC Davis scored first on a goal from its two meter, but junior driver Chance Vermilyea answered back for UCSD with a lob goal off of the Tritons' counterattack, evening the score at 1-1.

Defense took over the game early, as both teams were quick enough to crash the two-meters without committing to a drop. The Tritons also had success on their man-down defense as they were able to stop UC Davis on its three 6-on-5 opportunities with a few field blocks and a good stop from freshman goalkeeper Mark Stemler.

Head coach Denny Harper had

some rare praise for Stemler and freshman goalkeeper Adam Rule, who split playing time against the Aggies.

"One problem we've had all season is consistently poor play from our goalies," head coach Denny Harper said. "But Stemler and Rule played really well this game. They were outstanding."

The opening minutes of the second quarter were much like the first quarter's play, as both teams were held scoreless. With 4:35 left in the half, UC Davis opened up the scoring on a counterattack goal and added another goal shortly after on a 6-on-5

See **WATER POLO**, page 22



GUARDIAN CAMPUS CALENDAR

ucsdguardian.org/campuscalendar.html WEEK OF OCT. 22-28

MON OCT 22

CAREER

Employer Info Session: Progressive Insurance - The Career Services Center's On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from Progressive Insurance, a Fortune 500(r) company and the third-largest provider of personal auto insurance in the U.S. with openings for all majors. 11:30am-12:30pm and 5-6:30pm at Career Services Center Conference Room.

Employer Info Session: Enterprise Rent-A-Car - Meet reps from Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the largest rental car company in the U.S., specializing in the hometown rental market with openings for all majors. 5-6:30pm at Career Services Center Horizon Room.

Employer Info Session: Schlumberger - Check into opportunities with Schlumberger, the leading oilfield services provider for oil and gas companies around the world, with openings in engineering and computer science. 7:30-9pm at Career Services Center Horizon Room.

Employer Info Session: Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard - Meet reps from Pearl Harbor Shipyard. This is a formal, two-year paid internship with the Department of the Navy. The selectee will develop skills designed to prepare them for professional engineering openings. 7:30-9pm at Career Services Center Conference Room.

RECREATION

Roma Nights presents Cory French, 8pm at Espresso Roma in the Price Center Food Court, free.

TUES OCT 23

ACADEMIC

Programs Abroad Expo - Don't miss UCSD's annual Study-Work-Intern Abroad Information Fair! The Programs Abroad EXPO is only once a year and offers an array of opportunities open to students of all majors. Meet representatives from over 70 programs, and see the ad in today's Guardian on page 15. 10am-3pm on Library Walk.

CAREER

Employer Info Session: Farmers Insurance - The Career Services Center's On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from Farmers Insurance, a widely respected company with over 75 years of experience. This insurance and financial services organization will discuss openings for math, economics and management science majors. 5-7:30pm at Career Services Center Conference Room.

Employer Info Session: Jet Propulsion Laboratory - The Career Services Center's On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a division of the California Institute of Technology and lead research and development center for NASA. Openings are available for electrical, computer engineering and computer science majors. 7:30-9pm at Career Services Center Horizon Room.

Are You a Grad Student? Have You Ever Thought About a Career in Law? Get the scoop on law school admissions, on-campus resources and hear from a local attorney who completed his grad degree at UCSD! Free food included! Presented by Student Legal Services, Career Services, and UCSD Alumni Association's Career Access Network. 5pm at PC Davis/Riverside.

RECREATION

Gracie Film Screening - Women's Center and Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Policy presents Gracie, a film about a teenager who faces an uphill

battle when she fights to give women the opportunity to play competitive soccer. Inspired by a true story. 6-8pm at Price Center Theatre, Free.

WED OCT 24

CAREER

Employer Info Session: FactSet Research Systems Inc. - The Career Services Center's On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from FactSet Research, a major supplier of online integrated financial and economic information to the investment management and banking industries. Recently ranked #12 on Forbes Best Small Companies in America list, FactSet offers openings in computer science, computer engineering, math, economics and management science. 7:30-9pm at Career Services Center Conference Room.

ARTS

UCSD Department of Music presents contrabassist Han Han Cho, who performs her second DMA degree concert featuring solo and chamber pieces including Prokofiev's Quintet op. 39 and featuring János Négyesy (violin), Päivikki Nykter (violin), Robert Zelickman (clarinet), Susan Barrett (oboe) and Geoffrey Gartner (cello). 8pm at Mandeville Recital Hall, Free.

Guest Poet Kenton performs at 6pm in Perk's at Price Center, Free.

LECTURE

Guest Professor Jim Hollan gives a lecture on computer science. Free pizza and drinks included. 11am at PC Davis/Riverside, Free.

Are you interested in U.S.-Mexico relations? Distinguished author Dr. Clemente Ruiz, an economist from UNAM will be discussing his latest book, North America Labor Market Integration. It will be a video conference in Spanish transmitted from El Colegio de la Frontera Norte. 3:30pm at the Super Computer Center, Room 462.

HEALTH

HIV/AIDS Discrimination Presentation - Hear what the law says about discrimination based on a person's HIV status from an attorney who practices in this area of law. Celebrate AIDS Awareness month by learning more about the challenge individuals with HIV/AIDS face in our community. 12 Noon at the Santa Barbara Room, Price Center. Presented by Student Legal Services.

THURS OCT 25

CAREER

Employer Info Session: Raytheon Company - The Career Services Center's On-Campus Interviewing program invites you to meet reps from Raytheon Company, a global leader in defense electronics and complex integrated information systems. Raytheon will discuss openings in engineering, math, computer science, computer engineering and physics. 5-6:30pm at Career Services Center Horizon Room.

Employer Info Session: Stockamp & Associates - Meet reps from Stockamp & Associates, a business process consulting firm focused primarily on not-for-profit health care organizations. Opportunities are available for all majors to help organizations dramatically improve their revenue-cycle processes and performance. 7:30-9pm at Career Services Center Horizon Room.

RECREATION

The Price Center Film Series presents **Transformers** - A war erupts on Earth between two robotic clans, the heroic Autobots and the evil Decepticons, leaving the fate of mankind hanging in the balance. Starring Shia LaBeouf and Megan

Fox. 6pm and 9pm at Price Center Theatre, \$3.

FRI OCT 26

RECREATION

Zandi and the Mercenaries of Funk - Zandi and the Mercenaries of Funk perform at 12pm on the patio of Porter's Pub, Free.



SPECIAL EVENT

The 12th Annual Chancellor's 5K Challenge, which benefits undergraduate scholarships at UCSD. Chancellor Marye Anne Fox will personally match the \$10 registration for the first 500 students who sign up, doubling their contribution to scholarships. In its 12 years, the Chancellor's 5k has raised more than \$1.7 million for 650 undergraduate students. **Registration begins at 10:30am, the 5k Run/Walk starts at 12:15pm**. Student registration is \$10, staff and friends, \$15, which includes free lunch and a 5K Challenge t-shirt. For complete details visit www.ucsd.edu/5k.

SPORTS

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

SAT OCT 27

ARTS

UCSD ArtPower! presents Emerson String Quartet - 8pm at Mandeville Auditorium. Tickets available at the UCSD Box Office, 858-534-4559. See FEATURED box.

RECREATION

The Price Center Film Series presents **Transformers**. 6pm and 9pm at Price Center Theatre, \$3.

SUN OCT 28

SPORTS

Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Cal Poly Pomona, 12pm and 2:30pm respectively, at RIMAC field.

UPCOMING

LECTURE

International Intervention in Humanitarian Crisis - Gillian Sorensen, of the United Nations Foundation, will be speaking on the topic of "International Intervention in Humanitarian Crisis". With so many humanitarian crises persisting in the world today, Ms. Sorensen's discussion on how to balance issues of sovereignty with humanitarian and human rights values promises to be interesting and relevant. Mon., Oct. 29, 7-8pm at ERC Great Hall.

WEEKLY

CAREER

On-Campus Interviewing program - Industry-leading employers recruit at the Career Services Center throughout the year for full-time career positions and high-level internships outside of our regular listings. Learn how to sign up for an interview and submit your resume in Port Triton at <http://career.ucsd.edu>, or call 858.534.6710 with questions. Our fourth week resume deadlines include: 10/23 for Environmental Protection Agency; 10/24 for Broadcom, and Google; 10/27 for Farmers Insurance; 10/28 for

FEATURED

UCSD ArtPower! at UC San Diego presents

EMERSON STRING QUARTET

Acclaimed for its insightful performances, dynamic artistry, and technical mastery, the **EMERSON STRING QUARTET** has amassed an impressive list of achievements: a brilliant series of recordings exclusively documented by Deutsche Grammophon since 1987; eight Grammy Awards, including two for "Best Classical Album," an unprecedented honor for a chamber music group; three Gramophone Magazine Awards; and performances

of the complete cycles of Beethoven, Bartók, and Shostakovich quartets in major concert halls throughout the world. The ensemble is lauded globally as a string quartet that approaches both classical and contemporary repertoires with equal mastery and enthusiasm. Eugene Drucker, violin; Philip Setzer, violin; Lawrence Dutton, viola; David Finckel, cello.

PROGRAM: Franz Josef Haydn: String Quartet in C Major, Op. 20, No. 2; Dmitry Shostakovich: String Quartet No. 4 in D Major, Op. 83; Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet No. 7 in F major ("Rasumovsky 1"), Op. 59/1. Students \$16, staff \$29, GA \$34. Tickets available at the UCSD Box Office, 858-534-4559.

SAT OCT 27 8pm, Mandeville Auditorium

sure your progress. Trained Student Health Advocates test your: Body Fat Composition, Grip Strength, Step Test, Recovery Rate, Blood Pressure, Resting Heart Rate. A Free service for all UCSD students. Walk in to RIMAC Wellness Room any Mon or Wed 7-9pm

THURSDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

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

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

Today's Crossword Solution

D	R	U	G	M	A	A	M	I	T	Y
N	A	P	E	E	L	I	S	R	E	N
A	N	I	M	A	L	I	N	S	T	I
L	O	V	E	U	S	S	U	S	S	S
C	O	L	O	G	N	E	B	R	E	A
A	L	A	M	O	S	L	E	T	S	R
D	I	V	E	R	D	I	L	L	C	O
V	E	G	E	T	A	B	E	A	T	P
L	I	R	A	H	I	E	S	T	I	B
E	E	N	S	E	L	L	G	E	L	D
G	R	E	A	T	Y	P	U	R	S	E
R	U	M	E	R	P	U	S			

