

GOOGLY-EYE GUY: AN INSIDE PEEK



"...the first person I told reacted very excited, like, 'Oh my god, that's you?!' It was weird; this campus is so big, I never expected anybody to actually notice more than one or two of them."

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IMPOSTER SYNDROME THE GENDERED STRUGGLE

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MARVEL UNIVERSE A&E GOES HEAD-TO-HEAD

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FORECAST



MONDAY
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TUESDAY
H 67 L 61



WEDNESDAY
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THURSDAY
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VERBATIM

"I think that too many teenagers come out of high school without proper coping mechanisms for failure and even being average. Giving students these abilities at the start of their college career would prepare them for success and increase the quality of a UCSD education."

Alex Rickard
Mindfulness
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King Triton helps out by carrying donations during the stuff the bus food drive Saturday // Photo by Shayna Kaler

CAMPUS

Students Hold Week Long Event in Support of Palestine

BY JACOB SUTHERLAND NEWS EDITOR

The Muslim Student Association at UCSD hosted the annual Justice in Palestine Week from May 6 to May 9. The week-long event, centered on wooden banners discussing the Israeli occupation of Palestine, included a variety of evening speaking engagements.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an ongoing struggle of nationhood between Israelis and Palestinians which has continued on for over 50 years. While the current boundaries between the two states were drawn up in an armistice agreement following the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, the conflict has persisted, most recently with Israeli settlement in the West Bank and a continuous military conflict in the Gaza Strip, both regions of Palestine.

A description on the event's Facebook page written by the UCSD MSA explained that the goal of the week is to offer education about the conflict.

"We have a moral responsibility to educate ourselves on the history of an illegal occupation," the description read. "It is with this intention, that we embark on learning about the current struggle of the Palestinian people."

Topics for the evenings included a seminar on the difference between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, the history of the Israeli occupation of designated Palestinian lands, and a panel of speakers who shared their experiences as both Palestinians and Palestinian Americans.

In addition to the nightly speaking events, members from the MSA tabled on Library Walk with donuts and coffee to have conversations with students. They also had a letter writing table for students to write their Congressional representatives in support of H.R. 2407, a bill that would prevent Israel from using U.S. military aid to detain Palestinian children.

A student from the MSA who wished to

remain anonymous for fear of future employment repercussions for going on the record as supporting Palestine, told the UCSD Guardian that the use of the word "conflict" does not accurately describe the relationship between Israel and Palestine.

"We don't like to call it a conflict because that (word) implies that the two parties are on equal footing," the student said. "What Israel is doing to the Palestinian people is oppression."

The student went on to talk about how the goal of the week-long event is to bring awareness to the issue rather than to outright bring an end to it.

"A lot of people have a misunderstanding (on the situation), so we are trying to create awareness," the student said. "We're not trying to create a solution; we (just) want people to know what is going on. The way we can resist is through peaceful protest."

The student went on to talk about how on Wednesday, May 8, tensions rose during the tabling event when several Jewish students confronted the MSA.

"Yesterday we had some heated stuff from Jewish students who came to stop what we were doing and (were) trying to get us to do stuff we don't want to do," the student said. "Hillel sent (us) an email as a response to what we're doing stating that they have spies around the wall to report on what we're doing.. They painted over our (painting) in graffiti art park. Why are they doing this now when we (only) do this once a year?"

Hillel did not respond to emails from the Guardian to address these claims.

Dr. Farid Abdel-Nour, a professor of Political Science and Islamic and Arabic Studies at San Diego State University, gave a talk Monday night titled "on this land... The Palestinian Plight & History of an Illegal Occupation." Dr. Abdel-Nour told the Guardian that events like Justice in

See **JUSTICE**, page 3

MEDICINE

Court Dismisses UCSD Student's 2016 Election Night Lawsuit

The student's attorney argued that UCSD had the responsibility to contain the protest that spilled onto I-5.

BY DANIEL LI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The San Diego Superior Court issued a notice of dismissal in the lawsuit of Roger Revelle College junior Maria Flores against UC San Diego, the City of San Diego, and several other entities on April 11. Flores filed a personal injury and property damage lawsuit in 2017 after she was hit by a car during an on-campus protest that spilled onto

the interstate.

According to the notice, the case will officially be dismissed without prejudice on May 25 unless one of the following two actions occur: The plaintiff files a judgment or dismissal or requests a continuance. In the latter, Flores would appear ex parte, a legal proceeding in which only one party is involved, and explain to the judge why the case should not be dismissed.

Flores was participating in

a 2016 election night protest on campus that spread onto Interstate 5, according to the original lawsuit filed on Nov. 2017. An emergency vehicle that was driving in an 'S' formation hit Flores, leaving her with a crushed pelvis, fractured leg, and other severe injuries. Her attorney, Jerold Sullivan, argued that UCSD was liable for Flores' injuries because it "organized" the

See **LAWSUIT**, page 3

HEALTH

Student Health Services takes Preventative Action Against Measles

This comes after several outbreaks of the disease have been reported statewide.

BY TROY TUQUERO
STAFF WRITER

UC San Diego Student Health Services, an on-campus healthcare resource and primary care provider for many students, is taking preventative measures against the possible spread of measles. The Center for Disease Control confirmed over 700 individual cases of measles this past year across 23 states, making this the greatest number reported in the United States since 1994 and since measles was declared eliminated in 2000.

According to the CDC, measles is a contagious airborne viral disease. The symptoms of the disease include fever, coughing, a runny nose and a rash of tiny red spots.

UCSD's Office of Student Health and Wellbeing sent out an all-campus email on April 26 to alert students about a measles outbreak in Los Angeles. More than 1000 students and faculty at UCLA and California State University, Los Angeles were quarantined or sent home earlier that same day.

The email included guidance from the CDC and the California Department of Public Health encouraging vaccination, supporting early identification, and providing information about the measles virus and its symptoms. It also urged students to review documentation of their measles vaccination and immunity status and to contact SHS if they suspect that they've been exposed to measles.

As of the time of this article's publication, 44 confirmed measles cases have been reported in California this year. San Diego County has not had a reported case of the measles since 2017.

The LA Times reported that past measles outbreaks in California are the result of a fall of vaccination rates due to unfounded fears that vaccines cause autism and other chronic diseases. As of 2017, the state-wide vaccination rate is 96.9 percent, above the nationwide rate of 91.1 percent.

In an email to the UCSD Guardian, the SHS Director of Medical Services Dr. Stacie San Miguel said that they are taking action to identify students who do not have documented immunity to measles.

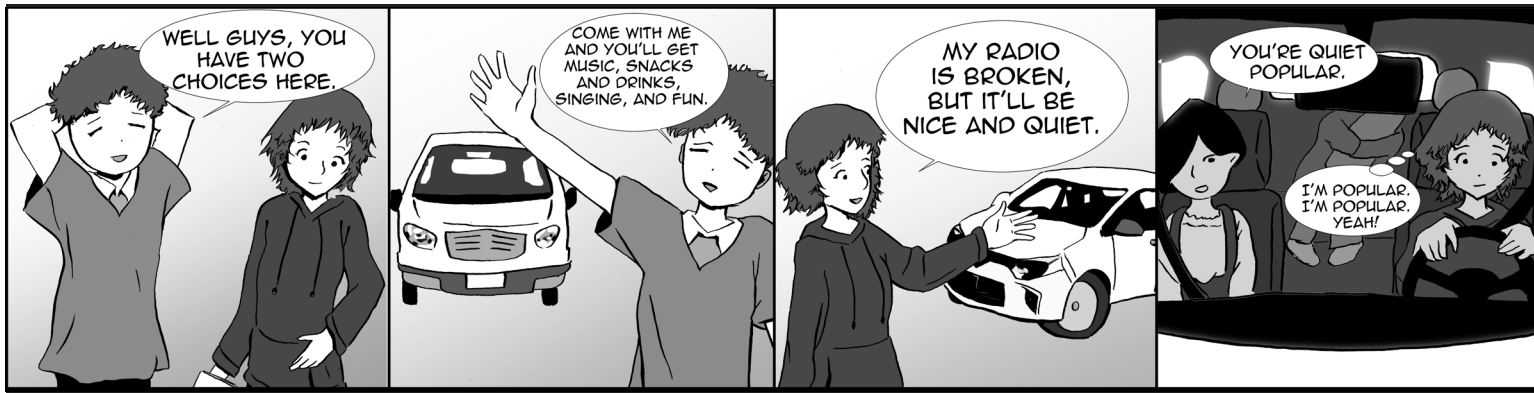
"We are currently working to identify those students who are not immune to measles," Dr. San Miguel said. "If there was an exposure, these students would be quarantined until their immunity status was determined. They could be quarantined for up to 8 days if exposed."

Dr. San Miguel also said that

See **MEASLES**, page 3

ROADTRIP

By Michi Sora



MEDICINE

UCSD Health's Moores Cancer Center Launches New Stem Cell Cancer Treatment Trials

This new type of treatment is the first of its kind worldwide, and is currently accepting patients with advanced stages of cancer.

BY REBECCA CAMACHO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Derek Ruff, a San Diegan who was diagnosed with stage IV metastatic colon cancer, will be the first patient to participate in a United States Food and Drug Administration-approved clinical trial involving the use of emerging stem cell research. The immunotherapy treatment offered through UC San Diego's Moores Cancer Center and San Diego-based biopharmaceutical company Fate Therapeutics marks the beginning of a new type of cancer-fighting stem cell treatment, which officially began in March 2019.

After having originally battled cancer over nine years ago, Ruff was diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer in May 2018. Ruff's condition showed no signs of improvement following three months of chemotherapy. He was eventually invited to participate in a separate clinical trial at UCSD Health's Moores Cancer Center, but that trial did not yield any positive results.

The lack of responsiveness to any medical treatments led doctors to offer Ruff a placement in another trial involving cancer-killing stem cells. He received his first dose in February 2019.

The trial—expected to go on until June 2022—uses a human-

induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cell therapy known as FT500. iPSCs are human adult cells that are re-inserted into stem cells that have the capacity to replicate almost any type of cell. In FT500, iPSCs were reprogrammed into natural killer cells, specialized immune cells known for being effective at killing cancer cells, and used in treating Ruff's colon cancer.

Beginning in December 2017 and in collaboration with Fate Therapeutics, UCSD began research on this new method. This new effort is the first to mass produce cancer-killing cells derived from stem cells. The study was led by Dr. Dan S. Kaufman, professor in the Division of Regenerative Medicine, Director of Cell Therapy, and leading expert in the differentiation of iPSCs to natural killer cells.

"This is a landmark accomplishment for the field of stem cell-based medicine and cancer immunotherapy," Kaufman said in a statement published earlier last month by Trial Site News. "This clinical trial represents the first use of cells produced from human induced pluripotent stem cells to better treat and fight cancer."

In an interview with the UCSD Guardian, representatives from Fate Therapeutics explained the

forthcoming of clinical trial FT500, as well as its relevance to expanding accessibility of patients to the NK cells.

"Fate Therapeutics is exploring ways to harness the immune system to treat cancer through the manufacture of genetically engineered immune cells," Wayne Chu, Ph.D, and Vice President of Fate's Clinical Development said. "[Immune cells are] designed to specifically attack and kill target cancer cells."

According to Fate Therapeutics' Chief Development Officer, Bob Valamehr, the trial, which received clearance by the FDA in November 2018, took approximately three years to obtain approval.

Chu noted that the "off-the-shelf" treatment is a game-changer due to its strong potential benefits offered in the progression of methods to defeat cancer, and when compared to existing treatments where a cell therapy called chimeric antigen receptor, or CAR T cells are more widely known in the market.

"The use of iPSC derived therapies such as those being developed at FATE presents a tremendous opportunity to develop true off-the-shelf cellular therapies for the treatment of cancer," Chu said. "[The therapy] has multiple potential advantages

over current-generation cellular therapies."

This method is beneficial to patients because there would be less of a time delay to access the immunotherapy. Patients would now have the ability of receiving the treatment multiple times instead of in singular session. The therapy will also avoid serious side effects prevalent in prior existing cell therapies.

Fate Therapeutics and the Moores Cancer Center are currently enrolling any new patients recommended by their physicians with advanced stages of cancer, where conventional treatments had no lasting or positive impact and face limited to no alternative treatment options. Those interested in learning more about FT500 clinical trial, including eligibility criteria, are encouraged to visit www.clinicaltrials.gov.

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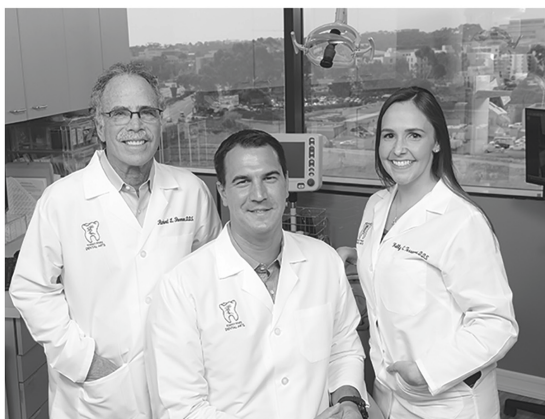
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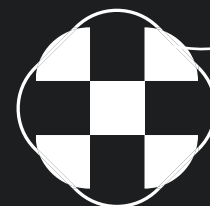
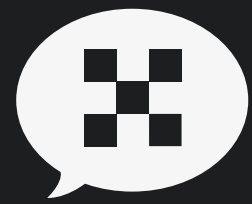
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► **MEASLES**, from page 1

SHS will hand over authority to San Diego County in the event of a measles outbreak at UCSD. No adjustments to these contingency plans have been made in the face of the recent reported measles cases.

"If there is an outbreak of measles at UCSD, we would first contact the San Diego County Public Health Department, UC San Diego Health and various campus departments," San Miguel said. "Our main priority is to get students who have incomplete documentation of measles vaccination up to date on their vaccines now, so that if there is a case of measles at UCSD, the students will already have immunity."

Starting in Fall of 2016, a UC system-wide requirement mandates that all students provide documentation of up to 6 vaccine preventable diseases, which includes measles. A person is considered immune to measles if they received 2 doses of the MMR vaccine or if they have tested positive for immunity by proof of

blood test.

When asked what role students can play in aiding UCSD's preventative measures, San Miguel encouraged students to visit SHS for either testing or vaccination in the event that they do not have documentation of their immunity to measles. The measles vaccine is fully covered for students with the UC Student Health Insurance Plan. Students with Reduced Access Fee for Tritons or their own private insurance will have to pay \$78 for the vaccine.

San Miguel also stressed that students need to practice good hygiene techniques to prevent the spread of infection like "[covering] their coughs, not [sharing] utensils or drinks, and [washing] their hands frequently."

Associated Students' AVP of Health and Wellness Revati Rashingkar told the Guardian that the Office of Health and Wellness is hoping to partner with SHS in creating a vaccine clinic to aid preventative measures.

"The Office of Health and Wellness and SHS have begun a discussion about the possibility of having a vaccine clinic for measles, but nothing has been decided yet due to the measles vaccine having temperature regulation needs that the clinic structure may interfere with and other [logistical] concerns," Rashingkar said. "I have also offered my support however needed to [Dr. San Miguel] in [SHS's efforts] to prevent a measles outbreak."

Rashingkar noted that she was unaware of what UCSD administration has done so far to reach out to faculty and staff regarding immunization. She expressed her hopes that university officials have taken action to guarantee that "[something has been done] to ensure that the members of our campus who are not students also get fully immunized if possible, since SHS is exclusively for students and their efforts won't reach every person on campus that could contribute to an

outbreak"

Earl Warren College freshman Genesis Campbell expressed disbelief that students have to worry about a measles outbreak even with the availability of vaccination.

"I think more than anything, I'm shocked that [the measles virus] is threatening the wellbeing of students," Campbell said. "We shouldn't be dealing with this when there's a perfectly-tested vaccine that is 100 percent effective."

As of the writing of this article, no measles outbreaks have been reported on campus. Students showing symptoms of the disease are encouraged to call SHS at 858-534-3300 for further instructions. They should not visit SHSs in person or any health care facility until they have spoken to a healthcare provider.

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A complaint was filed

► **LAWSUIT**, from page 1

protest and did nothing to stop it, allowing protestors to enter the freeway.

"Plaintiff was participating in a citizen protest that had been organized by the University of California, San Diego and/or the University of California Regents," the original complaint reads. "The protest continued all over campus for hours and was never stopped, controlled, or refrained by the County of San Diego, City of San Diego, State of California, University of California Regents or the University of California, San Diego."

This motion also comes roughly eight months after Judge John S. Meyer ruled against Flores and in favor of the City of San Diego on Aug. 10, citing that her attorney's argument was irrelevant and invalid. In his ruling, Meyer also held that the City had no obligation to pay for any of the damages.

In response, Sullivan filed an amended complaint against the Department of Transportation, arguing that the Department should be held responsible because the emergency vehicle attempted to shut down the protest in an "inadequate and negligent" manner.

Neither Sullivan nor Flores could be reached for comment. It is unknown whether or not they will take any action to reverse the dismissal.

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Muslim Student Association wants to start a conversation on what is going on in the Middle East

► **JUSTICE**, from page 1

Palestine are necessary to shed light on a conflict that is often forgotten.

"What makes the injustice they suffer particularly worthy of campus attention is that... the messaging coming out of official US governmental channels and from the mainstream of the Republican and Democratic parties tends to obscure the grave injustice that Palestinians have suffered for over 71 years now, and that they continue to suffer," Dr. Abdel-Nour said. "The academy is where difficult truths must be told, especially when the government circulates lies."

Dr. Abdel-Nour said that events like those at UCSD had previously taken place on campus at San Diego State University. However, several incidents occurred at the university that caused students who had been active within the "Free Palestine" movement to be fearful to express their points of view.

"I very much regret that no such event has taken place over the last couple of years," Dr. Abdel-Nour said. "SDSU students who were active in Palestine solidarity work were attacked, intimidated, and threatened in 2016, and regrettably this had a chilling effect on their

solidarity work. My hope is that they will put this fear behind them and resume their important work in future years."

Reaffirming the goal of the movement, Dr. Abdel-Nour said that the purpose of the "Free Palestine" movement is centered around equality.

"The Palestinian people's struggle is a demand that they be treated as equals, that their interests, dreams, aspirations, fears, and suffering be taken seriously," Dr. Abdel-Nour said. "The dynamic of this conflict from the early 1900s until today is one in which the

Palestinian people were treated as if they are an inconvenience, as if they are an obstacle, in the way of someone else's dream ... Their struggle was and remains about being treated as equals."

The UCSD MSA meets periodically throughout the quarter. In addition to the annual Justice in Palestine Week, the MSA has hosted other events, including Anti-Colonialism Day, Islam Awareness Week, and a program on Islamic Studies.

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OPINION

CONTACT THE EDITOR

ADRIANA BARRIOS

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IN DEFENSE OF SUN GOD



A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Even after A.S. Concerts and Events' clear effort to improve this year's Sun God Festival, many were left with the same disappointment plaguing students each year. The event might not have been perfect but it proves that ASCE is willing and able to apply student input, if they are willing to give it.

BY ADRIANA BARRIOS OPINION EDITOR

ILLUSTRATION BY JESSICA NI

A year ago, I wrote an article called "Sun God is Dead" in which I denounced A. S. Concerts & Events for wasting its almost \$1 million of student fees on a low-rent Coachella. It was a sentiment that was echoed throughout the student body, because we all saw the fundamental failings with an event that felt disconnected from students. Fortunately, it seems ASCE took notes for this year's festival. The event did away with the unnecessary two-stage set up, featuring a single stage with bigger artists. In place of the second stage, they hosted different activities that aimed to create a more unique entertainment experience.

It was a pretty significant restructuring of the event which pretty clearly targeted the unhappiness people had with the event. In a school where administrative decisions take years to come to fruition, it demonstrates that they heard people's complaints and tried to address them. Despite this, people still had things to say about the event, complaining about security measures and the lack of student involvement. Many felt that Sun God Festival was the social expenditure meant to placate our cries for a more lively campus. The festival this year, though, shows a clear and concerted effort from the students in ASCE to address these issues, and it is about time students make a more authentic effort to improve their own campus.

Given the complaints of over-policing on campus, there seems to be a fundamental misunderstanding as to what it means to be responsible for the well-being of thousands of people. Depending on the source, the national average of mass shootings since the beginning of the year has been one a day. On the day of Sun God, twenty minutes away from our campus, there was a shooting at a synagogue. If anything were to happen at an event on our campus, the number one question anyone would be asking is why there wasn't more security or why they didn't foresee this happening.

This rationale stops non-students from entering the festival. As a person of color, seeing police officers on campus is one of the worst parts of my day, on any given day, but as someone who acknowledges the national epidemic of gun violence we are currently experiencing,

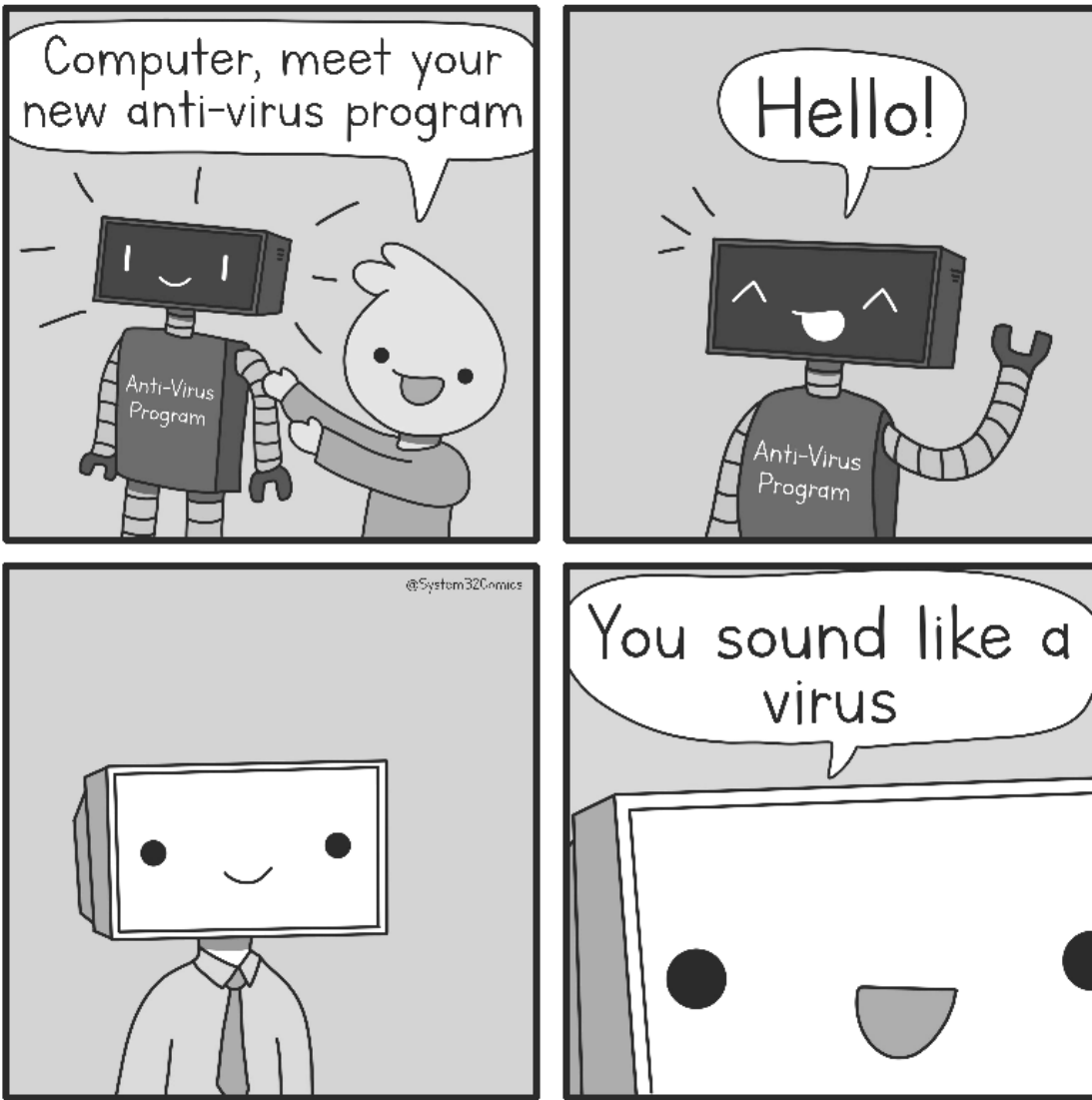
there comes a point where you compromise. To say it is triggering for people of color to see police officers seems like a gross minimization of how triggering it is to be marginalized on this campus on a general basis. Many are rightfully uncomfortable around the police officers on this campus, but when concerning an event the size and proportion of Sun God, it comes across more ignorant than "woke".

The crucifixion of ASCE also needs some perspective. A.S. Council is primarily made up of students who are often underpaid and overworked. There are inherent issues with it as a bloated bureaucratic organization that faces pressures from both its constituency and the administration and needs to balance the happiness of all parties. Stuck in this perpetual balancing act, they often seem to get less done than what they promised but there's not that much they can do. That being said, if people were as invested in fixing Sun God as they are in complaining about it, maybe they should attend the town houses and meetings that they hold every single quarter regarding these events. They also take on student volunteers for their events and they have increased the number and visibility of their feedback sources. It is very clear that they apply student input when they can, given they did so this year with Sun God.

I am the first person to support students criticisms of ASCE and of the larger UC San Diego administrative body, especially when it concerns the use of student funds. That being said, beating the very dead horse of comparing our campus to our sister schools does not create solutions or change. It just breeds unhappiness. We get it, UCLA is more fun and UC Berkeley is more well-known, but the unfortunate reality is that you do not attend those schools. So, we should seek to improve our lot here as much as we can. Criticism is only effective when it is constructive and when it endeavors to see improvements, otherwise it is just wailing. This year's festival may have not been the best concert I have ever attended but it demonstrated clear and focused efforts on the part of fellow students to create something better for all of us and to be responsive to student input.

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FEATURES

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THE ROLE OF IMPOSTER SYNDROME IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Guardian explores how impostor syndrome reinforces the gender gap for computer science students.

BY LARA SANLI SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Everyone has experienced feelings of self-doubt or of not belonging at some point. Such impostor feelings are extremely common among those pursuing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields because the fast-paced nature of these disciplines fosters comparison and makes it easy to feel behind. Especially at a competitive, STEM-oriented university like UC San Diego, these feelings of impostor syndrome are likely to be more prevalent than many probably think.

Impostor syndrome is a persistent psychological feeling in which an individual doubts their accomplishments and feels like an “impostor” in a role they are in fact qualified enough to have. Those with impostor syndrome feel as if they don’t deserve their success, often attributing their achievements to luck, timing, or other external factors instead.

“They let everybody in.” “If I can do it, anyone can.” “I don’t deserve this position.” “I feel like a fake.”

Impostor syndrome is a basic human feeling that nearly everyone experiences at some point. But it’s especially common among high achievers who tend to exhibit perfectionist tendencies, and it disproportionately affects minorities and women, who face unique barriers to success and attaining respect.

In 2017, UCSD’s Computer Science and Engineering program was ranked 14th in the nation. UCSD’s computer science major is notoriously challenging and intense; many students are deterred from even trying it due to the elite association the program carries in the first place.

Computer science, as an industry, is also culturally associated with those who are predominately white and male. This continues to discourage others from entering an industry where they might feel less welcomed, or where they might face feelings of isolation, on account of deviating from the typically experienced, white, male-centric cultural norm.

However, some people are surprised to hear that computer science was once dominated by women. According to a New York Times piece about the history of gender balance in the field, women played a crucial role in programming and cracking code during World War II. Coding was considered to be mundane, non-elite labor, surprisingly accessible to the average white-collar woman or to anyone who possessed basic skills in logic, math, and reasoning. Making the actual hardware was viewed as masculine and interesting, whereas writing the code was viewed as feminine and secretarial. In many ways, women working with computers aligned with the traditional gender stereotype that women should execute instructions; they were needed to do the menial work of testing the programs until they finally worked.

The Times piece proceeds to explain that it was only with the advent of the personal computer in the 1970s and ‘80s that the demographics of computer science began to change. As personal computers entered wealthier households, more privileged children began to spend their spare time tinkering with them and exploring the functions of computers. Parenting techniques shifted to reflect the presence of the computer as yet another gendered factor of raising children. Unsurprisingly, it became more likely for boys to be gifted computers than girls. Boys played with electronics and girls played with dolls — that’s just how it was.

Privileged boys started to enter university computer science classes with heightened levels of programming experience in relation to other students, especially women, who had little to no knowledge of programming due to their lack of exposure to computers. An elite culture developed around computers and computer science, leading many of those who lacked the privilege of having satisfied what became these unspoken coding prerequisites for many university CS programs, as well as those who struggled to keep up with the pace of these programs, to feel like impostors.

While many of these computer science stereotypes continue to persist, UCSD is taking steps to combat impostor syndrome and make CS more accessible to a broader variety of students. CSE Professor Christine Alvarado, who focuses on engaging underrepresented groups in computer science, is at

the helm of many of these efforts.

As a professor in a highly competitive field like CS, she frequently notices signs of impostor syndrome among her students. “There are a good number of students who feel like they don’t belong,” she observed. “It’s often because they struggle and they think that nobody else is struggling. They think something along the lines of ‘Oh, somebody’s going to notice that I’m struggling and point out that I shouldn’t be here.’”

Alvarado has started to check in on her students via i-clicker questions to better understand to what extent impostor syndrome impacts her CS students at UCSD.

“I’ll ask, ‘Have you ever doubted yourself or felt like you didn’t fit in because of something we did in this class?’” she said. “And a preposterously high number of students will say yes. They’ll say that they doubted their fit, because the class was challenging or because they got stuck on something they feel like they shouldn’t have been stuck on.”

Many of these feelings of inadequacy can also be attributed to a more UCSD-specific CS microculture. A lot of UCSD CS students tend to prioritize a certain level of academic achievement that leaves little room for mistakes or uncertainty. Alvarado also described the pressure to earn a prestigious internship, preferably at Google or Facebook, as yet another factor contributing to feelings of impostor syndrome. There seems to be

an unspoken narrative that there’s one correct, career-driven goal of being a UCSD CS student and that any deviation from the path marks you as an outsider from the predominant culture.

Yet one of the most unique things about UCSD, Alvarado believes, is the diversity of the student body. Students from all backgrounds and levels of experience enter the program, but upon seeing the strength and prestige of the CS department, it’s easy for many to believe that such a heightened

level of experience and achievement is the norm even when it only represents a small percentage of UCSD’s undergraduate population. Such feelings additionally contribute to feelings of impostor syndrome among CS students.

Because not all students enter UCSD with the same level of CS experience, Alvarado developed the Early Research Scholars Program to engage undergraduate students in CS research.

“The hypothesis was that, by engaging students in research in their first two years, they would become more connected to their peers and the CS department,” Alvarado explained. “This was particularly for students who weren’t as experienced coming into college. So women, students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, first-generation college students — all of these students tend to have less exposure to CS before college. And that can basically make them feel more excluded when they come in because they see all their peers and feel like impostors.”

The program puts second-year undergrads into teams of four and matches them with already existing research projects in the department. Then, later on in the year, they get to engage in their own independent research. Examples of research projects have focused on analyzing cancer research, ranking the relevance of online reviews, and estimating ocean depth.

“My hope is that [the program] show[s] them what they could do,” Alvarado said. “That it gives them confidence to see that they can do more than just the problem sets in their classes, but they can actually have an impact on a real-world problem.”

UCSD is taking other initiatives to make CS more equitable. Even so, there is still much for students to do because many cultural factors furthering impostor syndrome are perpetuated by the student body. “Some of it is just getting away from this notion that you either get it or you don’t,” Alvarado said about steps students can take to combat impostor syndrome on a personal level. “Taking more of the attitude to realize that some people learn quick, but also that it takes some people a lot of time. It takes some people less time and sometimes that’s because they’ve had a lot of experience that they learn it faster, but treating it as something that everybody can learn, rather than you’ve got it or you don’t.”

“There seems to be an unspoken narrative that there’s one correct, career-driven goal of being a UCSD CS student, and that any deviation from the path marks you as an outsider from the predominant culture.”

MANDATORY MINDFULNESS

Professor Karen Dobkins discusses her vision of integrating a well-being class into the undergraduate general education curriculum.

BY JADE KNOWS HIS GUN-WONG FEATURES EDITOR

Every Thursday morning in the Women's Center, gathered high above the bustle of campus, a group of students explores what it means to be human. They're a part of Principles of Clarity, a one-unit seminar headed by psychology Professor Karen Dobkins. The class revolves around practicing mindfulness through introspection, discussions of experiences, and meditation.

This particular morning while on the subject of eye contact, Dobkins goes from student to student, taking a long pause in front of each to gaze into their eyes. A peaceful silence falls as she has a beautiful moment of connection with each student, uncovering joy, sorrow, wonder, and pain. Then she sits back down.

"I could look at each of you for an hour. There's so much joy in seeing someone."

Dobkins joined UC San Diego's psychology department as a professor in 1995. Coming from a background in neuroscience, she conducted research on the cognitive development of infants and children up until 5 years ago.

"I realized, I don't wanna do that work anymore; it's not feeding my soul. Sure, I'm successful and I'm making money and I'm publishing papers, and I have a big lab full of employees and postdocs and the dream, but I wasn't fulfilled by the dream, and I had to really take an honest look at myself and say, 'Why am I not really happy with my research?' And the answer is because again I realized that the questions I was asking weren't the questions I was dying to know the answers to."

After 25 years with the university, Dobkins found a question that she was dying to know the answer to: Why was she seeing more and more depression, anxiety, and loneliness in her students?

"I've seen students more worried about their future; I've seen them not really present in the classroom. And it saddens me because it wasn't like that when I was in college. In fact when I was in college, none of us were worried about what we were going to do after college. When we were done, we all sort of went, 'Ok, now I'll figure out where I'm going next.'"

Dobkins has seen this decline in students' mental health firsthand during her office hours.

"When I hold my office hours for my big undergrad class, which is behavioral neuroscience, I'd say almost the whole two hours of my office hours, the room is filled and we're talking about life because the students know that this matters to me."

With her growing concern for her students' mental health, Dobkins shifted her research to the subject of mindfulness and well-being. Despite having joined a field where she had zero experience and accolades, she's much more content pursuing research that genuinely interests her.

Data from her lab shows that UCSD students are experiencing levels of loneliness higher than the national average.

"According to the UCLA Loneliness Scale, on average across all universities the mean score [of loneliness] is something like a 39, 40. And we at UCSD are at a 46, 47. So we're way above the national mean," she explained.

So why are UCSD students so lonely? Dobkins believes it comes down to a number of factors: the partitioned layout of the campus, the academically competitive atmosphere, and the large population of transfer and international students who tend to experience higher rates of loneliness.

"International students are literally 10,000 miles away from home, away from their families, in a completely new environment," said Dobkins.

As for transfer students, she continued, "It's hard to get connected and find your community. People have already made their bonds during freshman and sophomore year, and now here you are, a junior transfer student coming in."

Dobkins will further explore this question in an upcoming town hall meeting titled "Why is UCSD Lonely?" She'll be joined by speakers Josh Abrego, class of '19, and Earl Warren College junior Zahabiya Nuruddin, who have both led various mental health awareness efforts at UCSD. The purpose of the town hall meeting is to introduce Dobkins' proposed solution to UCSD's well-being predicament: the Learning Sustainable Wellbeing (LSW) initiative.

The ultimate goal of the LSW initiative is to implement a mandatory, 1-unit seminar on well-being — like Principles of Clarity — to be completed within the first two years of an undergraduate career. It is the responsibility of the university, Dobkins asserts, to cultivate mental wellness for its students through its curriculum.

"I really believe there will be a point in our evolution where humans look back and go, 'Yeah, of course 8 billion people all agree that schools have some well-being course.' I think it's the responsibility of the education system to bring in that component of education to the curriculum, which is how to be a human, how to actually navigate."

"I don't have to convince you that there's so much craziness in this world; there's so much hatred, there's so much killing, judgment, why? I really believe if all children were brought up consciously, we would eradicate all of that stuff in a couple hundred years."

Since the initiative's inception in 2018, Dobkins has been working with various UCSD administrators to realize her efforts. She hopes to enact a two-year pilot program for the LSW initiative during which one of the six undergraduate colleges would adopt the seminar as a general education requirement. If this initial program proves to be effective for students' well-being, then the university could further expand it to a campus-wide General Education requirement.

This would mean scaling the seminar, which is currently taught to a class size of 25, up to a 100-person lecture. Dobkins noted that this would require multiple professors, including herself, to lead multiple seminars.

"Part of my dream with the LSW is that it's the professors themselves who teach these well-being courses. You could hire outside people who are in fact trained in well-being. But I like the idea of the professors teaching these courses because first of all, they say that the best way to learn something is to teach it. All of a sudden, the professor who's teaching the course wakes up, starts the work themselves."



Professor Karen Dobkins leads her seminar in an exercise on mindfulness.

"I think if the professors are teaching these courses it would also help with the connection between profs and students because that's lacking on this campus. Students don't feel seen by their professors."

In collaboration with Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Retention and Academic Success Jeff Orgera, Dobkins and her team are currently looking at academic records to see if there's a relationship between GPA and well-being. Additional research in support of the LSW initiative includes examining the correlation between loneliness and mindfulness in students. Dobkins and psychology graduate student Taylor Bondi have found a strong, negative correlation between the two — it's clear that practicing mindfulness could very well be a solution to UCSD's loneliness problem.

Dobkins and her lab have also been gauging student interest in having a mindfulness seminar as a GE requirement. Comparing data from around 8,000 students, the majority of students see the value of a one-credit, well-being class. This held true with the undergraduates I surveyed myself.

Nelson Espinal, a Roger Revelle College freshman, said, "I think it would have been beneficial to have a class like that since it could have provided a few tips on having better mental health. I haven't encountered many mental health resources during my time here. I know there is Counseling and Psychological Services, but I don't think it should be therapy or bust."

Warren junior Alex Rickard agreed, saying that such a class would be especially helpful to first-year students.

"I think that too many teenagers come out of high school without proper coping mechanisms for failure and even being average," Rickard said. "Giving students these abilities at the start of their college career would prepare them for success and increase the quality of a UCSD education. Maybe it could even be packaged with the first-year experience classes."

Dobkins' data shows that, among those who say they would want a well-being class, older students are more likely to express interest.

"If you look at the distribution, it's tilted toward the older students, which I think makes sense because I think you don't even realize it until you've been here. Because then you go, 'Yes, that would've been nice to have a well-being class,'" said Dobkins.

This was certainly true for the students who were nearly or recently graduated. Alma Trinidad Javier, a John Muir College senior, reflected, "I

believe a mindfulness class would have been beneficial. It would have been a good way to know how to deal with stress. I think it's important to make it mandatory as well because we all deal with stressful situations in college. We all go through it."

Rebecca Chhay, Muir class of '18, shared a similar sentiment: "I would have loved a seminar. I've done some meditation retreats before, and whenever I mentioned it to other students they're always really interested in hearing about my experience. I think it would be popular."

That's not to say, however, that every student is totally on board with the LSW movement. Jenny Lee, a Sixth College freshman, expressed, "Ideally, I think any class on how to do life is helpful. But realistically, I don't think I could have gotten comfortable talking about these topics with people I don't know. I think I would be too shy to talk about something I consider to be a bit personal. I would prefer to learn these things one-on-one with a friend or counselor."

Lee continued, "It'll feel like a chore at first — like how people see their writing sequences — but then if the class is good enough in capturing our attention, it'll work."

Having established that student interest in a well-being class is there, now it's just a matter of pushing for change.

"This loneliness at UCSD takes, in my opinion, a paradigm shift, a real change in how we're thinking about education. That education is more than academics," said Dobkins.

"I know it's gonna be bumpy for the first few years because it's a whole new idea, but it can happen just like any big change has happened. Because people sort of realize there's a need for it, they're willing to go through the bumpiness to make it happen."

The town hall meeting "Why is UCSD Lonely?" will take place on Tuesday, June 4 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Price Center East Forum.

"It is the responsibility of the university, Dobkins asserts, to cultivate mental wellness for its students through their curriculum."

You've seen his work around campus — dining halls, Ridge Walk, even Geisel Library. The Guardian sits down with none other than the “Googly Eye Guy.”

Anyone can, theoretically, claim that they're behind the googly eyes trend on campus. So why you?

Well, I did it in high school, and I started doing it here as well. I'm not the first person to ever do it in the world. There's even a subreddit for it, which I didn't find out about until I started doing it here. But I didn't invent the hobby. But I guess I've been doing it for a while now. I'm pretty sure I'm the first guy to do it at least at this university.

Why did you start doing this? Did you have any inspiration, any purposes in mind?

No, not really. In high school, it was because my classes were fairly easy, I didn't really have anything else to do, I was just bored. I thought it was really stupid, but it made me laugh seeing them on garbage cans. I thought it was funny. I don't know where I first saw the idea of that; I assume somewhere on the internet. But it's not an original idea that I had. I didn't invent it.

Could you describe your process and methods?

When I first started, I bought them at this craft store, but you had to put tape or glue on the back, and I used tape so you can take them off easily 'cause I didn't want to permanently vandalize anything. So I started out with tape, and then sticky tack that you hang up posters with. Those were kind of slow and inefficient. That's what I started with here, too, but after I ran out pretty fast, I bought a bag of, like, five hundred on Amazon, and they came with a thing you peel off and it just sticks on the back. That was a real game changer.

I have a habit now of seeing faces in inanimate objects. Whenever there's a circle or people. Like pictures, posters.

What was the first thing you “googly eyed” at UC San Diego?

I don't remember. I think it was a trash can or something. I think it was either one of the trash cans in Sixth College by the apartments — which is where I live — or maybe one of the dryers in the laundry place; I'm not sure.

What was your latest?

The last one I did ... Oh, yesterday morning [Thursday, May 9] I was really conflicted about this one. You know, in Pines there's the “Chef Ivan” picture — he seems like a really chill guy. I saw that picture of him a while ago, and I was like, “Oh, I should do that,” but then I thought, “Well, that's a person,” and I don't want people to think I'm being a d--- or disrespectful. But in my head, I don't really think of it as, like, disrespectful. I just think, “Hah, look it's funny.” But I don't want people to think I'm a d--- or something, so I didn't do it. But I guess yesterday, I was particularly bored or something. I was just looking at the picture of him, and, I don't know, maybe it was his facial hair or his hat or his facial expression; he just seemed like a guy who wouldn't really care about it. So I made an executive decision.

Have you ever been close to getting in trouble?

No. Okay, kinda by The Village at Torrey Pines, there are silhouettes of people on banners for Rady School of Management. I did those, and I had to stand on the railing to do it. It was after I broke my collarbone, so it was kind of physically difficult, but I climbed on there. I waited until I didn't see anybody, but one guy walked by and was like, “Oh, are you the guy that's doing that?” And I was like, “Yeah, that's me,” and he said he enjoyed my work. So, yeah, nobody's been like, “You damn degenerate kids and your pranks.” I think of it as a pretty innocuous thing, but you never know.

They're easy to remove, too.

Yeah, if you don't like it, or if you are offended, you can just take them off. But at my high school — it was a Catholic high school — we had a bunch of pictures of religious figures and stuff, and I never did those. I didn't want my school's administration to suspend me or something. I've been trying to walk the line between innocuous and harmful.

How many things have you googly eyed?

Oh, man. The bag I get off Amazon — depending on how big the individual eyeballs are, the bag could have anywhere between 100 to 1,000. I don't know, I would say over 1,000, at least. But a lot of them get taken down really quickly. There are some that I put up in, like, October that are somehow still up now, but there's also some, like whenever I do dining halls, I always get taken down by the next day. [He jokes.] Yeah, it's really demoralizing. No, I don't really care. Like, at OceanView Terrace, I go there a lot because the pizza's good and

they're open late, but I always do the soda machine, and it's always down the next day. It's real disappointing. Sometimes when you peel them off they leave a little white adhesive, so I always see those. I can always tell when they've been taken down.

When did you first start doing it at UCSD?

I started doing it right when I moved here, which was late September or early October.

Which ones are you most proud of?

The two that I'm most proud of got taken down pretty quickly — I don't know if you saw them. One of them — there's that bridge that connects Sequoyah Hall and some economics building, I think. I did those. But the other one, the one I'm probably most proud about, was this one, but it got taken down. [He pulls out his phone and shows a picture of Geisel Library with googly eyes above the entrance.] I did it at, like, 5 a.m., and then I went home and went to sleep. And then I woke up, and it was not there at, like, 9 a.m., so I was really sad, but got the pictures.

There was someone else who did Geisel, but they put them in the windows, and that wasn't me. I was kinda happy, like “Hooray, I started a trend,” but I was also not really sad, but more like, I don't know — I just had conflicted feelings.

You wished you did it?

Yeah. You know, 'cause I was waiting for the right time, for the stars to align, to do mine, and they did theirs first. I was waiting to do mine because the weather was really rainy, and I didn't know how well the poster board would hold up in the rain.

What do you think of other people jumping on the googly-eye bandwagon?

I don't know. Part of me is pretty stoked. It feels nice to start something. I guess one downside is that if somebody else does it, and they permanently vandalize something, or somehow someone gets hurt ... I don't want it to get blamed on me because I have told people that it's me. The other part of me thinks, well, if other people do it, if somebody gets hurt, then I can claim that it's not me. Overall, I'd say it's cool because other people do it.

But one person I was sitting next to in lecture noticed the googly eyes on my backpack, and she was like, “I noticed you joined ‘Googly Eye Gang.’” I think I said, “Actually, I started ‘Googly Eye Gang.’” And then I said, “It's not really a gang. It's just me.” But that feels kind of dishonest because other people have done it, maybe as a gang — I don't really know.

It feels weird to take credit for it even though other people have done it, too. So now when I tell people, I gotta be like, “Yes, I did it, but there's some that I haven't done. But they started doing it because I started doing it,” you know? Like, somebody asked me if I did the Geisel one that was in the windows, and I was like, “Actually, I didn't do that one. But I did all the other ones.”

Do you have any tips or tricks for those who want to start?

The ones on Amazon you want to buy. They're advertised as having self-adhesive. Those are the ones you want to buy because they're really easy. You just peel them off and they stick.

But if anybody wants to do them, I would say don't permanently alter something. Don't do anything that would get me in trouble because I've told too many people about this. So don't do anything that would implicate me and anything illegal or dangerous.

When I was making the big ones for Geisel, I was really worried about how I was going to actually stick them there. I was going to use tape, and I had duct tape and packing tape, and they were both pretty sticky. That's how I stuck the black poster board to the white poster board. I figured it would work, but I went to test it one night and slapped it on the concrete to see how it would stick, but it peeled right off with no weight on it. So that was really disappointing — just threw a wrench in the works.

Then one day I had this epiphany that I don't need to actually stick the big eyeballs on the concrete. I can just tie fishing wire around something heavy and just hang it over the other side. I used a brick. I was kind of worried. I always try to imagine the worst case scenario. I figured maybe somebody tries to pull the eyeball down and it



PHOTO COURTESY OF @KIMBERLYVEN

pulls the brick over and kills somebody. But I guess that didn't happen, so we're all right. So don't do anything that would hurt anybody, and don't do anything that would get me in trouble because I'll be upset.

But, no, the more, the merrier. It's a fun hobby. Plus if you ever have to say an interesting fact about yourself, if you're in a new class, that's a pretty good one. Like, “Oh, one thing I like to do for fun is mildly vandalize things.”

Have you used that?

Not in classes because in the past, the first person I told reacted very excited, like, “Oh my god, that's you?!” It was weird; this campus is so big, I never expected anybody to actually notice more than one or two of them.

How long do you think you'll keep doing this?

Till I'm dead, I guess. [He laughs.] It's a weird hobby, but so far it hasn't gotten old. You think it would get old, and honestly I'm the type of person that criticizes other people for doing the same thing over and over again. Like, all my acquaintances who were at my high school would smoke weed every weekend, and I would always make fun of them, like, “Doesn't that get boring after a while?” and they'd be like no. But here I am doing this every weekend. And it doesn't get boring. I don't know, it's weird, it's like one of the things that actually makes me laugh sometimes 'cause it looks funny, I guess.

Finally, what do you plan to googly eye next?

Well, I did my two big ones. I made those pairs Dec. 11. After I got rid of those, I thought, “Well, I'm done now. What do I do next? I can't really one up that.”

I do have some bigger googly eyes. I have a drawer in my apartment that's full of them. You know those sphere things outside of Center Hall? I'm going to do those. But honestly, after that I probably don't have any big ones. I'll just keep doing the little ones. You run out of ways to increase the scale of it.

It's nice being at a university because it's a contained area where the same people go to the same places every day, so it's bound to catch on more or become more known. But after I graduate, if I work for some company or something, I'll probably do that, but if I'm self-employed or whatever, I'll just walk around whatever city I live in and just throw them everywhere. Maybe, I don't know. I'll figure it out. But for now, it's a fun, weird, stupid hobby that makes me laugh and hopefully other people.

This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.

Head-to-Head: Marvel Cinematic Universe

Arts and Entertainment takes on a new debate: Should the Marvel Cinematic Universe get snapped, or should it stay?

SNAP IT - Chloe Esser - A&E Editor

It's the franchise that needs no introduction. From "Iron Man" to "Avengers: Endgame," there's no denying that Marvel has been a major cultural force for well over the last decade. For better or worse, it's brought actors out of obscurity and into the spotlight, helped push geek culture into the mainstream, and defined this century's franchise films. If you've managed to go the decade without running into something related to the Marvel Cinematic Universe at least once a week, then you might be living under a rock. (And, god, I wish I was there with you).

But with the recent release of "Endgame" marking the "end" of the first "arc" of the "story," the conversation we should be having about Marvel isn't about whether it's annoying or omnipresent, or whether you personally enjoy superheroes or its long battle scenes. It's about Marvel as an industry, and it's also about the way that Marvel has failed both as a storyteller and as a business with integrity.

The storytelling aspect becomes obvious in massive crossover events like "Avengers: Infinity War," but this same logic applies to every trilogy following a single superhero. If I enjoyed the first Captain America movie, I can't enjoy the rest of his trilogy on its own; at the bare minimum, I need to be familiar with the entire Avengers franchise to understand "Civil War." The picture becomes even more convoluted as we look at films like "Infinity War," and even the franchise as a whole — a tangled spider web of disparate storylines and characters who half know each other. Marvel's penchant for handing off the torch to director after director without having a clear vision on the franchise's narrative direction is hardly conducive to storytelling. But what does Marvel care for storytelling? This is not a creator carefully weaving together a story with a "Game of Thrones"-ian number of points of view — this is a business looking for return customers. We can see this in the "spoiler culture" that follows Marvel around: Learning who lives or dies seems to matter more than the story itself. This is also a reality on the movie sets. The Russo brothers reportedly did not even let Tom Holland know who his character would be interacting with during filming. The earliest films, arguably Marvel's best, made audiences invested in the characters. And boy are they cashing in.

This isn't all that unusual — it's Hollywood after all — but what makes Marvel so noteworthy is the absurd lengths it has gone to create a ridiculous number of films on a regular basis. This isn't a matter of rolling your eyes at a sixth "The Fast and the Furious" — there are 22 total films in total in the "Infinity Saga," with more to undoubtedly join the universe. In its very structure, Marvel has rendered the telling of a single, overarching story impossible, while simultaneously disallowing smaller, self-contained stories from taking place within the main framework. If it's not a story, or some kind of superhero anthology, then what is it?

I think we all know the answer: It's a product.

Of course, there's the most recent argument that despite its faults, Marvel's portrayal of superheroes from marginalized communities has been historically significant. This is a recent argument because, until last year, there was no evidence to support it. You won't hear me arguing that "Black Panther" was a good film, but having your first superhero film with a black lead in 2018, after years of black characters like The Falcon being sidelined, is inexcusable. And yes, Marvel cried "girl power" with "Captain Marvel," its first female-led film (yes, you read that right. It's first, in 2019, a full 11 years after the franchise's first installment), which was also partially funded by the U.S. military in order to promote women joining the Air Force (yes, you read that right too). But only putting these films out now, after DC's "Wonder Woman" already proved that female-led films were a safe bet, is far from revolutionary. Instead of being celebrated for their alleged inclusivity, Marvel should apologize for not creating these types of films sooner.

The MCU has certainly had its high points over the years. With the time and money that was invested in the 22 films, it would be a shock if none of them were winners. But as the franchise has evolved, true storytelling has been sacrificed for the sake of plot twists and big-budget battle scenes. And this is Marvel's insurance: it doesn't matter if the actual story fails as long as audiences are still hooked on knowing what happens next. It's a formula designed for profit, and it's one Marvel has mastered, caring very little that the cost of doing business is only its soul.

LET IT STAY - Daisy Scott - A&E Editor

I did not grow up watching Marvel films in theaters. Sure, I watched them when they came on FX or ABC Family on a Saturday night, but I did not by any means keep up to date with the latest fan gossip or plot twists. This all changed once I reached college. Out of a mere social curiosity to see what the fuss was about, and my friends' persistent requests, I decided to catch up on the Marvel films that I had not seen when everyone else did. I began this marathon with an open mind, expecting to be entertained but not wowed, to enjoy the films but not to start a new obsession.

Considering my stance in this debate, you can deduce that this is not what happened.

Once I started what was supposed to be my brief, educational marathon, I couldn't stop. I watched eight Marvel films that week — and it was Week 5 — culminating in seeing "Avengers: Infinity War" in theaters that following weekend. Those of you who have seen it can relate to my reaction. I left that theater bleary-eyed, drained, and completely hooked on Marvel films.

The reason I share this anecdote is not to argue that my experience is universally applicable, but rather to express that there is an undeniable charm to the Marvel franchise beyond others' claims of the influence of nostalgia. On a superficial level, all their films boil down to predictable themes such as good versus evil, or that heroes are found in even the most unlikely places. Yet there Marvel's adherence to tropes stops. Many people don't understand that you're supposed to watch Marvel films for the community as much as the stories. What is truly compelling about a Marvel film is that each character is so well developed that they seem to act beyond any preconceived plot-based notions. It is so easy to imagine Marvel characters interacting with each other and living beyond the scenes canonically shown on screen. For many viewers, watching a Marvel film doesn't feel like your average movie. They are a return to a familiar yet distant world.

In the Marvel Universe, there is a hero for everyone. I don't mean in terms of representation per se, although with recent films such as "Black Panther," "Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse," and "Captain Marvel," clear steps have been taken to represent more communities. It remains evident that Marvel, along with the rest of Hollywood, still has a long road ahead of them in terms of inclusion. Yet beyond this dilemma, every Marvel viewer has their favorite hero, a figure that they connect with on a more intimate, emotional level than all the others. This is the character you secretly hope to get as your result on "which Marvel character are you?" Buzzfeed quizzes, whose actions make you dig your nails into your chair's armrest, who inspires you long after the credits (and end-credit scenes) are over. For me, this is Captain America. His constant optimism, moral righteousness, and affinity for the old-fashioned warms my heart more than any other Avenger. Yet others who prefer a more imperfect hero may opt for Tony Stark's troubled past in weapons dealings, or those who enjoy heroes beyond this realm may find themselves drawn to Thor. And then there's your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man, Peter Parker, still in school and doing his best, like so many student viewers. At the end of the day, heroes are supposed to inspire and encourage just as much, if not more than they're supposed to protect. Marvel has mastered the art of ensuring that there is at least one hero who can accomplish all of these goals for each viewer.

Is Marvel a major corporation? Absolutely. Are the recent films part of a larger, systematic franchise? Clearly, especially given that by the time this prints it's very likely "Avengers: End Game" will have grossed well over \$1.5 billion globally. Yet this commercial aspect does not invalidate the quality of Marvel's work. After all, Marvel has been developing and evolving these characters for over half a century, all the while maintaining and growing an ever eager fan base. In short, while this sounds simplistic, Marvel movies make people happy. They are reassuring, exciting, tear-jerking, and hilarious. They stir something within their viewers, and their continual ability to captivate and entertain are not easily dismissed by even the most speculative of critics. At the end of the day, as long as Marvel exists, there are sure to be fans that will love it 3000.



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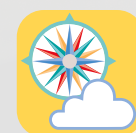
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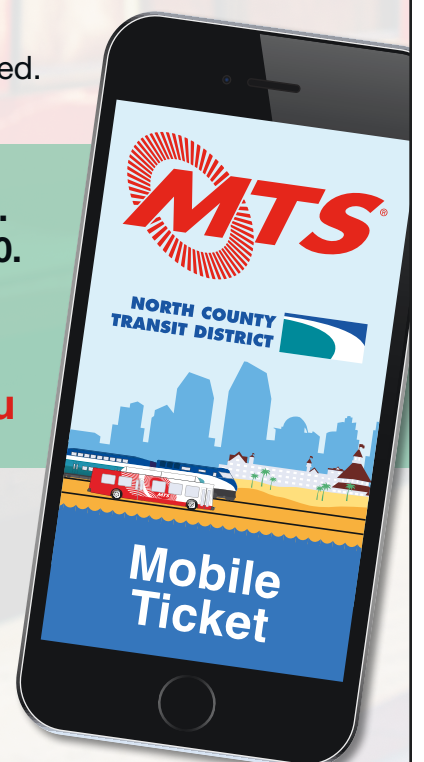
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UCSD's Next Top Stuart Collection Piece

BY COLLEEN CONRADI AND ANNIKA OLIVES LIFESTYLE EDITORS

All Tritons are familiar with the famous Stuart Collection of art pieces placed around campus. They have become an integral part of both our experiences as UC San Diego students and to our university's online meme page. Now that we have made all the jokes we can about adjusting to the world's biggest street lamp upon its arrival to campus, it is time to pit these creations against each other in order to reveal which one will become UCSD's Next Top Stuart Collection Piece. So, we have one question for these unique creations ... You wanna be on top?

Snake Path vs. Warren Bear

Starting from Geisel Library's "third floor," Snake Path winds its way down into Earl Warren College, which serves as a nice shortcut to lecture halls for those coming from the northern parts of campus. With its surrounding plant life and wonderful view from the top, Snake Path is also a popular spot for graduation pictures. Though it is dreadful to make the trek from bottom to top, I will give credit to this tortuous path for knowing how to slither, but make it fashion. However, Snake Path is not the only art piece to be found in Warren. It is impossible to forget the famous Warren Bear, with its mysterious boulder build. No one seems to know how this monstrous teddy bear was put together, but for students, it doesn't seem to matter. Whether the bear is dressed up for Valentine's Day with heart-shaped glasses or even its own "Bear-y Potter" costume, the Bear is always ready for a good time, which is why, Bear, you are still in the running to become UCSD's Next Top Stuart Collection Piece.

Music Tree vs. Vices and Virtues

Night has set once you're out of your 8 p.m. discussion in Warren Lecture Hall, and you begin your trek across campus to your dorm room. The changing colors of Vices and Virtues turns the ground around you shades of red, yellow, and blue, and you stop for a second to look up. The word Anger flashes at you, slowly followed by Hope. Fitting. You continue your journey past Price Center and up the hill towards Peterson Hall, and a low hum slowly starts to fill the air. While nothing but background music in the day, the music tree's nighttime sounds are slightly terrifying, and they make you quicken your pace. Vices and Virtues wins this round for always being able to guess your multifaceted moods.

Two Running Violet V Forms vs. What Hath God Wrought

Ah, What Hath God Wrought, our newest addition to campus. For those not familiar with the name, this piece is the 199-foot tall pole with a flashing light on top. Additionally, the flashing light actually spells out the name of this structure in Morse Code. Upon its arrival, I, in addition to many others, questioned its existence. However, over time I find its presence to be somewhat endearing. There is something fun about being able to see the flash at night from far away. Coming up to face What Hath God Wrought is the infamous Two Running Violet V Forms piece,

otherwise known as the "giraffe traps." This piece has become a crowd favorite, simply due to the urban legend that accompanies these blue fences. Long ago, it is said that the giraffes residing at the San Diego Zoo escaped from their exhibit, running wild around the city. In an effort to catch these rogue giraffes, UCSD stepped in to build these giraffe traps to save the day and have remained on campus ever since. Though I am beginning to grow fond of our giant street lamp, nothing beats the historic Two Running Violet V Forms piece. Congrats, you legendary giraffe traps, you're still in the running.

Fallen Star vs. Sun God

Fallen Star, perched precariously on top of the Jacobs School of Engineering building, is always a sight to behold for new students and UCSD visitors alike. Many wonder what the little blue house is for and how it got there, and it certainly gets extra points for being a more interactive piece, since people can actually enter the house. However, Fallen Star is still overshadowed by the huge bird standing on an arch halfway across campus — the infamous Sun God. With its gold crown and colorful appearance, Sun God has become UCSD's adopted mascot. (Triton, who?) Plus, Sun God is a grade granter — walk backwards through the arch to have good grades set upon you. Sadly, Sun God's many talents is not something Fallen Star can compete with.

READ/WRITE/THINK/DREAM vs. Another

Who knew that the words above the doors to Geisel Library were a Stuart Collection piece? These words, along with the primary colored sliding doors that turn into different colors when they overlap, make up READ/WRITE/THINK/DREAM. While the message and concept is inspiring, the unfortunate location of this piece must be considered, as many students are often too tired to notice what is written on the doors on their daily walks into Geisel. A second surprising contender is Another, the large graphic in Price Center of two clocks with running text that displays the news. Another wins this round for its practicality as well as location. When you want to take a break from studying or eating in Price Center, feel free to take a look at the red text to learn something new.

Crowning the Winner

Now, I have ten beautiful art pieces before me, but only one can become UCSD's Next Top Stuart Collection Piece. Vices and Virtues and Fallen Star put up a bit of a fight, but Sun God has, of course, been a fan favorite since the beginning of the season — and the judges' favorite as well. As odd as it sounds, this giant bird-like statue is vital to our identities as UCSD students — plus, what other Stuart Art piece has a music festival named after it? Whether you love or hate UCSD, you can always find a sense of unity with Sun God, and it's proven it will continue to be on top for years to come.



The champion, now and forever.

Interview with UCSD Library Staff: Kate Saeed

BY CARLA ALTOMARE LIFESTYLE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Staff members at the renowned Geisel Library at UC San Diego are integral in keeping our campus running, and each individual is an important and interesting part of the UCSD community. In order to learn more about the staff here at UCSD, I spoke with Kate Saeed about her job and her life at UCSD and in San Diego. Saeed is a Manuscripts Processor for the Special Collections & Archives within Geisel Library. Special Collections & Archives holds a wide variety of resources: manuscripts, rare books, UCSD archives, Scripps Institution of Oceanography archives and many other unique or primary source materials. Special Collections is a great resource for students to do research on poetry, anthropology, past UCSD faculty, and much more! Saeed uses her research expertise in order to prepare collections for use and make them easily accessible for researchers.

Working for UCSD is a great way to get involved in a multitude of activities. When asked why she enjoys working for the University, Saeed explained, "I like attending cultural events that the university offers and taking classes whenever I can. I've attended many concerts, lectures and plays during my 10-plus years here and have taken several classes, from conversational Russian, to improv acting, to screenwriting, to classical guitar."

"I learn something new every day, whether it's a new word, a new language, a place on a map or different way to describe something," Saeed said. Through my own interactions with other students, I have observed that not everyone knows about the resources that Special Collections offers. In fact, Saeed uses library resources herself and explained, "Since I help create them, I look at our online Manuscripts & Archives finding aids quite a lot. That's probably what I look at the most. But information can come from lots of different resources: our online catalog 'Roger,' the Digital Library Collection, and the Online Archive of California."

In order to further show the personality behind the individuals in this department, I asked why she enjoys working in the archives. "It's a good profession for someone who likes to organize other people's stuff and who is interested in multiple topics. Actually, I'm very curious by nature, so if I wasn't working in a Special Collections library I probably would be outside observing lemurs or something," Saeed said.

While talking to a library staff member, I had to ask about favorite books. "I have lots of favorite books, so it would be really hard to pick just one. A few I've read recently are: Haruki Murakami's *The Strange Library* and *Norwegian Wood*, Julian Barnes's *The Only Story*, *Talking it Over and Love*, etc., Andre Aciman's *Call Me by Your Name* ... Kafka's letters, anything Margaret Atwood, Francine Prose or Kazuo Ishiguro," Saeed said. I also noticed that Saeed's desk and cubicle are nicely decorated, and she cheerfully told me about her favorite things in her workspace. "I have a lot of favorite pencils and pens. The right pencil or pen can really help get you through the day. I have a floaty pen from the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice.



Geisel's rare book collection includes some incredibly interesting tomes.

It has a miniature gondola that floats back and forth." Working in San Diego is also great for Saeed's love of nature. She said, "San Diego is obviously great for outdoors activities — hiking, cycling, walking on the beach or going to Balboa Park. I guess my favorite thing is when I see a different kind of bird or lizard or beetle that I haven't seen before."

Talking with Saeed was a great insight into the life and interests of library staff. Students can visit Special Collections in the Geisel library or browse their available collections and materials online. UCSD is a great community of staff, students, and faculty who work hard every day to create a unique and successful university environment.

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MAY 14 • 11-4PM
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PC PLAZA

Join experts from the San Diego Zoo, San Diego Humane Society, and UC San Diego Biology department in a panel discussing endangered animals and efforts to save them. **Free food provided by Lemon Grass!**

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Informal Office Hours with Professor Scott

BY NATALIE DUPREY LIFESTYLE STAFF WRITER

As a new cognitive science major, I wasn't really sure what to expect of the professors, because of the diverse specializations that are within the department. However, I definitely was not expecting UC San Diego's sarcastic sweetheart, Professor Taylor Jackson Scott. Professor Scott is a relatively new professor, but he is no stranger to UCSD, as he served as an instructional assistant for Edwin Hutchins during his studies. But enough with the formalities, let's learn more about the life of the man behind the podium.

Hailing from the small town of Hoxie, Kansas, what Professor Scott misses the most is the thunderstorms. "We get some rain but I'm talking about a full-on thunderstorm, with big rips of thunder and flashes of lightning and the smell of a late summer rain," he notes. While he is in San Diego though, you can often run into him at the Vons off Regents Road where, "I once had a student ask me for a selfie there," or perhaps while he is out on a walk, listening to a podcast. Maybe in the future, you can catch him during his future travels; "Iceland, anywhere [with] very natural environments mostly because I want to do a photography expedition."

As for this summer, if he isn't teaching he will be catching up on all of the shows and books that he doesn't have time for during the school year. As for book recommendations, Professor Scott suggests, "Annihilation" by Jeff VanderMeer, "The Wind-up Bird Chronicle" by Haruki Murakami, and "The Mind's I: Fantasies and Reflections on Self and Soul" by Douglas R. Hofstadter and Daniel C. Dennett. Summer also gives him more time to do what his students know him for: browsing Reddit in search of the spiciest memes. In fact, he prefers to start his mornings with a cup of coffee — due to his time in Seattle working on his doctorate — and browsing through Reddit to see what he has missed since falling asleep. After consulting his account, he explained why he is into the following subreddits.

"r/Perfectfit has oddly satisfying instances where two things fit together really, really well. It's a specific thing, and I find it weirdly soothing and calming. r/perfectlycutscreams, I don't know why they make me laugh so much, but they do. I also really [have] been liking r/shittymoviedetails, a parody of r/MovieDetails, which is its meme account."

But like many professors, many of the most exciting parts of the job are, "For me, one of my favorite things is when I see students get excited about an idea. I also really like when students come to office hours and come talk about their hopes and fears. Those humanizing aspects of interactions between me and students, both in seeing them get excited about some topic or thing and interacting with them in office hours, those more one-on-one interactions are more rewarding. It keeps me going and excited to teach. Oh, and having summers off." If you do find yourself in his office, be sure to check out one of his favorite pieces: an abstract painting that he commissioned from his friend. In terms of artistic vision, when asked who he would switch lives with, Professor Scott responded with, "Stanley Kubrick; he's my favorite director and I would be able to get sight into how his mind worked and his own authorial intent with his own films, and then compare them to my own. I think it would be interesting to see a body of art through the perspective of the artist, than through the audience."

You might be in for some insightful advice during office hours, too. When asked "What would you go back and tell yourself on the first day of freshman year of college?" I was met with an unexpected response: "How much time do I have? If I can talk for an hour, it's different. If I can say 'Don't go to this place at this time!' I would probably just tell myself that it's gonna work or like, it's gonna be OK. I feel like as students we focus too much on our worries and anxiety. And if future you comes back and says it's gonna be OK, it puts your mind at ease a lot. But, it's also a paradoxical way of saying 'It's gonna be OK,' but then you don't try as hard and then it doesn't turn out OK. But if I knew it would screw things up or cause a time crisis, I probably would just tell myself everything is gonna be OK." After questioning my existence and time paradoxes for a minute, I knew I had to ask what the key to passing his class was. He responded the way he does to most questions in his class, "It depends ..."

If you ever feel like you need a human-computer interaction mentor or more help with his class, be sure to stop by Professor Scott's office hours, because he offers a fun time with plenty of meme culture and great life advice for the struggling student. He left me with the following words of wisdom for all students to hear: "No decision is set in stone and you've always got options. Also, delete Facebook."

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as you
Are*

May 20 - 24, Library Walk

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Workshops and Guest Speakers: T/Th



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

MAY 13 - MAY 19

ARTPOWER PRESENTS: DORRANCE DANCE
8pm · MANDELL WEISS THEATRE

Upcoming
UNIVERSITY CENTERS
UniversityCenters.ucsd.edu

DeStress Monday
MON., MAY 13
Event: 10AM - 1PM
Commuter Lounge
FREE for UCSD Students

Spring Send-Off
TUES., MAY 14
Doors: 7PM • Show: 8PM
PC Ballroom West
\$7 for UCSD Students

The Farewell
THURS., MAY 23
Doors: 7PM • Show: 8PM
Price Center Theater
FREE for UCSD Students

theloft.ucsd.edu

Upcoming

ADULTING: Money Matters
WED., MAY 15
Doors: 6:30PM • Show: 7PM

Hana Vu & Katzù Oso
FRI., MAY 17
Doors: 8PM • Show: 8:30PM

TEEN DAZE
THE LOFT
SATURDAY, MAY 25
Doors: 8PM • Show: 8:30PM
FREE for UCSD Students or ID • \$10 GA

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MON 5.13

5pm ADELANTE!- MATTHEWS QUAD
Come on a journey through Latin America to learn about the various cultures throughout the Latinx community as we understand the diaspora of the people and experience their culture through traditions, food, art, and dance. Contact: aaa028@ucsd.edu.

5pm COOKING - TAMALE WORKSHOP-UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Learn the art of tamale making. In this workshop, you will be introduced to two types of tamales in the husks and the accompanying fillings and toppings. A must for the tamale lover! Lots of sampling. Yum! Contact: clsung@ucsd.edu.

5:30pm URIM CONFERENCE-PC WEST BALLROOM AB
Calling all aspiring future physicians! Discover different organizations and programs that offer various opportunities to support your journey in health field! Get inspired by our keynote speaker Dr. Khan, known as TheFemaleDoc on Instagram, who has overcome barriers in health field and successfully achieved her dream of being a neurological care physician! You will be entered into a raffle to win many amazing prizes including a hydroflask when you RSVP! Scan the QR code or click on the ticket url to register! (not required to attend the event) WHEN: Monday, 5/13 from 5:30 PM to 8:00PM. WHERE: PC West Ballroom. Contact: hopeps@ucsd.edu.

7:30pm ASCE PRESENTS: MIZ CRACKER-THE STAGEROOM
Miz Cracker is coming to campus! Your favorite Ru Girl will be right here on campus at The Stageroom. The best part? Student tickets are free for UCSD undergrads with a valid student ID.

THU 5.16

12pm MAYA VANDERSCHUIT: SOFT WAVE, ELECTRIC SOUL-309 VISUAL ARTS FACILITY
Soft Wave, Electric Soul is an MFA thesis exhibition of recent work by Maya VanderSchuit. The mixed-media installation uses the surfaces of digital video projections and iridescent materials to explore the body's phenomenological relationship to real and virtual spaces. Contact: nlesley@ucsd.edu

7pm MIRANDA CUCKSON, VIOLIN-CONRAD PREBYS MUSIC CENTER EXPERIMENTAL THEATER
Program to be announced. Contact: anegron@cloud.ucsd.edu

7pm ASCE PRESENTS: YOU AT THE LOFT-THE LOFT
You know the drill, it's YATL season again! Sign up for our quarterly open mic featuring free fries and flatbread pizzas, catered by Zanzibar. Sign up to perform! <http://bit.ly/YATL>. Contact: ascemarketing@ucsd.edu

TUE 5.14

11am ART AND SOUL-THE ZONE
Get crafty! New and unique diy crafts each week. Materials provided, space is limited. Contact: zone@ucsd.edu

2pm 2019 NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP: UC SAN DIEGO VS. AZUSA P-NORTHVIEW TENNIS COURTS
UC San Diego will host an opening-round match in the 2019 NCAA Division II Womens Tennis Championship against Azusa Pacific University, Tuesday, May 14. Start time is 2 p.m. for doubles action at Northview Tennis Courts. Admission remains free for the NCAA event, but parking permits will be required. Contact: triton-tix@ucsd.edu 858-246-3121. Website: <http://ucsdtritons.com/>

4pm NAVIGATING SELF-CARE- CARE AT SARC (STUDENT SERVICES CENTER, ROOM 500)
May is Mental Health Awareness Month and CARE at SARC is hosting an event providing a space for students to make DIY self-care kits while exploring various grounding exercises. Giveaways include: scent sachets, snacks, touch stones, custom music playlist, calming jars Full kits available to first 35 undergraduate & graduate students. For more information contact careinfo@ucsd.edu. This event is wheelchair accessible. Contact: careinfo@ucsd.edu.

FRI 5.17

9am FLOURISH @ UC SAN DIEGO-STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES, MURRAY'S PLACE
Want to find ways to belong, be you, and be well at UC San Diego? Dr. Wesley Kayne and a wellness Peer Educator provide fun ways to help you flourish! Topics will include: managing stress, building social confidence, mindfulness, self-care, and self-compassion. Contact: Tacorbett@ucsd.edu

12pm & 5pm LAURYN SMITH: AS IT SEAMS-COMMONS GALLERY, 404 VISUAL ARTS FACILITY
As is Seams is an exhibition of work exploring quilting as both a material and a subject through sewn sculptural wall pieces and vinyl wall texts. This is MFA candidate Lauryn Smith's first year review exhibition. Contact: nlesley@ucsd.edu 858-822-7755.

4pm CGIU + IBM HACKATHON-UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO: MET AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
The hackathon is being organized in collaboration with IBM and CGI University, and aims to develop tech solutions to address global disaster response and recovery efforts. The event is open to students of all academic backgrounds and graduation years. Register through Handshake Search through the Upcoming events page until you find the IBM/CGI U Codeathon. Contact: cgiu@clintonglobalinitiative.org.

WED 5.15

12pm GRACE MAE HUDDLESTON: DIRTY WORLD, ACCIDENTAL GIRL-PERFORMANCE SPACE, VISUAL ARTS FACILITY 306
Dirty World, Accidental Girl is an immersive exhibition of dystopian drawings in an acidic color palette. The series of drawings work with a collection of creative writing to tell the story of a teen girl and her experiences in an underworld of charismatic life. A soundtrack by John Dombroski and Lauren Jones add to the exhibition's rich sensuality. Last but not least; this opening reception event will include the release of the artist's two new self-published books. Contact: nlesley@ucsd.edu.

2pm RELAXATION SKILLS DROP IN WORKSHOP-190 GALBRAITH HALL
Come spend an hour learning a variety of basic relaxation skills that will help you deal with daily anxiety. You will leave with practical exercises you can apply immediately to manage and reduce the symptoms of stress in your life. Contact: Tacorbett@ucsd.edu

5pm BLACK WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE-THE WOMENS CENTER
Join us for conversation about experiences as Black women and connect with other women on campus. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact: Tacorbett@ucsd.edu. Website: <http://www.facebook.com/BlackWomensCollective>

8pm ARTPOWER PRESENTS DORRANCE DANCE-MANDELL WEISS THEATRE
A collaboration between "one of the most imaginative tap choreographers working today," (New Yorker) Michelle Dorrance and company member Nicholas Van Young, ETM: Double Down celebrates the origins of tap dance, in a contemporary context, by using electronic trigger boards. Turning the entire stage into an instrument, the score is not just danced to but danced by the company. ETM, which stands for electronic tap music, features eight dancers and six musicians exploring acoustic and digitally produced sounds. Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance, Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based out of New York City. Contact: artpower@ucsd.edu.

9pm 'GAZA' (2019) FILM SCREENING-PRICE CENTER THEATER WEST
Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at UC San Diego will be hosting an exclusive film screening of the still-unreleased and highly acclaimed GAZA (2019) documentary

SAT 5.18

10am UC SAN DIEGO 9TH ANNUAL POWWOW-MARSHALL FIELD
Event is open to everyone!

4pm CAMBODIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION'S 14TH ANNUAL CULTURE SHOW-PRICE CENTER BALLROOM EAST

THE GUARDIAN

CLASSIFIEDS



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CARS

2016 Lincoln MK-Series in San Diego, CA. Certified. CARFAX One-Owner. Hybrid FWD Aisin e-CVT Powersplit 2.0L 14 Atkinson-Cycle iVCT Lincoln Certified Used Info: * Vehicle History * Includes Car Rental and Trip Interruption Reimbursement * Warranty Deductible: \$100 * Roadside Assistance * Transferable Warranty * ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Used Volkswagen Tiguan 2016 Night Blue Metallic, 32.1K miles in San Diego, CA. 2016 Pre-owned Volkswagen Tiguan for Sale. Features: Window Grid And Roof Mount Diversity Antenna, Audio Theft Deterrent, Radio w/Seek-Scan, MP3 Player, Clock, Speed Compensated Volume Control, Steering Wheel Controls and Radio Data System... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Used Volkswagen Jetta Sedan 2016 Black Uni, 33K miles in San Diego, CA. 2016 Pre-owned Volkswagen Jetta Sedan for Sale. Features: Window Grid Diversity Antenna, one LCD Monitor In The Front, Audio Theft Deterrent, four Speaker Audio System, Radio: Composition Color w/5 Touchscreen-inc: Am-fm stereo, Compact disc player w/auxiliary-in and Bluetooth connectivity, Radio w/Seek-Scan ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

BIKES

Fuji Newest 3.0 Road Bike with STI shifters (Santee) in San Diego, CA. It is in very attractive condition, 27 speed, 43CM, brand new tires, carbon fork, ready to ride, VERY LIGHT, asking 260, please call or text ***. Please check my other listings, I have several bikes for sale, type in my phone number ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

53cm Trek Soho 3.0 Roadbike hybrid bike \$250 (Carlsbad) in San Diego, CA. Was used for riding to work but now its just hanging in the garage. In terrific shape and was maintained at the trek shop. Just needs a new home. . Wheels and Tires Hubs: Shimano M525 Tires:

700 x 25 Components Brakeset: juicy hydraulic ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Beach Cruiser Bicycle - Used (East County) in San Diego, CA. Firmstrong Urban Man Single Speed - Used Beach Cruiser Bicycle 26-Inch, Black * 26-inch men's single-speed cruiser bike for easy, relaxed riding * Classic curvy beach cruiser design with 17-inch durable steel frame and 26-inch aluminum wheels ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

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Structural Engineer Interns And Entry Level in Poway, CA - HTK Structural Engineers located in Poway is seeking *INTERNS and entry level ENGINEERS to perform structural design and detailing for a variety of commercial and residential projects. Knowledge of wood,

structural steel, concrete masonry and current building codes is desirable ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Executive Administrative Assistant at Luxury Fashion Company in New York City, NY - Directly support CEO and Creative Director, professionally greet and handle studio visitors and callers and manage showroom and office appearance and functionality. - Manage calendars for CEO and Creative Director - Book travel arrangements for executives ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Supply Chain Planner in Seattle, WA - This job contributes to Starbucks success by developing tactical and strategic supply plans, and establishing inventory levels for assigned production materials or finished goods to achieve customer service, supply chain and financial objectives ... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-71.

ACROSS

- 1 Edible bow ties
6 Largemouth fish
10 Places
14 Twitter message
15 Provoke
16 Shimmery sushi fish
17 God of Islam
18 "Happy Gilmore" actor Sandler
19 Song sung alone
20 Good reason to reopen a closed case
23 Intent
24 Former franc fraction
25 Broad genre that began in Van Gogh's time
31 Important purchase for a bride
35 "Fideles": Christmas carol
36 Miami University state
38 "Figured it out!"
39 Emeralds and diamonds
40 Enlarge, as a road
42 Elvis Presley
43 "Who am I judge?"
44 Unit of force
45 Natural ability
47 Rica
49 Original thought
51 LAX or JFK, for American Airlines
53 Joule fraction
54 Title of Obama's 2009 Cairo speech, and what 20-, 25- and 49-Across have in common
61 Festive party
62 Tree house?
63 Spine-chilling
66 Like Homer's "Iliad"
67 Hudson Bay native
68 Furnish with more weapons
69 Eraser crumb site
70 Pay attention to
71 Eyelid woes Indiana city of song

DOWN

- 1 "Harper Valley ..."
2 Hole-making tool
3 Ego
4 Rip
5 Deep down inside
6 Rodeo bull
7 White House staffer
8 Pole or Czech
9 Big rigs
10 One who puts on airs
11 Atop
12 Soft rock
13 Horse's footwear
21 Muscular
22 Birdbrain, or extinct bird
25 Hocus-pocus
26 Words that start many Keats titles
27 Band samples
28 Twisty road curve
29 Beverly Hills' Drive
30 Alexander-Great link
32 Like some seals
33 Glistened
34 Rudolph's boss
37 Apprentice
41 B&B
42 Baba who tangled with thieves
44 Slap on, as paint
46 Casbah city
48 Hitting sound
50 Blew off steam
52 Where second stringers sit
54 Like fine wine
55 Scruff
56 Yale alumni
57 Richard of "Chicago"
58 Words of understanding
59 Hair removal brand
60 Cloudy
64 Anger
65 Letters after els

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SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9.

WORD SEARCH

HEY DR. SUESS

Word search grid for Dr. Seuss words.

- EGGS
LORAX
HAT
MULBERRY
WHO
BARBALOOT
HAM
SNEETCHES
WACKY
CAT
THE GRINCH
THNEED
SMOG
TRUFFULA
SAM
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Crossword solution grid with letters.

Why “Playing by the Rules” is More Complex than it Seems

BY PRAVEENNAIR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Down 3 points with nine seconds left on the clock in Game One of the NBA Western Conference semifinals on April 28, Houston Rockets star James Harden pulled up for a game-tying three-pointer with the Golden State Warriors’ Draymond Green in his face. There was contact, Harden went down, the shot hit the rim, and no foul was called. The moment was a culmination of, to hear the Rockets tell it, a series of illegal defensive closeouts by Golden State. After the game, Harden and teammate Chris Paul were openly frustrated about the officiating – said Harden in his post-game press conference, “I just want a fair chance, man.”

The drama following Game One was just the latest in a never-ending pattern of controversy about the role of referees in sports. The Rockets added fuel to the fire the next day when reports indicated they compiled a memo of 81 missed calls from Game 7 of last year’s conference finals alone.

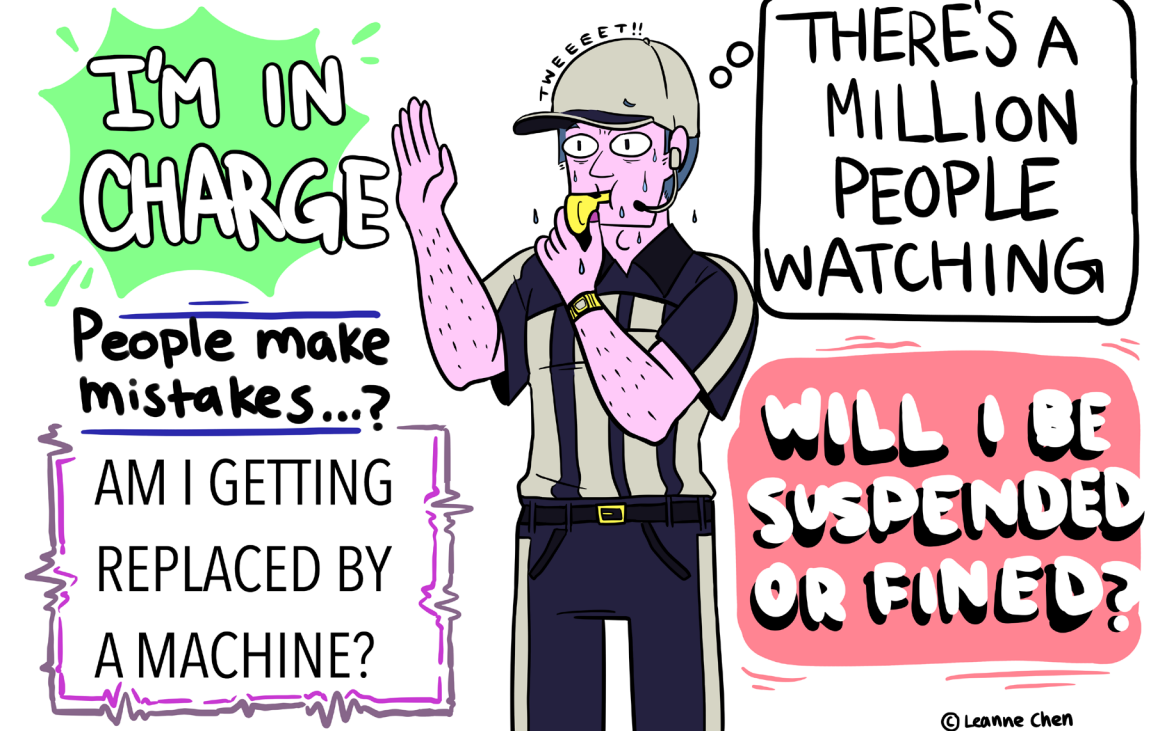
Ultimately, the problems stem from a balance that sports leagues have spent the last century trying to refine – an attempt to formalize the nebulous idea of ‘playing the way the game is supposed to be played’ while simultaneously weighing the safety and ordered structure of gameplay against the dangers of overregulation.

A similar situation played out on 3rd-and-10 with under just two minutes left in the NFL’s

NFC Championship game on all the way back on Jan. 20, as Rams cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman rocked Saints receiver Tommylee Lewis before the ball even reached him – an obvious instance of pass interference. But the foul went uncalled, and it was the Rams, not the Saints, who would advance to the Super Bowl.

In the wake of such injustice, fans often call for more objectivity; if we could only make calls less subjective, there’s less room for the officials to mess up, or so the argument goes. For example, the use of a video assistant referee, or VAR, in the 2018 World Cup was almost universally lauded. And so, like clockwork, NFL owners voted to allow reviewing pass interference in direct response to the Robey-Coleman hit. And that’s the answer, right? Setting aside the fact that just about everything looks like a foul in slow motion, explicit objectivity seems like the solution to bad calls.

If only it were so clear cut. Sometimes strict adherence to the letter of the law doesn’t give us the result we want. Just as dangerous as incorrect calls are the teams whose style of play revolves around exploiting rulebook loopholes – and chief among them is the Houston Rockets. Former player Richard Jefferson pointed out on ESPN’s Jalen and Jacoby that Rockets staff track the pattern of calls by different referees and tailor playstyle accordingly, and SportsCenter host Scott Van Pelt showed tape of Harden kicking



out and jumping forward on contested threes to oversell contact. Harden, last season’s MVP, has received criticism for years for abusing defensive rules, hooking opponents’ arms to simulate contact, and playing for free throws rather than good shots.

But if the Rockets, one of the premier NBA teams of the last few years, have gained success through this behavior, is it really such a bad thing for the game? And maybe more importantly is it really their fault?

It seems unfair for fans to criticize a team – whose only

objective is to win – for doing what the rules allow them to do to reach that goal. The fact that Harden and Paul karate kick their legs out every time they shoot a jumper is simple game theory, and if the NBA allows this to become the dominant strategy under their rules, they are responsible for the unappealing result. Vague and confusing rules, like the NFL’s notoriously convoluted definition of a catch, or the very discretionary rules on what an NBA technical foul is, are also to blame for confusing sports fans, players, and referees further.

The cat-and-mouse game

between teams trying to gain a competitive advantage and leagues trying to regulate will never end, and neither will anger at referees (after all, fans’ opinions rest more with whether the call goes against their team than the accuracy of the decision). We can only hope to avoid games where, as with Warriors-Rockets or Saints-Rams, being bogged down in rules and those who enforce them overshadows the players and sports we love.

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UPCOMING
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GAMES

Baseball	5/16	TBD
W Tennis	5/14	2 PM
M Rowing	5/18	1 PM
Softball	5/16	12 PM

NCAA West Regional
vs. Azusa Pacific
Western Sprints
@ Rancho Cordova
@ Concordia-Irvine

Softball Bounces Back from Early Losses, Wins the NCAA West Regional

BY WESLEY XIAO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As first baseman Brittney Ross-Smith tagged out California State University, Chico's final runner, the UC San Diego dugout erupted with cheers; players and coaches emptied out onto the softball diamond to celebrate. They had done it. UCSD had won game 7 of the NCAA West Regional Tournament. The season wasn't over yet.

On the other side of the field, the Chico State Wildcat's dugout responded to the end of the game with disappointment. For Chico State, this is the end of the road, the official close to its 2019 season; for UCSD, it is another step closer to the ultimate goal: an NCAA championship title.

Looking back at before the start of UCSD's playoff run, the team seemed out of sorts and a Regional title seemed unlikely. The Tritons, ranked No. 1 in the California Collegiate Athletic Association, split their four-game home series against conference opponent California State University, San Bernardino, ranked No. 6 in the CCAA. Though the win-loss ratio looks even, the Tritons were outscored 18-8 in that series with a resounding 10-0 loss in their

second game.

This disappointing level of performance followed the Tritons into their postseason, at least in the beginning. In the CCAA tournament, their first playoff action, the Tritons dropped their first two games to California State University, Sonoma (5-4) and San Francisco State University (3-0) and were eliminated from the tournament for the conference they were perched atop just a few days before.

Despite not winning the CCAA tournament, UCSD managed to earn a spot in the NCAA West Regional Tournament. The Tritons were the no. 2 seeded team, but there was still uncertainty around the team.

UCSD seemed to dispel these doubts in the first round, defeating the University of Central Washington 2-1, marking their first playoff win. The second round of the tournament, however, was when UCSD's playoff bug seemed to resurface. In game 3 of the tournament, the Tritons lost to Chico State 6-4. After an explosive start, where the Tritons scored three times in the first two innings and held the Wildcats to just 1 run, it looked like UCSD was well on their way to advancing to the next round. But, the Triton's big

start petered out and Chico State climbed back to win.

With this loss, UCSD was bumped to the losers bracket. The Tritons had a tough road ahead of them, but they were not entirely eliminated. In order to win the tournament, the Tritons would have to do the following: beat Sonoma State in game 5 (which begins only a few hours after game 3), face Chico State again in game 6, and then beat Chico State again in game 7 (the tiebreaker round).

And the Tritons did exactly that. They took down Sonoma State 5-2 and then beat Chico State twice in two very close games, 5-4 and 2-1, respectively, to extend their season.

Senior third baseman Maddy Lewis played a crucial role. In the two wins against Chico State, Lewis averaged 2 hits and 1 run each game and recorded 4 stolen bases.

Next week, the softball team heads to Irvine, CA to face off against Concordia University Irvine in a two game series for NCAA Super Regionals. The two teams will play for the West Region title and a spot in the NCAA National Championship.

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Women's Water Polo Knocked Out of NCAA Tournament by No. 1 USC

BY PRAVEEN NAIR
STAFF WRITER

Top-ranked University of Southern California put an end to UC San Diego's season on Friday with a 14-8 win in the NCAA quarterfinals, the last match of the Western Water Polo era for the Tritons' women's water polo squad. Despite a 5-goal showing from sophomore attacker Grace Pevehouse, the Tritons (22-14) could not create enough offense to counter a balanced attack from the defending champion Trojans (26-1).

USC started the match off on the offensive, but they hit the post five times in as many minutes to start the contest. The Tritons were able to capitalize on the dry stretch by scoring first, with team captain and senior attacker Krista Schneider

assisting Pevehouse on a powerplay goal to open the scoring. But the Trojans wouldn't trail for long, tying the match up just 28 seconds later; they would score twice more in the period to hold a 3-1 lead entering the second.

In the second period, the Tritons looked poised for a comeback, as a goal from senior center and WWPA Co-Player of the Year Chanel Schilling and a pair of scores from Pevehouse had the Tritons just a goal back at 5-4 with a minute to go in the half. But the Trojans would put the game out of reach down the stretch in the third quarter, scoring the next seven goals, six in the third period, to amass a commanding 12-4 lead going into the final period.

Although the Tritons had an efficient offensive fourth period (with goals on 4 of 7 shots), it

was just too little, too late for the Tritons. Between goals from sophomore utility player Sydney Boland and senior attacker Shelby Stender, Pevehouse notched her team-leading 65th and 66th goals of the season. But USC held on, scoring twice early in the period themselves, securing the 14-8 victory and keeping their season alive.

The Tritons just could not muster some of the offensive firepower that propelled them to a seventh straight WWPA title a couple weekends before, with Pevehouse having to carry the majority of the scoring burden; meanwhile, UCSD's All-WWPA keeper freshman Bennett Bugelli managed only three saves against 12 goals allowed. However, the Tritons did manage a much better showing than their 13-4 loss to the

Trojans in January.

On the other end, a dream season for USC continues. Despite the arrest of coach Jovan Vavic mid-season for his involvement in the widespread college admissions scandal, the team roll into the next round as favorites to defend their title. The semifinals feature a pair of California faceoffs, as USC takes on fourth seed University of California, Berkeley and No. 2 Stanford University (the only team to defeat USC this season) meets UCLA.

The Tritons reached the quarterfinals after a 12-8 victory over Wagner College Seahawks in the play-in game on Tuesday, led by a four-goal haul from Stender. UCSD, which had been eliminated by Wagner (30-10 overall record) in each of the last two NCAA tournaments, did not trail the

entire match. The Tritons would lead 4-1 after a first quarter that featured two scores from Stender, and never look back, maintaining at least a two-goal cushion for the remainder of the match. Both teams shot lights out, as the Tritons scored on 12 of 13 shots and the Seahawks scored 8 of their 9.

While the tournament run might be over, UCSD faces a transition to the Big West for the 2020 season. While the Tritons, who won a seventh straight conference championship this season, have not lost a WWPA match since 2012, they are looking to step up recruiting efforts to begin their inaugural Big West season on the right foot.

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Triton Offense Stymied; Baseball Knocked from CCAA Tournament

BY HAYDEN WELLBELOVED
STAFF WRITER

No. 4 UC San Diego entered the California Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament on a seven-game win streak and a with a league-leading record of 35--10. With newly named 2019 CCAA MVP sophomore shortstop Shay Whitcomb and company, the Tritons were heavy favorites to close out the last few games before the NCAA Regional Tournament and win the conference championship. However, two crushing back-to-back losses against California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and San Francisco State University knocked them out, and likely will move the Tritons down in seeding for the NCAA Division II tournament.

For game one of the CCAA tournament, the Tritons took on Cal Poly Pomona falling by a final score of 3-2. Whitcomb, a .335 hitter with 8 home runs and 36 RBI this season, has been amazing all year for UCSD and in his first at-bat since being awarded league MVP, he sent a 1-0 pitch over the fence in the bottom of the first, giving UCSD a 1-0 lead. The game remained close for its entirety, as each team relied on its defense and pitching in a game that featured only 8 total hits combined. Senior utility RJ Prince added to the lead in the 6th inning after smacking his 4th homer of the year to put the Tritons up 2-0.

However, after 5 scoreless innings from sophomore right-handed pitcher Noah Conlon, the Mustangs got to junior reliever Ted

Stuka after giving up 2 hits, a walk and issuing a wild pitch in the 7th. And after manufacturing another run in the 8th, the Mustangs held on to win the game 3-2.

The Tritons troubles would not end here, though, as in the next game of the CCAA tournament, in Stockton, San Francisco State (24-20-1) managed to take down the Tritons by a score of 5-1, and marked junior starting pitcher Brandon Weed's first loss of the year, moving his record to 9-1. This was the first meeting of the year between these two teams as the series earlier in the year was cancelled due to poor weather. Offensively, the Tritons looked over-matched, for besides a solo home run from redshirt sophomore infielder Blake Bumgartner, the Tritons failed to make anything

happen at the plate. For one of the few times all year, the CCAA Pitcher of the Year Weed was not able to keep the Tritons ahead, albeit his offense only provided him with one run.

Although this doesn't kick the Tritons out of the NCAA tournament, they may have given up home-field advantage for at least potentially the second game. Head Coach Eric Newman, 2019 CCAA Coach of the Year, remained optimistic with his ballclub, however, as in a postgame press conference for the CCAA he said "What happened over the past two days doesn't diminish this season you had, and you get to keep playing, so let's learn from what just happened and get better next weekend."

Newman is right, the Tritons

should be confident with two CCAA MVPs, the CCAA's best record, and the CCAA's best coach at the helm as they head into next week where they'll begin the postseason with the NCAA West Regionals. With a full week of rest, the Triton should be 100 percent and ready to play with some passion following the disappointing end to the CCAA tournament and hopefully are able "to learn from their mistakes".

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