

THE GUARDIAN

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Monday, December 3, 2007

The Student Voice Since 1967

New Price Center to Be Completed by March

By Vanessa Do
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Price Center, originally designed for a university with 15,000 students and staff, is doubling in size to fit the needs of UCSD's growing population. The renovations, which will be completed by March, include a new post office and computer lab, among other additions.

Currently, UCSD enrolls about 27,500 students and is projected to reach 30,000 by 2010. Including the newly renovated bookstore and a new four-story building, the expanded Price Center will increase in size by about 175,000 square feet.

University Centers Director Paul Terzino said the new food court — with eight additional restaurants — will feature indoor seating for 375 people, as well as outdoor seating for

See **EXPANSION**, page 6

ACLU Bashes Free Speech Policy



Greenpeace advocate Ray Moreno (right) recruits a student on Library Walk. A proposed policy revision could restrict freedom of expression in specific campus areas.

End of six-month comment period sees more than half of student respondents opposing any form of regulation.

By Serena Renner
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

While Dec. 1 marked the final day to publicly comment on a revised version of the campus' freedom of expression policy, recent allegations of unconstitutionality suggest that the discussion is far from over.

The new draft of section nine of the university properties use policy, which defines permitted speech, advocacy and distribution of literature, was released during finals week of last Spring Quarter. Students received an e-mail titled "Review of PPM 510-1 Section IX" on June 8 that provided a Web site link to the new policy and asked for input by June 25.

Some students, such as Sixth College sophomore Juan Vasquez, protested the limited comment period and argued that the two-week time slot — which spanned finals week and the start of summer — was not long

See **POLICY**, page 3

Senate Focuses Transfer Integration on Seminars

Campus examines specialized courses to combat transfer-student isolation and preparedness issues.

By Diana Tith
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Adjusting to college life, the UCSD quarter system and living away from home can be difficult for any incoming freshman. But transfer students, thrown into UCSD's academic sphere without the benefits of on-campus social networking, often face an even more challenging experience.

As part of its ongoing commitment to better involve transfer students in the campus community and enhance their preparation for UCSD's rigorous curriculum, the Academic Senate Committee on Educational Policy is currently scrutinizing its existing seminars for transfer students and planning for future expansion, according to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Penny Rue.

"One of the things I like to say about transfer students is, 'Transfer is something you do, not something you are,'" Rue said in a Nov. 20 interview. "After a month, you want

to be called a UCSD student, not a transfer student."

Offering transfers a "small academic experience" that acquaints them with campus and student life is a necessary step toward alleviating feelings of isolation, Rue said.

Biology professor and Academic Senate Chair Jim Posakony said that the committee is not currently reviewing any proposals for new transfer seminars, but will continue examining current course offerings until the review is completed.

Currently, all seminars are offered through the Transfer Student Seminar Program and are reserved exclusively for transfer students, according to the UCSD Office of Academic Affairs. The courses are offered during Fall Quarter, graded on a pass/no pass basis and count for one unit of credit.

However, only a certain number of divisions and departments offer the seminars. During last quarter's enrollment period, seminars were provided by Sixth College, the Division of Biological Sciences, and the departments of economics, political science and sociology. Most of the seminars being offered address topics such as how to access UCSD resources, how to get involved in research or internship

See **SEMINARS**, page 6

CEO's Blunder Magnifies Research Ethics Debate

By Jesse Alm
STAFF WRITER

A leading member of California's stem cell research governing board was recently criticized for a letter of appeal he submitted last summer to reverse a board decision rejecting a grant proposal made by his La Jolla research group. The alleged conflict of interest, meanwhile, has rekindled statewide debate over medical researchers' participation in the allocation of their own funding.

In August, Burnham Institute for Medical Research President and CEO John Reed contested the rejection of a \$638,000 grant that would have gone to a Burnham-affiliated researcher. Reed sent an appeal to Arlene Chiu, chief scientific officer of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine — a body governed by the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee, of which Reed is a member.

John Simpson, director of the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, is one of several individuals calling for Reed's resignation, as well as that of ICOC Chairman Robert Klein, who advised Reed to submit the appeal.

"You can't kind of shuffle your feet and say, 'Aw, shucks. This is serious,'" Simpson said. "Reed is a wonderful scientist and a good executive at Burnham, but I think this is something

that needs to be nipped in the bud before it becomes the normal way that things are done at the ICOC."

Simpson expressed a similar sentiment regarding Klein's involvement in the incident.

"[Klein] gave Reed advice to break the law," he said. "They should both go."

Michael W. Kalichman, director of the UCSD Research Ethics Program and the San Diego Stem Cell Research Ethics Consortium, said that Reed has an obvious conflict of interest in the matter. However, he said he believed that Reed's decision to send the letter represented a misunderstanding of specific regulations rather than an error in judgment, and sees no reason for any resignations.

"There is nothing on the surface that is wrong about having a conflict of interest," Kalichman said. "The question is, what do we do when we have that conflict? It's clear that on the surface this doesn't look good, but it's not as black and white as I think some people want to portray it."

Simpson attributed some of the conflict to Proposition 71, whose November 2004 passage established the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine and the ICOC. He said the committee's large size and the number of appointed members who compete

See **STEM CELLS**, page 7

The Next Wave of Lie Detectors?

UCSD professors design computer program that reads facial expressions, differentiates real from artificial pain.

By Christina Homer
STAFF WRITER

For anyone that has had difficulty reading another person's facial expressions, a new technology developed by UCSD researchers could recruit the help of an unlikely candidate: a computer.

Marian Stewart Bartlett, an associate research professor at UCSD's Institute for Neural Computation and co-director of the Machine Perception Lab, presented her work with automated computer recognition of human facial expressions at a recent digital imaging conference. Bartlett uses a system called "machine learning" to train computers to recognize different facial expressions.

First, the computer detects the face and facial features of the subject and determines the alignment of the sub-

See **EXPRESSION**, page 7

FOCUS

Beware the Red Cup

With the growing Facebook audience, students face potential consequences for scandalous photo albums.

page 8



SPORTS

Lucky Number Seven

No. 4 women's basketball takes two more conference wins, giving the team a 7-0 record.





page 16



INSIDE

- Currents.....2
- Lights and Sirens3
- Column4
- Letters to the Editor4
- Crossword12
- Campus Calendar13

WEATHER

	
Dec. 3 H 71 L 48	Dec. 4 H 74 L 53
	
Dec. 5 H 70 L 52	Dec. 6 H 60 L 54

BLOCKHEADS



BY LARS INGELMAN

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CURRENTS

Study: Name Initials May Affect Academic Success

A person's initials can influence how well they perform in school and sports, according to a new study.

Researchers Leif Nelson from UCSD and Joseph Simmons from Yale University studied the effect of first or last-name initials in situations where letters corresponded to an undesirable outcome.

They found that people whose initials matched a negative label perform more poorly than others. Nelson and Simmons report that baseball players whose first or last name starts with the letter K, which represents a strikeout, tended to strike out more often than other players. Similarly, students whose names start with the letters C or D, which signify mediocre marks in grading systems, did not perform as well as other students with different initials.

"Just having the right initial doesn't make you a better baseball player, but it can make you a slightly worse baseball player," Nelson said in a press release.

Model UN Ends Quarter on a Productive Note

UCSD's Model United Nations had an eventful Fall Quarter after its recent reinstatement, holding two conferences, winning four awards and making plans to attend conferences in winter and spring.

In addition, officer elections were held at the end of October, prompting an experienced team of leaders to join the organization.

Along with plans to take 11 del-

egates to the upcoming collegiate conference at UCLA, which will be held from Jan. 18 through Jan. 20, Model UN will also attend the Model United Nations of the Far West Conference in San Francisco during Spring Quarter.

Model UN's home conference will be hosted next year for high school students. The conference offers a learning experience for students and an opportunity to debate controversial international issues concerning the power and effect of the UN in the world today.

UC Riverside Student Killed by Drunk Driver

Pauline Samantha Portes, 19, was fatally wounded during a free-way collision with a motorist traveling the wrong way on the Costa Mesa Freeway on Nov. 30.

Portes, a UC Riverside junior, was headed back to campus from a Newport Beach outing in a blue Toyota pickup truck driven by her boyfriend Steven Nguyen, 19, who suffered moderate injuries.

According to California Highway Patrol Sgt. Lydia Martinez, CHP received news of a wrong-way driver on the freeway at 1:21 a.m. Two minutes later, the collision was reported when a gray Nissan Altima driven by the suspect collided head-on with the pickup.

The 19-year-old woman driving the Altima was seriously injured and taken to a hospital. She was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, according to CHP Officer Denise Quesada. The suspect's name was not immediately released.

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 NEWS
 Catch up on the latest news, without those dirty hands.

OPINION
 Web poll: What are you going to do for winter break?

HIATUS
 Boss ditties: Hear samples of your favorite tunes.

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

SPORTS
 Schedules: Find the best games for Fall Quarter.

CORRECTIONS

A photo caption for a Nov. 29 article titled "UCSD Dodges Systemwide Criticism of Study-Abroad Program" incorrectly stated that 27 percent of UCSD students studied abroad in yearlong programs last year. In fact, 27 percent of UCSD students who studied abroad last year chose to pursue yearlong programs.

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

UCSD

Word on the Street

Auxiliary & Plant Services Marketing & Web Communications

Bicycle Breakfast

Hillcrest cyclists can brake for Rideshare's Bicycle Breakfast on Thursday, December 6, from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. near the shuttle stop across from Hillcrest Medical Center's Arbor Parking Structure.

Pedal Club members and UCSD cycling commuters can get free goodies, giveaways, \$20 bike helmet coupons and register their bicycles on site.

Rideshare Operation's thanks those who prefer pedal power to pushing the pedal to the metal.

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LIGHTS & SIRENS

Friday, Nov. 23

1:03 p.m.: Citizen contact

► A "precarious" hanging tree branch was seen on the corner of Naga Way and La Jolla Shores Drive.

Saturday, Nov. 24

12:29 a.m.: Suspicious person

► A 6-foot-tall male was reported as knocking on a Miramar apartment door, and covering the peephole with his finger. *Unable to locate.*

9:39 p.m.: Alcohol contact

► A white male with a thin build and wearing a tan knit cap was inebriated outside Che Cafe. *Field interview administered.*

Monday, Nov. 26

6:22 a.m.: Indecent exposure

► A couple was found sleeping after "having relations" in a Pepper Canyon Hall room for the second week in a row. *Checks OK.*

9:12 a.m.: Missing juvenile

► A Latino 11-year-old with a thin build and wearing a maroon shirt was reported as missing from the Preuss School.

11:02 a.m.: Report of kidnapping

► A male juvenile wearing a maroon sweater reported someone threatening to kidnap him at the Student Services Center.

1 p.m.: Medical aid

► A 19-year-old female fainted at York Hall due to exposure to ammonia and hydrogen sulfide.

3:31 p.m.: Prisoner

► A 24-year-old white female wearing a pink top and multicolored skirt, detained for battery, was reported as uncooperative in the Thornton Hospital examination room.

10:30 p.m.: Vehicle disturbance

► Music was heard "blasting" from a vehicle parked outside Atlantis Hall for 45 minutes.

Tuesday, Nov. 27

2:51 p.m.: Report of petty theft

► A Round Table Pizza employee reported \$300 stolen from a cash register.

5:45 p.m.: Animal call

► A small brown dog, called "Pippy," was found leashed to a bench at Peterson Hall, but was not in a state of distress.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

7:11 a.m.: Child abuse

► A short Latino male in his 30s was heard possibly beating his 4- and 5-year-old children on Regents Road.

5:47 p.m.: Chemical spill

► A female reported having a dangerous reaction to a chemical she had accidentally rubbed on her forearm.

9:08 p.m.: Possession of marijuana

► The smell of marijuana and sound of spray paint were detected at Mandeville Center. *Gone on arrival.*

Thursday, Nov. 29

12:48 p.m.: Fire

► A Miramar resident reported that his neighbor's apartment was on fire, and that the smoke detector was going off.

2:44 p.m.: Medical aid

► A female student at the Natural Sciences Building was reported as losing consciousness after donating blood.

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

Letter Alleges 10 Constitutional Violations

► **POLICY**, from page 1
enough and undermined the importance of freedom of speech.

The comment period was then extended to Dec. 1 after Vasquez and others mobilized a group of over 80 concerned students that met with former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Watson on June 11 to question the proposed changes.

The university intended to release the document sooner and allot more commenting time, according to UCSD Associate Controller and committee chair Sally Brainerd, who said that the current draft was finalized in February but released in June because of bureaucratic delays.

The 26-year-old policy has been under review since 2001 in efforts to bring its language in line with changes in the law regarding freedom of speech, Brainerd said. However, many aspects of the new policy may actually threaten the First Amendment rights of students and staff, according to an eight-page letter submitted on Nov. 19 by the San Diego chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

SDACLU Legal Director David Blair-Loy cited case law, contending that 10 different sections of the revision are unconstitutional.

"If their policy as it was written went before a court of law, it would fail," Blair-Loy said in the letter.

The first problem with the document lies under the heading "Reservations," which states that any gathering that can "reasonably be expected to attract a crowd of 10 or more people" must be reserved one business day in advance, SDACLU Field and Policy Director Andrea Guerrero said.

Guerrero said that this condition, referred to as a "prior restraint," does not allow for spontaneous expression and is therefore problematic under the Supreme Court's definition of the First Amendment.

A large parade that blocks traffic

and impedes public access may warrant a permit, she said, but a crowd of 10 people is not a burden to others in a public space.

"[The policy] impermissibly restricts speech before it even happens by forcing people to reserve the right to speak," Guerrero said.

This limitation has also concerned university officials, Brainerd said.

"Ten is a very low number and such an approach may not be adopted at all," she said in October. "We will work with the committee to establish a more reasonable protocol."

In addition, the same provision

"If their policy as it was written went before a court of law, it would fail."

— David Blair-Loy, legal director, San Diego Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union

imposes the unconstitutional responsibility for one person to take financial responsibility for others, while granting the university "unbridled discretion" to deny permits without including a deadline on their issuance, Guerrero said.

Guerrero added that one of the policy's biggest problems is its vagueness, such as the stipulation that prohibits speakers from making anyone part of an "involuntary audience."

Brainerd said this condition is intended to protect listeners from becoming audience members without their consent.

"While speakers have a right to speak, listeners have a right not to listen," she said. "Speakers may not take steps that make it impossible for listeners not to listen."

While the regulation's purpose may be legitimate, the wording as it stands is open to content control, which Guerrero called a "big no-no" in regard to the First Amendment. The policy also attempts to restrict content by regulating the "political activity" of faculty and staff without sufficient justification or clearly defined terms, she said.

"It is especially troubling for a university, which carries the extra burden of encouraging the free exchange of ideas, to attempt to restrict the speech of the students, faculty and administrators on campus," Guerrero said.

Brainerd said the current document is just a draft, however, and changes will be considered once the revision committee meets in December or January.

According to the latest figures, released on Nov. 27, an estimated 170 people submitted comments in response to the new policy, 93 of whom were against having any policy at all.

Brainerd said that the policy revision took a considerable amount of time to prepare and that the university is in no rush to enact a revised document.

The university has not yet released a list of committee members because several positions have not been confirmed, she said, but the group will consist of 16 members chosen by the A.S. Council, Graduate Student Association, Academic Senate, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs Steven W. Relyea and Watson.

"The committee's goal is to use the input it receives from the entire campus community to formulate a policy that upholds the rights of freedom of speech while at the same time preserving and promoting an environment conducive to study, research and learning," Brainerd said.

Readers can contact Serena Renner at serenner@ucsd.edu.

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UNIVERSITY CENTERS

E-LIST

WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT FALL 2007

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THURSDAY, DEC. 6 & SATURDAY, DEC. 8

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PRICE CENTER THEATRE
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MONDAY, DEC. 3

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
NEW ENGLAND @ BALTIMORE

ROUND TABLE PIZZA
5:30pm • FREE

ROMA NIGHTS PERFORMANCE BY
NATE DONNIS

ESPRESSO ROMA
PRICE CENTER • 8pm • FREE

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

FEATURED POET: VIET MAI

PERK'S AT PRICE CENTER
6pm • FREE

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

DJ Fridays THE DJ'S & VINYLPHILES CLUB
music • food • fun

ROUND TABLE PIZZA PATIO
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WEEK 10
DECEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 8

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New Services to Include Grocery Store, Bank, Salon

► **EXPANSION**, from page 1

160 people. The new design will also help alleviate weekday traffic, he said.

"The footprint of the expansion is slightly smaller than the existing Price Center, but it does add a basement level — which is the loading dock — and it has four floors while the existing Price Center has three floors," he said.

Besides the new seating, a computer lab, a post office, a bank, a grocery store and a hair salon, there will be more office space for student organizations. Spaces have been reserved for the Alumni Association, A.S. Council, Center for Student Involvement, Student-Run Recruitment and Retention Center and Cross-Cultural Center, which Terzino hopes will unite the campus.

"There will be two new major entrances, one from the bus turnaround at the end of Matthew Lane, and one at [the] Myers Drive/Lyman Lane intersection across from the Student Services Center," he said. "In addition, there will be several other convenient entrances to the expansion. I think students will be very pleased with the openness and accessibility of the Price Center once the expansion is complete."

Once the construction is finished, many of the offices in the current Price Center will be relocated, including those of the A.S. Council, which will be moving from the third floor of Price Center to the fourth.

"With the growth of the student population, the expansion seems to be able to meet many of the needs of the campus," A.S. President Marco Murillo said. "The central location of the expansion will hopefully improve

the connection between students and UCSD as many more services will be provided."

According to project manager Jay Smith, the design's basic elements were dictated by a poll that was part of last spring's student-initiated fee referendum and incorporated into the Price Center expansion project. In addition to the ideas presented by architects, other design concepts were endorsed by members of the Building Advisory Committee, two-thirds of whom are students.

"[Some ideas are that] the building should be 'porous' and allow circulation through it from many directions and levels, and connecting the circulation desire lines that exist on campus already," Smith said. "The activities in the building should also be visually accessible, meaning that what is going on on multiple floors should be able to be seen from any floor. The central atrium was established for this."

In Price Center's new atrium, there will be a 3,000-square-foot piece of artwork by conceptual artist and former UCSD professor Barbara Kruger, designed as a piece of interactive campus architecture.

"The piece uses a large wall high up in the atrium, as well as 30 terrazzo rectangles in the floor throughout the space, and two large LED text signs with a continuous streaming news feed to include everything from international news to surf reports," Stuart Art Collection Project Manager Mathieu Gregoire said. "My sense is that it will be about time, about how every day is completely different but also the same, and about how in all the busyness of our lives, we guide ourselves with certain ideas, and each

of us is responsible for these ideas."

The initial overall budget for the Price Center expansion, established by the BAC in late 2003, totaled \$72.2 million, Smith said.

"[The budget] remained [the same] through the development of the design and construction drawings, although many 'value engineering' or cost-cutting sessions were required," he said. "This was because, along with real estate at the time, construction costs were increasing over 20 percent per year in 2004 and 2005. When the project was bid to subcontractors in 2006, it came in another 10 percent over budget, so between some more value engineering and additional contributions from the funding parties, only \$4.4 million had to be added to the budget to raise it to \$76.6 million."

Smith said the budget is not expected to exceed that sum. Of the \$4.4 million that was added to the budget, \$3.3 million came from Student Affairs and University Centers.

The ATM kiosk and basement-level loading dock are already completely operable, and most of the fee-funded areas, which include the atrium food court, computer lab and group study rooms, are slated to be complete in January. The rest of the building should be finished around the beginning of March.

"The construction is moving very much as planned, regardless of some difficult unknown utility issues," Smith said. "We will be taking occupancy of 95 percent of the facility within 30 days of the original forecast date."

Readers can contact Vanessa Do at v3do@ucsd.edu.

Rue: Seminars Need Academic Depth to Achieve Campus Goals

► **SEMINARS**, from page 1

opportunities and what options are available to them upon graduation.

Some transfer students, however, believe that more in-depth seminars could help them overcome the burdens of integration and become more immersed in campus activities.

Travis Nelson, president of Thurgood Marshall College's

Transfer and Re-Entry Students Organization, said that any transfer seminar geared toward academic preparation would be very useful in illustrating UCSD's competitive atmosphere and high expectations.

"I'll admit that I never read

a book while attending community college," Nelson said.

All-Campus Transfer Association President Marwan Azzam said there is a general understanding that transfer students need a different kind of attention.

Each of the colleges at UCSD has its own programs to get students involved with the campus, but Azzam said the main problem is a lack of motivation.

"It's not that UCSD has not made the effort to get transfer students involved but rather it's on the part of transfer students to get involved,"

he said.

While Azzam feels that transfer seminars are a step in the right direction, he said there would need to be something more substantive than an orientation-based curriculum to entice students. Most transfer students come into UCSD during their junior year, so they are focused on attending class and meeting their career goals, he said.

I'll admit that I never read a book while attending community college.

— Travis Nelson, president, Thurgood Marshall College's Transfer and Re-Entry Students Organization

Rue agreed with Azzam, saying that inadequate depth led to the rejection of some past transfer seminar proposals made by individual colleges.

"The colleges put some together, but they were too 'adjustment to college' and not academically robust,"

she said. "Right now, the main outreach to transfers is through the colleges, but it's very hard to do that without residence."

Azzam's concerns reflect the sentiments of many transfer students themselves.

"I'd attend the seminars, it would be nice if they counted for my degree too," said John Muir College junior and transfer student Steven Tang. "Actually, if they didn't I might not be motivated enough to go."

Readers can contact Diana Tith at dtith@ucsd.edu.

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► **EXPRESSION**, from page 1
ject's face. The image is passed to a bank of image filters, which prescribes patterns of light and dark in a manner that computers can understand.

The image is then passed to the machine learning system, which has been trained on thousands of expression models — both positive examples of the expression and examples of its absence — from the categories in question.

"It learns to differentiate the patterns," Bartlett said.

According to Bartlett, the system is precise and accurate because it has not been hand-designed by humans. Human operators are not required to distinguish between emotions; instead, the machine identifies subtle patterns from a series of images of different people experiencing the same emotion. The computer is powerful enough to detect which facial movements remain the same in all of the expressions.

Gwen Littlewort, Bartlett's co-director and a member of the Institute for Neural Computation, said that machine learning of this type has been around for decades. However, applications of the technology are quickly expanding as computers become more powerful.

As methods to collect data about facial expressions improve, so does the capacity to analyze emotions in those expressions.

Currently, UCSD's Machine Perception Lab has trained the computer system to recognize joy, sadness, surprise, anger, fear, disgust and neutral

expressions.

"We can analyze these facial expressions on two different levels," Bartlett said. "We can recognize emotions or we can answer specific questions. Is it real pain versus fake pain?"

While humans normally have a 50-percent chance of guessing whether an emotion is genuine, the computer has performed significantly above chance — showing up to a 72-percent accuracy rate.

"Because it can measure 30 [out of 46] component [facial] movements, it gets information on nearly the full range of facial expressions," Bartlett said.

"We can recognize emotions or we can answer specific questions. Is it real pain versus fake pain?"

— Marian Stewart Bartlett, co-Director, Machine Perception Lab

In addition to identifying emotions and determining whether they are true or simulated, the system is also capable of ranking their intensity. The recognition system has also been trained to recognize facial expressions demonstrating fatigue

or alertness.

Bartlett said the technology can be used as a tool for further study in other related fields.

"Given that it recognizes facial expressions on those dimensions, you can learn new relations between behavior and facial expressions," she said.

Littlewort said that possible uses of this technology include social robotics, educational software, software that could accurately determine levels of pain, tools to recognize deception and helpful ways to monitor or train people with neurological conditions.

Readers can contact Christina Homer at chomer@ucsd.edu.

Resignation Unnecessary, Board Says

► **STEM CELLS**, from page 1
for the money are fundamental structural flaws.

"We're working with the law as it exists, but [CIRM] was designed under Prop. 71 with built-in conflicts," he said.

Kalichman disagreed, saying that it is reasonable to grant oversight responsibilities to experts such as Reed.

"The alternative would be to put people in who don't know what the best choices are," he said.

In a Nov. 21 interview with the publishers of the California Stem Cell Report blog, CIRM Interim President Richard Murphy said that since the board had already made its decision when it received Reed's letter, the confusion was simple to address and no penalty is necessary.

"As soon as CIRM staff received the letter, counsel advised Dr. Reed that he must refrain from contacting the staff and board members regarding a grant to Burnham and advised staff to disregard Dr. Reed's letter," he said. "It therefore had no effect on CIRM's process."

At the annual meeting of the Citizens Financial Accountability Oversight Committee in San Francisco on Nov. 27, Simpson argued that Reed and Klein should step down. State Controller John Chiang responded by sending a letter to the Fair Political Practices Commission requesting an inquiry into the allegations.


"Whether they are perceived or real blemishes, we must resolve any conflict of interest questions quickly so we can protect the important and powerful work that is taking place in stem cell research," Chiang said.

Readers can contact Jesse Alm at jessealm@gmail.com.

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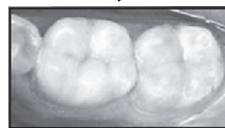
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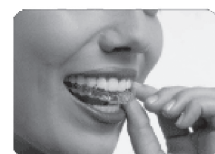


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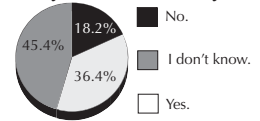
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Brown	Gene Cloning & DNA Analysis	5	\$39.00	63
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Connally	Functions Modeling Change (UCSD Ed.)		\$36.75	106
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Connally	Functions Modeling Change S.M.	3	\$24.75	53
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Hughes-Hallett	Calculus: Single & Multivar. S.M.	4	\$22.75	144
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Shut Up and Give Me the Candy

So what is up with those little Dove chocolates? I'm not just talking about any sweets; I mean the tiny, individually foil-wrapped ones with those cutesy "PROMISES Messages" on the inside.



Stealing the Shoes

Hadley Mendoza
hsmendoz@ucsd.edu

"It's definitely a bubble bath day," the little blue foil announced as I opened it hurriedly on my way to class. Actually, no. It's definitely a one-midterm-and-three-papers-due-this-week day, it's definitely a no-sleep-caffeine-headache day and it's definitely a haven't-had-enough-time-to-shower day.

It is not, however, a bubble bath day. In fact, when was the last time it was a bubble bath day? Who is Mars Inc. even talking to? Independently wealthy stay-at-home moms who crave chocolate and take bubble baths?

I'm a 20-year-old full-time college student with two jobs. I'm busy, hungry and I didn't pay a quarter to get some fluffy life advice from a candy company. I need a sugar rush, not a miniature reminder that this is the quarter's most stressful week.

But it seems like everything we consume has become a wannabe fortune cookie, not just chocolate.

See SHOES, page 5

UCSD Looks to Higher Ed's Outer Limits

By Vincent Andrews
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

NATIONAL NEWS — Every day spent on UCSD's congested campus makes it more and more difficult to imagine a university that could be any different. For Tritons, prefab lecture halls, porticoes at Center Hall, the anxiety of being on a class waitlist and those mysterious hourly chimes have all come to be unquestioned traits of an institution of learning.

Another accepted characteristic is the proportion of students with only one goal in mind: passionlessly taking the necessary classes, obtaining a degree and hightailing it out of here. As they breeze through general education requirements and enroll in courses specific to their major, they dismiss what may appear to be irrelevant classes. In so doing, these students unwittingly prevent themselves from ever attaining any semblance of cultural depth, a highly important but grossly ignored component of education.

Granted, it is not an easy task to create a curriculum that promotes both professional preparedness and cultural enlightenment — but it is necessary. With solely a vocational education one may be successful in the workplace, but, let's face it, people judge others by what they say and know. Contrary to popular belief, cultural fluency is not a mere vehicle of pretension but is the key to being a respectable adult.

In contrast to our degree-producing factory, some schools have preferred to focus on the development of wordly students. Many, however, have taken it to the extreme.

For example, the curious, somewhat insular, Buddhist-inspired Naropa University in Boulder, Colo. is a 451-student school that advocates "contemplative education," the idea that higher learning should be coupled with meditation in order to promote awareness, mindfulness

and compassion for others. One day a semester, classes are canceled to encourage students and faculty to assemble and participate in an on-campus, in-group meditation. In that same vein, popular majors include Sacred Ecology, Indo-Tibetan Buddhism, Poetry, Traditional Eastern Arts and Sanskrit.

Given the curriculum's glaring one-sidedness, it is a safe conjecture that Naropa graduates are not looking to corporate America for jobs, nor are they exposed to an education that will make them competitive, at least on paper. It is unlikely that employers in fields other than academia or faddish gurudom would seriously consider these degrees.

Schools like Naropa should realize that an education with a limited scope does not bode well for the professional elasticity or future of their students. Indeed, the areas in which alumni have managed to find work are severely limited: alternative therapy, poetry (Allen Ginsberg was once a professor), yoga instruction and religious healing. Hopefully they didn't take out too many student loans.

In any case, for those seeking a more comprehensive curriculum and preferring to not dedicate their education to the Four Noble Truths, *nil desperandum*: St. John's College is accepting applications. However, the coursework at this centuries-old school is *too* broad. Students undergo a program built entirely around an arbitrary list of great books — that is, famous scholarly compositions in all fields of knowledge that have shaped our world. To absorb these timeless texts, students do not attend lectures, nor do they read mere summaries or analyses of these works. They read firsthand the unabridged, unadulterated words of Aristotle, Shakespeare, Descartes, Euclid, Rousseau and other canonical

See COLLEGE, page 5



ADAM PELTIER/GUARDIAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UTC Mall Plans Are Community-, Eco-Friendly

Dear Editor,

Your recent article titled "UTC Mall Shopping for a Green Makeover" outlined many of the improvements that are planned for UTC. This letter is intended to provide even more details on this exciting project.

Westfield initially announced its plans to significantly enhance the center earlier this year. Since then, Westfield has listened carefully to feedback from our shoppers and the community. This input has been valuable in helping refine the project. This week, Westfield unveiled a dynamic architectural model (located in the UTC Experience at UTC) that provides a small-scale, physical representation of the new UTC.

The model, along with images displayed at the UTC Experience, demonstrates how Westfield intends to transform the 30-year-old center into a world-class shopping, dining and entertainment destination. Details of the project include 150 new shops and boutiques, three new anchor stores, five new restaurants, a movie theater and a regional transit center.

Westfield has held numerous meetings with community groups and individuals to obtain feedback on its vision for the project, and articles like the one that appeared in the *Guardian* help us turn our vision into a concrete plan for the new UTC. In addition to being

a popular shopping and social destination for UCSD students, Westfield UTC is one of the largest employers of students in the region, so we highly value their thoughts and opinions.

One of the more interesting elements of the project is that, upon completion, Westfield UTC will be one of the country's most environmentally friendly shopping centers. This will be accomplished by bringing energy-efficient technologies, water conservation measures and sustainable materials into the site. This involves everything from the use of "cool roof" technology to reduce the urban heat island effect to indigenous and drought-resistant landscaping to installing a large-scale solar power project producing clean, renewable energy on-site. Westfield also plans to recycle over 50 percent of all construction waste and use locally sourced building materials to reduce and shorten truck trips.

Obviously, traffic and transportation issues are critically important in the community. That's why Westfield is planning to spend in excess of \$40 million to help ease congestion and improve flow. The result is that the project will have no significant impacts on any of the 59 intersections that were studied in conjunction with the proposed project. Dedicated turn lanes, reconfigured intersections, widened freeway onramps, new traffic lanes and signal lights are all a part of the traffic improvement plan. This is in addition to the proposed regional transit center that will accommodate the

future Super Loop and either a trolley or enhanced bus-rapid transit system in University City.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some additional details on the new UTC. Westfield welcomes community input. We hope you will have an opportunity to visit us in person at the UTC Experience or our project Web site at www.thenewutc.com to learn more.

— Jonathan Bradhurst
Senior Vice President, Westfield UTC

Student Evaluations Pose Negative Side Effects

Dear Editor,

The system of student evaluations is obviously a useful institution that needs to be preserved. It gives students power that they would not otherwise have, and that goes some way toward counterbalancing the institutional power professors and other instructors have over them. While most professors and instructors aim at being as fair, balanced and objective as possible in their grading and in their general attitude toward students, some do not. Without student evaluations, students might be at the mercy of the arbitrary behavior of these professors, as is sometimes the case in other countries.

However, the institution of student evaluations also has serious drawbacks that deserve more consideration than they are usually given. These evalua-

tions do not constitute or even claim to be rational, objective and unbiased assessments based on truth and supported by facts, but are merely subjective expressions of arbitrary personal preferences, whims or resentments. In addition, their anonymity precludes any sense of accountability on the part of the students filling them out. Since no other form of feedback is requested from them, students are led to believe that the proper way to express one's judgment and exercise one's power is through anonymous means that leave one unaccountable and exclude the possibility of rational public debate open to contradiction.

In other words, student evaluations amount to customer satisfaction surveys, and their existence both expresses and contributes to creating the prevailing situation in contemporary American universities where, just like anywhere else, citizens have been turned into customers; providers of knowledge or services into salespersons; things and humans into commodities; and truth value into market value.

In the past I have heard some of my non-tenured colleagues state (in private) that the aim of their teaching was not for students to learn or understand anything but for students to be satisfied so that they would write positive evaluations, thus ensuring the instructor's continued employment. While this degree of cynicism is not shared by most instructors, the system of student evaluations forces all non-tenured instructors — and to some

extent even tenured professors — to view their students as customers, their teaching as a commodity and themselves as salespersons.

I am not advocating the elimination of student evaluations. This advocacy would be as ridiculous, because its implementation would be detrimental. What I am suggesting is that a public debate be conducted on the system of student evaluations. Ultimately, this system involves some of the most crucial questions we have to face as members of an educational community: What is the aim of teaching? What is the purpose of a public educational institution in a market-driven world? What are the goals and reasons for being part of the larger community to which we belong?

— Jean-Louis Morhange
Literature Professor

► The *Guardian* welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be no longer than 500 words, typed, double-spaced and signed with a name and applicable title. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the *Guardian* office on the second floor of the Student Center or e-mailed. Send all letters to:

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Universities Should Aim for Cultural, Yet Practical Education

► **COLLEGE**, from page 4
 scholars of Western thought. And with compulsory ancient Greek and French language training, Johnnies regularly read and discuss texts in their original, untranslated form. To add to the mystique, there are no exams, no classes over 10 people and no grades.

Alas, with too expansive a curriculum comes absolutely no specialization. By graduation, students will have completed four years of humanities, language and mathematics as well as a year of music and three years of science. Comprehensive as it may be, it is professional suicide to educate yourself without any sort of concentration.

Until employers begin seeking workers capable of discussing some obscure allegory in Dante's "Inferno," an erudite mind with little understanding of the nuts and bolts of modern society has no place in current professional spheres. Consequently, a great number of St. John's graduates go on to receive PhDs and teach.

This is not to discredit the value of a classical education (or the credibility of professorship, for that matter), as these curricula cultivate analytical thinking and a thorough knowledge of the history of Western consciousness.

Nevertheless, it is doubtful whether a St. John's graduate (or an alumnus of any other great-books school, like Shimer College in Chicago) could speak knowledgeably about the latest theories in economics and political science, or tackle a complex math or science problem simply after having read a series of antiquated books from centuries ago.

It is time for an institution to incorporate elements from both

schools: A place where equal emphasis is placed on rigorous classical study and world religious practices, which, in turn, can be combined with a marketable safety net of practical, specialized knowledge (i.e., one's major). In other words, an environment that molds knowledgeable, worldly and professionally prepared citizens of the future.

It may seem impracticable, but some universities have come pretty close. Columbia University, the University of Chicago and even UCSD all have variants of this ideal. But there is not enough.

While it is true that programs like Humanities in Revelle College and Making of the Modern World in Eleanor Roosevelt College can be dull for most, it is rare to find graduates who think these programs are worthless. Because of these classes, UCSD students are not only endowed with promising career prospects, but also the confidence to roam with society's educated strata. This is the apotheosis of a modern education, the healthy mixture of scholarship and solid vocational preparation.

With the help of programs that highlight a balance between learnedness and marketability, life will naturally become an unremitting quest for culture, knowledge and professional gratification. Students will begin to dissociate themselves from the so-called generation of intellectual indifference. But most importantly, pre-med students will finally have the knowledge to explain cubism's significance in the beautiful Picasso original that will surely grace the walls of their Beverly Hills mansions.

Readers can contact Vincent Andrews at sandrews@ucsd.edu.

A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lazaro



Spare Me the Sermon, I'm Only Here for the Fries

► **SHOES**, from page 4
 Bottle caps, coffee cups and restaurant receipts are all great places to find these kitschy nuggets of wisdom. You certainly didn't know how to plan your day, so let this little disposable life coach help — Mars Inc. to the rescue!

The problem is, when I open a fortune cookie I'm ready for the novelty of whatever vague, Yoda-like message it holds. But this is just out of control. I don't need someone to remind me that I don't have enough time to sleep; I just want a snack.

And while I'm on the subject, what about those shopping bags and take-out cartons touting Bible passages at In-N-Out? Anyone who

really has the good book on hand to figure out exactly what John 6:13 says has probably already gotten

(And is grease-soaked cardboard really the best place for you to praise the Lord, anyway?)

I guess the sharpest thorn of it all is that these tiny notes are coming from profit-driven commercial giants, not some grandmotherly adviser trying to help you out. Who is some advertising executive to tell me how I should spend my free time?

If anything these blurbs are totally contradictory in nature, since these companies certainly aren't telling their factory workers to take the day off and cuddle up by the fire with some cocoa.

Come on corporate America, give up the charade and stick to what you're good at.

I don't need someone to remind me that I don't have enough time to sleep; I just want a snack.

the message. And let's get one thing straight: I came in here for French fries, not a religious experience.

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► The year the Tour de France was first held. Originally founded as a publicity event for the newspaper *L'Auto*, the Tour has since hosted 94 bicycle races.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007

Facebook: THE INCRIMINATOR

BY MATTHEW L'HEUREUX • SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Instead of competing in the women's ultimate Frisbee tournament she organized last month, Revelle College senior Angela Wells and her teammates found themselves cheering from the sidelines. Slammed with five conduct violations stemming from pictures posted on a member's

Facebook profile, the team joins a growing list of students facing disciplinary action for personal information listed on the popular social networking Web site. After a Nov. 16 team ceremony in which the players gave new members their official nicknames — a longstanding club tradition — they hosted a party to celebrate the start of a successful season. Before long, one team member took out her camera and began snapping pictures, later uploading them to a Facebook album titled "Psycho Initiation."

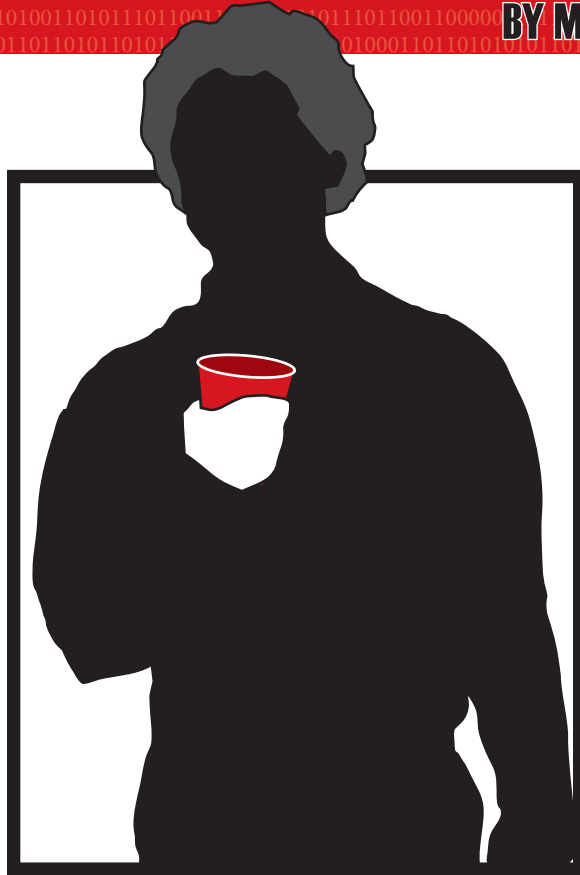
The next morning, however, the girls woke up to more than just hangovers — an anonymous person had reported the Facebook album to UCSD Sports Clubs Program administrators, and teammates were told they would have to forfeit the tournament pending an investigation into the charges.

Ultimately, the team was charged with five violations, including alcohol consumption at a sports club event and "rookie initiation" — a claim of hazing based in part on the title of the Facebook album. After an unsuccessful appeal to the office's administration, the team was suspended from competing for the rest of the year.

"No one was pressured to drink," Wells said. "There was no hazing. It sucks that a girl can want to put up pictures of her friends at a social event, and it ruins our season."

The use of Facebook pictures as evidence of student misconduct is relatively rare, and is usually only pursued if reported directly to administrators, Director of Student Policies and Judicial Affairs Tony Valladolid said.

"I'm not going to go out of my way to search for conduct code violations on Facebook," he said. "That's the same



“

Angela Wells, Revelle College senior

It sucks that a girl can want to put up pictures of her friends at a social event, and it ruins our season.”

approach that all administrators responsible for student conduct take. If you bring it to our attention, we use it. [Facebook evidence] is just that; it's evidence.”

However, Valladolid said that like other photographic or video evidence, any content posted on Facebook is barred from usage for disciplinary purposes until it is authenticated.

"There are all kinds of evidentiary issues with a photo or a video, for example," he said. "How do you know a bong contains marijuana? How do you know a red cup contains alcohol? If someone is taking pictures or having their picture taken while violating the conduct code, it is subject to these evidentiary issues."

Eleanor Roosevelt College junior and Sixth College resi-

dent adviser Justin Lowenthal agreed with Valladolid, saying that while he doesn't specifically look to enforce policy on Facebook, it does enhance his awareness of potential problems.

"I don't think [discipline based on Facebook] is fair," he said. "It's a caution factor that I should look at and keep in mind, but if I see it, I have not been told to do anything about it."

A number of other groups in addition to residence life monitor the site for incriminating activity as well, including a UCSD Panhellenic Council panel that fines sorority members identified in compromising situations.

"They've always kept a really close check on Facebook," said Revelle sophomore Maggie Milstein, president of Alpha Epsilon Phi. "We can't have red cups, or be dressed scandalously. I even got contacted for some pictures I had up. It happens all the time."

Another problem common to Facebook users is the hiring process in the professional world, where employers and graduate schools tend to check applicants' Facebook profiles. Valladolid confirmed that the trend is a ballooning obstacle for students who don't closely monitor the content on their pages.

"Employers are looking at Facebook, and so are people that license," he said. "I won't go so far as to say the American Bar Association is doing it, but they could."

The prospect of being judged by the content of a Facebook profile is very troubling, and provides extra incentive for users to be careful, said Earl Warren College senior Hunter Knight.

"I think a really frightening thing about this is that you might think there is nothing wrong with your profile, but any potential boss might find something they don't like, which as a result could cost you the job, and you would never know the real reason why," he said.

In response to growing concerns about these issues, UCSD's Express to Success Program commissioned a student-led workshop about how to effectively navigate Facebook on Nov. 29. The seminar included tips on how to avoid fraud, security breaches and situations that could result in disciplinary action.

Though these lessons came too late for the Frisbee team, Eleanor Roosevelt College senior and team captain Laura Wishingrad said that her teammates have learned from their mistakes.

"We told our teams after that, 'Be careful what you put on Facebook,'" she said. "I'd be overly cautious."

Valladolid echoed Wishingrad's sentiment, saying that while the advantages of the site are numerous, so are its pitfalls.

"I think Facebook is a wonderful medium, and [this] generation will use it to great advantage," he said. "But, they need to be very, very attuned to adverse consequences if they put information on there that paints them in a bad light."

Readers can contact Matthew L'Heureux at mlheureu@ucsd.edu.

The Cycle of Life

A growing population of students "spin it up" with biking's stylish comeback.

By Justin Gutierrez
STAFF WRITER

An octopus of a city, San Diego's asphalt tentacles sprawl across its dusty canyons, making the automobile a valuable piece of machinery for residents. UCSD commuters witness the same glorious spectacle daily as they leave campus during rush hour around four or five in the afternoon — a dazle of flashing red lights in a bumper-to-bumper shuffle that can last hours.

In recent years, an increasing number of bikes have popped up around campus, complete with slender wheels and flashy colors. This biwheel revolution is bringing UCSD

up to speed with the rest of San Diego, which has traditionally been known by bike enthusiasts as "a biker's haven," said Kris Wells, operator of the UCSD Bike Shop.

The UCSD cycling team is an integral part of UCSD's growing biking scene, participating in competitive cycling in San Diego and with universities around the state. The team's practices involve travels of up to 100 miles along the coast and countywide.

But these honed athletes have started to share the road with a growing group of students drawn in by culture rather than competition. Slowly but surely, a younger crowd is intro-

I have noticed, this year more than any, freshmen bringing in their single speed and BMX bikes."

— Kris Wells, UCSD Bike Shop operator



UCSD Bike Shop operator Kris Wells cleans a bike chain. With the growing popularity of cycling, Wells is kept busy with store repairs and sales.

WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

ducing a trend that is well established in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, among other places.

"I have noticed, this year more than any, freshmen bringing in their single-speed and BMX bikes, prob-

ably from the Bay Area where the bike culture is much bigger," Wells said.

When the administration knocked out approximately 100 "S" parking spaces this year, many began looking for alternate methods of transporta-

tion. UCSD's Pedal Club has made efforts to increase the use of bicycles instead of cars by providing its members 10 free parking passes per

See **BIKING**, page 10

Reggae by the River

Off the stern a series of triangular, scrap-sized red, yellow and green flags trailed over the rudder. The running flag flapping in the wind behind the boat displayed the same colors, along with images of Bob Marley and a regal lion. For another in a series of innumerable journeys, "The King of Reggae" was headed up the Nile River with a crew of three, nine passengers, food for two days and nights, 24 tall Stella beer bottles and an undisclosed amount of Sudanese marijuana.

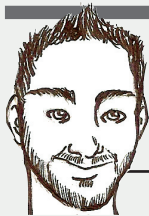
Feluccas — small, narrow sailboats — crowd the Nile's waters in many tourist locations of the Egyptian delta. While short rides near the port are common, tourists in Aswan, Egypt's third-largest city, can also catch a ride toward Luxor, 200 kilometers north and home to the Karnak temple and the Valley of the Kings. The full ride to Luxor costs less than 700 Egyptian pounds (\$125), takes a week and includes meals. A shorter two-night ride that runs \$15 to \$18 will ferry passengers to Kom Ombo, a temple built in the second century B.C. that overlooks the Nile. Crocodiles used to bask in the sun where tourists arrive today.

"Buffalo Soldier" rumbled from an ancient boom box as the single sail, catching wind, slowly eased the

boat downriver. Across the flat deck of the boat were thin mattress cushions covered by a green-and-yellow, king-size Looney Tunes sheet. Pillows in matching cases held nine cushioned heads along the port and starboard sides. An eclectically patterned, multicolored sheet was stretched below the sail, blocking sunlight from the deck. The chilly river wind blew across resting passengers' faces as the boat traversed the river back and forth between banks, creeping forward.

Mohamed, the boat captain, dressed in a black sweatshirt, a black baseball cap and dark black sunglasses, was the crew's youngest at 20 years old. He was also the most proficient in English, which he picked up not in the classroom, but on the river, guiding tourists. He and his crew of two lounged on the stern, taking turns manning the rudder and smoking Cleopatra cigarettes, an Egyptian brand that runs about 20 cents per pack.

The oldest of the crew, at 23, wore baggy gray sweat pants and a loose orange T-shirt. He once had to lunge across the boat, a cigarette dangling under his short mustache, when the cooking fire toppled near the bow and flames leapt from beneath the



Dave in Cairo

dharvey@ucsd.edu

See RIVER, page 10



Study-abroad student Ben Barclay and local farmer Ahmed overlook the Nile River atop a sand dune.

Club Offers Tango for More Than Two

By Daniela Kent
STAFF WRITER

Forehead to forehead, eyes closed and hands pressed softly yet assertively together, two tango partners spin around the floor of Main Gym during the weekly UCSD Argentine Tango Club practica. Leading with their chests, the men sweep the women across the floor in a dance that mixes a series of basic moves with improvisation based on the crooning of the violin, piano and bandoneon-infused tango music. Each couple has a unique interpretation of the mood that conveys tango as they connect, lean on each other and create a flowing movement of emotion and personal expression.

"[Tango is] kind of an intimate, unspoken conversation between two people," said Justin Ma, a graduate student and current tango club president.

Ma is one of the many graduate students who have found the club to be a great opportunity to both practice tango skills and socialize with a community of diverse people.

"The tango community is very international," Ma said. "Tango people tend to be very driven, and it tends to be reflected in the professionalism of the people that come in."

The tango club caters to more than just UCSD; it also incorporates the larger La Jolla community and encourages people of all ages and levels to take advantage of the opportunity to learn from, and help, teach others.

"Practica is about showing your knowledge with other people," Revelle College senior Parisa Ghannadan said. "Everyone has a role of learning and



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN
Two tango club members practice dipping.

Tango is kind of an intimate unspoken conversation between two people."

— Justin Ma, graduate student, UCSD Argentine Tango Club president

teaching."

To reach out to all levels of dancers, recreation classes are offered at RIMAC Arena that teach beginners dance's basic structure before they develop a more free-form practica. Eleanor Roosevelt College sophomore Samara Kaplan was skeptical about going to her first practica, but soon found a supportive environment.

"The atmosphere was a little daunting at first, because the dancers seem so professional ... but once you get dancing, everyone is in their own world," Kaplan said in an e-mail.

Luckily for any tango novice, the basic concept of the dance derives from an act the average student has hopefully mastered: walking. However, learning to walk with a partner and engaging in a lead-and-follow dynamic takes much practice and dedication.

See TANGO, page 11

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New Wave of Bikers Bringing Hip Face to Campus Cycling

►BIKING, from page 8

quarter, as well as three free hours to use campus Flexcars as long as they commit to traveling by bicycle for the majority of their commuting.

Though UCSD promotes bicycle use, it is really the student — as well as local — bicyclists who, in the spirit of endorsing bicycling, have helped campus interest grow. One such enthusiast is Randy Van Vleck, a John Muir College senior dedicated to bringing the San Diegan cycle culture to life. Van Vleck participates in the downtown Critical Mass ritual, an event that occurs internationally on the last Friday of every month, partly in response to modern cities' unfriendliness to bicyclists.

Critical Mass has grown tremendously since Van Vleck first joined the movement.

"I remember in 2005, there were only about 35 people present, and the ride only lasted about 15 to 20 minutes. Last month's ride had around 400 people," Van Vleck said.

In addition, Van Vleck is founding an independent cycling newsletter called *Revolve*, which will help inform San Diegans of events and news within the biking community. He plans to publish the first issue this month.

Another member of UCSD's biking community, Juan Coronado, has cycled the streets of San Diego for years. A two-year employee of Groundwork Books, he started his

cycling career in the Normal Heights/North Park area. Once Coronado began biking regularly, he noticed there were many others who had similar interests.

"I started meeting people who liked to bike, which made riding an even greater experience," Coronado said.

UC Cyclery on La Jolla Village Drive is also a major hub for cyclists around UCSD. Though it is a run-of-the-mill bike retail store, it features weekly rides open to anyone that start from the store on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. and use trails through the windy paths on campus.

"Just by a guess, I'd say that about 20 to 30 percent of our customers are students," said Casper Rubalcava, a UC Cyclery employee.

Although the layout of University City keeps most residents strapped into their cars, riding a bike around town has become a participatory activity for friends.

"At a lot of band shows, cafes and whatnot you'll definitely see a good amount of hip kids who've brought themselves there by bike," Coronado said.

Like many other pastimes, bicycling serves as a networking tool. This subset of alternative athletes enjoys transportation away from San Diego's stacked freeways and around fellow bikers.

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

I started meeting people who liked to bike, which made riding an even greater experience."

— Juan Coronado, Groundwork Books employee

Tour Guide Offers Cannabis and Campfire

►RIVER, from page 9

Mohamed's other crewmember covered his long dreadlocks, which hung down over his black T-shirt, with a red, yellow and green bandana. During a brief stop along the riverbank he washed dishes in the Nile, then went for a swim. From the top of a sand dune, a local farmer named Ahmed shouted greetings to the three young men.

At 50, Ahmed has never been on a boat. He's never been to Cairo. He doesn't speak a word of English. With scythe in hand, Ahmed was fresh off the field he has farmed his whole life. Behind him lies the village he has rarely left, a home he shares with five wives and 20 children under the age of 15. Although feluccas have frequently passed, he hasn't met many foreigners. He lives a life in stark contrast to those in the neighboring Aswan and Luxor cities, which have become liberalized and modernized over the years by their main source of income, Western tourism.

Mohamed and his crew are the products of this Westernization. Bob Marley, beer, and their general party mentality stand as symbols of their separation from the traditional Egyptian lifestyle found outside the tourists' paths.

Tourism is such an industry in this southern region of Egypt that tragic events of the past have caused strict regulations on travel. In 1997, terrorists gunned down 56 Japanese, Swiss and British tourists at the temple of Queen Hatshepsut in Luxor. Now, all buses, vans and even personal cars carrying tourists must travel in convoys, with no exceptions. This means that all feluccas and cruise ships carrying passengers must make sure to unload them at a time and place suitable for meeting the few



passing convoys — a difficult task, considering that for entirely different safety reasons, feluccas cannot travel at night.

Instead of continuing upriver, feluccas heading north meet along the river at sunset, where the crews and passengers make camp. Camp consists of wrapping a long sheet around the deck, creating a bonfire on shore and gathering to sing, play drums and dance. On Mohamed's boat, camp means something else as well. His is the boat where the crews of other feluccas gather, step inside the small forward room, and smoke undisclosed amounts of Sudanese weed.

Climbing into a truck and rushing to meet the convoy, it was easy to be excited about the coming sites: the temple of Kom Ombo, the temple of Hatshepsut, Karnak temple and the Valley of Kings. It was easy to look forward to the warmth of a hotel and a hot shower. But stepping off the bus into the wind's soft chill and hearing merchants call "where are you from," "looking is free," "come see my shop," made another night on the cold uncomfortable deck start to seem pretty nice.

But this was the last trip of the semester, the last adventure before many of the study-abroad students



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID HARVEY

Clockwise from top left: Ahmed, a 50-year-old local, reflects on changes in Egypt. Mohamed, a felucca tour guide, displays marijuana paraphernalia. Northbound feluccas begin heading to shore around sunset.

head home. We were tourists, and didn't have time to spend seeing nothing, lounging, listening to Bob Marley and living life like the "King of Reggae," — no matter how peaceful it was. Then again, there's always next semester for some of us.

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

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Students Explore and Teach Dance Techniques

► **TANGO**, from page 9

In order to advance to moves such as leg wraps and spins, every student must first learn the basic steps. Beginners must master the crusada, ochos, molinete, weight change and, perhaps most importantly, a consistent frame posture.

"There are opening moves ... but then [the moves] take you to different places," said Maziar Nezhad, a graduate student and former tango club president. "There is an element of randomness."

The tango is a naturally explorative dance, and mastering the initial techniques prepares dancers for all sorts of possibilities.

"[Tango] is really diverse because the motions you go through when you're dancing goes from playful to sad to dramatic," Ma said. "It runs the gamut. I like that variety."

The uniqueness of a tango dance is accredited to the combination of two partners sharing their common knowledge and style since the male leads and the female follows.

"It's an interaction of invitation and acceptance," Nezhad said.

Because the dance itself is so rhythmic, music plays a crucial role in the dance's movements and mood.

"A great deal of the pleasure of the dance comes from the connection to the music," Nezhad said. "If [the connection] is not there, then it's just a bunch of moves that don't really make sense. When there is this connection

to the music, then it all kind of falls in place."

Because music is an integral part of tango, Ma encourages students to get involved with the club through DJ opportunities in addition to dancing. The practicas revolve around a sequence of tango music that can invoke different feelings and emotions from the dancers; students can approach tango through appreciation of its music, which ranges from classical slow and romantic tango to a large range of modern adaptations called "nueva" tango, which Ghannadan describes as "tango with a ghetto beat."

The tango club also hosts events such as demo dances, in which two partners showcase their tango skills to audiences during events ranging from campus activities to La Jolla cultural fairs. Promoting the club has become increasingly important to members.

As a free opportunity to both learn and teach, the tango club provides a place for anyone and everyone to explore their interest in the dance, music and culture.

"What is so unique about tango is how smooth the movements are," Kaplan said in an e-mail. "There is such a passion that comes out of you when you tango, especially when you close your eyes and let your body just move around the space."

Readers can Daniela Kent at dmkent@ucsd.edu.

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Men's Basketball Bounces Back With Consecutive CCAA Wins

► **M BASKETBALL**, from page 16 points and four rebounds in 18 minutes off the bench.

UCSD shot only 35.4 percent from the field during the game, but made 45 percent of their three-point attempts, including 6-of-9 in the first half. A tremendous Triton defense limited Chico State's second-chance opportunities, holding the Wildcats to 34.1 percent field-goal shooting and 2-for-15 shooting from long distance.

The Tritons' trend of striking first began against Cal State Stanislaus the night before their game against Chico State, as senior guard Clint Allard opened the contest with a three-pointer, hit a second less than two minutes later and scored eight of UCSD's first 10 points in just over four minutes.

Allard's early streak helped the Tritons to a 12-point lead in the first half. The Warriors were able to cut that advantage with a three-pointer before the end of the first-half, leaving UCSD with only a six-point advantage heading into the locker rooms.

The Tritons came out of the gates hot again, building an early 13-point lead, 38-25, less than three minutes into the second half. However, it would be UCSD's largest lead of the half as the Warriors hung around and pulled within four at the 7:23

mark.

The teams would battle over the next five minutes, with UCSD leading by as many as six and Cal State Stanislaus getting as close as two.

The Warriors had numerous chances to make it a one-point

“We have a lot of experience this year and as long as it's close at the end I feel really confident.”

— Clint Allard, senior guard

game, including a layup attempt that junior forward Darryl Lawlor blocked, but were still unable to convert several put-back attempts on the same possession.

Cal State Stanislaus would eventually bat the ball back outside to reset, but Allard picked off a pass and drove for a layup to put the Tritons up by five.

Allard, UCSD's second leading scorer and the team's leader in rebounds and assists, said the team's veterans are now more poised to fin-

ish a game strongly.

“We have a lot of experience this year and as long as it's close at the end I feel really confident,” Allard said. “Now we don't want to be close in the end in every game ... but when it's close, we have the experience, the leadership and the ball handling to be able to take care of [the game].”

That experience and leadership was on clear display in the contest's final two minutes when, following a Warrior jumper, junior forward Henry Patterson grabbed an offensive rebound, drew a foul and made two free throws to regain a five-point advantage.

Cal State Stanislaus pulled within one point following a three-pointer and a layup, but Kim scored UCSD's final three points from the free throw line, including two with nine seconds to play, and the Tritons defense heavily contested Stanislaus' final shot to seal the home opening win.

Head coach Chris Carlson praised his team's perseverance and ability to close out the game.

“When things really started not going our way, we could have caved in and we didn't,” he said. “We sucked it up and got stops when we really needed to. That was the most impres-



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

The Wildcats showcase their ferocious defense as they pounce on junior center A.J. Maulhardt to force a turnover. The physical play did not affect the Tritons, however, who went on for a 65-55 victory on Dec. 1.

See **BASKETBALL**, page 15

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Homestand Continues With Three Non-Conference Games

► **BASKETBALL**, from page 14
sive thing and that's what we're going to have to do all year long."

Allard, showcasing all facets of his game after his early scoring outburst, finished with a double-double of 14 points and 10 rebounds, while also helping to get his teammates involved with five assists, as well as adding two steals and a block for the Tritons.

Kim also scored 14 points, adding three rebounds, three steals and two assists. The Tritons won the battle on the boards 36-28, and shot 45.8 percent from the field, while holding Cal State Stanislaus to below 40 percent field-goal shooting, as Carlson earned his first career head coaching victory in the regular season.

"They're a special group of young men and I really, really enjoy being the head coach here," Carlson said "It's all because of them, it all starts and ends with good players."

UCSD continues its current five-game homestand on Dec. 6 against University of Alaska-Fairbanks at 7 p.m. The Tritons will then return to action following finals, hosting William Jewell College in a 3 p.m. matchup on Sunday, Dec. 16 and concluding their winter break schedule against Wayne State University on Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. All games will take place in RIMAC Arena.

Readers can contact Joe Tevelowitz at jtevelow@ucsd.edu.



SANH LUONG/GUARDIAN

Junior guard Kelvin Kim had 14 points to go along with three rebounds, two assists and three steals, but turned the ball over six times in the Tritons' 63-60 win over Cal State Stanislaus on Nov. 30.

Andrew Jones Makes Sense as Cameron's Replacement

► **SCENE**, from page 16
year deal potentially worth \$9 million including performance-based bonuses.

The Padres inked the deal with Wolf after seeing big free agents go elsewhere to more lucrative markets — A-Rod went sniffing back to the Big Buck Bronx Bombers and Torii Hunter went West to the Los Angeles team that doesn't really play in L.A. The Angels gave Hunter around \$80 million to spend five years patrolling center field, much more than the Padres could offer to replace the departing — and now suspended — Mike Cameron in center field.

Signing Wolf finalizes a rotation that should again be one of the best in the majors, along with Jake Peavy, who is reportedly set to agree to a three-year extension, Chris Young, Greg Maddux and either Clay Hensley or last-year's

impressive rookie Justin Germano. A stellar pitching staff won't lead to many wins if the Padres don't add to their thin lineup.

Beyond Adrian Gonzalez, Kevin Kouzmanoff and Khalil Greene in the infield and Brian Giles in right-field, the rest of the Padres' depth chart is a huge question mark.

The Padres aren't in the running to pull off a trade for either Miguel — Cabrera or Tejada — or any other recognizable names being tossed around with baseball's Winter Meetings

starting today. With Hunter heading to the Halos, if Cameron does decide to sign elsewhere, the Padres would be wise to target Andrew Jones, someone who has the glove to patrol the spacious outfield of PETCO Park and the powerful bat that can shoot balls off the face of the Western Metal Supply Co. building in left field.

A stellar pitching staff won't lead to many wins if the Padres don't add to their thin lineup.

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The junior forward had a big game against the Wildcats and now leads the Tritons in minutes per game (33.7), points per game (12.7), rebounds per game (8.3) and steals per game (2.8).



CCAA Wins Push UCSD's Perfect Record



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

The junior forward led the Tritons with 19 points and seven rebounds in the team's 60-46 victory over No. 8 Chico State on Dec. 1 for UCSD's seventh consecutive win to open the season.

Lady Tritons tip off conference schedule with double-digit wins over Cal State Stanislaus and No. 8 Chico State.

By Janani Sridharan
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After five straight wins to open the season, the No. 4 UCSD women's basketball team continued its success with a 60-46 win over No. 8 Chico State on Dec. 1 and a 77-58 victory over Cal State Stanislaus on Nov. 30. The wins put the Tritons at 7-0 overall, the best start in the program's history.

The Tritons faced undefeated rival Chico State in their second home game this season. The battle started out close, as would be expected of two teams that split their last 16 games against each other.

The Tritons scored the night's first two baskets to take a 4-0 lead, but both offenses committed numerous early turnovers and struggled to run offensive plays.

With the score tied at eight and 14:56 left in the first half, the Tritons went on a 13-2 run to take a 21-10 lead, with back-to-back three-pointers by senior guard Kaycie Bull and sophomore guard Annette Ilg capping the Tritons' run. The Wildcats answered back with 7:45 left in the first half, outscoring the Tritons 15-4 and tying the game 25-25 at halftime.

The second half started out just

like the first, with both teams fighting hard for each basket against tough defenses. The Wildcats took their first lead of the night with 15:45 left in the game when a layup put them ahead 31-29. On the ensuing possession, junior forward Michelle Osier hit a midrange jumper for UCSD, starting another Triton run that lasted for most of the half.

With senior forward Alexis Mezzetta playing point guard for much of the second half, the Tritons were able to set up their offense and feed the ball to Osier and senior center Alexis Gaskin in the post. Using their offensive plays, the Tritons were able to pull away from the Wildcats for the win.

"In the second half, we were able to run our plays and get any shot that we wanted," Mezzetta said.

UCSD also changed its defense in the second half to help stop Chico State.

"On defense, we alternated between man-to-man defense and zone instead of playing straight man-to-man like we did in the first half," head coach Charity Elliott said.

The Tritons were also able to put Chico State in foul trouble during the game, forcing the Wildcats to bench their starters and eventually causing Wildcat forward Amanda Monteith to foul out.

UCSD was strong on the boards, limiting Chico State's usual dominance on the glass.

"Rebounding was a big key in this game," Elliott said. "Chico State usually outrebounds its opponents by about 19, but we outrebounded

them in this game."

Osier led the Tritons with 19 points and added seven rebounds. Gaskin added eight points and eight rebounds, while senior guard Meaghan Noud grabbed seven rebounds to help give the Tritons a 40-34 edge in rebounding.

The Tritons' first home-court game was a good one, as they capitalized on many mistakes in a sloppy game from Cal State Stanislaus. The Tritons took control right away, scoring 26 of the game's first 30 points.

Dec. 1 • 7-0 overall (2-0 CCAA)

UCSD	60
CHICO STATE	46

Gaskin had key rebounds for the Tritons both offensively and defensively, and the UCSD defense kept the Warriors in check by forcing them to make turnovers.

The Tritons took a 33-20 lead at halftime that they held for the entire second half. The UCSD squad was able to score easily with a simple motion offense against Cal State Stanislaus.

Noud led the Tritons in scoring with 14 points and Osier added 13 points while grabbing six rebounds. Gaskin also netted 12 points and added five rebounds including three offensive boards.

After the two conference wins, the undefeated Tritons will go back on the road to play three non-conference games against Grand Canyon University on Dec. 16, Central Washington University on Dec. 18 and Western Washington University on Dec. 19.

Tritons Never Trail in Two Wins

Despite opening the season with two non-conference losses, UCSD returns home and holds off comeback attempts from Cal State Stanislaus and Chico State over the weekend.

By Joe Tevelowitz
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UCSD men's basketball team got off to a strong conference start at home this weekend, defeating Cal State Stanislaus, 63-60, on Nov. 30 and Chico State, 65-55, on Dec. 1. The Tritons did not trail in either game but had to hold off furious comebacks from both teams, improving their record to 2-2 overall and 2-0 in California Collegiate Athletic Association play.

After an 8-0 UCSD run opened the game against Chico State, the Wildcats tied things up at 10 at the 11:50 mark of the first half. The Tritons then converted four three-pointers over the next three minutes, two coming from junior guard Kelvin Kim, to key a 13-0 run. The Wildcats scored only five points in over nine minutes in the first half, as the Tritons' stifling defense held Chico State's leading scorer Darroll Phillips — averaging over 20 points per game on the season — scoreless through the first 18 minutes of the contest. UCSD extended its lead to as much as 21 points in the first half before taking a 40-23 lead into the break.

The Wildcats chipped away at UCSD's lead in the second half, capitalizing on a series of Triton fouls and pulling within single digits after two Phillips free-throws with 9:42 left in the game. Chico State came within one possession following a successful three-point play with just over three minutes left, but sophomore guard Jordan Lawley knocked down a huge three-pointer on the following possession and added two free throws down the stretch, as UCSD converted six of eight shots from the line in the final minute-and-a-half to seal the victory.

Lawley said UCSD's fourth win in the last five meetings with Chico State was a product of good teamwork. "It really was a team effort," he said. "We pulled through and we had a big lead and we kind of let that cut down in the second half, but in the end we held our guns and kept the intensity up."

Lawley led all scorers with 17 points, grabbing two rebounds with one assist and one block along the way, while sophomore forward Andrew Browning added 10



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

Junior forward Henry Patterson lays in a shot for an easy two points in UCSD's 65-55 win over Chico State on Dec. 1. Patterson finished with five points, making just one of five shots from the field, in just 11 minutes of play.

Chargers Control Fate as Padres Sit Back and Wait

This column is the first entry in a new Guardian Sports series where writers look at and speak on anything to do with local sports.

Let's start with the Bolts, because it's football season and, although no one expected it to be this close, the Chargers are in a battle to hold onto the AFC West lead. With a 24-10 win in Kansas City over their division rivals, the Chargers have a two-game cushion between them and the Broncos and a three-game lead over the Chiefs and Raiders. With four games left to play, everyone in the AFC West is a contender and despite a good performance in their latest Sunday showdown, if we have learned to hate anything about this year's Chargers, it's their flare for inconsistent performances.

As I said in a recent column about the Chargers and their lucky win over the Colts, this team needs Phillip Rivers and LaDainian Tomlinson to work together to see consistent success. While the win over the Chiefs wasn't ideal for Rivers — he was just 10-of-21 for 157 yards with a touchdown pass and a pick — Tomlinson ran wild for 177 yards on 23 carries and reached the end zone twice in the second half on dashes of over 25 yards.

Though Rivers wasn't impressive, to his credit he only threw one pick and was able to spread the ball around to six different receivers. The shocking thing is that his usual target, All-Pro tight end Antonio

Gates, had only one catch, on which he lost a yard.

Gates will never be limited to just one catch in successive weeks. Norv Turner should focus on him early and often, unless he has no head coaching skills — which is indeed a possibility.

At least the Chargers' destiny is in their own hands, which is more than many good football teams can say, but their remaining schedule leaves many possibilities open.

Next week, the Lions' high-powered passing attack will test the recently recuperated Quentin Jammer and rest of the Charger secondary.

The Bolts will then host the Broncos on Monday night in Week 16 in a possible division-deciding contest before making a journey to the Black Hole in Oakland to battle the Raiders to close out the regular season.

Luckily for LT and the Chargers' hopes, all three upcoming teams have shoddy run defenses; and with Tomlinson finally looking like he was during his MVP and record-setting season last year, he could carry the team into the playoffs, where anything can happen.

On the baseball side of San Diego, the Padres made their first splash into free agency, signing veteran southpaw Randy Wolf to a one-



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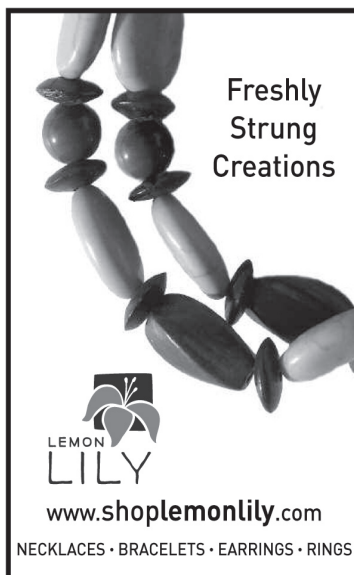
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- 21 Pueblo people
- 22 Power
- 24 Save
- 26 IBM feature from 1981
- 28 Young sheep
- 30 Make a vow
- 34 Painful
- 37 Carolina rail
- 39 Vivarin rival
- 40 Crude crosses
- 42 With what intention
- 43 Zhou of China
- 44 Vinegar vessel
- 45 Leopold's partner in crime
- 47 Bank seizure, briefly
- 48 Non-woody vegetation
- 50 Carpenter's groove
- 52 Larry Storch on "F Troop"
- 54 Continue
- 58 PBS news anchor
- 61 Eye part
- 63 Buddhist Thai
- 64 State as fact
- 65 "The Path to Power" author
- 68 Stout's Wolfe
- 69 Buffalo's lake
- 70 Obscuring vapors
- 71 Was familiar with
- 72 Lift in Aspen
- 73 David of "Just Shoot Me"

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- 1 Find repugnant
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- 10 Doctrine president
- 11 __-friendly
- 12 Male affair
- 13 Theater award
- 18 Verse works
- 23 Nary a soul
- 25 Bonnie Parker's partner
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- 29 Derby hat
- 31 Stagnant
- 32 Cleansing agent
- 33 Pinza of "South Pacific"
- 34 St. Louis site
- 35 Central part
- 36 Appointed time
- 38 Pi follower
- 41 Period in a process
- 46 Pastry chef
- 49 Top room
- 51 Fatalities
- 53 Ancient kingdom on the Nile
- 55 Public square
- 56 Moved the dinghy
- 57 Hangman's knot
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