

IRAN'S SILENT PROTESTS



"Soleimani's death has started a great chain of events that have completely changed the nature of U.S.-Iran relations as well as the environment in Iran."

Opinion, page 9

CUSTODIANS

THANKING THE STAFF

FEATURES, PAGE 6

LITTLE WOMEN

FILM REVIEW

A&E, PAGE 8

FORECAST



TUESDAY
H 60 L 45



WEDNESDAY
H 60 L 51



THURSDAY
H 58 L 48



FRIDAY
H 60 L 47

VERBATIM

"On one hand, we can be rational, logical, and powerful masters of our own destiny, society, and even nature itself. On the other hand, we can be cats."

Hemmy Chun
"Cats" Review
PAGE 8

INSIDE

AUSTRALIA.....2
D.A.R.E.....4
PLANTS.....10
STRESS TOOLS.....12
TRITON TIMEOUT.....16



Doors of Geisel Library, READ/THINK/WRITE/DREAM by John Baldessari, Stuart Art Collection // Photo by Nithish Narasimman

CAMPUS

Artist Behind Geisel's Doorway Art Experience Passes Away

BY DAISY SCOTT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Artist John Baldessari, the mind behind Geisel Library's "READ/THINK/WRITE/DREAM," passed away Jan. 2, 2020 at his home in Venice, California at the age of 88. Baldessari will be remembered for his conceptual designs and devotion to education.

"READ/THINK/WRITE/DREAM," which makes up the entryway to Geisel Library, is one of the 20 art pieces part of UC, San Diego's Stuart Collection. Mary Beebe, Director of the Stuart Collection, spoke to the UCSD Guardian on Baldessari's passing.

"We are extremely proud to have this major Baldessari as part of the Stuart Collection," Beebe said. "He was a friend and a pal and we will miss him very much."

Born in National City, California, Baldessari earned both his Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts in painting from San Diego State University in 1953 and 1957, respectively. He created his art largely by juxtaposing images and photographs with text, leading viewers to confront and question the images' new meanings created from placing these elements out of context.

Within this conceptual style, Baldessari maintained a sense of personality and humor, with many of his works evoking wry smiles. One such piece is Baldessari's 2018 "Emoji Series," which consists of printed images of fruit with captions. A print in this collection shows an apple with the text "You May Like" below. The title of this piece reads "Adam Wasn't Into It."

In 1970, Baldessari began his career as a university professor, teaching for the following 18 years in Valencia, California for the California Institute of the Arts. From 1996 to 2007, he taught for UCLA. According to the New York Times, Baldessari's teaching style centered on

embracing the new and unconventional in a way that inspired his students, including conceptual artist Barbara Bloom and painter David Salle.

It was this very passion for education and experimentation that Mary Beebe used to encourage Baldessari to install "READ/THINK/WRITE/DREAM" in 2001. The piece consists of moving, primary colored sliding glass doors, bookended by black and white images of students and a row of books. Two eucalyptus benches rest on either side, and within the doors are photos of art supplies and the ocean.

Above all of this are the words "READ, THINK, WRITE, DREAM," words that its Stuart Collection writeup identify as a message Baldessari would convey to his students by reminding them that they're capable of doing so much more beyond work.

Beebe reflected on Baldessari's inclusion in the Stuart Collection, explaining how he was at first hesitant to do the piece, but she reassured him by referencing his influential relationship with both art and education.

"When first asked he kept saying 'But, Mary, I'm not a sculptor,'" Beebe said. "I kept saying but you're such an important teacher, and artist, and you grew up here, and have taught here, and I know you can think of something to do."

Another Baldessari piece familiar to San Diego residents is his mural "Brain/Cloud (with Seascape and Palm Tree." Installed in 2011 at 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, the mural depicts a cloud that distinctly resembles a human brain, floating above a palm tree by the ocean. The Murals of La Jolla website cites that the intention behind the mural is to draw viewers' attention to the way many people identify images in the clouds.

See **ARTIST**, page 3

TECHNOLOGY

California Data Privacy Law Takes Effect at Start of New Year

The new law will broaden the ability for consumers to dictate how their data is used by companies.

BY VIVIAN YANG
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The California Consumer Privacy Act, which protects consumers' privacy rights, went into effect on Jan. 1, 2020. The CCPA was originally passed in June 2018, in compliance with the California State Constitution's guarantee of both privacy rights and consumer protection.

The CCPA legally protects consumers by granting them the

right to "request a business to disclose the categories and specific pieces of personal information that it collects about the consumer, the categories of sources from which that information is collected, the business purposes for collecting or selling the information, and the categories of 3rd parties with which the information is shared," according to the Legislative Counsel's Digest of the bill.

This act gives consumers not only the right to access information

about how their private data is used but also authorizes them the legal right to reject a business's ability to use their private data, to request the deletion of their data, and to protect them from any discrimination which may arise from enforcing these rights.

The act was introduced by Assemblymember Ed Chau and State Senator Robert Hertzberg. The act is a protection of the

See **DATA**, page 2

LEGISLATION

Wave of Lawsuits Against Catholic Church Arise Following New Law

AB218 expands upon the previous California Child Victims Act.

BY MADELINE LEON
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Content Warning: This article contains topics of sensitive issues such as sexual abuse and pedophilia.

New California State Law AB 218 took effect on Jan. 1, 2020, which has led to a wave of new lawsuits against the Roman Catholic Church.

AB 218, a modified version of the California Child Victims Act, expands the statute of limitation and time to report sexual abuse cases that occurred during one's childhood. Older adults in their senior years are now able to take legal action against their childhood predators.

Zalkin Law Firm in San Diego, which deals with sexual abuse cases, has used the new law to pursue lawsuits against institutions, such as the Boy Scouts of America and the Roman Catholic Church, that are historically tied to acts of pedophilia and child sexual abuse.

In a Jan. 2, 2020 press conference with the law firm, an NBC article stated, "Zalkin Law Firm says it plans to file 125 new sexual abuse law suits against the Catholic Church and Diocese of San Diego."

Several attendees of the press conference were new Zalkin Law Firm clients, some of whom were already in their 70's. The law firm is filing cases against the San Diego Catholic Diocese, as well as several of its parishes.

"Priests who committed [the abuse] may be dead, but the diocese that allowed them to do this to these kids and covered it up, they're very much alive," Attorney Irwin Zalkin told the UCSD Guardian. "The victims have been in silence for so long, many of them have been keeping this inside of them. The diocese is accountable, even though the priests might be dead."

Zalkin also stressed how bringing these lawsuits into the public eye can encourage the Catholic Church to change its policies regarding sexual abuse of minors.

"[Media] draws attention to the issue and causes institutions to have to rethink their policies and implement policies, which they are doing and have been doing since the lawsuits were filed previously," Zalkin told the Guardian.

One anonymous executive board member from a UC San Diego campus Catholic organization agreed with Zalkin's view.

"How can you put a money amount on something so abstract?"

See **CHURCH**, page 3

ABROAD

Australia's Wildfires Threaten Local Populations; Celebrities in US and Abroad Take Action

This winter's wildfires marks Australia's deadliest season to date, as 15.8 million acres of land and countless animals have suffered under the extreme natural disaster event

BY LUIS VALENTE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While California's wildfire season is anticipated to conclude in February, Australia's fires show no sign of stopping as they continue to blaze across the continent, burning over 15.8 million acres and killing at least 24 people as of Jan. 8, 2020. These wildfires will be remembered as Australia's deadliest fire season to date.

Fires have devastated much of the land, with many people being displaced due to their burning homes. Poor air quality has also engulfed the area, with many travelers being warned to take precautions while in the country. As a result, the United States Department of State issued a Level 2 travel advisory in Australia on Jan. 8, citing wildfires and natural disasters as the main reason behind the increased risk.

Humans and animals alike are suffering from these fires. Professor Chris Dickman of the University of Sydney estimates that over 480 million animals alone have been affected by fires in the Australian state of New South Wales since fires started in September 2019. Among those animals are the country's indigenous kangaroos and koalas, as well as rare species of native birds and frogs.

Animal populations have suffered under the hot weather

conditions and will continue to do so until March or April, when analysts believe the fires will end. "The true loss of animal life is likely to be much higher than 480 million," Dickman said.

Australia's Irwin family has continued the work of their patriarch, Steve Irwin, in the years since the environmentalist's passing, with the current situation being no different. As owners of the Australia Zoo, the family told the Cable News Network that there has been a significant increase in wounded animals admitted to the zoo's Wildlife Hospital. Despite the overwhelming numbers, they have remained dedicated to saving animals and have said they'll continue to treat animals as they come into the hospital.

The San Diego Zoo, which displays a collection of 20 koalas loaned by the Australian government, has backed research and rescue efforts in Australia's Blue Mountains, home to the most diverse group of koalas in the world. Rescued koalas were sent to rehabilitation in a Sydney zoo, where they will take refuge until the fires dissipate. Researchers hope they will be re-assimilated to the wild and restore the region's population.

"It is a battle for our ecosystem right now, and I think last year, 2019, was a year where we really

saw a lot of things tip, whether it's glaciers melting, the fires in the Amazon, now it's hitting Australia," Terri Irwin said to CNN.

Twitter and Instagram have been a powerful tool in spreading awareness on the natural disaster. The severity of the situation has prompted many across social media to take action, including celebrities.

Australian artists Kylie Minogue and Cody Simpson have been vocal in spreading news to their followers across social media, including donation links to organizations such as the Australian Red Cross and Rural Fire Services. Political figures such as former U.S. President Barack Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders, as well as other American public figures like Kim Kardashian, have used their accounts to fill in American audiences who may have been detached from the issues in Australia.

Others have taken a more unorthodox method to raise awareness. Under the Twitter name, "The Naked Philanthropist", one user told her followers she would send one nude photo for every \$10 donation made to a charity providing help in Australia. Kaylen Ward, an Instagram model based in Los Angeles, told The Washington Post that she has raised more than \$500k for wildfire relief efforts through this system.

Changes in the global climate has resulted in the transformation of landscapes across the planet, with California and Australia being the latest examples of this phenomenon, as both have experienced stronger than usual wildfire seasons.

Due to the warmer climate patterns, some forests burned in Australia are not expected to recover and will become brush and grasslands instead. A similar case presents itself in the country's Great Barrier Reef, which has lost its color due to mass coral bleaching, a result of climate change.

According to experts, altered landscapes will make it difficult for animal species to survive, resulting in forced adaptation for some and possible extinction for others. The same is expected to occur in other environments across the world, assuming climate conditions continue to deteriorate.

There are many ways to help those affected in Australia, including donations and "adopting" an animal. The Australian Red Cross and WIRES, Australia's largest wildlife rescue organization, represent just a handful of the organizations taking donations to aid in wildfire relief.

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A similar data privacy law was put in place in the European Union in 2018 to expand consumer protections

► DATA, from page 1

"inalienable" right of privacy stipulated by an amendment made to the California Constitution in 1972.

The bill was enacted under the general environment of widespread use and misuse of personal data in California. The range of personal data handed to the businesses could include one's birthday, age, background, or even more detailed private personal information such as one's average driving speed and list of online purchases. The provision of user information is often made violating the privacy rights of the subjects whose data is gathered from.

The CCPA is by far the strictest and most comprehensive privacy law passed in the United States to date. The law covers businesses and agencies who gather personal information of over 50,000 people each year and those whose annual financial revenue amounts to over \$25 million.

Since the act has been enacted, many large technology corporations have responded by providing their users with information on how their personal data is used. Microsoft, for example, set up a privacy dashboard where users can access the data collected by the service provider, understand

how this information is used, and grant or remove the permission for the company to access this data.

Facebook, who was previously caught in the whirlpool of private data leak and data misuse by Cambridge Analytica, now also provides privacy protection service that allows users to download a copy of their own data from the website.

While CCPA only pertains to California, companies who now provide information on personal data have also extended the service to all of their users, without differentiating where a user resides.

As a precursor to the enactment

of CCPA, the European Union came out with the General Data Protection Regulation in 2018, which also addresses the use and transfer of personal data and grants users similar powers to those outlined in the CCPA.

As companies comply with the law, there are still many challenges faced by corporations, such as limited implementation time and the building of the technological infrastructure to process the amount of personal data that they have collected.

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The Catholic Diocese has set up a compensation fund for all victims of childhood sexual abuse

► **CHURCH**, from page 1

Bringing [the case] into a trial will alert the diocese like ‘hey maybe we should fix this or change something in the system so this starts happening less.’”

The San Diego Catholic Diocese released a statement on Jan. 2 in response to the new wave of lawsuits.

“While we can’t respond to any specifics involved in these lawsuits, five of the six men mentioned in today’s news conference are known sexual predators whose names have been published on our website,” the statement read.

The statement also mentioned the Compensation Program run by the Catholic Diocese.

“Regardless of the legal issues involved, we have a moral obligation to provide assistance to any victim-survivor of that abuse and we would urge their attorney to contact us so that counseling can be arranged at our expense,” the statement continued. “There are no prior conditions and the offer of counseling stands regardless of any lawsuit against the diocese.”

The recently launched Independent Compensation Program is administered by seven dioceses in California and attempts to financially compensate victims for the abuses they endured as a child, as long as they provide documented proof of their abuse. It was officially launched September 2019 and the deadline to apply is Jan. 31, 2020.

According to the Program’s FAQ page, “Any Claimant who chooses to accept the offered compensation pursuant to the Program must surrender any right to go to court to sue any party relating to the alleged sexual abuse.”

The site is also unspecific with how much financial compensation each victim will receive, or if there are other resources the Program Administrators will provide to the “claimants.”

“The Program Administrators have final decision-making authority to determine who is eligible and the amount of any compensation,” the FAQ page states. “The compensation will be determined based upon the experience and judgment of Mr. Feinberg and Ms. Biros and consistent with the Protocol.”

Sexual Abuse Attorney Irwin Zalkin claims that the Program is meant to cover up the secrets of the abuse and discourage filing lawsuits with attorneys.

“The Catholic Church has created an independent compensation fund and they’re trying to convince victims to apply to their fund and avoid lawyer and lawsuits and go to them directly,” Zalkin told the Guardian. “It keeps secrets, and it won’t make information public. It’s not a lawsuit, and financially trying to lure people when undervaluing [their abuse].”

Zalkin also claims that “clients have gotten letters from [the Catholic Church],

trying to dissuade people from pursuing lawsuits.”

The anonymous source believes the new laws can encourage victims to receive a sense of justice, rather than just financial compensation.

“It’s very valid if their intent is in the right place,” the anonymous source told the Guardian. “Some people say they’re just after the money from the church. If their intent is to get justification, then it’s a good thing that this law went into effect ... it’s really hard for victims to work up the courage.”

The anonymous source notified the Guardian that the topic of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church is discussed in their organizations, but is also not sure whether it is discussed in other Catholic student organizations.

Victims who endured sexual abuse as a child who would like to take legal action with the Zalkin Law Firm can call 800-617-2622. However, this is not the only law firm that pursues sexual abuse lawsuits. Victims from campus-related sexual assault or abuse events can also call the UCSD campus police at 858-534-4357.

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Other pieces by Baldessari include “Brain/Cloud (with Seascape and Palm Tree)” in La Jolla

► **ARTIST**, from page 1

Baldessari explained his relationship with his art in a 2013 interview for Interview Magazine with his former student and fellow artist David Salle. At the time, three of Baldessari’s works were about to open at the Marian Goodman Gallery in New York.

“I go back and forth between wanting to be abundantly simple and

maddeningly complex,” Baldessari told Salle. “I always compare what I do to the work of a mystery writer—like, you don’t want to know the end of the book right away.”

John Baldessari’s contributions toward conceptual art as both an artist and a teacher will be long celebrated. Readers who are interested in learning

more information about his life and art are encouraged to visit www.baldessari.org and his page on the Stuart Collection website.

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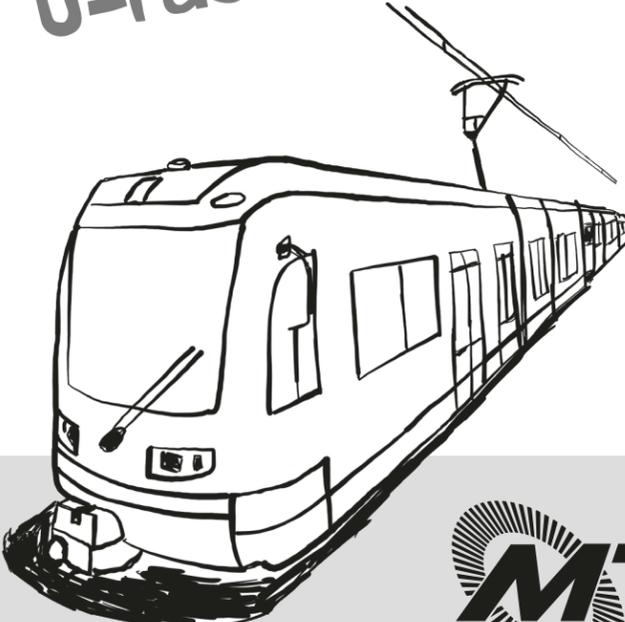
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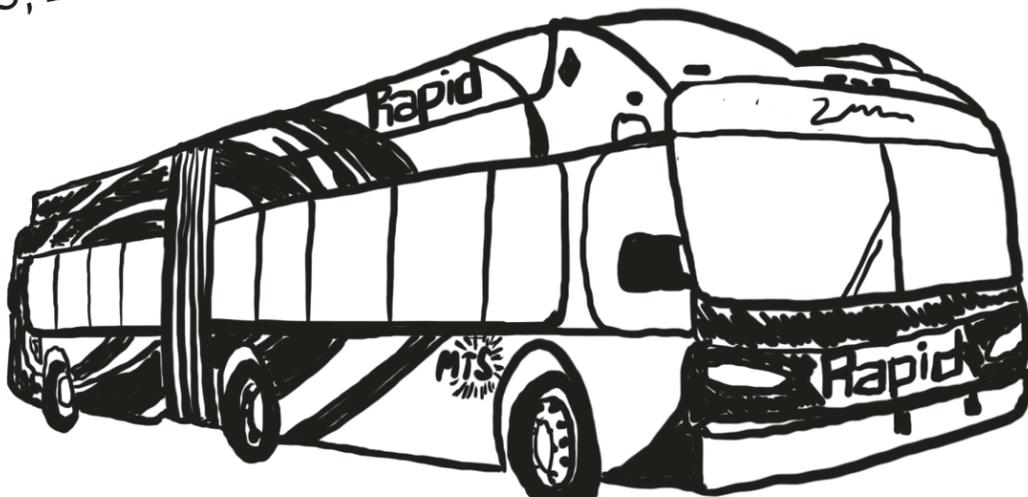
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OPINION

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Iran's Silent Protests

The author of this piece is an Iranian-American UC San Diego student, who has decided to remain anonymous due to familial safety concerns abroad.

It's safe to say 2020 has not been a great start to the decade. Three days into the new year, people across the world began panicking about the start of World War III. On Jan. 3 an airstrike at Baghdad International Airport killed General Qasem Soleimani and nine others. President Donald Trump's decision to kill Soleimani raised fears about a war between Iran and the United States. In retaliation, Iran fired more than a dozen ballistic missiles at military bases in Iraq. There were no casualties in this attack and both countries have since stated that they don't seek war.

Soleimani's death has started a great chain of events that have completely changed the nature of U.S.-Iran relations as well as the environment in Iran. This past week, Iranians have gone through a rollercoaster of emotions. Within a matter of five days, Iran shifted its focus from mourning for Soleimani to mourning the lost lives of the passengers on Ukrainian flight 752. On Jan. 8, a Ukrainian International Airline plane crashed, killing all 176 passengers and crew members. After three days of denying responsibility for the crash, Iran admitted "due to human error" they fired missiles that caused the plane to crash. They mistook the plane for cruise missiles during a period of heightened tensions with the U.S. In Iran, sorrow soon turned into anger as protests have erupted all across the country. Protesters are infuriated and saddened with the irresponsibility of Iranian officials.

Initially, it seemed as if Soleimani's death would unite Iranians around its leaders. It was scary to think that fear about an Iran-U.S. war would empower Iran's oppressive regime. Among my own family and friends, many posted Soleimani's picture along with their condolences. They also spoke as if they were more approving of Iran's leaders, even though they had been highly critical of

them before. As of now, it looks as if those sentiments have changed as seen in the nationwide protests regarding the plane crash. Videos of crowds shouting, "Commander-in-chief resign, resign" and "Death to the Dictator," referring to the supreme leader of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, have overtaken social media platforms. While it's exciting to see Iranians standing up against the ruthless regime, the path that it took for them to reach this stage is overwhelmingly sad, with the lost lives of 176 people and their families.

The protests taking place right now are not an isolated event. While many Americans envision crowds of people chanting "Death to America" and the burning of American flags when they picture Iran, many Iranians are not like that. They are unhappy with the current state of Iran with its unemployment rate at 17 percent, a long running recession, shrinkage in trade, and corrupt government officials. There are larger issues at hand including Iran's internet censorship as well. In November 2019, Iran experienced its deadliest wave of anti-government protests in 40 years. The protests began due to a 300-percent increase in gas prices and soon evolved to demonstrators calling for an end to the current regime and many of its leaders. After the protests, videos began pouring out of the country of security forces opening fire on crowds of protesters, leaving hundreds dead and thousands wounded. The death toll is unclear with the government withholding the numbers, but the UN Human Rights Office estimates 208 people were killed while others suggest numbers as high as 1,500. Security forces shot at masses of unarmed protesters from rooftops and helicopters, proving that the Iranian government will go to any length to silence any opposition.

With that in mind, the Iranian government has not

yet reacted to the current protests. Their own citizens are shouting for their demise. However their range of motion is more limited with the international community's attention turned toward them. If Iranian officials choose to shoot at protesters again, as Trump said, "the world is watching," and they may face harsh reactions as many countries are still focused on Iran following Soleimani's death. But wasn't the world watching during the November protests? Yet the Iranian government was still able to get away with the murder of hundreds of people who only desired the basic human right to freedom of speech. While this was happening, the rest of the world failed to pay any attention. I watched videos published by activists on Instagram, but here in the U.S. I had difficulty finding coverage of the protest on news outlets. Ignoring these protests will never allow people outside of Iran to realize that the Iranian people do not hate America. Iran is not the same country that it was during the hostage crisis. Protesters right now are chanting to let both the Iranian regime and the rest of the world know that, "They are lying that our enemy is America, our enemy is right here." Many Iranians are fed up with the inadequacy and the violent nature of their government.

It's unclear if these protests will bring about any change. It's possible they will be successful and a regime change will take place in Iran, making the world a safer place. However, it's much more likely that the protesters will be silenced again. But if that is the case, will the world even notice the Iranian regime suffocating the voice of 80 million people who want them gone?

D.A.R.E to say yes to Resources

By: Sean Kim // Contributing Writer

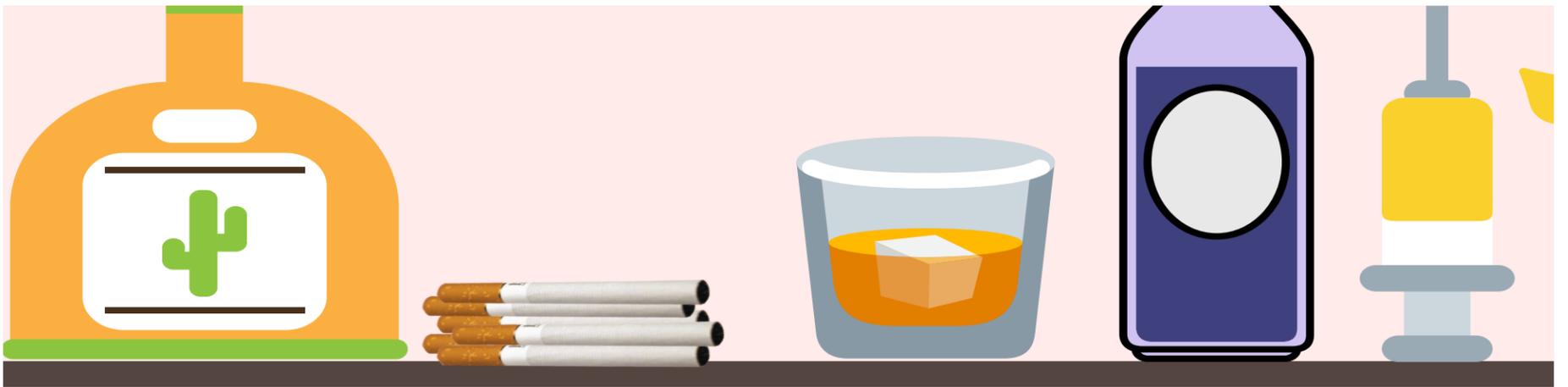
College is where many students are first introduced to alcohol and drugs. While some are able to safely balance substance use such as drinking, others might be unable to do so and face an addiction that they are not able to control. College students commonly binge drink and use drugs, and so they face a greater risk of addiction and unsafe substance use. While certain resources such as education and counseling may help contain the dangers associated with these activities, the current lack of visibility of and funding for existing resources on campus limits the university's ability to address such issues. There should be an increase in the amount of resources available for UC San Diego students who are facing substance abuse in order to account for this deficiency on campus.

Improving mental health resources for students

on campus should be a major priority in addressing substance abuse. Severe mental illness is associated with a higher risk of substance abuse, and counseling in these cases could prevent substance abuse from occurring. But there are also far more factors that heighten one's risks for addiction. Chronic stress is also associated with a higher risk of addiction and drug abuse, and college students are reporting higher levels of stress. And as a whole, 31 percent of U.S. college students report symptoms of alcohol abuse. Short-term and long-term counseling on campus could help one manage risks for addiction and develop responsible substance use habits. Resources such as these are fundamentally important in preventing substance abuse, but the mental health infrastructure that currently exists on campus received a C+ in an assessment by the UC Student Association.

A deficiency in mental health resources would also mean a deficiency in substance abuse resources, and any effort to combat substance abuse on campus would not be possible without the improvement of mental health infrastructure on campus. Increasing funding to resources such as Counseling and Psychological Services in order to decrease wait times as well as creating peer support groups and addiction-focused counseling on campus are essential steps in creating the resources some may need to address their negative relationships with alcohol and drugs.

A recent effort to increase the resources available to CAPS signals a change in this direction. New programs such as video calls with a healthcare provider, new psychologists for CAPS, and lengthened office hours



► DARE, from page 4

are beneficial to the student body, but all this may not be enough to combat substance abuse on campus. While it is certainly a step in the right direction, the lack of resources dedicated for substance abuse is a deficiency that has not been addressed yet, even with these new changes. Creating programs such as drop-in workshops on substance abuse would be a useful addition to the already existing workshops on campus since they would provide resources dedicated for

those suffering from substance abuse.

Other resources for students also exist online, but they lack the visibility that could enhance their role in addressing substance abuse. Tools such as e-Chug and e-Toke, which are questionnaires aimed at establishing healthy patterns of substance consumption, are useful and may provide students an anonymous way to gauge their substance use. However, not many are aware they exist. Making such resources more visible would

increase their usefulness overall, and a conjunctive effort to improve mental health infrastructure on campus would ultimately prove to be beneficial for the student body and the university. For example, adding such tools, as well as links to Student Health Services and CAPS, to the TritonLink portal could enhance their visibility and increase the awareness of these resources and their potential subsequent use.

There are many useful resources

that exist on campus — CAPS and educational sources on drug safety are incredibly useful for student life. But these programs lack two major things that hamper their effectiveness: visibility and funding. Improving mental health resources on campus would yield useful results in combating substance abuse on campus, and an increase in the visibility of educational resources could increase the effectiveness of existing tools.

TRITE AND TRITER By Yui Kita



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THANK YOU, UCSD CUSTODIAL STAFF

The Guardian expresses sincere gratitude for the custodial staff.

BY JENNY LEE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last quarter, the storms hit La Jolla pretty hard. Our campus is no stranger to the pouring rains and the flooded foothills they cause. Those of us who decided to go to class despite the dreaded rain saw the mess. Leaves littered the ground and branches fell by Library Walk. Mud poured out onto the walkways and sandbags were put up to prevent water from flooding the buildings.

However, soon after, the grounds were cleaned of litter, and the mud stains were washed away. The leaves that had clunked up the gutters and drains were no longer there. There was a woman raking the leaves aside, wearing a light blue shirt that could only belong to the custodial staff at UC San Diego.

The custodial staff at UCSD is organized under different departments. The custodial and maintenance staff that are in charge of the dining halls and residential areas are part of a division called Building and Custodial Services under the Housing DiningHospitality department. Meanwhile, there is another group of custodial staff who are under the school's Facilities Management department. The staff under the Facilities Management department are in charge of cleaning and maintaining public facilities and buildings, such as lecture halls, laboratories, hallways, stairwells, public restrooms, computer labs, and study rooms. However, this does not include sports facilities and public spaces such as Price Center. The custodial services provided for those facilities are under a separate department.

Our campus stays clean because there are staff who work hard to keep it clean. A typical day of a custodial staff who maintains the campus facilities may involve sanitizing bathrooms and keeping supplies in check, removing trash and recycling, sweeping and mopping floors, as well as wiping down the chalkboards in classrooms at the end of each day. Staff who work in residential areas clean common areas such as the dining room, living room, and bathrooms weekly. Custodial staff also provide students with vacuuming services, surface cleaning and sanitation for sinks, bathrooms, oventops, and countertops. Despite their hard work, the staff are underappreciated and little is known about their jobs.

In 2012, Nancy Madrid, a UCSD alumna, wrote a thesis on low-wage immigrant workers. The thesis, titled "What keeps us here is the love we have for our students: Solidarity among low wage immigrant workers and students at the University of California, San Diego," was later published in a reader used by Thurgood Marshall College's writing program, Dimensions of Culture. The third part of this writing program is called "Imagination" and focuses on "inequality and the lack of opportunity of various groups." Nancy's thesis focuses on the issues of low-wage immigrant workers. Her thesis states this about custodial services: "Although there is very little to be gained financially or intellectually, this industry remains in high demand considering the need for cleanliness will never end."

This thesis also brings attention to the "invisibility" that may come along with this occupation in certain cases or environments as Nancy explains the "tendency for individuals to ignore cleaners in public spaces, as their job is solely to clean and not necessarily to be integrated into the environment." While students can interact with their professors and teaching assistants with such programs such as Coffee with a Prof or Lunch with a Prof, no such programs exist for students or staff to interact and get to know the people who are helping them clean the spaces that they live and work in. Most requests for services are done online or through phone and there is a disconnect between the two parties.

Earl Warren College freshman Sydney echoes how some students may feel about initiating conversation with the custodial staff. She said, "I think the custodial staff who comes every week are very nice people. However, when I'm out on campus, I don't really interact with them. It depends. I don't want to bother them from doing their job, but also there is this class divide that I want to be conscious about, and sometimes, I may be rushing out or just not have the energy to do so."

However, for students who live on campus, some of them get to really know and appreciate the staff that comes to their apartments for weekly maintenance, and some make meaningful connections with the staff.

See **CUSTODIANS**, page 7



PHOTO BY MARIYAH SHAD

Housing • Dining • Hospitality Services

Part of the custodial staff is organized under the Housing Dining and Hospitality department.



Class consciousness is still prevalent at UCSD, and a divide exists between the faculty and custodial staff.

► **CUSTODIANS**, from page 6

Emily Levin-Rosenshine, a sophomore from Thurgood Marshall college, appreciates the concerns that the custodial staff has for the students, which helped build their trusting relationship. The staff who cleaned her apartment noticed that paint was chipping off of the hood over her stove and had warned her about it. Emily had given the staff a Thank You card for the New Years holiday.

Custodial staff who work in residential areas clean about “six apartments per day” and often get to interact and “connect with students fairly well, since they’re in the [student’s] living space daily,” says Custodial Services Administrator Ana Rodriguez.

The 160 employees who work there also have access to a series of activities that the university offers, including English as a second language, fitness classes and diabetes awareness classes. The classes are meant to aid employees in their communication skills, health and awareness, as well as their career advancement. Ana says that these opportunities, as well as support from her supervisors and directors, has helped her grow into the position of Custodial Services Administrator after being a senior custodian for 14 years.

The amount of foot traffic that goes on at a school this big means that some places need to be cleaned regularly in order to avoid junk build-up and to keep things such as drains and ventilation in working order.

The school’s ongoing construction projects mean that there will be more facilities that require these custodial services, which means either more people need to be hired to maintain them or the staff will have to take on more duties. The importance of the custodial staff on campus also has a larger impact on the school’s appearance and reputation than just keeping the campus clean.

Research from APPA - Leadership in Educational Facilities suggests that universities with well-maintained facilities, such as classrooms, residential areas, and student service buildings, are much more attractive to students. APPA is an organization that focuses on improving education facilities through training facility managers and focusing on elevating

learning environments. In a research report done in 2006, APPA member Maggie Kinnman suggests that “the survey suggested a significant number of respondents rejected an institution because facilities were missing, inadequate or poorly maintained.”

The impacts of the custodial staff are felt by all of us, whether we know it or not. The clean boards that we see in the morning, the quick responses to Fix-It requests, and their warm smiles when we greet them are just a few of the things that affect us everyday. UCSD focuses heavily on community, and we are thankful for the custodial staff in our community who work hard at their jobs.

“Perhaps the best we can do is at least pay attention. That is, pay attention to how we are to consume art, and who it is coming from, but most importantly pay attention to what we make of it.”

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FILM REVIEW

CATS

Director Tom Hooper

Starring James Corden, Judi Dench, Jason Derulo, Idris Elba, Jennifer Hudson, Ian McKellen, Taylor Swift, Rebel Wilson, Francesca Hayward

Release Date Dec. 20, 2019

Rating PG

D-

PHOTO COURTESY OF VANITY FAIR

“Cats” delves into a whirlwind fantasy that would have been better left untold.

Cats, dance, and film are three of my favorite things. “Cats,” however, despite being the amalgamation of them all, somehow managed to make me want to claw my eyes out less than 10 minutes into viewing the human/cat hybrid nightmare. Tom Hooper’s 2019 adaptation of this musical completely failed to adapt the theater production into a comprehensive story onto the big screen. The film not only did not translate the same on screen as it does on stage, but it also felt genuinely uncomfortable to watch. The blatant sexualization of the cats left you with an uneasy feeling throughout the entire film that never quite left. As Bombalurina (Taylor Swift) shimmed her furry chest alongside other female cat dancers to an audience of cowering felines with curves, the audience is left with an unpleasant pit in their stomachs as they scratch their heads, wondering who exactly this film’s focal audience was supposed to be. It is not clear whether it was intended to appeal to children, theater lovers, or furries, as it seems to have been produced for all three vastly different groups while simultaneously missing the mark to be appealing to any normal person.

Despite all of this criticism, “Cats,” ultimately has some redeeming qualities that had the potential to set this film

apart as an impressive display of musical talent were it not for everything else that went appallingly wrong. It cannot be denied that the choreography was exceptional, and the amount of talented dancers in the film did not go unnoticed. The decision to cast actual professional dancers for a Hollywood film in an industry where big names are valued more than talent was appreciated and might I say, even celebrated, within the dance community. The casting of Francesca Hayward, a principal dancer in the Royal Ballet, as the lead character (Victoria) despite it being her first feature film, conveyed a certain level of respect for the art of dance in cinema. That is not to say that there are no famous faces in the film, and this is where the praise ends. Taylor Swift, James Corden, Jason Derulo, and Rebel Wilson are among other big stars with a noticeable role in the movie. It is obvious that a considerable amount of time, effort, and money went into this film in order to obtain a finished product with accomplished performers and a star-studded cast, which is what makes “Cats” so much more unfortunate. The CGI, which no doubt cost millions of dollars and required hours of grueling labor to assemble only served to distract from the few virtues present within the production. The exceptional dancing, powerhouse

vocals, and beautiful musical composition found itself buried beneath cats with human faces and manicured hands.

“Cats” is so shockingly terrible that, like a car crash or a terrible accident, you cannot bring yourself to peel your eyes away from the screen, even as you feel your face physically cringing as cockroaches and mice with children’s faces tap dance on a disproportionate table, slave to a tabby Rebel Wilson. What movie is better able to sum up our current age? We have progressed to a point in scientific advancement where our technology can be used to make human/cat hybrids, but no one ever stopped to ask themselves if we should. “Cats” as a concept represents the duality of man.

— HEMMY CHUN
 Staff Writer

FILM REVIEW

LITTLE WOMAN

Director Greta Gerwig

Starring Saoirse Ronan, Timothée Chalamet, Emma Watson

Release Date Dec. 25, 2019

Rating PG

A

PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTON GLOBE

Greta Gerwig proves in “Little Women” that she knows how to celebrate the excellence of women all over the world.

Dec. 25, 2019 marked the release of the new remake of “Little Women.” Originally a novel written by Louisa May Alcott, “Little Women” is a story that follows the lives of the four March sisters as they navigate growing up during the latter era of the Civil War. After the many different adaptations of “Little Women,” this new film introduces a new perspective. Greta Gerwig, the film’s director, creates a masterpiece of commentary and imagination with her adapted screenplay of the literary piece. With both bodily and verbal experiential shots, classical and contemporary language, and a strong cast, Gerwig constructs a story relatable and moving beyond compare.

The production value of the film, the set design, and the costuming deserves a big round of applause due to the accuracy in capturing a cohesive and aesthetically pleasing adaptation of a classic story. The film’s score, created by French composer Alexandre Desplat, who also worked on “The Grand Budapest Hotel” and “The Shape of Water,” perfectly captures the emotions of every scene in the film. A composition of orchestral mastery sends the audience into an empathetic interpretation of what is shown on screen. Lengthy piano chords by Beth March (Eliza Scanlen) create longing and desperation for James Laurence (John Neville) and his lost daughter. Not only this, but quick violin chords played at a ball sends the audience’s stomachs into a frenzy as they watch Jo March (Saoirse Ronan) and Theodore “Laurie” Laurence (Timothée Chalamet) dance for the first time. To capture the emotions of a scene and enhance them through music demands the ear of a true composer, and Desplat did not disappoint.

Complimenting the experimental score were shots not often seen on current theater screens. Gerwig creates her own telling of the March sisters’ story with the added eye of sister shots — shots set up the same way to create a parallel effect — and a scattered chronological ordering of the plot. Gerwig also specifically shot all the March sisters’ flashbacks

with an orange-like filter over the camera to create a warm, comforting haze over all the shots capturing their childhood. She also wanted to embrace the essence of the March sisters in their clothing by making each sister wear a specific color and have the mother Mary March (Laura Dern) wear all four colors. These little touches added by Gerwig created the beauty of this adaptation and distinctly shaped her directorial style.

The actors of “Little Women” did not fall short on delivering Oscar-worthy performances. Saoirse Ronan was raw, likeable, and sassy while portraying the character Jo, the protagonist and maverick of female empowerment. The intensity of Jo’s need to be free and seen as more than just her gender demanded an actor to force the audience to empathize with the struggles, and Ronan delivered. Another example of Ronan’s brilliance in the film is when Jo is discussing her lost opportunity of marriage with Laurie. She delivers this powerful line, “And I am so sick of people saying that, that love is all a woman is fit for. I’m so sick of it. But I’m, I’m just so lonely!” The desperation behind these lines sent the audience into tears while the perseverance and desire Ronan acted out as Jo had the audience hungry for more.

Timothée Chalamet, who quickly received national attention from his parts in “Call Me By Your Name” and “Beautiful Boy,” also delivered a cheeky and reserved dichotic performance as the most accurately casted boy-next-door character Laurie. Moving through the emotions of love, anger, jealousy, sadness, and more, Chalamet proves that he is not just a beautiful face, but also enchanting with his skills and talent. The chemistry between him and Ronan is undeniable and could mark as one of the greatest casting decisions ever made for a film. Not only do their acting styles harmonize, but the playfulness of their acting — due to their comfort in each other retained from their work on “Lady Bird” together — easily translates onto the screen. The audience watches as Jo develops a lifetime friendship while

Laurie falls in love, thus keeping the audience anxious to see how their relationship develops over the film.

One of the biggest selling points of the film is the lessons and commentary it possesses. Although the film is set in the Civil War era, it reaches the hearts of the average person by still relating to one of society’s current social crises. Surprisingly, most of the issues that surround Jo — written off for the mere fact that she is a woman, being considered an economic deal more than a human, and the ever crushing idealized ideal of getting married — still plague society to this day, making the narrative even more powerful. With sexism in the workplace, in social society, and even at home still at large, it is not hard to relate to the issues the March sisters face.

This is also the reason for the way Gerwig ended the film; the ambiguous ending of Jo’s life made this film the best remake possible. Gerwig gave Alcott the ending Alcott always wanted for herself — Jo becoming a writer — and to give the editors and society the ending that they wanted — Jo getting married and falling in love.

The one thing that I believe was not executed well in the film was Beth’s death. Her death came and went with little to no mourning period whatsoever. I believe that the impact of her death should have created more of a ripple in the plot. Jo is sent into a frenzy after her death to write her book, but — aside from an establishing shot of the words “for Beth” on screen while Jo is writing the book — there is not much more said than “I miss her” and embellishments from that.

All in all, I could not recommend this masterpiece more to all walks of life. The lessons, perspectives, and stories told within “Little Women” must be experienced by more people so they can understand a little more about what it means to be a woman.

— HANAA MOOSAVI
 Contributing Writer

FILM REVIEW

PHOTO COURTESY OF VANITY FAIR

WEATHERING WITH YOU

Director Makoto Shinkai
 Starring Kotaro Daigo, Nana Mori, Shun Oguri, Sakura Kiryu
 Release Date Jan. 17, 2020
 Rating PG-13

B

With lush visuals and an endearing story, “Weathering With You” soars until it cannot stick its landing.

That “Weathering With You” would be Japan’s submission for the Best International Feature Film category for the 2020 Academy Awards seemed a foregone conclusion. The film is director Makoto Shinkai’s follow-up to the towering 2016 international critical and commercial success “Your Name,” re-exploring familiar themes about young love and sacrifice in a new story.

“Weathering With You” follows Hodaka Morishima, voiced by Kotaro Daigo, a high school runaway aboard a ferry to Tokyo who is nearly thrown overboard before being saved by Keisuke Suga (Shun Oguri). Keisuke offers Hodaka a place to stay in exchange for the boy’s work as an assistant for his publishing company, helping to research why there has been record-breaking rain in the city for weeks. After rescuing Hina Amano (Nana Mori), Hodaka finds out Hina is a weather maiden, or a girl able to create patches of sunshine in the midst of a downpour. The self-supporting teens team up to start a business together, in which people pay to stop the rain for their special events. All goes well until the police start looking for Hodaka who has been reported as missing, and Hina begins to suffer the unforeseen consequences of her power.

The animation conjures the world of a perpetually soaked Tokyo impeccably. Animated by CoMix Waves Films, the imagery never feels gloomy or dull, despite the dark gray color palette of the rain and the skyscrapers of

the city. The vivid lights and sounds of the city collapse the distance between the viewer and the screen, making it so that Hodaka and Hina’s world is no longer on a screen, but has come alive around them. This makes the moments when Hina pauses the rainfall, when the animation turns from gray to pale blue and bright green and an entirely different Tokyo is revealed, as precious to the viewer as it is to the patrons they’re doing it for.

The uniquely stunning animation of the film contrasts with the familiarity of the story and its characters. Even without a direct comparison to “Your Name,” the story beats of boy beginning to develop feelings for girl, ultimately needing to save her are familiar and rote. Hodaka and Hina’s relationship develops to become each other’s found family, but the two are never fully fleshed out with distinct personalities. Instead, the story relies on montage to cut their adventures together in place of depicting more organic shifts. While their relationship is still believable and sweet to watch, the film relies too much on the crutch that because viewers know Hodaka and Hina are the main characters, they’re supposed to care. The best character is really Nagi Amano (Sakura Kiryu), Hina’s younger brother whose womanizing and wiseness beyond his years provide expert comic relief.

What Shinkai continues to pull off perfectly in his stories, though, is taking the viewer beyond the world

as we know it. From time traveling in “Your Name” to the opening shot of Hina falling through the clouds in “Weathering With You,” Shinkai is less interested in the narrative aspects of his stories and far more interested in their stakes. In this film, he again explores the tension between the power of personal will and that which seems fated from above, as his characters continue to fight against the unfightable. However, in this film it seems he has set the stakes too high. The story builds and builds, only for its resolution to land with a thud. Shinkai’s message about how we relate to our environment is muddled, as he is preoccupied by his conjectures rather than what he wants to say about them.

“Weathering With You” may not live up to its predecessor or deliver on all of the fascinating questions it asks, but it easily wraps the viewer up in its world, one in which love and determination can achieve anything — even soaring into the sky.

— ASIYAH SYED
 Staff Writer

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Top Dorm and Apartment Friendly Plants

by Colleen Conradi *Lifestyle Editor*

As college students at UC San Diego, the fast paced quarter system seems to bring us lots of stress and takes away lots of our time. Some studies have shown that keeping plants around inside your bedroom, living room, etc. can actually help improve your mood. Just like a nice hike in nature or walking outside might help you breathe a little better or release stress, having more green around inside can have a little of that same effect. However, it is important to make sure you have the right kind of plant so you can be able to watch it thrive! In order to be a successful college student plant parent, be sure to find plants that are compatible with indoor lighting and are ideally low maintenance. If you're not sure what kind of plants those might be, check out some of these options:

Succulents

Succulents are a perfect dorm addition because they are so abundantly found, low cost, and very low maintenance when it comes to watering. These little guys love to be in the sun, so try to keep them on a windowsill or somewhere nice and bright. If you're looking for a nice little addition to your desk, Trader Joe's sells succulents for usually less than five dollars!

ZZ Plant

The zz plant, with its tall stems and plentiful green leaves,



PICTURE COURTESY OF AMAZON

is a perfect house plant because it can grow in bright, medium, and even low light, which makes it convenient for all types of living situations! You only need to water it once every other week or so, so it is incredibly low maintenance. This plant can also release a lot of oxygen into the air, so it can keep things fresh!

Pothos

The pothos plant is also a great option for dorms or apartments that don't get as much natural

light as other plants might need. This plant cascades down the side of its pot with big, bright green leaves that give off a calming effect. You can place it on top of a bookshelf or dresser and watch as it grows, draping down the side. Be sure to allow the soil to dry fully between waterings.

African Violets

If you're looking for something with more than just green leaves, then these blooming violets are

the plant for you! With colors ranging from deep magenta to lighter pinks and whites, these plants are nice to have around to brighten up a room. They do prefer bright light, but indirectly, so you can keep it on a desk or a bedside table. Just like pothos plants, let the soil dry out before watering!

Aloe Vera

If you have lots of bright light in your dorm or apartment, consider the wonder plant, aloe

vera. Not only is it aesthetically pleasing, but this plant also has a long list of uses and benefits! The gel inside of the plant has been known to treat sunburns, clear up acne, ease skin irritation, and even speed up the healing process of cuts and burns. If you choose to buy one of these "miracle plants," be sure to keep it in direct sunlight and keep the soil moist at all times.

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Finding the Right Side Hustle

by Annika Olives *Lifestyle Editor*

Side hustles can be an attractive and lucrative option for making money — they're flexible, you can work as much as you want, and you get to pick the work you do. Maybe you already have a job but want to make a little extra cash, or maybe you can't commit to a full or part-time job right now but still want to have an income — either way, the side hustle industry is here for you. While there are probably hundreds of hustles, here are some ideas to serve as a jumping-off point.

Babysitting

If you're good with kids, consider offering your babysitting services to families in the area! Check out websites like Care.com or Sittercity.com to find openings — with some luck, you may be able to find a family that needs babysitting on a regular schedule.

Photography

If you have a good camera and have some experience in editing software like Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom, advertise your photography services to the public! Plenty of UC San Diego organizations have photoshoots throughout the year that need photographers, so feel free to reach out to any organizations you know or check the Facebook Free and For Sale pages. Students are always looking for graduation pictures toward the end of the

year as well, so look out for those opportunities!

Cooking/Baking

Talented in the kitchen? Have a pop-up in your dorm room or apartment where you cook a full-course meal for select paying guests, for one night only. Offer your meal-prepping services to college students who never seem to have time to cook. Create birthday cakes or specialty items for local events. The possibilities for food side hustles are endless, so just trust your gut!

Reselling Items

Do you have a lot of things laying around your house that are ready for a new home? Put up items for sale on Facebook Marketplace or Craigslist for a few extra bucks. If you like to thrift and you have a knack for finding treasures and good deals, consider thrifting trendy clothing and reselling them on Depop, Poshmark, or social media.

Tutor

This is probably one of the most traditional side hustles there are. If you're gifted in a particular subject and you can explain things well, provide tutoring services to your fellow college students. You can also choose to tutor high school students — if you did well on standardized tests like the SAT or ACT, tutoring for those types



PICTURE COURTESY OF TOKYO INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR

of things tends to make good money.

Sell Your Art

If you're artistically inclined, sell prints, stickers, buttons, patches, or any other personal work! You could start an Etsy store, sell things on Redbubble, or join a local vendor fair. If you're a dancer, musician, or actor, consider offering lessons.

Hair/Makeup

Know how to apply makeup

or create intricate hairstyles? Offer your services to anyone who is attending a fancy event, like proms, weddings, formals, or even photoshoots.

Writing/Editing

Check out Fiverr or Upwork for freelance writing opportunities — lots of companies will pay writers to create content for them. Or offer your editing skills for essays, resumes, cover letters, and more.

Whatever side hustle you

choose, make sure you have enough time to complete the jobs that you take on. While we all appreciate having a little extra money on hand, it shouldn't come at the cost of your education, your other commitments, or your mental health. Good luck with the hustle!



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1.17 | **MASA**
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1.18
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7PM - 11PM
TOWN SQUARE

WEEK 3

1.25
UNDER THE INFLUENCER
8PM - 10PM
PC BALLROOM WEST

WEEK 4

1.31 | **UC SAN DIEGO RECREATION**
RECESS AT RIMAC
7PM - 11PM
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Calming Activities for a Break From a Hectic Quarter

by Colleen Conradi *Lifestyle Editor*

By now, as the new quarter begins to take off, our schedules are becoming solidified and our classes are getting down to business. As the quarter goes on, it can seem harder and harder to take time out for yourself between classes, work, and other commitments. If the whole idea of “self-care” seems daunting or foreign to you, check out some of these small and easy ways to relax and ease your busy mind!

Make a List

If you're starting to feel overwhelmed and don't know where you should start with the things on your plate, make a list! I have found that listing out all of the things I need to get done is very helpful in not only remembering important things, but also being able to prioritize what should be tackled first. Additionally, if you're like me and find list making to be a calming activity, you should check out Moorea Seal's “52 Lists” interactive books. I personally own “52 Lists for Happiness” and “52 Lists for Calm,” where each book contains 52 prompts for writing lists that encourage personal check-ins with yourself.

Coloring Books

When adult coloring books started becoming more and more popular in the last few years, it took me a long time to get into it. The idea seems nice and relaxing — who doesn't like to



color? However, once I actually purchased an adult coloring book, it was actually incredibly stressful for me! For some, the more detailed, smaller spaces in these books' designs can bring peace and concentration. For others, it causes stress around coloring outside the lines and having to pick the perfect colors sit well together. If you identify with the latter, what I realized was that nobody said you can't use the bigger, more spacious coloring books that are more commonly purchased for kids! Currently, I own a

Disney princess coloring book and I have no shame! Plenty of comfortable coloring room on each page and feel-good images that make me feel like a little kid. So when it comes to coloring books, find whichever one works best for you!

Buy a Plant

If you're not getting out in nature as much as you'd like because of your schedule, try buying a nice, leafy plant. Having that extra green foliage in your bedroom can lighten your mood and make you feel proud of

yourself for taking care of it. Try finding a low-maintenance plant that grows nicely indoors. This way, you can write out a watering schedule for yourself so you can take those few minutes to take a break and observe your baby plant's growth. If you're not sure where to find a good plant, I recommend checking out the garden section in front of Trader Joe's or even Home Depot for some inexpensive options.

Take a Walk

San Diego has plenty of great spots to go on scenic hikes,

which I definitely recommend checking out, but you might not exactly have the time to get out there as much as you'd like. So, next time you're in your dorm, apartment, or in Geisel Library and you're starting to feel the study session burn out, give yourself 15 minutes and go for a walk. It doesn't need to be long; it can be just around the block. Whatever you can do to get yourself outside and get some blood pumping will be worth it for your well being!

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10am
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 Interested in a moving meditation? Join us in learning postures to help reduce stress and anxiety, and improve your mood. This practice will lead you to a sense of peace and general well-being. Dr. Dianna Quach is clinical psychologist and a certified yoga instructor, RYT. All levels are welcomed! Yoga mats are provided!

2:30pm
GAY MEN'S RELATIONSHIP FORUM - WOMEN'S CENTER SMALL GROUP ROOM
 Starting week 2, join CAPS and the LGBT Resource Center for conversations about our experiences as gay men. This forum addresses relationships, sexual health, community building, and more! We meet during weeks 2-10(excluding holiday) in the Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters on, in the Women's Center Small Group Room. Come join us! Contact : Dr. Greg Koch, Psy.D. 858-534-3585 gkoch@ucsd.edu

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8am
DECAF 2020 - PRICE CENTER BALLROOMS
 Find a job for the Disciplines of Engineering Career Fair (Decaf)! If you want to meet and connect with representatives from engineering companies, you should come to Decaf!

3pm
CAPS WELLNESS @ THE ZONE - THE ZONE
 Learn how to incorporate state of the art technology for stress management! You'll learn strategies such as progressive muscles relaxation and deep breathing techniques that help to reduce stress as well as learn about some cool technology. We'll have free giveaways each week AND you can sign up for a FREE de-stress massage with the R&R Squad! Make sure to check out The Zone calendar for info on this and other free wellness programs!

5:30pm
SPIRIT NIGHT 2020 - RIMAC ARENA
 CALLING ALL TRITONS! It is time to pack RIMAC for our annual Spirit Night and the 25th anniversary of the Cup of Cheer! Spirit Week is an exciting time as we bring all Tritons together to celebrate what it means to wear the blue and gold. Your No. 6 mens basketball team and No. 22 womens basketball team will face conference rival Cal Poly Pomona with the action starting at 5:30 p.m. The Spirit Night Tailgate- EXCLUSIVE for students- opens at 6 p.m. JUST outside RIMAC and will have food, t-shirt, and other giveaways! You do NOT want to miss out on the fun- wear your blue and gold and get ready for some great hoops action!

TUE 1.14
12pm
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT FORUM - GSA GRAD LOUNGE
 A supportive drop-in space for graduate and professional school students seeking strategies for resilience, perseverance, and flourishing. Common themes include: stress management, sustaining motivation, recovering from set-backs, work/life balance, and navigating interpersonal challenges (personal and professional). Location: GDA Grad Lounge Contact : Dr. Miriam Adrianowicz, Psy.D 858-534-3456 or Madrianowicz@ucsd.edu

1:30pm
AEP SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES! - VARIES; SEE FLYER
 Get paid to do research this summer! There are a number of undergraduate research opportunities with upcoming deadlines. These programs provide mentored research, a stipend, and many other benefits. We will be offering several information sessions so that students can find out more about the programs and the application process. Information about the programs: * UC Scholars Program <https://UCScholars.ucsd.edu> (Feb. 3 deadline) * Undergraduate Research Scholarships (URS) <https://urs.ucsd.edu> (Feb. 3 deadline) * Triton Research & Experiential Learning Scholars (TRELS) <https://trels.ucsd.edu>

3pm
CAPS SELF-CARE STRATEGIES - STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES, MURRAY'S PLACE
 Want to find ways to balance your personal and academic life at UCSD? Dr. Andy Nguyen and a Wellness Peer Educator provide fun ways to help you achieve wellness! Topics will include: self-care, stress management, mindfulness, self-compassion, and effective communication.

FRI 1.17
3pm
CAPS FOUNDATIONS OF WELL-BEING - CAPS CENTRAL OFFICE, 190 GALBRAITH HALL
 Come spend an entertaining and informative hour examining six fundamental lifestyle areas. You leave with a wealth of practical tips you can immediately use to make changes that will help you manage your stress, improve your mood, and enhance your life satisfaction.

5pm
BLACK WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE - WOMEN'S CENTER
 Join us for conversations about experience as black women and connect with other women on campus. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact : Dr. Cat Thompson, Ph.D. 858-534-3987 or Cathompson@ucsd.edu (Weeks 2,4,6,8,10)

8pm
ARIEL QUARTET BEETHOVEN CYCLE, PART 2 - CONRAD PREBYS CONCERT HALL
 Formed in Israel nearly twenty years ago, the Quartet was recently awarded the prestigious Cleveland Quartet Award. In honor of Beethovens sestercentennial in 2020, the Ariel Quartet will perform the complete Beethoven Cycle.

WED 1.15
2pm
CAPS WELLNESS @ THE ZONE - THE ZONE
 Meet us at The Zone where you'll have the opportunity for one-on-one demonstration with a CAPS Wellness Peer Educator to learn how to incorporate state of the art technology for stress management! You'll learn strategies such as progressive muscles relaxation and deep breathing techniques that help to reduce stress as well as learn about some cool technology. We'll have free giveaways each week AND you can sign up for a FREE de-stress massage with the R&R Squad! Make sure to check out The Zone calendar for info on this and other free wellness programs! See you on Wednesdays! Week 2-10 Location: The Zone Contact: Ebartelmar@ucsd.edu 858-822-0155 Website: <https://wellness.ucsd.edu/CAPS/Pages/default.aspx>

3:30pm
AEP SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES! - VARIES; SEE FLYER
 Get paid to do research this summer! There are a number of undergraduate research opportunities with upcoming deadlines. These programs provide mentored research, a stipend, and many other benefits. We will be offering several information sessions so that students can find out more about the programs and the application process. Information about the programs: * UC Scholars Program <https://UCScholars.ucsd.edu> (Feb. 3 deadline) * Undergraduate Research Scholarships (URS) <https://urs.ucsd.edu> (Feb. 3 deadline) * Triton Research & Experiential Learning Scholars (TRELS) <https://trels.ucsd.edu> Contact: kkung@ucsd.edu Website: <https://aep.ucsd.edu>

SAT 1.18
1pm
OUTREACH HIKE TO HO CHI MINH TRAIL - HO CHI MINH TRAIL
 This event is designed for students to free their minds and to enjoy the scenic views of La Jolla from the Ho Chi Minh Hiking Trail with Outreach on a Saturday afternoon. The hike is considered moderate difficult that descends from the northern neighborhoods of La Jolla to Blacks Beach. We will be meeting in front of Caf Ventanas at ERC on campus and to walk over together. A \$4 fee will be charged to confirm your attendance. We will refund it back once you attend.

SUN 1.19
2pm
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR PARADE - HARBOR DRIVE, EMBARCADERO
 Join other UC San Diego students, staff, faculty and alumni in downtown San Diego for the 40th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. This is one of the largest celebrations of its kind in the United States in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The UC San Diego contingent will be led by a large "UC San Diego" banner, followed by the UC San Diego Pep Band and members of the campus community. Departments and organizations are encouraged to showcase their own banners, letters, and signage while we march in the parade. Limited transportation available for UC San Diego students, register at <http://bit.ly/UCSDMLK20>

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1855 Diamond St#226 - \$700 per month; Beautifully property that you will not like to miss out so kindly contact me directly as the owner with the property address to the below email if not you will not get a respond from me, don't contact me.... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

219-221 Kalmia St - \$2,750 per month; Historic Bankers Hill Two Bedroom for Rent - Bankers Hill Two Bedroom unit available for rent. Located on Kalmia st, this historic downstairs unit is coming available soon! Views and location in the Bankers Hill community with restaurants, shops, and entertainment. This condo is close to all of what Downtown ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

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Cost Analyst - Looking for recent Accounting Grads OR entry level Accountants are encouraged to apply to this role. This Cost Analyst role will allow you to gain hands-on accounting experience with a team that deals with construction and professional service projects. Under general supervision, performs a wide variety of cost, statistical and other administrative analyses in support of capital development activities, fun.... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

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ing for the following positions: Client Support - Rancho Bernardo - \$18/hr must have.... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

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BIKES

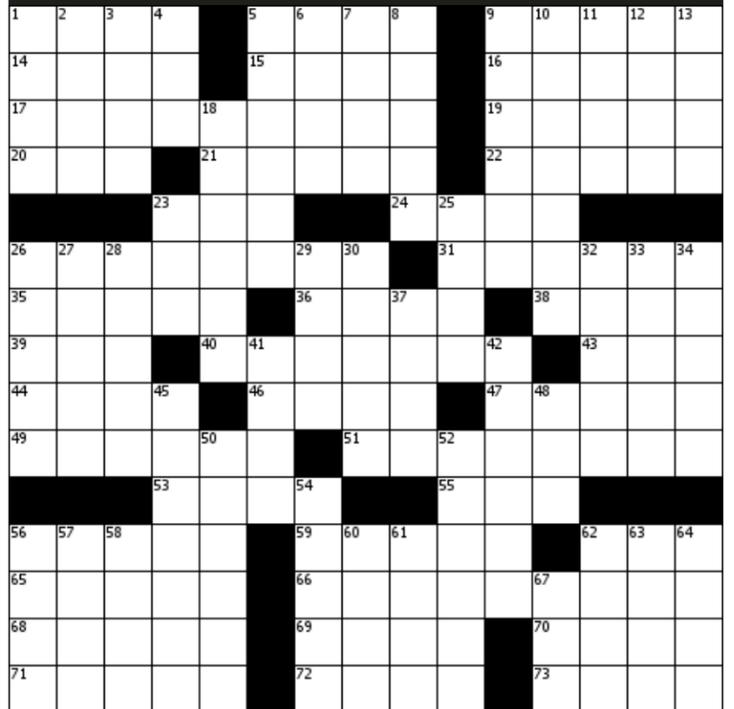
2010-700c Specialized Transition Triathlon Bike - This bike was used for one month in total and in one Triathlon. My spouse broke her foot at the time and lost interest in the sport. The bike has been stored in my garage since that

time. We are cleaning up and decided to sell it. I can take any photos and gather any data available on the bike. If you are local, you can come and ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

57cm Giant 'RS940' 12 speed road bike - Giant RS940, size 57 cm (c-c) - large. Lightweight 4130 Cr-Mo triple butted frame and fork. All original Japanese made Shimano twelve speed indexed gearing, caliper brakes, 700 c Araya wheels, and SR pedals with Giant clips and.... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

52 cm Centruion ' Le Mans RS', freshly tuned - 52 cm (c-c) Centurion 'Le Mans RS' twelve speed, now available! Tange two Cr-Mo lugged steel frame, and Mangaloy fork. 27" alloy Araya wheelset w/Suzue hubs. SunTour Cyclone derailers.... ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Solutions at bottom of page

ACROSS

1. Retain
5. Book leaf
9. Trimmed the border
14. Wind instrument
15. Highest point
16. Depart
17. Not temporary
19. Actress ____ DeGeneres
20. Needle hole
21. Less common
22. Changes direction
23. Skirt border
24. Aid in crime
26. Aggravate
31. Shaquille and Tatum
35. Dentist's concern
36. Mine finds
38. Exchange
39. Fairy
40. Entice
43. Fourth mo.
44. Run into
46. Consumes
47. Capital of Idaho
49. Stress
51. Banned one
53. Cinch
55. London's country (abbr.)
56. Pesky bugs
59. Fern "seed"
62. DDE's predecessor
65. Uncanny
66. Cease-fire
68. Chirp
69. Maui garlands
70. Wrought ____
71. Leading actors
72. Legendary story
73. Cherished animals

DOWN

1. Expectation
2. Follow orders
3. Folk knowledge
4. HST's party
5. Straw hat
6. Imitator
7. Dancer ____ Kelly
8. Additional
9. Gridiron number
10. Removes
11. Brisk wind
12. Happily ____ after
13. Lions' homes
18. Singer ____ Franklin
23. Strike
25. Pear type
26. Things
27. Rent again
28. Allude
29. Toddlers
30. Made mistakes
32. Anticipate
33. Expire
34. Shopping frenzy
37. Alleviate
41. Canned fish
42. Certain steaks (hyph.)
45. More flavorful
48. Association (abbr.)
50. Map parts
52. Expire
54. Biblical poem
56. Understands
57. Politician ____ Gingrich
58. Range
60. Hunted animal
61. Leave out
62. Give a job to
63. Kilt wearer
64. Certain bills
67. Cabbie's bonus

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WORD SEARCH

ICE CREAM!

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- COTTON CANDY
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

UCSD Drops Second Match of Season to Lewis

Coming off of their upset win over the No. 11 Loyola University Chicago on Thursday night, the UC San Diego Tritons failed to maintain their momentum at home, falling to the No. 6 Lewis University Flyers in straight sets, 22-25, 20-25, 19-25 on Saturday, Jan. 11.

The Tritons had the support of a sizeable weekend home crowd of nearly 500 fans and the always-pesky band, but the height of the Flyers, especially that of redshirt junior middle back Tyler Mitchem (6'11") and redshirt senior outside hitter Ryan Coenen (6'9"), meant that the Tritons had a difficult time stringing together points.

In the first set, UCSD recorded 5 blocks to Lewis' 7, with 3 of the 5 coming in the final four plays of the set. By the end of the night, UCSD only trailed by 6 blocks, but the effect of the Flyers' lanky attack was felt in more ways than one.

"Whenever you play a team with guys that 6'10" and 6'11", that's a formidable [team]," head coach Kevin Ring said. "With that much size on the other side, we had trouble setting up our attack."

Ten missed serves and a low hitting percentage (.177) hurt the Tritons, keeping the home team from building any sort of run against the Flyers. UCSD only could string together a 4-0 run once on the night, while Lewis racked up five-plus point runs multiple times over the course of



PHOTO COURTESY OF UCSD ATHLETICS

the match.

"They served really well, especially down the stretch," Ring said. "For us going forward, it's all about getting comfortable in uncomfortable situations."

After an even start to the first set, the Tritons found themselves down 17-10 after a resounding block by Coenen to set up a 3-0 run for the Flyers, which prompted a UCSD timeout. From that point on, the Tritons' star transfer junior outside hitter Kyle McCauley rattled off 5 kills to bring the home team back to

within 2 points, but the former Orange Coast College Pirates standout missed a block to give the Flyers the set.

Seven of the first 10 points scored by both teams in the second set came via service errors, a trend that would continue to plague UCSD for the rest of the night. After tying the score at 9-9, Coenen unleashed a booming cross-court kill that sparked the increasingly flightless Flyers' offense. After the kill, Lewis went on a 4-1 run before a McCauley spike stopped the

bleeding.

Another Coenen kill pushed the advantage to 7 points for the Flyers, before McCauley again ended the run for the opposition, smashing kills in back-to-back points to bring the Tritons back to within 4 points at 21-16, much to the delight of the home crowd. But the momentum would not last long, as more miscues by the Tritons kept any run from forming beyond one of the two-point variety.

By the third set, Coenen and the Flyers had found their groove,

jumping out to a 5-2 lead that the visitors never risked losing.

After a tricky homestand against a pair of top-12 opponents to begin their season, the Tritons will have two more home games this coming week against the Vassar University Brewers and the rival UCLA Bruins before going on the road to take on the Grand Canyon University Lopes.

READERS CAN CONTACT
JACK DORFMAN JDORFMAN200@UCSD.EDU

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE

Sign up and
register at
ucsd.turbovote.org

California's presidential primary is March 3, 2020 Make sure you get the ballot with your choice!

California's presidential primary election takes place March 3, 2020. Political parties decide who can vote for their presidential primary candidates.

In the March 3, 2020 primary election, voters will nominate one presidential candidate from each party to run against each other in the November 3, 2020 general election. You may need to take certain steps to vote for the presidential candidate you want in the primary election.

Learn

VOTERS REGISTERED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY

California's Political Parties:



American Independent Party



Democratic Party



Green Party



Libertarian Party



Peace and Freedom Party



Republican Party

If you are registered with one of these six political parties in California, your ballot will list **only** that parties' presidential candidates.

You can vote **only** for that parties' presidential candidates.

If your party registration is different from the party of the presidential primary candidate you want to vote for, you will need to register to vote with that party.

If you wish to change your party registration, we encourage you to do so before February 17, 2020.

VOTERS REGISTERED AS NONPARTISAN

(also known as "independent" or "no party preference")

If you are registered as nonpartisan, your March 3, 2020 primary ballot will not list the presidential primary contest and candidates. There are over 550,000 voters in San Diego County registered as nonpartisan.

Nonpartisan voters can take steps to vote for a presidential candidate in the primary.

ALLOWING NONPARTISAN VOTERS TO CROSSOVER:



The American Independent Party, Democratic Party, and Libertarian Party are allowing nonpartisan voters to take part in their presidential primary elections.

Nonpartisan voters can request one of these three parties' ballots and vote for that party's presidential candidate. Selecting one of these three parties' ballots will not register you with that party – you will remain as a nonpartisan voter.

The Democratic Party is allowing nonpartisan voters to vote in their presidential contest but not their Central Committee contest. If requested, you will receive the NP (nonpartisan) Democratic ballot.

NOT ALLOWING NONPARTISAN VOTERS TO CROSSOVER:



The Green Party, Peace and Freedom Party, and Republican Party have closed their presidential primary to nonpartisan voters.

These parties are allowing **only** those registered with their parties to vote for their primary's presidential candidates. Nonpartisan voters will not be able to select one of these ballots unless they re-register with that party.

Re-register or register to vote before February 17, 2020.

No matter what your party preference is, all registered voters will be allowed to vote on nonpartisan contests and voter-nominated offices, such as U.S. congressional offices and state legislative offices. The "top two" vote getters in voter nominated contests will advance to the November general election.

Sign up

Have you signed up to receive your Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet electronically? You can do so now at sdvote.com.

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for eSample
Ballots

Questions? Contact the Registrar of Voters Office at (858) 565-5800 or (800) 696-0136 toll free.

Para solicitar información sobre los servicios de votación disponibles en Español, llame al 858-565-5800 o gratis al (800) 696-0136.

Tumawag sa (858) 565-5800 o (800) 696-0136 upang magtanong tungkol sa mga serbisyo sa pagboto na makuha sa wikang Filipino.

Xin gọi số (858) 565-5800 hoặc (800) 696-0136 để hỏi về các dịch vụ bầu cử bằng tiếng Việt.

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SPORTS

CONTACT THE EDITOR

JACK DORFMAN

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UPCOMING
UCSD
GAMES

M Volleyball	1/15	6PM	vs Vassar College
W Basketball	1/16	5:30PM	vs Cal Poly Pomona
M Basketball	1/16	8PM	vs Cal Poly Pomona
W Tennis	1/16	2PM	vs Nevada

Roberts' 27 Points Leads Tritons to Seventh Straight Win

In their seventh consecutive victory, the No. 6 UC San Diego men's basketball squad took down the Humboldt State University Lumberjacks 86-70 in a game they never trailed, led by 27 points from redshirt sophomore guard Tyrell Roberts. With the win, their sixth in the last seven contests against Humboldt State, the UCSD Tritons improve to 15-1 overall and 9-1 in conference matchups, both best in the California Collegiate Athletic Association.

UCSD jumped out to a quick 8-2 lead on three-pointers from senior forward Scott Everman and redshirt senior guard Christian Oshita. After a Humboldt triple brought the lead down to 12-7, an Everman dunk and jumpers from Roberts and junior forward Marek Sullivan gave the Tritons

an 18-7 advantage with 13:43 left in the first. The Tritons led by double digits for most of the rest of the half, and after two jumpers from Sullivan to close out the half, UCSD entered halftime up 46-32.

But Humboldt State came out of halftime on a hot streak, rattling off 12 straight points early in the second period to shrink the lead to just two with 13:45 remaining. But, in a dominant display, Roberts scored the next nine points of the game — two ten-foot jumpers, followed by a three-pointer and another mid-range jumper — to push the lead to 11. Oshita added a three-pointer to bring the lead back to 14 points, and UCSD held on to finish with a 16-point lead.

Roberts was the clear difference-maker for the Tritons, adding a

career-high eight rebounds to 27 points on 10 made field goals — both one below his career highs. Oshita, Everman, and Sullivan were the other Tritons in double figures, with 20, 15, and 12 points, respectively.

The Tritons were coming off a decisive road win at the California State University, Stanislaus Warriors (9-5, 5-4 CCAA) on Jan. 9. Both teams traded baskets in the early stages of the game, but Roberts drained a paint jumper and a three-pointer to give UCSD a 13-6 edge early in the half. Soon after, threes from junior guards Gabe Hadley and Mikey Howell pushed the lead to double digits. After the CSU Stanislaus Warriors responded with three of their own, the Tritons went on an 8-0 run, capped off with a three-pointer

from Oshita that gave UCSD a commanding 27-12 lead. On a Roberts triple and a pair of free throws from Howell, the Tritons rallied to end the period 42-22.

UCSD was never in danger in the second half, maintaining a double-digit lead for its entirety. Again, an 8-0 run was capped off by an Oshita three-pointer, putting the Tritons up 24. The Warriors did embark on a 12-0 run with 3:33 to go, but it was far too late for a comeback; all Stanislaus State could do was mitigate the blowout to a more respectable 12-point deficit in the last minute, as the match finished 74-60.

The story of the match played out in the three-point shooting numbers — while the Tritons went 14-for-32 on threes (a 43.8

percent clip), the Warriors made just two threes on 15 shots. Again, Roberts left his mark, leading both teams with 22 points, 6 assists, and a career-high 5 steals; Oshita tacked on 20 points, including 5 three-pointers.

The Tritons will attempt to stretch their win streak with a pair of home games against California State Polytechnic University, Pomona on Thursday's Spirit Night, and against California State University, San Bernardino on Saturday — both teams that UCSD has beaten on the road this season.

READERS CAN CONTACT
PRAVEEN NAIR PRNAIR@UCSD.EDU

Women's Basketball Holds on in Win Over Humboldt State

Capping off a five-game win streak, the No. 6 UC San Diego men's basketball team came back from a 16-point first-half deficit to defeat the California State University, East Bay Pioneers 76-73. The win lifted the Tritons to 13-1 overall and 7-1 in the California Collegiate Athletic Association, despite missing their captain and leading scorer, senior center Chris Hansen, for the last six contests. To make up for the missing Hansen, senior forward Scott Everman dropped 21 points in what was his biggest game of the season.

The Tritons were blindsided early on; just five minutes into the game, they faced a 15-2 deficit. But after a 20-10 run to close out the half, UCSD found itself down only three points entering halftime.

In the second half, the Tritons didn't lead until seven minutes in,

after an Everman fast-break layup pushed the score up to 45-44. The lead evaporated though after a pair of Pioneer three-pointers, and the Tritons trailed 55-53 with over nine minutes left in the game.

Redshirt junior guard Mikey Howell (who became just the fifth Triton to reach 300 career assists during this game) took over, scoring the game's next six points to give the Tritons a four-point lead with eight minutes remaining.

UCSD grew its lead to 10 with just three minutes to go, but CSUEB responded with a late 12-3 run, capped off by a three-pointer from guard Trent Warren that brought the teams within one point with just 12 seconds on the clock. With the game on the line, redshirt sophomore guard Tyrell Roberts hit both free throws with four seconds remaining to close the game out. Two Tritons

finished with double-doubles: Howell, with 14 points and 11 assists, and junior forward Marek Sullivan, with 12 points and 11 rebounds, the junior transfer who has been Hansen's replacement in the starting lineup.

Saturday's match was preceded by four straight double-digit wins over CCAA opponents, beginning with a Dec. 17th matchup at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Coming off the first loss of the season, junior guard Gabe Hadley put on a clinic, making six of eight three-pointers and scoring a game-high 22 off the bench. UCSD shot a scorching 61.5 percent from three, and they never trailed on their way to an 84-65 win.

Two nights later against Sonoma State University, the Tritons dominated the first half, up 49-29 after a 23-7 run to close out the period. The early effort was led by

18 first-half points from redshirt senior guard Christian Oshita. In the second, Sonoma State never got within single digits, as the Tritons cruised to an 84-69 win. UCSD was once again led by Hadley, as he made five three-pointers on his way to a game-high 19 points; Mikey Howell added 8 points, 9 assists, and 6 rebounds.

On Dec. 22, UCSD started off slow against the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Broncos; Hadley, the highest-scoring Triton in the last two contests, finished scoreless. The first half was a low-scoring and even affair, and the Tritons entered halftime trailing 27-24. But in the second half, the Tritons took the lead on an Oshita three-pointer with nine and a half minutes remaining and never trailed again, winning 66-56. Tyrell Roberts' 19 points, as well as a 17-point,

10-rebound double-double from Oshita, led the Tritons to victory.

The Tritons returned to face last-place California State University, Monterey Bay on Jan. 2. Once again, the Tritons never trailed, riding 19 first-half points from Oshita to a 52-34 halftime lead. UCSD spent the entire second half with a double-digit lead, on its way to a 94-72 rout. Oshita led the team with 27 points, and Howell was all over the stat sheet, scoring 11 along with 10 assists and eight rebounds.

The Tritons play their next two games on the road against California State University, Stanislaus and Humboldt State University, looking to remain atop the CCAA and keep their win streak alive.

READERS CAN CONTACT
HAYDEN WELLBELOVED HWELBEL@UCSD.EDU

TRITON TIMEOUT

With Jack Dorfman,
Sports Editor

How the Padres stole my baseball heart

I'm a rabid Los Angeles Dodgers fan, and I have been for almost as long as I can remember. Unlike a healthy portion of fans, I've never bought a baseball jersey before; I've never even had one given to me as a gift.

I've only been a San Diego Padres fan for the better part of a year and a half, but on Saturday, I bought myself a game-worn Spring Training Padres jersey. For a Dodgers jersey of similar quality and back story, I could have easily had to dole out \$100 or more, but at the 2020 Padres FanFest, I spent just \$15 to acquire my first and only authentic baseball jersey.

Over the span of four hours at Petco Park in downtown San Diego, I got to play catch in the outfield, walk around the infield, throw pitches in the bullpen, sit in the dugout, and walk through the clubhouse. The small market Padres provided all of this to me, and more, in one compact outing. The only out of pocket cost for this indulgent baseball experience was the reasonable \$10 charge for parking, which I split amongst

four other budding Padres supporters.

Despite all of the time I have spent in LA as a Dodgers fan, I have only gotten to do a few of those things, and there's a slim chance that I would be able to do any of those today, as a 19-year-old instead of as a kid.

Even beyond this event, the Padres have done a great job converting me into a fan. Before my first day of class at UC San Diego last fall, I had already bought a Padres shirt, largely because it was half the price of any Dodgers shirt I'd seen before. A few months later, at an event attended by no more than 50 fans, I got to meet with Padres players in the Petco Park team store.

By that point, I was hooked, more than three months before Opening Day 2019, I'd already become a fairly loyal Padres fan.

Then I went to a game.

Playing against my beloved Dodgers, LA and San Diego fans alike packed Petco Park with more than 40,000 fans and watched the Padres come from behind to beat

one of the best teams in all of baseball.

Over the next few months, I spent my weekday afternoons on the couch in my dorm, watching baseball. But it wasn't the Dodgers games I was watching, it was the Padres. When in LA, I'm blacked out from watching the Dodgers along with roughly 80 percent of the city thanks to an \$8 billion TV deal the team's ownership group signed half a decade ago.

With the Padres, all of their games are televised on a widely accessible regional sports network, so whenever I game was on, I tuned in.

Granted, I was not a hard fan to convert. I'm already a baseball fan and I'd follow the Padres even if they treated me more like the Dodgers have. But from easily being able to follow the team on TV to meeting players and having a great, affordable time at the ballpark, the Padres have found ways to interact and engage with me on an intimate level that the much larger Dodgers never could imagine.

Within their more personal framework, the Padres have catered towards fans that aren't willing to switch TV providers or pay outlandish sums for gear, autographs, and tickets. Instead, San Diego's largest sports franchise has become the best option for sports entertainment in the city, filling the void the Chargers NFL franchise left behind when they shuffled off to LA a few summers back.

For those of you thinking this line of thinking is heretical, trust me, I'm still a Dodgers fan for life. This doesn't mean I'm more of a Padres fan than a Dodgers fan by any stretch. All it means is that after only one full season, I have found a way to demonstrate my connection to San Diego and to the Padres more concretely in less than two years than I did after 19 years as a Dodgers fan, and that's something worth thinking about.

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