

A TRITON TO WATCH



PHOTO COURTESY OF ESRA ELHENDY

He left the Netherlands at a young age to grace us with his beautiful and benign presence. A talented musician, writer, and comedian — Niel Bezrookove has managed to make his mark on the local art scene.

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VERBATIM

"The concept of cultural appropriation does not always make sense outside of Western cultures. Indeed, why would a Kazakhstani woman be aware of American linguistic intricacies if Americans en masse do not feel obliged to even know where Kazakhstan is."

- REVEKKA GERSHOVICH
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UCSD



The Super Blue Blood Moon over San Diego on Jan. 31. Photo by Klaus Hummler // UCSD Guardian Parent

CAMPUS

UCAB Considering Piloting a Nap Pod Program

BY MADELINE LEON STAFF WRITER

The University Centers Advisory Board is considering piloting a nap pod program in the Price Center area. They were approached by a company called HOHM. The company and UCAB are still deciding the logistics of the program in order to make a concrete decision.

HOHM is a new sleep pod company that designs nap pod rooms for high-volume public places like airports, office buildings, universities, and events. According to their website, the "soundproof unit" is equipped with a twin-sized bed, a charging station, and custom lighting.

Additionally, according to UCAB Graduate Student At Large Gary Le, the program would most likely run "on a reservation system."

Since the room is personal, it would require maintenance and attendance by a supervisor almost at all times.

"They'd be coming in and using their own supervisors and it looks like they would be providing cleaning and things like that, which is nice as well," John Muir College Representative Nicholas Laub commented.

The company approached them toward the

end of Fall Quarter 2017, but "UCAB has been considering some sort of napping pod program ever since we received requests from students to implement some sort of napping space," UCAB Chair Ashley Awe commented.

"Napping pods have been on our mind a lot. I know when the hammock garden opened up, that was a big deal," Laub added.

"UCAB is still working with the company to decide the parameters of the pilot program to decide if we want to proceed," UCAB Chair Ashley Awe commented.

In the decision for the nap pod pilot, the board must consider the reality of the pods and student usage.

"Is the idea of a nap pod better than the actual nap pod? Will people use it if it's there?" Le questioned. "We have to think about how long will students take a nap for ... This is one of the ideas we're trying out and it's up to students to decide whether they want something like a nap pod where you have a personal pod ... or something more like the zone where there's just bean bags with low costs, but not that comfortable."

The board has not decided on a clear location

See **NAP POD**, page 3

UC SYSTEM

Workers of AFSCME 3299 Stage Protests Across the UC System

The demonstration highlighted the 50th anniversary of the Memphis, Tennessee civil rights movement.

BY REBECA CAMACHO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Occurring across all 10 University of California campuses, employees with the union American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3299 protested on Library Walk against worker discrimination and increasing worker security this past Thursday. The rallies were held in honor of the 50th anniversary of the historical eight-week-long civil rights movement in Memphis, Tennessee, after the deaths of two

union workers due to unsafe working conditions, which ended with Martin Luther King Jr. delivering his famous "Mountaintop" speech that preceded his assassination.

Chanting in languages including English and Spanish, "What do we want? Workers rights! When do we want it? Now!" UC employees took to Library Walk on Thursday to address the struggles many face on a daily basis.

AFSCME Local 3299 is the UC system's largest employee union, representing about 24,000 employees. AFSCME has played

a major role in securing workers rights, and continues to advocate better conditions.

With branches at the university's 10 campuses, five medical centers, numerous clinics, research laboratories, and UC Hastings College of Law, on Feb. 1, a National Moment of Silence took place with elected officials, sanitation workers, and community leaders to memorialize the legacy of 1968.

On Feb. 1, 1968 the groundbreaking episode in

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UCSD

Dance Students Repond to Major Cuts to World Dance Classes

Some of the classes being cut from the dance department include tap, salsa, West African, and advanced levels of ballet.

BY AMALIA HUERTA CORNEJO
STAFF WRITER

UC San Diego dance students held a meeting on Jan. 19 in Studio 2 at the Molli and Arthur Wagner Building in Roger Revelle College to express their concerns of the pending dance class cuts in the theater and dance curriculum to four full-time faculty members of the dance department and one adjunct faculty member.

The classes being cut include salsa, tap, West African, jazz, and advanced levels of ballet. According to John Muir College junior Astrid Espitia, the undergraduate dance student representative, these classes, which mostly are comprised of the world dance category, are the most popular and in high demand for students.

Espitia's role as the undergraduate dance representative is to "give students a voice" in UC San Diego's Theatre and Dance department, she helped organize the meeting with some fellow concerned dancers after learning through other students and adjunct faculty members about the class cuts.

"We received news from different students and professors and not from direct faculty that classes were being cut," Espitia said to the UCSD Guardian. "We asked ourselves, 'why is this happening?' These are the most popular classes."

"All of these (dance classes) haven't been taken seriously," Espitia stated. "Out of 350 or so students that walk through these doors of this dance building approximately about 300 of them are students in the world dance classes."

Due to the popularity of these classes, waitlisting is common, explained Espitia.

"It is really hard to get into these classes. People plan their whole time and schedule for their careers just to get in — it's really difficult," she added.

A few weeks ago, before the meeting, Espitia and other dance students handed out surveys to students in every dance class to get feedback on whether they thought their voices were being heard in the department and their thoughts on the class cuts.

According to Espitia, the adjunct dance faculty, which includes all the world dance professors, "created

See **DANCE**, page 3

TIMMY TRITON

By Andrew Diep



Facebook:
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RECREATION

Participants Can Be Required to Play Up to Several Hundred Dollars to Play in a UCSD Club Sport
Club sports are only partially funded by UCSD Recreation, and the program is unable to receive funding from A.S. Council.

BY KEVIN CHIANG
STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego Sports Club Program currently oversees up to 1,323 participants in 30 different competitive sports teams and accounts for 4.4 percent of the \$142 million spent by all Student Affairs departments in the fiscal year 2016-17. These expenditures include student services such as career guidance, Academic Enrichment Programs, housing, recreation and intercollegiate athletics.

In fact, recreational athletic programs like sports clubs, intramurals and fitness classes have seen a twofold increase in their expenditures over the past decade to \$6.4 million.

According to UCSD Recreation, however, the university only partially funds the sports clubs.

Participants "have to pay additional dues, which varies with every team." Furthermore, its registration criteria for new club sports do not allow for funding from A.S. Council. It requires "a self-sufficient budget" because program or department funding is not guaranteed.

The men's soccer team has to pay annual player fees ranging between \$300 and \$500, while women's soccer have to pay \$500 to \$600. The women's team website states that the fees provide year-round expenditures "including but not limited to apparel, equipment, tournaments, hotels, gas, and referees."

Team members can help alleviate operational costs and any team members' financial pressures through their own resources and university-approved fund-raising projects. Women's soccer, for

example, helps organize fundraisers during the year to reduce any economic barriers to entry that may affect such students.

The 2016-17 detailed financial schedules for UCSD lay out general revenues and recreation expenditures that directly affect these sports clubs. They show that most of the funding for student services come from tuition and student fees (\$120 million), private gifts, grants and contracts (\$757,000), and sales and services of 'auxiliary enterprises' such as the UCSD bookstore, student housing, and parking (\$1.2 million).

Campus-based fee expenditure reports give a more explicit look into how much student fees are funneled into sports clubs and how that factors into the overall budget for recreation.

The 2016-17 student services fee report indicates that the \$1.2 million

allocated to UCSD Recreation is distributed primarily between staff salaries (\$451,112), supplies and expense (\$318,129) and benefits (246,477), with travel costing the least (\$12,811).

The student activity fee report shows that 0.17 percent of all student activity fee expenditures (\$8,459) was specifically used for sports clubs while the Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) activity fee report attributes 1.8 percent of total ICA expenditures (\$188,508) to sports clubs' funding.

Other funding sources for UCSD Recreation include state and federal government grants, contracts, UC general funds, investment returns, and sales and services of educational activities.

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The Future of the Nap Pods Would Depend on the Pilot Program's Success

► **NAP POD** from page 1

yet, but there would most likely be two: one by Price Center and one by the Geisel Library.

Laub also considered the effectiveness of the locations.

"Putting napping areas is kinda tough because there's a lot of noise and, a lot of foot traffic," he said. "I know the library was trying some initiative to find some space for napping, but that didn't work out so well."

UCAB Eleanor Roosevelt College

Representative Muhammad Tauha adds that although the program would be a "good idea" and greatly beneficial to off-campus students, "PC is already pretty populated."

Although UCAB would be interested in implementing the nap pod program, details such as the cost and actual benefits to students in the populated noisy area of Price Center, must be taken into consideration and have not been clearly discussed between the board and HOHM.

"I'm sure by next quarter we

might have some more information," Laub said. UCAB expresses that nothing is concrete at the moment, and the decision to implement the pilot program has yet to be decided.

The success of the pilot program would determine whether or not an official program would be implemented.

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A Board Will Review the Department in March

► **DANCE** from page 1

some transparency, but even they don't know all the information as to why this is happening."

Present at the meeting were Head of undergraduate dance Yolande Snaithe, Head of graduate dance Liam Clancy, full-time faculty members Eric Geiger and Patricia Rincon, and adjunct dance faculty member Alicia Rincon. Students majoring and minoring in dance, and non-major students turned out to the meeting.

"We are trying to establish more of a community but that's not really going to happen if more students aren't involved," Espitia said. "Something that we've seen is that many students who would be [majoring or minoring in dance] don't want to because the curriculum is very geared toward contemporary dance."

At the meeting, the full-time faculty's explanation of the dance cuts to the students included funding reasons.

"UCSD is a STEM school. Arts and humanities get very little money, and out of those two, arts gets even less money," Espitia explained. "And out of arts, the theater and dance department gets even less. Even though they say [theatre and dance] are united, that is not true. Theater gets a lot more money than dance."

"We can't even get small basic things. Our rooms are sometimes not very clean; we've gotten a few complaints about that. And we're so far away, it feels like we are an afterthought," Espitia added. The current world dance cuts come

amid full-time faculty professors "not seeing these classes as the direction the department is going for," according to Espitia.

Applanned, independent board review of the theater and dance department is scheduled for March 1. Espitia and other concerned dance students are planning to meet with adjunct faculty next week once the Spring Quarter class schedule is published to discuss the official changes in preparation for their feedback to the board meeting, which they plan on getting as many students as possible to attend.

Espitia mentioned to keep in mind that the board meeting isn't "just a place for students to complain."

"I don't think [students] would be there if they didn't care about the department," Espitia said. "Everyone cares a lot. I have friends and have found a very beautiful community here. I have been able to learn so many forms of dance. We just feel that and have seen that certain classes and worlds of dance are not being taken seriously and completely disregarded for what certain people believe is the future of dance, and that's just not right because it is our dance education, and we are paying for this."

More information can be found on the UCSD Theatre and Dance Diversity Facebook page or by contacting Astrid Espitia.

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Avant: We Are Committed to Changing Conditions for Workers of Color

► **AFSCME** from page 1

America's labor and civil rights movement marks the deaths of two AFSCME sanitation workers. Echol Cole and Robert Walker were crushed to death when their truck's compactor malfunctioned, which sparked the historical 1300 worker strike — the greatest of its time. Chanting "I am a man," and tackling issues such as unsafe staffing levels that threaten worker and patient safety, workers wages that don't keep up with inflation, and the displacement of African American workers, workers back then battled many of the same challenges still prevalent at the University of California today.

AFSCME 3299 President Kathryn Lybarger issued a press release on Jan. 31, 2018 to address

the seminal relevance of the movement to current hardships.

"Fifty years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King and hundreds of courageous heroes in Memphis risked everything to demand dignity, equality, and respect for working people," Lybarger said. "This fight goes on today, as UC Administrators seek to finance their secret slush funds, executive pay raises and half-million dollar parachutes for disgraced ex-chancellors with tuition hikes for students and cuts for low-wage workers."

2018 is marked in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the charter of University of California — the state's third largest employee, and the 70th anniversary of UC workers joining AFSCME.

This January, Michael Avant, a patient transporter at UC San Diego

Medical Center and executive vice president of the AFSCME Local 3299 issued a statement to the San Diego Union-Tribune on the topic.

"These are hardly radical ideas. But for far too many working families and people of color, they remain elusive," he warned. "This is a time to reaffirm our commitment to changing that reality."

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OPINION

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Putin It In Perspective

Russian to Criticize Russian Culture

By: Revekka Gershovich // Senior Staff Writer



Some Americans believe that international cooperation is a discussion between Americans and the rest of the world, so it stands to reason that everyone should be well-versed in American discourses. Otherwise, who knows what wrath shall come upon them? Recently, such fury came down upon two Russian designers who attended Fashion Week in Paris, France.

A week ago Ulyana Sergeenko sent Miroslava Duma a “Fashion Week in Paris” invitation envelope where she cited a song by Kanye West “N----s in Paris.” Someone later posted a photo of the envelope on Instagram. Shortly after, both women received thousands of death threats. Ulyana apologized saying that since she was raised in a remote Kazakhstani village she was unaware of how offensive the N-word would be. However, the internet did not accept the apology. Ulyana’s followers continued sending her enraged letters. In these letters they reiterated how many times white women have been told to avoid the word. Indeed, how many times have they been told? For Kazakhstani women, none at all.

Afro-Russians make up less than 0.0005 percent of the Russian population – not enough to cause either hatred or love. Russia also has little to no history of racial conflict, so Russians do not have a sense of historical responsibility for it. Besides, the Russian word “Negr” does not have any negative connotations, so a native Russian speaker would not understand the extent to which the English N-word is considered abominable.

The key issue here is that there is no concept of cultural appropriation in Russian culture. As a Russian Jew, for example, I know that Jews welcome when someone is playing Jewish music, dancing Jewish dances or wearing traditional Jewish clothes, unless it is intentionally derisive. It is perceived as an expression of mutual interest, as respect for and solidarity with the culture rather than theft. Therefore, when Americans attack white Eastern Europeans for wearing dreads referring to a concept of cultural appropriation, the former cannot understand them. Unlike in America, wearing dreads in Eastern Europe is a bold and frequently dangerous act of civil disobedience.

Wearing dreads in the former Soviet bloc signifies a rebellion, a challenge to oppressive totalitarian structures. Inspired by tactics of civil disobedience used by the followers of Martin Luther King Jr., Eastern Europeans initially started wearing dreads to show their solidarity with African-Americans struggling for their civil rights. As the movement progressed behind the iron curtain, dreads started to more broadly signify support for America as well as general rebellion against totalitarian structures. Henceforth, wearing dreads became a separate cultural phenomenon in Eastern Europe. In the former Soviet bloc, it is a bold act to wear dreads, it is dangerous and has its own cultural context.

The concept of cultural appropriation does not always make sense outside of Western cultures. Indeed, why would a Kazakhstani woman be aware of American linguistic intricacies if Americans en masse do not feel obliged to even know where Kazakhstan is. Such attacks caused by cultural insensitivity thwart international cooperation. The attack on Ulyana Sergeenko did not advance the African-American case – instead, it went viral in Russia and empowered those promoting hatred of the U.S. and isolation from the West.



Standing Behind Student Unions

By: Adriana Barrios // Senior Staff Writer

From Cesar Chavez, to Clara Lemlich, to Samuel Gompers, to that one TA in Math 10B, labor organization isn’t just a couple of pages in a history book, it is a living, breathing force of change that can be found on this very campus. The UC system’s policies toward its student employees often put them at odds with labor organizations and the laborers themselves, and that is a disservice to the many student workers who help run their institutions.

Despite the often strained relationship with the university, the unions that are already on campus have achieved a lot to improve their working conditions and pay. Their ability to get their demands met demonstrates what decades of history have already proven: Collective bargaining is the path to a more equitable working environment. Undergraduate student workers make this university run — from shuttles to dining halls to the front desks of most administrative offices on campus — yet there is no undergraduate student union to protect their rights.

Unions and labor movements are

the true unsung heroes of society today, and their job is nowhere near over. The limits on child labor, pay rates and hourly regulations, and health and safety codes are all things that have become a normal

“One of the labor sectors that is often forgotten is the student workers at universities, who are often getting their first glimpse of the workforce during this time.”

part of today’s work environment, and they took countless hours and a great sacrifice from the labor movement throughout the past century. Unions go beyond fighting the big violations of labor laws, helping workers navigate the bureaucratic mess of laws, stipulations, and forms. They are a

fundamental safeguard against unregulated capitalism, ensuring that people are aware of all of their rights and the ways in which they can better their working conditions. Despite this, union membership is quickly dissipating, and that is more worrisome than most think.

Unions are not done fighting for the rights of workers, especially in the pro-business administration that is also anti-migrant and anti-minority. It has been challenging to discern the exact cause of this downward trend in membership, but at least part of it can be attributed to large institutions, such as Target actively preventing their employees from unionizing.

One of the labor sectors that is often forgotten is the student workers at universities, who are often getting their first glimpse of the workforce during this time. Graduate student employees face a harsh juxtaposition hovering between the expectations of a full-time job and the reality of being a student worker. Teaching assistants, for example, often bear the majority of the responsibility for lower-

Immigrants Help Economies, Natives Help Themselves

By: Christopher Robertson // Opinion Editor

From ketchup on french fries to corner store bodegas, a string of legislation has begun targeting so-called “foreign” or “ethnic” food items and purveyors in Europe. Europe in this context really means Italy, France, and Denmark, since these countries especially are leading the charge in banning food customs introduced by migrants from their public institutions and historic districts. Despite Europe’s increasingly heavy reliance on immigrant workers to maintain their economies, the politicians advocating the removal of ethnic foods seek to “preserve their culture” by excluding ever-growing, ever-important populations from contributing to the nation’s culture. It should be news to no one that Europe has a poor track record for assimilating its immigrant population, but these petty nationalistic tendencies spell a lot of trouble for everyone, not just immigrants.

Economic arguments offer a convenient way to disguise the xenophobia which motivates these laws. Some argue that immigrants dilute a nation’s culture which would harm their tourism industry; others argue that an influx of immigrants depresses wages and limits job prospects for natives. However, these specious arguments fall flat in the face of countless studies and historical analyses. Not only have numerous studies found that immigrant workers have little to no effect on wages of natives, but others have found that immigrant workers fill the necessary lower-level positions that allow a company to grow and to produce more jobs. These principles — whether some ascribe to them or not — are so integral to the history of America’s success that Europe’s

refusal to compromise its cultural high ground is baffling. In fact, San Diego provides the perfect model for just how to integrate immigrants in a way that is both culturally welcoming and economically advantageous.

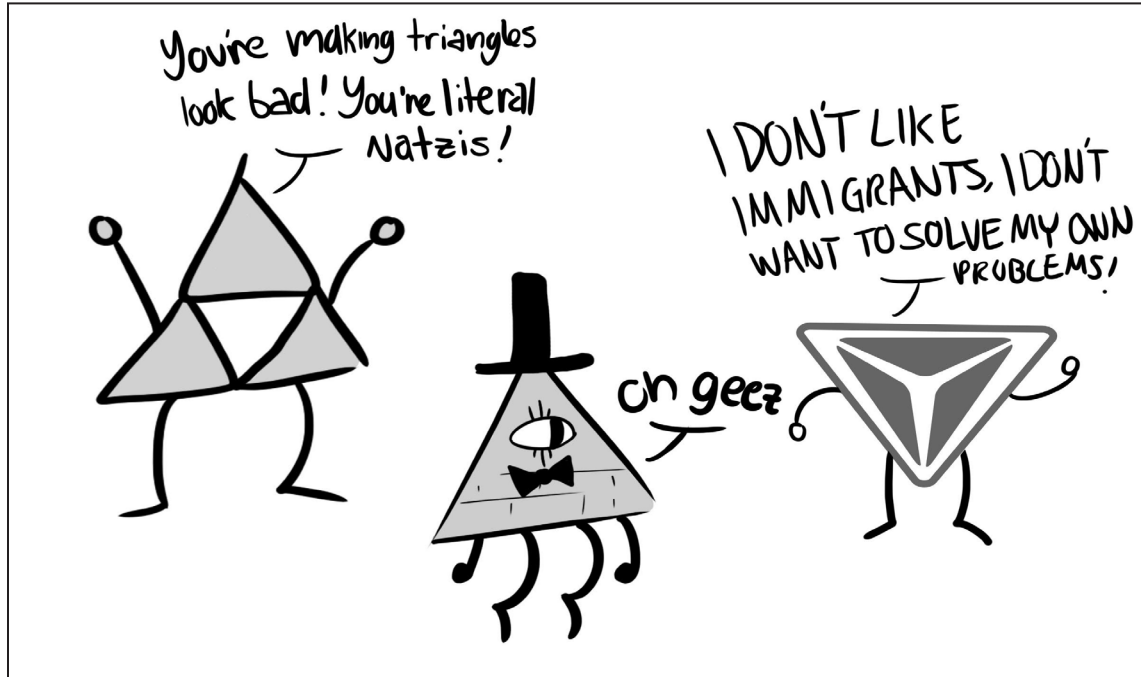
Beginning in the ‘70s, immigrant populations surged in San Diego County such that one in four people in the county today is an immigrant and nearly half have one or more parent who is an immigrant. San Diego, however, distinguishes itself from the European distaste for immigrants by recognizing that immigration is a political and social reality that cannot be swept under the rug. The Economic Snapshot accredits San Diego’s efforts to integrate immigrants through language and professional training for its success. Since the ‘80s, immigrants have maintained an upward trend in full-time work, wages, homeownership, and acquisition of high school degrees. Not only that, but moving immigrants outside of the shadow of contempt America has for immigrants has increased the amount they pay in taxes, even toward services immigrants do not often use, such as social security. All the while, San Diego natives benefit from immigrant participation in the economy because businesses whose basic labor needs are met are more able to grow. This has led to booms in the tourism industry, military industry, biotech industries, and even the food industry — one which ironically causes so much stress for Europeans.

All this being said, the be-all and end-all of immigration should not revolve around how migrant workers can benefit the economic standing of natives. The tensions between immigrants

and natives are exclusively cultural. Just like in Europe, America depends on immigrant workers to grow our economy, but tensions between migrant groups and natives present themselves very differently in America than they do in Europe. American culture is so heavily intertwined with our history of immigration, so subtle backlash against immigrants is a thing of the past. Rather than seeking to obfuscate xenophobia in legislation, America has a distinct talent for brutally confronting our nationalistic tendencies in the form of vandalism, assault, and vilification. Reports abound with incidents of harassment, and even attacks on Muslim-run businesses with slabs of bacon as if to illustrate the sloven nature of these crimes. Attacks on food items and purveyors are just the low-hanging fruit by which people express nationalistic rage towards immigrants, both here and in some European countries. But at least Americans do not try to disguise their xenophobia. Fortunately, San Diego’s model of civic engagement proves that a region can rely on immigrants to bolster its economy while also making a name for itself on a global scale by embracing and enriching the immigrants’ culture.

San Diego has become a cultural and economic hub due to its integration of largely-Latino immigrant populations. Europe, on the other hand, situates itself in a never-ending cycle of increasing its reliance on immigrants and reviling them. Whereas Europe sees food as the first means by which immigrants dilute its culture, San Diego has taken a big bite out of multiculturalism and maybe a Cali burrito or two.

BAD TRIANGLES By Immigrant



division undergraduate classes, and research assistants weren't even allowed to go under contract with a union until last year. Before then, they faced an unfair position when negotiating the terms of their employment. That being said, on this campus a large portion of student employees are undergraduates who staff the dining facilities and markets, who perform clerical work in administrative offices throughout every department, and who take care of campus transportation and residency. The lack of a union to protect the rights and interests of such a large amount of students seems unfair, but these absences are not from lack of trying.

The UC system has been vehemently opposed to every single pro-unionization movement by their

student workers and then fights tooth and nail in its negotiations with them. The most recent example of this is its opposition to SB 201, which allows graduate research assistants to unionize in California. The position of the university toward unionization and collective bargaining has been to oppose it legally and, when that fails, to discourage it within its specific campuses. Nevertheless, unions have triumphed time and time again against opposition and have made some real changes in their working conditions and treatment, such as increasing maternity leave and pushing for measures like the aforementioned SB 201. Undergraduate students pursuing unionization are looking for those same rights to demand more equitable working conditions

and have a better understanding of their rights as workers as opposed to their rights as students who work.

Anti-union sentiment is consistent with the way the UC Regents operate — like a corporation. UC San Diego however should not be following in those footsteps; to have a mural of Cesar Chavez on this campus and be actively discouraging labor organizing is simply hypocritical. This campus owes it to its student workers to be willing to cooperate with their labor organizations. In fact, the university should encourage undergraduate unions to demonstrate their awareness of the large amount of work done by undergraduate students at this university.

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FEATURES

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PHOTO BY SHIRLEY TAN

GETTING INTO THE GROOVE:

THE TRITON DANCE MARATHON FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHILDREN AT RADY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

UC San Diego's dancing and singing groups came together to raise money for the children in need at Rady Children's Hospital.

by Charlotte Armstrong // Staff Writer

On Saturday, Jan. 27, anyone walking by the Price Center West Ballroom could see countless dance groups congregating in the hallways, notice volunteers handing out wristbands, and hear the unmistakable first notes to “Circle of Life” from “The Lion King” echoing off the walls. Triton Dance Marathon was about to begin, and there was a hum of energy and excitement in the air as performers rehearsed last-minute eight-counts, sound systems were tweaked, and excited children ran around the ballroom.

This is all thanks to co-directors of the event Eleanor Roosevelt College senior Alice Lu and Sixth College senior Stacey Lin. The two of them put every ounce of energy they had into the event, and have been around since its induction at UC San Diego.

“We helped found Dance Marathon at UCSD, and we had our first premiere event in Fall of 2016. We had performers and patient families, and it was our first opportunity to share with the campus what Dance Marathon was,” Lu said.

Triton Dance Marathon is essentially an opportunity to raise funds for Rady Children's Hospital. The Disney-themed event had a celebratory feel to it, held in the dark ballroom complete with multicolored dancing lights, a stage for the performers, and a dance floor beneath it for the freestylers and spectators. Around the room were activities for students and children alike, ranging from face painting to henna tattoos to a photobooth. All the signs were written in the unmistakable Disney font, and the kids ran from booth to booth, bouncing around the light-up beach balls scattered across the dance floor as they went.

Salsa dancers, hip-hop groups, a cappella singers, DJs, Bollywood dancers, and more all took their turns on the stage. The UCSD dance team was the final act, and Sixth College junior Sarah Marlowe, co-captain of the team, shared the most fulfilling aspect of being part of Triton Dance Marathon for her.

“The best part about performing at the event is knowing that the impact you're having is helping other people. We love to dance and it's fun to support our school, but knowing that your talents, your actions, your effects can help these little kids [who] are at Rady Children's Hospital is amazing,” Marlowe said. “They've been posting photos of these children they're going to help on their Facebook page, and it's really cool to know we're a part of that, a part of something so big.”

Another dance organization, Movement Exchange, took the stage multiple times throughout the night to teach 16 counts of dance choreography set to different Disney songs. Other dance groups, children, and audience members participated. By the end of the night, the “morale dance” would be completed. Members Earl Warren College junior Shannell Ciruso and ERC sophomore Eric Lee described what participating in the event meant to them.

“The kids and their families are up all night receiving treatment,” Ciruso said. “The least we can do is dance for a few hours.”

As part of Movement Exchange, Ciruso and Lee teach elementary school children off-campus many dances, but Triton Dance Marathon had a particular impact on them.

“It's pretty amazing because we teach kids off-campus, but there are also more unfortunate kids at Rady Children's Hospital [who] need medical help,” Lee said. “It feels nice to be in this community where everyone is donating and being a part of it.”

But the most important moments of the night belonged to

the miracle families who took the stage every hour to share their children's stories and describe their time at RCH. When the first miracle family was speaking — a little girl named Grace and her mother Laura — you could hear a pin drop in the ballroom. Laura had worked for RCH for many years, but she described her work as being “at an arm's length,” until her daughter was born prematurely, with severe respiratory issues. She saw the exceptional care at RCH that she had helped fundraise for all her life and got to bathe and hold her daughter there just like a normal mom.

“The money raised here tonight allows parents, even in their deepest, darkest moments, to be just parents,” Laura said. “Grace has no signs of being born early, and it's all because of Rady.”

Grace was the picture of childlike innocence, wearing sparkly Ugg boots and her hair in two pigtails. It was almost impossible to imagine her being too ill to breathe. Many other children aren't as lucky. Another miracle child, Gideon, was diagnosed with leukemia at the end of 2015, but his mother described earnestly how her feeling of devastation only lasted 15 minutes, given RCH's “magical ability to make [our] needs feel met. They let us know we would make it through.”

Lin described an experience with one miracle family as a highlight of her experience with Triton Dance Marathon. She detailed a situation from last year's Triton Dance Marathon, her bright eyes shining with pride and emotion.

“Something that really touched a lot of us was that one of our miracle patients was supposed to come at a certain hour, but she fell sick at the last minute and had to be readmitted to Rady Children's the night before,” Lin said. “She sent us a video speaking from her bed and saying how much it meant to her that people were coming

together to celebrate and support the hospital. It was a way to see how much of an impact this philanthropy makes.”

One of Lu and Lin's other goals was to establish an event that would be campuswide and all-inclusive, and would foster a sense of teamwork in

working towards bettering so many children's lives.

“We're really proud to partner with Triton Fest. They've been helping a lot with funding and publicity and getting students out,” said Lin. “It's a great cause, but it's also a great way for the UCSD community to come together to celebrate and have fun with dancing and music.”

“What sets this philanthropy apart is that it's so inclusive. It's completely campuswide,” Lu added. “We have Greek life coming out, athletes coming out, student dance teams and a cappella, all together for one cause. That's the legacy we hope will continue. The cause is so important, and it's so great we can bring this entire campus together.”

At the end of the night, members of the dance team revealed posters showing that \$3,443 had been raised in support of the children at RCH. Though short of an ambitious goal of \$10,000, the money raised is certain to better the lives of children in need.

“The money we raise goes to directly to Rady Children's, the nonprofit. They will put this money toward treatment, to help families afford it,” Lu said. “We have toured the hospital, and there are a lot of services there that are funded by philanthropy only. For example, the child life specialists, who help explain procedures to the children and comfort them when they're going into surgery.

► **DANCE MARATHON**, from page 6

This is what the money is going towards, as well as the research. Rady is one of the leading hospitals in the country.”

Triton Dance Marathon was clearly driven by a recognition of what the children at RCH go through every day and a desire to ease their struggle by applying using their talents to create joy and raise money. Lu and Lin have been blown away by the support they’ve gotten.

“I want to shout-out the entire team. The performers, families, and also the community sponsors we’ve gotten. Our advisor, Ace Antonio, who is the head of Triton Fest. This event is put on entirely by students, and there’s actually only [16] of us,” Lu said. “This has been a huge commitment for all of us.”

Leading the event has made Lu and Lin realize they are

part of something bigger than themselves.

“The moment for me was when we went to Rady, and we saw what the money was going toward. You meet these amazing children and see what they’re going through,” Lin said. “Every time I see how strong they are, how much they care about their Rady family, what they’ve gained from it, and how much it has helped them, that’s what motivates [us] to keep doing this. We’re pulling our hair out sometimes trying to pull off the event, but it’s all worth it for the kids.”

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FREED, DREAMER YAKOBI IS A CHANGED MAN

By Timothy Deng // Features Co-Editor

Orr Yakobi, after being detained and released at the Mexico-United States border, is now working to destigmatize immigration with an upcoming project.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN PAKNOOSH

Four weeks ago, Orr Yakobi was detained by border officials on the Mexico-United States border. As a recipient of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, Yakobi was technically not allowed to leave the country without documentation. After a wrong turn while returning from shopping at Las Americas Premium Outlets, he and roommate Ryan Hakim accidentally ended up on a one-way road to Mexico. Yakobi was detained and released after a few days, with much support from the local community.

Now, he looks relaxed, despite midterm season being in full swing. It’s the Muir fourth year’s final quarter studying mathematics-computer science.

Prior to being thrust into the limelight, Yakobi was a private person. He never actively brought up his experiences but was open to discussing [them] if asked. “If I ran into somebody who asked me about this sort of thing, I’d answer their questions or dispel anything I thought was wrong — more on a personal, not very public, level. I like to keep to myself,” he explained.

Since then, his perspective on life has changed. Yakobi said he’s become more appreciative of his life. While he was detained, he met many different types of people who had also been detained for various reasons.

“One of them had a DUI and didn’t have a status, so they got brought there. A lot of the time people call [Immigration and Customs Enforcement], and they’ll just come pick you up. For the most part, they were all nice people who got stuck in a bad situation. It was humbling, honestly. You realize, you have,” he said, gesturing and grabbing a case from the table, “nice headphones and a phone, and all this stuff. Thank God for that. These people literally have not a cent to their name.”

He added, “All these problems you have, like Chipotle ran out of guacamole, or something stupid like that — it doesn’t really matter. This situation just made me realize that life is short and you should appreciate what you have.”

Yakobi did receive a large amount of support from those around him and the local community. His parents hired Jacob Sapochnick, an immigration attorney, to help. A few politicians supported the effort to get him released too, including Sen. Kamala Harris.

“I did [know that people would support me], but at the same time, it’s not the first thought that goes through your head. I got detained on Sunday, and I got moved to some other place on Tuesday, and Wednesday or Thursday, I started seeing it on the news myself on the TVs there. I was freaking out.”

After he was released, Yakobi said there was such a large outpouring of support that it was overwhelming.

“You go from being locked up to all of a sudden, everyone’s in your face like ‘Oh, what happened? Are you OK?’ It’s not a jail, but you are locked up ... You don’t have freedom ... I took a few days to unwind and right after that I got back into it. The turn of events happened so quickly. The school was super helpful. The Dean in Muir really helped me out and reached out to ask if I was OK.”

While he was certainly not happy about the event that transpired, Yakobi explained that he thinks everything happens for a reason. He believes that many of his friends and acquaintances have become more supportive of DACA after seeing him get detained.

“At the very least, I’m glad that people saw DACA as not this negative thing. A lot of people read the story and reached out to me, saying ‘Before, I thought DACA was stupid,’ and now they reach out and say ‘You really brought light to these issues and we get it now.’”

Yakobi denied being an activist, but he is certainly becoming more active. “It hits you in the face after something like this,” he said.

Putting his computer science and software freelancer skills to use, Yakobi is now working with Sapochnick to create a web platform with a social media campaign to support immigrants and dispel negative misconceptions about them.

“I just want to bring light to the whole fact that these are not bad people. They’re just like everyone else, trying to live their life,” he points out. “I was reading a lot of the comments on news posts, Facebook, and Twitter ... a lot of it is very negative. And the fact that it’s negative doesn’t bother me, but the fact that it’s not true does bother me a lot, like, ‘immigrants don’t pay taxes.’ Immigrants pay taxes. Things like this put a negative light on immigrants when they’re just not true.”

The website is also expected to incorporate software that helps users file and renew their DACA status. “We’re in touch with this tech firm that creates immigration software,” Yakobi explained. “The term they use is the Turbotax for immigration.”

Yakobi has big dreams for the website. He enthusiastically said Assemblyman Todd Gloria was excited about the project when the two met and said it was a good idea.

“It could have some impact if it had some political backing, and I just want to get it out there. I hope it will make a difference.”

For now, he just calls it his “soul project, one of those projects you just work on because you’re really dedicated to it,” he defines.

In the meantime, Yakobi is also worried about our country’s current political affairs. He is getting close to renewing his DACA, but can’t until mid-February.

“It’s kind of a tricky situation, because it’s too early for me to renew. What happens is the more you wait ... every day something changes. I’m on pins and needles.”

However, he also believes that there is widespread bipartisan support for immigration reform. “From what I’ve seen, they both want a solution from DACA to green card to citizenship,” Yakobi said, “That’s what I’ve seen on both sides of the aisle.”

Yakobi’s biggest gripe is the way DACA is tied to other political hot-button issues like the wall.

“The issue I’m really having is all of these back-and-forths and contingencies on having the wall and Border Patrol. I don’t like how it’s being bundled. Like, ‘you’ll get DACA but you also need \$25 billion for the wall.’ That’s inhumane and cold.”

DACA recipients have to worry more about the consequences of their actions, whereas the rest of us don’t. In addition to the everyday stresses of college, these students have to deal with a fear of DACA not getting the political support it needs. This quarter is Yakobi’s last at UC San Diego. Now that this whole mess is over, all he wants to do is study for his midterms.

“Do well in school. Lockdown full-time job offer,” he laughed. “I’m trying to get back to my life.”

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ESRA ELHENDY

LEAVING BEHIND THE PRIMORDIAL BORSCHT:



PHOTO COURTESY OF ESRA ELHENDY

NIEL BEZROOKOVE'S CULTURAL PILGRIMAGE

Short and pale and young and lovely, the boy from Leiden goes walking by.

Niel Bezrookove, clad in black, had just arrived at my office and sat down with great satisfaction, but seemed a bit frazzled. Strange for a student who has over 10 different musical personas and an ever-growing vault of short stories while researching cognitive science. Just before arriving that morning, he had been made a public-transport chump instead of a champion when three full MTS buses skipped him. Fortunately, sipping his elixir — his daily Arizona Green Tea — had bestowed the student musician with some sense of serenity. He began to settle when that sweet rush of high-fructose corn syrup hit his stomach. It was time to poke and prod. Was he born an artist destined to achieve a mention on Stereogum? Pitchfork? If we're to take him at his mother's word, yes.

"I guess it started straight out of the womb because my mom says I came out singing random s---. The theory is that kids can hear things when they're in the womb, so maybe I heard some stuff seeing as my parents are big music junkies. Just music, as far as I know. My dad was into Van Halen, some metal, and his electric guitar while my mom was really into classical music and Brian Eno," he told me.

"There was a pedigree of music, but both my parents were refugees so they didn't really have many opportunities to do something musical growing up. So, I think for that reason they pushed it onto me pretty early. By the age of four, I got selected to be a boy soprano in the choir and take classical piano lessons but this was all in the Netherlands, so this was kind of a different atmosphere. A whole lot of old Lutheran s--- in Latin."

He wasn't bound to form or medium, however. His Dutch prep school ran its young students through the ringer, going so far as to

having them perform an unabridged version of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

"Theater was the first thing I was into and I played Puck in the play. I think we did 'A Streetcar Named Desire,' too. I wasn't Brando and I wasn't Stella, though. Prep school was tough. You had to know Latin just to get into university."

Bezrookove left both the Dutch and school behind at the age of 14 for our shores. Unenrolled in the school system and with idle hands, the eastward move incited his initial foray into electronic sampling.

"My dad had a synthesizer that I really loved but I wouldn't even make music on it. I'd just record funny sounds and edit them together. My first tape was UFO sounds that I edited together. It was very out there."

Bezrookove had broken past the strict regimen of practice over play, of getting "better" at music for the sake of improving on it.

"Up to that point, music had been a thing for me to perfect after looking at a sheet. Y'know, the instructor would drill me for 60 hours a week on the proper technique and would whack me on the hands with a long stick when I hit the wrong note, some real 'Matilda' s---."

TV — teacher, mother, secret lover — had stepped in the place of constant practice and school. Now, he spent his days watching hours of Comedy Central and using his cousin's antiquated plastic Mac to keep up with the rap music first introduced to him by "Chappelle's Show." American media and culture had pulled him from the Netherlands like a modern form of cultural pilgrimage with J. Dilla and Erykah Badu as his guiding deities.

This was all an education in of itself, as a literal school soon would be. After two years outside of the public school system, he was

re-enrolled and used art as a way of lashing out. "I did a bit of graffiti with some punk friends, but I wouldn't call it art because it wasn't necessarily that great. It was more petty vandalism. We would also make billboards, write weird s---, and made a lot of skate videos with my dad's camera. Which I broke."

Back in the Netherlands, he had prepared to go to college by the age of 12 — the idea being that in three more years he'd be attending a gymnasium (for the mind, not muscles) before heading off to higher education. "I was already studying calculus there, so when I got here, it was like, 'Here's basic algebra' and I thought it was such a waste of my time. I would either sleep in class or read and teachers hated that. I had a 1.21 GPA in high school. I still got into Berkeley and [UC San Diego] because of my SAT scores, but I chose UCSD because I had heard stories from my friend about people poisoning each other and writing fake study guides just to sabotage other people's grades. It just didn't seem nice over there."

Bezrookove opted for what can only be described as a less stressful environment, in relative terms, here at UCSD. With the daily benefit of La Jolla's coastal breeze making its way through his curls, he continued to work on his writing and art. "I just write for the hell of it, but a lot of my stuff is still laboriously written. Lyrics, even my comedy all come from my writing. Same thing with my Tila Tequila rock opera. I wrote a short story about Tila Tequila travelling back in time to stop a genocide after watching Tila Tequila's 'A Shot of Love' and wondering, 'How would Tila Tequila respond to a real problem?' That's when I realized that I could put some music to it. So they're all part of the same universe in my head."

Aside from his excursions into Tequila-

land, he's been asked to create an art exhibit for Sixth College — an immersive experience, as Bezrookove describes it. "The idea is that you go into a room with 18 Macs and each one plays music that it chooses through a computerized decision process. These computers are then going to try and recreate one of those corny cruise commercials where they try to create the sense that you're out at sea with audible breezes, but I want to make an easy listening sea ocean atmosphere without humans involved."

Exhausted after a 90-minute reflection on his life spanning multiple tangents leading off into "The Simpsons" and "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" references, Bezrookove managed to get a second wind in to share some final thoughts on UCSD's future and what it currently offers students.

"I hope that UCSD doesn't strangle the life out of the Old Student Center here because of what the Food Co-op, KSDT, the [UCSD] Guardian, and Darkstar offer. I think the reason a lot of millennials feel stressed out is because they don't feel like they have any control over their lives."

He emphatically argued in favor of student-run initiatives as a means of fostering collaboration and community. "Places like this are of a far greater value to somebody's development and education than what four classes could offer. I hope these places go on for a long time. I don't know what the odds are, but I hope they go on."

This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.

— SAM VELAZQUEZ
 Senior Staff Writer

ALBUM REVIEW



BLUE MADONNA BY BØRNS

Release Date Jan. 12, 2018

B+

The “Electric Love” singer travels beyond the earthly realm for his sophomore album, landing somewhere near the clouds.

With “Blue Madonna,” Børns avoids the dreaded sophomore slump. This is a lean, experimental offering. While still holding on to signature themes of love and the surreal, “Blue Madonna” marks a clear departure from “Dopamine,” a debut album distinguished by saccharine synth and syrupy melodies.

“God Save Our Young Blood” opens with blasting horns as Børns duets with guest Lana Del Rey, singing with a melancholic glamour. Børns crusades for the preservation of what’s within us — our youth and innocence — while backed by a heavenly orchestra. The tracks afterward come with a sense of urgency, juggling themes of mortality, immortality, and everything in between.

The pulsating underlying riff in “Faded Heart” carries the song until “Sweet Dreams” replaces it with an MGMT-esque bassline reminiscent of “Electric Feel.” Here, Børns turns away from pure synth-pop and successfully toys with electro-funk, but his lyricism remains topped with sugar. A soothing wistfulness embodies the track as the chorus washes in and he croons angelically, “You didn’t even call to wish me sweet dreams.”

The experimentation continues in “We Don’t Care,” a track clearly influenced by ’60s rock bands. Nonetheless, Børns maintains his usual underlying sensuality with the warbling lyrics “We don’t care” and “Touch me,” even while battling against a growing and grating guitar. “Blue Madonna” returns to its buzzing, psychedelic feel in “Man.” While the rhythm sounds are recycled from “Past Lives,” off Børns’s last album, the beats continue to pop, bubbly and bright and still laced with effervescence.

“Iceberg” returns to more earthly matters, digging deep into Børns’ ideal relationship as he compares love and art to a perfectly rolled joint. He reveals his

glam-rock inspirations in the bridge with idiomatically disguised lyrics. Afterwards, the album melts into the aftermath of heartbreak. “Second Night of Summer” and “I Don’t Want U Back” dip into the murky waters of loneliness and gloom. Though the quick interlude “Tension” cuts through the woes of songs past with its bright refrain, the best of “Blue Madonna” reveals itself in “Supernatural.” Balancing reality and unreality, it crafts an ambience evocative of weightlessly swimming in a state of limbo; in the meantime, Børns searches for the truth. Børns unveils his impeccable range, a culmination of inhuman high notes with siren-like qualities, while he tumbles down from grace, hitting every drum beat on the way down.

Finally, the album closes with the sentiments of the title track “Blue Madonna,” looping back to “God Save Our Young Blood” and “Bye-bye Darling,” which acts as the finisher. Tinged with tenderness, the chorus climbs higher and higher as Børns showcases his trademark falsetto while crooning about the inevitability of the end of all things, “We had a good run, darling, don’t you cry.”

Strangely enough, nearly every track brings about a state of déjà vu in the first few seconds. Whether a result of nostalgia, a display of Børns’ clear influences, or a product of impeccable producing, the impression is comforting. With “Blue Madonna” venturing into the celestial, it’s clear that the next album is written somewhere in the stars.

— JAHFREEM ALAM
Staff Writer

FILM REVIEW



A FUTILE AND STUPID GESTURE

Directed by David Wain

Starring Will Forte, Domhnall Gleeson, Martin Mull, Joel McHale

Release Date Jan. 26, 2018

Rated R

C

PHOTO COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Douglas Kenney’s story hits Netflix with jokes and jabs aplenty but ultimately lacking in heart and originality.

Although he revolutionized America’s comedy circuit, Douglas Kenney has an esoteric reputation, for only a few fervid, comedy-obsessed fanatics of today know of his cachet. Back in the 1970s, he was an avant-garde comedy writer, the co-founder of the notorious “National Lampoon” satirical magazine, the creator of hit farces “Animal House” and “Caddyshack,” and the career-launcher of many notable comedians, such as Chevy Chase, John Belushi, and Bill Murray. Yet, his story is still invisible to contemporary pop culture. David Wain’s biopic, “A Futile and Stupid Gesture,” takes a whimsical approach to showcase Kenney’s influence. The film beams with pride, relishing Kenney’s pioneering accomplishments, but unfortunately doesn’t effectively deliver the emotional strand of his narrative, leaving no room for viewers to empathize with the comedic genius.

Will Forte plays Kenney as a sharp-witted and foolhardy man who co-establishes the household reputation of the “National Lampoon” with his best chum, Henry Beard (Domhnall Gleeson). Wain also casts current, living comedians to play an ensemble of late-

great or retired comedy veterans — one being Joel McHale (from “Community”) portraying comic icon Chevy Chase. As Kenney triumphs, he stumbles into a state of misery, burdened by the pernicious pressure of success and the need for people to admire him. Eventually, he repels Henry, who feels he can’t “babysit” Kenney anymore, and his own wife, who catches him cheating on her. But his ambitions exacerbate his poor health as the toxicity of attaining Hollywood prosperity and meeting work deadlines drives him into heavy cocaine use. Retreating to Hawaii to cleanse himself, Kenney meets his fate by the edge of the Kauai precipice.

Although the film is supposed to be a commemoration of the humorous Kenney, it comes off as a one-dimensional success tale that misses the poignancy of the character’s collapse arc. It is paced like a checklist, ticking off each of his achievements rather than digging into the nuances, motivations, and melancholy mindset of the beloved comedian. The movie should not have to revolve around the facts of his life, easily found with the click of a mouse. It would be more interesting to glimpse into the ironic side of the plot line which could unveil the

dependency of someone so seemingly bright and self-assured.

The choice of the film’s narrator is also nonsensical. Wain has Martin Mull act as an older version of Kenney to chronicle the story, but in real life Kenney passed away at a young age. Mull is ostensibly a gimmick to break the fourth wall. He occasionally enters as the elderly, wise Kenney, commenting on the questionable decisions he made as a young, ambitious entertainer, like how his past drug abuse was irresponsible and how his recruitment for the team of satirists in “National Lampoon” was predominantly white. But the gag is extraneous — a seemingly reckless addition to ensure that people who aren’t aware of Kenney’s life do not suspect the film’s twist ending and his demise.

Even with its flaws, the movie is an earnest retelling of a little-known watershed for comedy; it is illuminating to learn of a mordant, candid group who pushed the limits of humor. Casual comedy fans can see the transition to an anarchic and raucous style of hilarity, and avid comedy enthusiasts can remember a one-of-a-kind funnyman and the collective effort behind his crass and parodic jokes. For

instance, the dynamic banter between Kenney and Beard is heartening to watch, which makes their temporary fallout even more dismaying. This crew of comedy experts, including P.J. O’Rourke, Michael O’Donoghue, and Anne Beatts, redefined comedy, an effort that trickles into today’s culture of cutting-edge wit.

Its title taken from a line in Kenney’s “Animal House,” “A Futile and Stupid Gesture” primarily tips its hat to the brilliantly amusing Doug Kenney. Sadly, the film doesn’t delve into his core character, merely giving us a surface-level examination of his life. But, Wain’s movie is definitely watchable. It’s silly and outrageous at times, concluding with a scene of black-attired, guffawing attendees having a high-spirited, unbecoming food fight at Kenney’s funeral. Though this event never occurred in reality, it endearingly pays homage to “Animal House,” so perhaps something so churlish and irreverent is exactly what the king of comedy wanted to spite death.

— ASHLEY CHEN
Staff Writer

How To: Coping with a Friend Breakup

Written by Samirah Martinez // Lifestyle Contributing Writer

In an episode of “Gilmore Girls,” one of the main characters, Rory, goes through a devastating teenage breakup. Rory’s mother, Lorelai, insists that her daughter take time to wallow, but Rory refuses. Instead, she throws herself into a variety of distracting activities, often bringing her mom along. This lasts for about a week, until she finally breaks down with a tub of Ben & Jerry’s ice cream and announces that she’s finally ready to be sad.

Breakups with significant others have a pertinent role in media today. Many TV and movie couples break up in exaggerated ways in order to show how difficult coping with a breakup may be. Although romantic breakups are difficult, there are other relationship fallouts that should also be recognized, including friend breakups.

Some friend breakups can be easier. Maybe it was a natural parting, or a friend moved away. Maybe it was a toxic friendship, and a decision had to be made to cut them out. Maybe it was a mutual realization that the casual friendship wasn’t worth holding on to. But the friend breakups that aren’t easy are the ones that include friends you always thought you would have.

At least, that was where I found myself this past summer. During my teenage years, I knew three things for certain: my favorite food was pizza, my cat Hazy was (and still is!) the best pet ever, and my two best friends would always be there for me. When I reached my third year of college, I realized that those two friends were no longer by my side, and the decision was not mutual. As someone who fears change and loves consistency, I was disoriented because of the absence of friends I had grown accustomed to talking to every day. I realized that society has never really taught us how to deal with a friend breakup, or how to properly break up with a friend. Because of this lack of knowledge on what true friend breakups were, I felt like I was overreacting and that I was the only one going through this.

If you’re dealing with a friend breakup, know that you are not alone. Like Rory, it is okay to wallow in self-pity, just as you might for a breakup with a significant other. Both friendships and romantic relationships involve a level of vulnerability and trust, which can make losing a friendship just as difficult as a breakup. The difference is that friendships are always portrayed as something

easy, when communication is just as important in friendships as it is between couples. In my experience, I found that giving myself a brief period to reflect and be alone was the best medicine in allowing me to feel better. A grieving process is necessary, because the first step to recovery is admitting to the emotions being felt. Watch rom-coms, eat lots of ice cream, have potato chips for dinner. Giving yourself time to feel sad will not make you feel better instantly, but it will help you accept what has happened.

Once you’ve given yourself time to grieve, allow yourself to reflect on the friendship. Although it can be uncomfortable to think about your mistakes when you’re already sad, remember that you did your best to be a good friend throughout the entire friendship, and that you were kind, respectable, and 100 percent you. If you find that you have made a mistake, don’t wallow in self-blame, but use what you have learned and apply it to your current and future friendships.

What happens if you want to break up with a friend? In extreme cases, such as with toxic friendships, it is OK to simply cut off the friendship. However, if there is a specific event that is upsetting, and you care about them and value their friendship, be communicative. Tell them what’s bothering you instead of letting it boil up. Maybe they’ll correct their behavior, or maybe they’ll realize that they cannot change. You cared about this person at some point in your life, and they deserve some gentle explanation as to why you feel the friendship isn’t worth saving anymore.

Overall, friend breakups can be brutal on both sides, and it takes time to fully get over them. Remember that at this stage in our lives, we’re all trying to become who we are meant to be, and this occasionally requires a change in who we surround ourselves with. Friends should always be those who encourage you to be the best version of yourself, allowing you to grow as a person. Although I am sad to see my two most important friendships gone, I constantly remind myself that they probably did what they felt was best for them. I’m trying new things, focusing on school and work, and (most importantly) working on being a good friend with the friendships I still have. And while I’m still getting used to the idea that I don’t have these friends anymore, I am going to be OK, and you will be too.

Your Life on the Screen: Representation in Media

Written by Elizabeth Adams // Lifestyle Contributing Writer

I sit in front of my banged-up laptop, the Netflix-produced glow shining in the 3 a.m. darkness. An episode of “The Office” plays absently, my mind drifting on how Pam and Jim had been so perfectly casted to create such a heartwarming chemistry.

However, I remember an article I read several months ago — one that revealed that Jim was originally supposed to be Asian, and Pam had several black women audition for the role.

With all due respect for Jim and Pam’s actors, (who are still undeniably cute), it continues to bother me that diverse casts are often discarded for the cookie-cutter white, heteronormative formula that has perpetuated throughout media. Why couldn’t Pam be black? What was stopping them from creating the same-level chemistry with two people of color?

White-dominated media stems back to the early 1940s; it did not reach its peak until after WWII, when the push for a “pure” suburban image was essential in marketing new suburbs to white people. Television can be thought of as extension of reality, and when the reality you portray is predominantly heterosexual whiteness, it distorts the outside world to not only white people but people of color. Mary Beth Haralovich’s essay on “Sitcoms and suburbs: Positioning the 1950s homemaker” fleshes this out more.

The influence of these all-white shows extends to even popular classics like “Friends,” “Full House,” and more relevant examples like “How I Met Your Mother” and “The Office.” People of color may have made appearances due to these shows being aired in more “progressive” time periods, but were reduced to toxic stereotypes or used to elevate the characterization of the white leads. Their reality was summed up as nothing more than tropes that did nothing to legitimize our existence in both spaces (the TV and reality.) This is why diversity has picked up in the recent years and should be celebrated — to rectify the damaging reality white-washed media has implanted into society.

While “The Office” may fail to address these issues, there are still rising contemporary shows that give underrepresented voices an outlet.

“Brooklyn Nine-Nine” is a comedy show detailing the (chaotic) life of detectives in the New York Police Department. While the program does center on police forces, it highlights issues surrounding the department like police brutality, institutionalized racism, and abuse of authoritative powers. In one episode, Terry Jeffords is arrested for wearing a gray hoodie and “looking suspicious,” a prominent issue that stems from racial profiling in law enforcement. Additionally, the show talks about sexuality, intersectional feminism, and other varying issues.

Despite the dysfunctional nature of the show, most of the cast is diverse in terms of gender,

ethnicity, and sexuality. These are well-rounded, dynamic characters that have their own characterization, not just some side characters that are simply there to satisfy a “diversity quota.” Captain Ray Holt is a gay black man that holds a position of authority as leader of his own squad. Rosa Diaz is a bisexual Latina that is a renowned detective and terrifying fighter, a quality that assists her in apprehending mob bosses throughout the seasons. Each character exhibits little quirks and has their own narratives that is relatable to a wide range of audiences. While the show is halfway through its fifth season, I do not believe its anywhere close to being finished. This gives them chances to add more voices that have been marginalized (and fans have encouraged them to do so!).

“The Runaways” — a Hulu-original series that recently aired last year — is another recommended media with a diverse cast and engaging plotline. Set in the Marvel universe, a group of teens discover their parents are in a destructive cult and must band together in order to prevent the world from succumbing to their parents’ plans (and in hopes to “save them” as well). The main cast, (which includes both kids and adults), are of varying races and ethnicities, all of which hold significant roles in their respective groups (the kids being the “heroic” force against their parents). For example, Tina Minoru is a powerful witch and acts as one of the grounding leaders of the adult cult. Nico Minoru, her daughter, leads the main teen group in challenging their parents’ authority and keeping their group together (along with Alex, another member). Both represent needed Asian-American women roles that are not boiled down to submissive portrayals or the infamous “colored-hair streak” trope that “rebellious” Asian women have. While the show could work on its pacing issues, it’s second season has enough time to rectify this and explore more of its cast’s individual stories.

Representation in media is not something to gloss over; its relevance, execution, and popularity is significant to the audiences it aims to capture. Television is a reflection of dominant reality, and when most shows depict the lives of heteronormative white lives, it is an exclusive reality that is not felt widely. This would not be as important if it had not been this way for the last 75 years — a whitewashed reality that fails to portray the same stories for LGBTQ people of color. It is damaging and aims to delegitimize their existence; this is why positive representation must be boosted, understood, and spread. While we are an experience that exists outside of television, seeing ourselves on screen and our stories told is nothing short of refreshing.

As a queer Filipinx, I still wait for the day to see major Filipinx representation on screen. I know it will come, but only if we give opportunities to these voices in the industry.

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The Truth About Temporary Housing

Written by Rebecca Tsang // Lifestyle Contributing Writer

Last fall, the temporary housing situation for transfer students was exposed through multiple news sources, but not everyone knows the exact hardships they faced.

My first step onto UC San Diego was during Transfer Triton Day. Like many first-year students, I was amazed by the architecture of Geisel Library and what seemed like the never-ending, gorgeous Library Walk. The aesthetic of The Village, a building specifically designated to house transfer students, captured my attention. I knew I could spend my remaining undergraduate years here. Raised in San Jose, my knowledge of San Diego is slim, and so I applied to live on campus at The Village, knowing that I could ease into my first year in a four-year university and join the UCSD campus community with other transfer students.

Around late August, an email containing my housing assignment came. With no immediate explanation, I was assigned to a place I had never heard of — North Mesa. A quick Google search led to the discovery that North Mesa is graduate student housing about two miles away from campus. With only a month left until school would start, I had no choice but to accept what was given to me. Housing, Dining and Hospitality promised that students placed in temporary housing would be relocated back on campus by Nov. 1 and as compensation, it offered everyone a parking permit valid only in the Mesa Housing.

Upon arrival, I immediately noticed the deteriorating condition the apartment was in. From a paper posted on the door, I learned that the building I was supposed to call “home” was planned for demolition in March 2018. The interior of the apartment had major flaws: A pipe sticking out from a wall replaced the showerhead, two of the four stovetops were not fully functioning, small tables instead of desks were provided, and various mysterious black stains covered the floor. Since North Mesa is not on campus, students needed to wait and catch a 15-minute shuttle bus ride (that operates only on weekdays) every day to class. The Village is filled with many activities allowing students

to socialize, but being in North Mesa separated me from attending these events. Additionally, I was obligated to purchase Dining Dollars, which I rarely had the opportunity to use because only on-campus locations accept them. A food truck that accepts Dining Dollars was provided; however, it has extremely limited operating hours and food selections — I missed dinner several times as the food truck was unavailable.

Two months after settling into North Mesa and in the middle of midterms, I received a notification from HDH on Nov. 6 that a permanent housing placement was made available for me. I was given the option to accept the offer in three days and move out within one week or my housing contract would be terminated. Frantic, I called HDH and

kindly asked to extend my move out date so I could finish my midterms peacefully. The response was an ill-mannered “I will see what I can do.”

Living in The Village with other transfer students is ideally where I want to be. Currently, I am placed in an apartment with international students at varying grade levels who all speak a different language than me. I thought UCSD respected transfer students, however, the treatment I received from HDH proves my initial impression entirely false. Hopefully, all of the transfer students who experienced temporary housing are now at their ideal location, but I know that I am not. More leniency about the purchase of Dining Dollars or placing students with respect to their common interests should be the very least HDH does.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UCSD

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UNIVERSITY CENTERS ASCE AS CONCERTS & EVENTS THE LOFT

How to Revive an Old Love for Reading

Written by Jade Hookham // Lifestyle Contributing Writer

Who else used to love reading as a kid, yet can't be bothered to do it now? Now, with jobs, internships, and homework taking up so much time, something as intellectually intensive as reading falls low on the priority list. Countless college students often dread doing assigned readings, and there's rarely any time to complete them. So what happened to make reading such a difficult task? The answer isn't a simple one, but I'm looking back on my own life to find the cause for myself.

To be honest, I was into reading from a very young age. Though my memory is a bit hazy, I'm pretty sure I started reading from the moment I learned the alphabet. My idol in first grade was Junie B. Jones, and the "Magic Tree House" series was basically my religion. I distinctly remember ordering new books every time the Scholastic book orders made their rounds, checking the boxes with reckless abandon. And when it came time for the book fair, forget about it — I wouldn't talk about anything else for the whole week.

Middle school was heaven for my literary side, with silent reading time every day and the school's extensive library. I pored over series like "Harry Potter" and "The Clique," though there are countless other titles that I couldn't recall now even if I tried. We were encouraged to read independently, so I took full advantage of every opportunity. In eighth grade, I earned the most Accelerated Reader points in my English class, meaning that I took a short quiz for every book I read, earning points for every one I passed. Reading was a choice for me, and I loved every second of it.

So what happened? How did reading go from feeling like breathing to being such a chore? Trying to read for pleasure during the quarter is rare, and I have to actively try to start new books during school breaks. And don't even get me started on doing less-than-riveting readings for

classes. I think this process of becoming distanced from reading began in high school, when the amount of assigned books began to increase. Reading was associated with mandatory assignments and required more energy to complete. Other factors contributed as well, I no longer had silent reading time every day, and my high school library was subpar at best. But the biggest deterrent for me — and I'm sure many others — was the feeling of dread that comes from being forced to read something that I have little to no interest in. If reading was initially an activity that revolved around my choice, that choice was taken away with the implementation of assigned reading. Being told to do something tends to take the fun out of it, even if it used to be one of the most fun things in the world.

For people like me who no longer have time to read or have lost interest over the years, I still think there's hope. Trying to pick up a new book after a long time can feel like an endeavor, but the effort can pay off. Personally I read more this past summer than I did over the entire year, delving into some of Haruki Murakami's best works. In my opinion, "After Dark" and "Norwegian Wood" stood out the most, but there are so many choices among what he's written. Some of his stuff was a bit challenging, and I considered giving up at times but felt proud of myself after having finished each book. "1Q84" in particular was a struggle, with its slower pacing that took place over the span of over 900 pages. It was a bit too abstract and meta for me at times, but I'm glad I stuck with it.

As long as I continue to take advantage of my windows of free time, I think I can keep my passion for reading alive. Growing older means growing busier, and I think it's natural that I can't read as often as I used to. I'll need to put in more work to continue this hobby that I still love, which means that it's a goal worth pursuing. In the end, I know I'll be glad that I did.

Peeks and Previews

Written by Lifestyle Writing Team

In need of a few ideas to explore more of San Diego and make the most of February? Read on for a few peeks and previews of what's headlining and happening, both on and off campus.

Feb. 9, 2018: A Raisin in the Sun Opening (Mandeville Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.)

This iconic American play, written by Lorraine Hansberry and directed by Kim Rubinstein, unearths the story of the Younger family living in Chicago. Together, they navigate racial relationships, intersectional roles, family dynamics and systemic injustice. The show runs until February 17 and is \$10 for UCSD students.

Feb. 9 to Feb. 11, 2018: Lunar New Year Festival 2018 (SDCCU Stadium, 5-10 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on Sunday)

Hosted by the Little Saigon San Diego Foundation, this Lunar New Year celebration includes food, vendors, art, carnival attractions, and performances like the traditional lion dance. Tickets are \$6 for all San Diego adults, or free for those in "complete military uniform" or born in the Year of the Dog.

Feb. 10, 2018: Mermaid Half Marathon SD (South Shores Park, 6-11 a.m.)

Still on that resolution-fitness high? This women's 5K, 10K and half-marathon run follows the San Diego Bay along Mission Bay Drive, Fiesta Island, De Anza Cove, Rose Creek, Crown Point Park, and Tecolote Shores. Bonus: This run happens in a flat course, a welcomed topography considering the mountains of UC San Diego we canvas each day. The cost ranges from \$15-90 depending on the race. Finishers receive a shirt, medal, and a necklace.

Feb. 10, 2018: Hillcrest Mardi Gras 2018 (Hillcrest at University Avenue and 3rd Avenue, 7-10 p.m.)

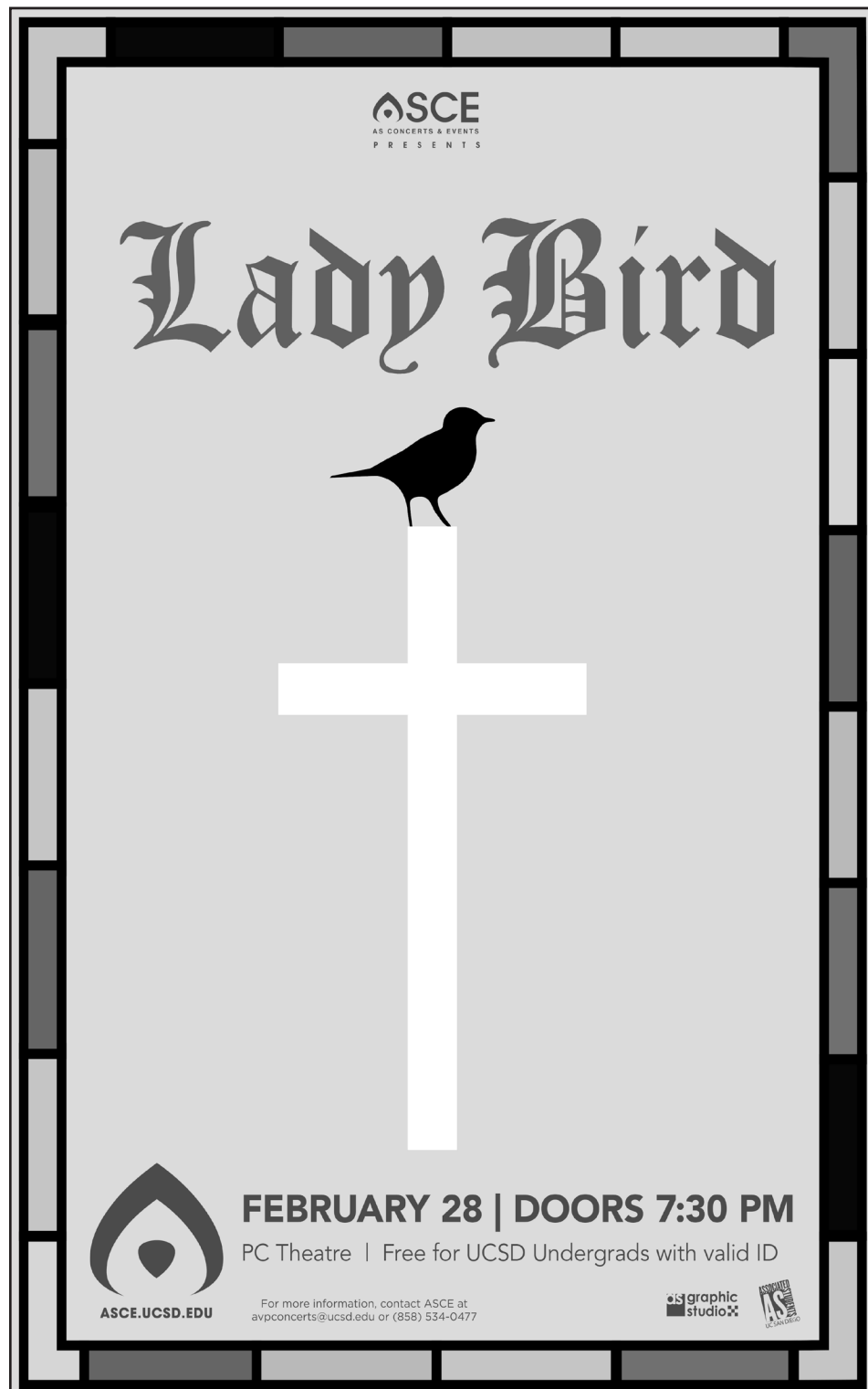
With all that energy following the run, check out the Hillcrest Mardi Gras celebration. For the 21+ crowd, this event promises a good time, so come for beads, food, and drinks, including a neighborhood bar crawl via hop-on, hop-off party bus. Pre-sale tickets are \$15 until Feb. 10 or \$25 at the event, including cover charges.

Feb. 15 to Feb. 25, 2018: San Diego Theatre Week (Locations and times depending on venue and performance)

Mirroring January's Restaurant Week, SD Theatre Week is a time to showcase more than 30 local playwrights, actors, and directors from various performing arts organizations like La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe, Point Loma Playhouse, and even UCSD's Department of Theatre and Dance. Featured plays include "The Importance of Being Earnest," "The Cake," "Addams Family," "Vietgone," and "I Love You Because." Contact artstix@sdpal.com for ticket pricing and locations.


Feb. 22, 2018: ArtPower Presents AlSarah & The Nubatones (PC East Ballroom, 8 p.m.)

AlSarah is a musician celebrating East African retro-pop who was born in Sudan, grew up in Yemen, and is now planted in Brooklyn, New York. Playing "songs of return" to give music to migration, AlSarah & The Nubatones create an upbeat and ephemeral cross-cultural experience with songs like "Nuba Noutou" and "Soukura It's Late." Tickets are \$9 for UCSD students and registration is required by the day of the concert.



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Lady Bird

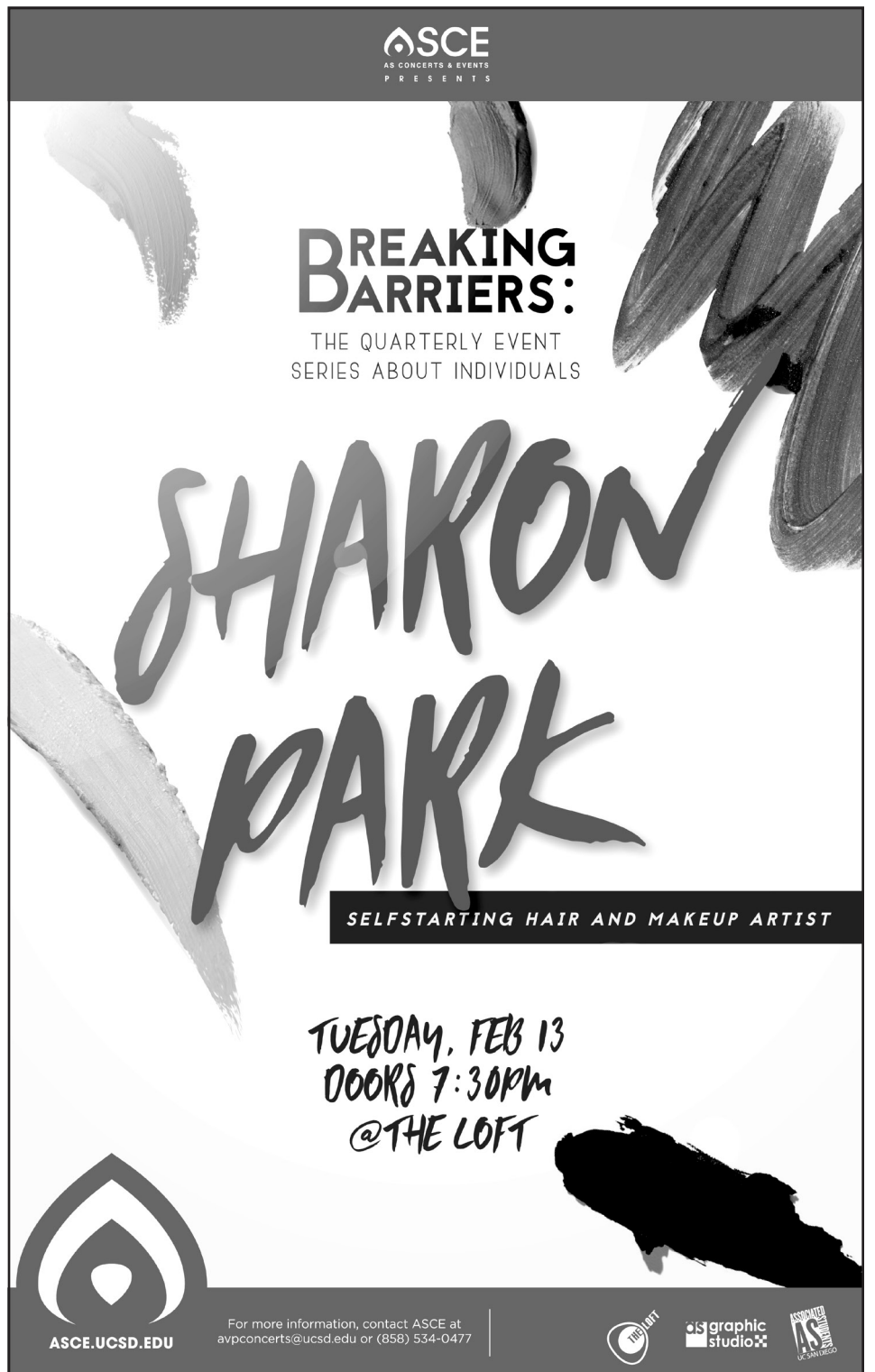


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FEB 5 - FEB 11

theloft.ucsd.edu

Upcoming



University Centers & ASCE Presents: R.LUM.R
THURSDAY, FEB. 8
Event: 8PM - 11PM
SOLD OUT



DVC Presents: Baewatch
FRIDAY, FEB. 9
Doors: 7PM • Show: 8PM
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



HER Film Screening
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14
Doors: 6PM • Show: 6:30PM
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



Jeff Parker & the New Breed
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23
Doors: 6PM • Show: 6:30PM
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID

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Upcoming

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Fine Chocolate Tasting
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7
Event: 6PM
Price Center Ballroom East
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID
TICKETED EVENT



DIY V-Day Luminaries & Cards
MONDAY, FEB. 12
Event: 5PM - 7PM
The Stage Room
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



Crazy, Stupid, Love
TUESDAY, FEB. 13
Doors: 6:30PM • Show: 7PM
Price Center Theater
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID



Celebrate Love
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14
Time: 11AM - 2PM
Price Center Plaza
FREE for UCSD Students w/ID

MON 2.05

3pm
DISCOVER THE LAW: THE LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCE- YEARS 1, 2, AND 3. - ERC ROOM, PC WEST

The Assistant Dean for Law Student Affairs at USD School of Law will discuss all aspects of the law school experience including highlights from all three years, internships, externships, clerkships, working in legal clinics, on-campus interviews, finding your summer job, on-campus interviews, and more! Contact: sls@ucsd.edu

4pm
SO YOU WANT TO BE THE NEXT STUDENT REGENT? - THE FORUM, PRICE CENTER EAST, LEVEL 4

Every year, one student is selected to serve as the Student Regent on the Board of Regents of the University of California. This individual, jointly selected by the principal governing bodies of the UC system, attends all board meetings, maintains full voting power, and enjoys waived university fees whilst they serve as a Regents-designate and as a member of the Board. Find out what it takes to be the next Regent. Free food from Taco Villa will be served. Contact: aspr@ucsd.edu

6pm
ISSUES OF IDENTITY: IN CONVERSATION WITH HILTON ALS - MANDELL WEISS THEATRE

In celebration of Black History Month, the UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance is pleased to announce Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and critic Hilton Als in a public event. The conversation will be between Mr. Als and Dr. Gentry Patrick, UC San Diego professor of neurobiology, with opportunities for questions and observations from the public. The conversation will focus on issues of racial identity, gender and access to the American dream. Contact: tdpromo@ucsd.edu

7pm
II-HEART: NAILS - GREAT HALL AT INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

A panel about gender expression and community organizing in the nail industry. The panel will include an organizer, UCSD Women's Center intern, and student speaker. There will also be an interactive nail art activity at the end of the program! Contact: ihousemarketing@ucsd.edu=

TUE 2.06

2pm
DISCOVER THE LAW: FREE SPEECH & THE FIRST AMENDMENT- ERC ROOM, PC WEST

Take part in what is surely to be a lively discussion about the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the right of free speech and expression. Learn what federal, state and local government and public officials can and cannot do on and off campus - about what people say and when, where and how they say it! Contact: sls@ucsd.edu

3:30pm
DISCOVER THE LAW: THE CALIFORNIA INNOCENCE PROJECT - MARSHALL ROOM, PC WEST

Come learn from CIP attorney Audrey McGinn about the amazing work done by the California Innocence Project and hear how she found herself working on some of the biggest exoneration cases of the last decade. This workshop is part of the Student Legal Services "Discover the Law" series. Contact: sls@ucsd.edu

7:30pm
ASCE PRESENTS: YOU AT THE LOFT - THE LOFT, PC EAST

"The quarterly open-mic night brought to you by UCSD AS Concerts & Events." Come enjoy the local talent around campus, get inspired, and relax with good, raw Tuesday night vibes. Free flatbread pizza and fries brought to you by Zanzibar at the Loft! Contact: avpconcerts@ucsd.edu

FRI 2.09

1:30pm
RIDE TO FREEDOM - PC WEST, MARSHALL COLLEGE ROOM

Today millions of children are still persecuted and orphaned in China. Many are forced to abandon homes, becoming orphaned after their parents were caught practicing faith. The journey of these young heroes has been made into this documentary, RideToFreedom. It has a mission to save these children and create awareness about the persecution. Through world-wide awareness and public pressure on the Party this mission can be achieved. Contact: xizhan@ucsd.edu

7pm
DVC PRESENTS: BAEWATCH - THE LOFT, PC EAST

Single and ready to mingle? Night out with the crew? Want to jam out to today's hits? Come out to DVC's annual Valentines Dance -- Baewatch! FREE for UCSD Students w/ ID. Contact: ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu

7:30pm
A RAISIN IN THE SUN - MANDELL WEISS THEATRE

A classic of the American stage, A Raisin in the Sun follows Walter Younger and his family in Chicago, each feeling confined by their physical home space and the social roles they've been assigned. When an insurance payout after the death of the family's patriarch offers an opportunity to improve their lives, individual priorities and how they affect others come into question. Contact: tdpromo@ucsd.edu

WED 2.07

11am
21ST ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION - PC WEST, RED SHOE ROOM, OCEANVIEW RESTAURANT, THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE

This year, our Black History Celebration is an all-day event! Come for lunch, stay for dinner, all the while enjoying art, music, dance, spoken word, and a delicious special menu. Contact: jlandrews@ucsd.edu

2pm
INVENTING 101 W/ JAMES CAIRNS- THE BASEMENT, MANDEVILLE

Award winning Physicist/Oceanographer Dr. James L. Cairns (PhD '74) is a lifelong inventor with more than 60 issued and pending U.S. Patents. Cairns describes how to get started in a rewarding profession of being an inventor, how to avoid serious mistakes, and how to protect and cash in on inventions. Contact: thebasement@ucsd.edu

3pm
QUARTERLY CONVERSATIONS: OPIOID EPIDEMIC - GREAT HALL AT INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

Our 2018 Winter Quarterly Conversations in Global Health will be focused on the topic of The Opioid Epidemic! The US is the worlds leader in opioid misuse, with 12.5 million people having misused prescription opioids in 2015, according to the US Health and Human Services Agency. Come hear from experts on the topic about what this means for global health and how we can stop this crisis from becoming a worldwide pandemic. Contact: ihousemarketing@ucsd.edu

6pm
UNIVERSITY CENTERS PRESENTS: FINE CHOCOLATE TASTING - PRICE CENTER BALLROOM EAST

Come join us for this FREE, fun, and interactive chocolate tasting and let your taste buds be surprised! You'll learn about the origins of chocolate, how it's made, how to taste chocolate, and much more!!! By the end of this, you'll be an expert chocolate connoisseur! So come out to this FREE event and don't forget to bring your UCSD Student ID and look out for an Eventbrite ticket link so you can RSVP! Contact: ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu

7pm
ALECK KARIS - CONRAD PREBYS CONCERT HALL

Free for UCSD students! Aleck Karis presents a rare opportunity to hear, in its entirety, Claude Debussys final piano masterpiece, the twelve tudes. Among the most colorful and evocative works ever written for piano, they are also daring musical explorations which stretch the boundaries of harmony and form. Contact: boxoffice@music.ucsd.edu

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THU 2.08

6:30pm
STUDENT HEALTH ADVOCATE PROGRAM RECRUITMENT WEEK - STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The Student Health Advocates (SHA) are trained, volunteer peer health educators who educate other students on topics such as stress, sexual health, alcohol, drugs, healthy eating, sleep and more! Stop by one of our Application Info Sessions to learn how you can join our team. Contact: eokamura@ucsd.edu

8pm
UNIVERSITY CENTERS AND ASCE PRESENT: R.LUM.R - THE LOFT, PC EAST

Unlock the straight-A student within you! At this workshop, we'll reveal study strategies -- uncovered by learning scientists -- that help you learn MORE information in LESS time. These strategies work for all types of classes. Contact: scp008@ucsd.edu

FRI 2.09

1:30pm
RIDE TO FREEDOM - PC WEST, MARSHALL COLLEGE ROOM

Today millions of children are still persecuted and orphaned in China. Many are forced to abandon homes, becoming orphaned after their parents were caught practicing faith. The journey of these young heroes has been made into this documentary, RideToFreedom. It has a mission to save these children and create awareness about the persecution. Through world-wide awareness and public pressure on the Party this mission can be achieved. Contact: xizhan@ucsd.edu

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SAT 2.10

12pm
16TH ANNUAL PAPER THEATRE FESTIVAL - SEUSS ROOM, GEISEL LIBRARY

The smallest show on Earth! This scale-model educational toy is being re-discovered and celebrated at a free weekend-long festival and exhibition. Paper theatre, also called table top theatre or toy theatre, dates back to the Victorian Era. Families constructed these theatres from poster kits with scripts, scenery sheets and paper doll actors included. Contact: spaulson@ucsd.edu

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www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds

HOUSING

The Dorchester Apartments. \$1,275 - \$1,750. 6595 Montezuma Rd., San Diego, CA, 92115. The Dorchester Apartments community in San Diego offers pet-friendly one and two bedroom apartment homes with comfortable, spacious, and bright open floor plans. Our community features a large sparkling swimming pool, beautiful courtyards, BBQ areas, free reserved parking, on-site laundry facility, on-site management, 24 hour emergency maintenance, WiFi hotspots available in common areas through Cox Communications. www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

College Campanile Apartments. \$1,415 - \$3,135. 5691 Montezuma Road, San Diego, CA 92115. These floor plans include spacious one, two and three bedrooms, some poolside or upgraded. Being located in the heart of the college area you will find shopping centers, banks, a library, schools, freeways and more. Enjoy amenities such as a refreshing Olympic sized swimming pool, 24 hour emergency maintenance, on-site laundry facilities, WIFI hotspots in the common areas through Cox Communications, a stove, a dishwasher in some apartments, and cable and internet ready. www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

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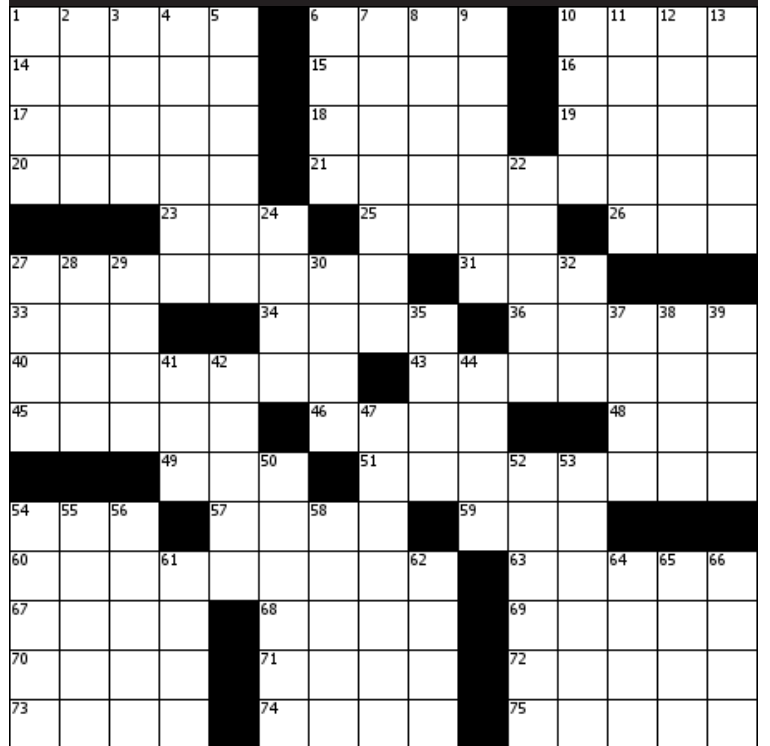
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ACROSS

1. Flower feature
6. "___ Window"
10. Seafood choice
14. Wed secretly
15. Bullets, for short
16. Sled
17. Female singers
18. Blot
19. Many (2 wds.)
20. Staggers
21. Relevant
23. Tennis stroke
25. Wind instrument
26. Bread choice
27. Apache chief
31. Small quantity
33. Lyricist Gershwin
34. Roman tyrant
36. Common contraction
40. Ancestry
43. Zodiac sign
45. Lawful
46. Floor piece
48. Fourth mo.
49. Disencumber
51. Hogwash
54. Health resort
57. Garden plots
59. Little bit
60. Conclude
63. Speech problems
67. On a voyage
68. News bit
69. Tiny landmass
70. EMT's word
71. Stitched line
72. Clatter
73. Emcee
74. Whirlpool
75. Bestow

DOWN

1. Fleshy fruit
2. Fashion magazine
3. Carry
4. NASA program
5. School assignment
6. Scrape roughly
7. Monarch
8. Love (Ital.)
9. Decomposed
10. Tribe
11. King, e.g.
12. Pain
13. Actress ___ Davis
22. Potato state
24. Singer ___ Crosby
27. Fish feature
28. Famous canal
29. Used the doorbell
30. Get together
32. Salad ___
35. Capital of Norway
37. Reach across
38. Bites
39. Ripped
41. Corn serving
42. Excuse
44. Penny
47. As a substitute
50. Actress ___ Richards
52. Briny
53. Light bulb inventor
54. Stockpile
55. Green sauce
56. Zones
58. Saw socially
61. Actor ___ Damon
62. Television award
64. Glided
65. Acapulco coin
66. Hearty soup



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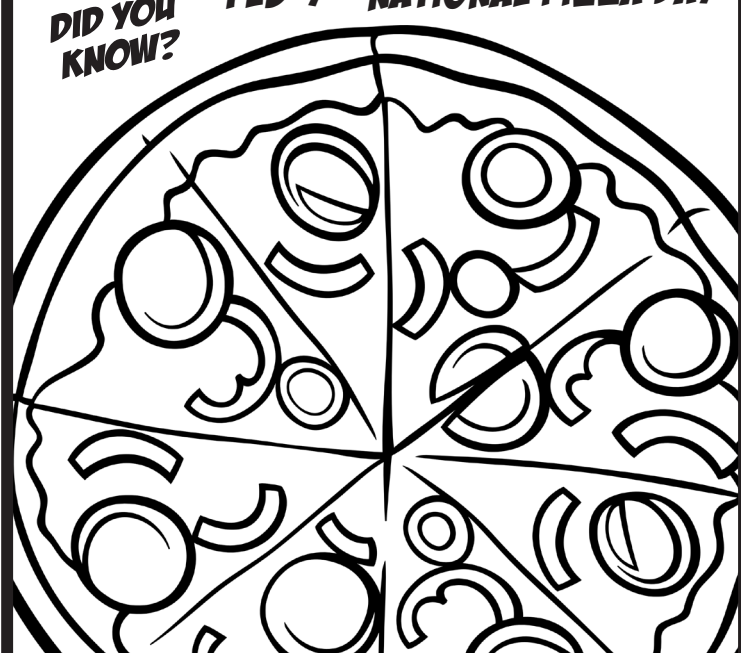
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From Birds to Dogs

Super Bowl LII Predictions. Final Score: 30–27 Eagles

BY WESLEY XIAO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Philadelphia's football team may be called the Eagles, but this year, they are the dogs — the underdogs. Going into Super Bowl LII against the New England Patriots, the Eagles, to put it bluntly, are not the favorite to win: FiveThirtyEight has the Eagles losing by at least 2.5 points, Westgate Las Vegas has them losing by four, and Caesars Palace predicts a loss by 4.5.

The Eagles are no strangers to playing against the odds. Throughout the season, the Eagles were underdogs five times: weeks one, two, six, 11, and 14 (FiveThirtyEight). In all but one game, the Eagles overcame the odds, outscoring their opponents 158–111. What can we make of this trend? Unfortunately for the Eagles, not much. In all five games, Philadelphia had the wunderkind Carson Wentz under center. In his sophomore season, Wentz is putting together career numbers: 3,296 passing yards and a 33–7 touchdown-to-interception ratio. A dynamic passer and runner, Wentz seemed to have already punched the Eagles' ticket to the Super Bowl. But that all came crashing down during their week-14 game against the Rams, where Wentz tore his anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee. And just like that, the former MVP front-runner and leader of this Eagles team was out for the rest of the season. Since the loss of Wentz, the Eagles' playoff potential has been in question. Who was going to replace him? Could he ever be as good? In comes backup quarterback Nick Foles. Foles is four seasons removed from his 2013 Pro Bowl season — where he posted the third-highest passer rating and the best touchdown-to-interception ratio in NFL history — but he hasn't played significantly since an underwhelming 2015 season with the then-St. Louis Rams. Going into the playoffs, Foles was the Eagles' biggest question mark.

Historically, backup quarterbacks have not done poorly in the playoffs. Big names, like Terry Bradshaw and Kurt Warner, started off as second-stringers who took their teams on unexpected playoffs runs. An injury to Drew Bledsoe early in the Patriots' 2001 season forced a young sixth-round pick out of Michigan into the starting lineup; this backup would eventually lead the Patriots to their first Super Bowl title. His name was Tom Brady. In 2013, Foles, still on the Eagles, replaced Michael Vick in week five and took his team to the playoffs as well. But Foles situation now is very different from that of 2013. Unlike the examples above, Foles was forced into the starting lineup late in the season. With late season roster changes, teams have less time to adjust and prepare for the playoffs: backups get snaps and experience with the first-string offensive for the first time in weeks, offensive plans need to be changed, and teams are frantic and scrambled. If we look at backup quarterbacks who has started less than five games in the season, the outlook is much bleaker. Since 1990, backup quarterbacks have gone 11–21; only one has won a Super Bowl (Bet Labs Sports).

Foles outperformed all expectations in the playoffs, defeating the Atlanta Falcons in the divisional round and then the Minnesota Vikings for the NFC title. Foles averaged a 77.75 completion percentage, 299 yards-per-game, and

posted a 3–0 touchdown-to-interception ratio. Foles' performance wasn't spectacular, but it was enough. In combination with their stellar defense, the Eagles managed to pull through to get to the Super Bowl. The Eagles have hope. They heard the world call them underdogs, and they overcame.

Throughout the season, the Eagles haven't exactly been true underdogs. They have incredible talent on both sides of the ball. All-Pros and Pro Football Focus's O-Line of the Year Lane Johnson and Jason Kelce head Philadelphia's offensive line, while All-Pro nose-tackle Fletcher Cox leads this year's number one rushing defense. Lastly, Pro-Bowler Jay Ajayi and ex-Patriot LeGarrette Blount are the leaders of their dynamic and varied rushing attack. This Sunday, however, the Eagles are truly underdogs. The Eagles face the football juggernaut of Tom Brady, Bill Belichick, and the post-season New England Patriots. Brady — the ageless wonder — is seeking his sixth Super Bowl ring; the Eagles have yet to win their first. At age 40, Brady is playing the best ball of his career and he isn't showing signs of slowing down. Brandin Cooks, Danny Amendola, and Chris Hogan round out a solid group of wide receivers and Rob Gronkowski is the best tight-end in the league. Belichick is the mastermind of game planning, with a keen understanding of the nuances of football and excels at taking away the strengths of his opponents.

The Eagles know they are underdogs, but they've embraced it. No other player seems to have taken to this new underdog identity more than former Patriot and defensive-end Chris Long. After their divisional round victory against the Falcons (where the Falcons were favored by 2.5 points according to sports-betting website OddsShark), Long and several other Eagles players put on rubber dog masks to celebrate their win. In the subsequent game against the Vikings, Long was also seen on the sideline, barking at the crowd at the end of the third quarter. Still in his hyper-realistic German Shepherd mask, reporters asked Long about the masks: "People are terrified," Long told them.

Long may be right. The Eagles are so talented and their season has worked out so perfectly — it almost feels like destiny for them to win this Sunday. But, they face their greatest challenge yet: Tom Brady. Brady has as much Super Bowl experience as the entire Eagles team, 54 comeback victories, and an unrivaled sense and knowledge about the game. Summed up best by Broncos linebacker Von Miller, "[Tom Brady] knows voodoo!"

However, I think the Eagles have what it takes to defeat them. Foles has performed admirably in the playoffs, and an incredible team backs him. On offense, there's a stalwart offensive line, reliable running game, and dynamic skill players like tight-end Zach Ertz or wide-receiver Alshon Jeffery. On defense, they have a deep defensive line and a young secondary lead by safety Malcolm Jenkins. And on special teams, their kicker, Jake Elliot, has been hitting field goals from fifty-yards out all season. The Eagles may be underdogs, but they've been beating the odds all season. On the biggest stage of the season, they'll do it again.

Final Score: 30–27 Eagles

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Tritons Secure Road Wins

15–1 Tritons continue dominance against Sonoma and SF State.

BY DANIEL HERNANDEZ
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego women's basketball team took on Sonoma State and San Francisco State this weekend, and it was business as usual for the Tritons as they racked up another two wins on the road. A successful two-game road trip up north improves UCSD to an overall 19–3 record, while 15–1 in the California Collegiate Athletic Association. The two games were won by a combined 54 points, so that tells you all you need to know about how dominant the Tritons were on the road this weekend.

Game v. Sonoma State

The Tritons defense shined in its 80–43 victory over Sonoma State as they held the Seawolves to 27.6 percent shooting from the field. It was only a week ago that these two teams had met at RIMAC Arena and provided an entertaining matchup. However, it was the complete opposite of a back and forth action filled game as UCSD dominated from start to finish. The one-sided affair began with a 23–12 lead after the first quarter for the Tritons. Once again, UCSD held the advantage in points in the paint with a 37–20 advantage.

Offensively, junior guard Kayla Sato led the charge for the Tritons, especially in the first half as she scored 15 of her 19 points in the first 20 minutes. By halftime, UCSD held a healthy 23-point lead and it seemed to be going only one way. The difference from this game and the first matchup against Sonoma State last week was the three-pointer. Last week, the Seawolves drained the three consistently; this time around, they ended the game 0–13 from the three-point line.

Overall, defensively UCSD had a dominant 40 minutes as the maximum amount of points Sonoma State was able to score in any given quarter was 12. In the third quarter, the Seawolves were held to nine points as the Tritons kept on adding on to their lead with no problem.

While Sato finished with 19 points off of five-for-seven shooting, sophomore forward Mikayla Williams had 17 points and six rebounds as she continues her strong season. The third Triton in double-figure scoring was junior guard Joleen Yang as she added on 11 points and four assists.

Game v. SF State

UCSD capped off the weekend with a 80–63 Saturday victory over San Francisco State as it was able to dominate in back-to-back nights. The Tritons got out a huge game from their big two, senior forward Dalayna Sampton and redshirt sophomore forward Mikayla Williams, who both finished the night with nearly identical statlines. Sampton ended with 22 points and nine rebounds, while Williams had 21 points and nine rebounds. Even with the duo having huge games, the Tritons only held a 32–30 advantage with points in the paint; however, UCSD held the advantage in the turnover department. While the Gators turned the ball over 14 times, the Tritons had seven turnovers and got 16 points off of 14 Gator turnovers. San Francisco State could only manage a single point off the turnovers forced.

The first quarter ended at an even 19–19; however, UCSD displayed its dominance with 28–14 in the second quarter which gave it a 14 point lead going into the half. That second quarter became the difference in the game as the last two quarters of the game were much like the first.

With the win, the Tritons now make it eight straight against the Gators and overall 15 wins out of the last 16.

Next up, UCSD will travel back home as they are set to host Cal Poly Pomona at RIMAC Arena on Friday, Feb. 9, followed by a road game against Cal State San Bernardino on Saturday. Both tip-offs are set for 5:30 p.m.

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SPORTS

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UPCOMING
UCSD
GAMES

M Volleyball	2/8	6 PM	VS BYU
Softball	2/9	12 PM	VS Sonoma State
Baseball	2/9	1 PM	VS Colorado Mesa
W Basketball	2/9	5:30 PM	VS Cal Poly Pomona
M Basketball	2/9	7:30 PM	VS Cal Poly Pomona

PHOTO BY HENRY CHEN // UCSD GUARDIAN



MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 2 Tritons Split a Pair

UC San Diego beats Sonoma State 71-64 but falls to San Francisco State 58-71, holds onto second-place CCAA standing.

BY RICHARD LU
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The UC San Diego men's basketball team played against Sonoma State and San Francisco State this past week. The Tritons beat out Sonoma State, 71-64, but fell to San Francisco State, 58-71. The results of the two games places UCSD, who is 12-4 in California Collegiate Athletic Association play,

in second place behind Cal Poly Pomona (13-3).

Versus Sonoma State

The Tritons had some difficulty getting their offense started against Sonoma State. Early on, the Seawolves took a commanding lead and held the advantage for most of the game. UCSD trailed by as much as 11 in the quarter, but ultimately found a way to close the gap in the final five minutes of the half. In that

five-minute span, the Tritons held Sonoma State to just four points and scored 15 of their own. The 15-point rally was led by sophomore forward Scott Everman, who was responsible for seven of the 15 points for the Tritons.

Riding the momentum into the second half, the Tritons took control of the game. Junior guard Christian Bayne carried the UCSD, scoring 21 of his career-high 28 points in

the second half. Unable to contain Bayne, the Seawolves watched helplessly as the Tritons cemented a huge 11-point lead with 5:21 left in the half. UCSD held on to its lead to close out the game despite a run by Sonoma State, finishing with a seven-point lead over the Seawolves (71-64).

Three Tritons scored in double-digits: Everman (20 points), Bayne (28 points), and junior guard/forward Christian Oshita (15 points). Bayne, who led the game in scoring, earned 11 of his 28 points from the free-throw line, finishing with a perfect 11-11 from the line.

Versus San Francisco State

Offensive struggles characterized UCSD's loss against San Francisco State. The first half was a back-and-forth affair, with neither team claiming a decisive lead. The game changed leads multiple times throughout the first half and ended in San Francisco State's favor. Going into halftime, the Tritons were down one, 29-28.

Coming out of halftime, the game looked good for the Tritons. A jumper by Oshita and three-pointer by senior guard Anthony Ballestero gave UCSD an early 33-29 lead. This was, however, very short-lived. UCSD started missing shots, and the Gators capitalized on the Tritons' lapse in concentration. Two layups from San Francisco State tied the game at 33-33. At this point, 17:04 left in the second half, the momentum of the game wasn't in favor of any team. The next 10 minutes of the half moved in favor of San Francisco State, which took advantage of UCSD's scoring troubles to gain a five-point lead.

The game picked up with 7:28 left to play, when the Gators made two more layups to take a seven-point lead (52-45). The Tritons tried to respond with a three-pointer from Oshita, but it was off the mark. With the rebound secured, San Francisco State walked down the court and initiated its offense — leading to a missed three-point attempt from one of the Gators. The Tritons were unable to box-out effectively, which led to a Gator offensive rebound and another three-point attempt. This time, San Francisco State made the three-pointer, putting the Gators up by 10 with 5:45 remaining. This sequence of events was the nail in the coffin for the Tritons, who were struggling both defensively and offensively.

In the second half, the Tritons shot a measly 10-31 (32.3 percent) from the field, unable to match the Gators, who finished 17-27 (63 percent) in the half. In spite of the team's collective struggle, one Triton stood out: Oshita. The junior finished with his third double-double of the season, collecting 10 rebounds to go along with his game-high 21 points.

UCSD will play the best team in the CCAA, Cal Poly Pomona, this week. The Tritons will make a stand at home, facing off against the Broncos at RIMAC Arena on Friday, Feb. 9 for Spirit Night. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

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Another 1-1 Weekend
in Big Name Non-
Conference Matches

UCSD defeats Princeton in straight-sets, but falls to Stanford in four.

BY MADELINE LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

UC San Diego vs. Princeton — La Jolla, CA

For the first time ever in UC San Diego men's volleyball history, the Tritons proudly stood behind a well-deserved 7-2 overall record after Wednesday night's game. UCSD wasted no time as it defeated Princeton University at home in three extremely close sets scored at 25-21, 25-23, and 34-32.

The Tritons completed the first set with a four point cushion, the largest set difference all match and the "easiest" win of the night.

Freshman outside hitter Wyatt Harrison came out on fire with three service aces in a row early on. Harrison totaled an additional 10 points from nine kills and two block assists, as well as five digs and one assist.

UCSD began to pull away midway through the second set, forcing a timeout by Princeton as the score slowly slipped away (12-6).

Senior outside hitter Tanner Syftestad played a key role in securing the 2-0 set advantage. Collecting a team high of 15 points, Syftestad, the national leader in

kills, produced 10 points from his specialty alone, two service aces, and three block solos.

The Tritons were in for their biggest battle of the night with the third set. Twenty-seven tie scores and 14 lead changes finally concluded with a Syftestad kill and a Tiger attack error which sealed the deal for the Tritons.

UCSD performed their highest attack percentage in the third at .323, on top of 11 team blocks. After suffering an injury prior to the start of season, redshirt sophomore outside hitter Xander Jimenez contributed with six and a half points in his first game back.

UC San Diego vs. Stanford — La Jolla, CA

In a season full of milestones, Syftestad became only the sixth Triton to get 1,000 career kills Saturday night as the Tritons lost in four sets (1-3) to Stanford University. A close match to say the least, all final set scores came within five points (25-21, 20-25, 25-20, 25-21).

While only roughly halfway through the 2018 campaign, Syftestad capitalized on a perfect toss from senior setter Milosh Stojcic for his 16th kill of the night

PHOTO COURTESY OF UC SAN DIEGO ATHLETICS



MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

placing him in the 1,000th club in his four years at UCSD. Stojcic had returned the favor after surpassing 2,000 assists from a Syftestad kill just one week ago.

Syftestad now sits at 178 kills this season with all Big West conference matches yet to be played. On top of the kills, the captain tallied one assist, three service aces, two digs, and three blocks.

Dropping the first set to Stanford, UCSD punched back stronger moving forward. The Tritons never trailed in the second set and

recorded a team attack percentage of .455, their best numbers of the night.

Harrison listed another successful rookie outing in front of big name Stanford University. In 17 attempts, Harrison gathered 12 kills placing his attack percentage at .588. Scattering the rest of the score sheet, the freshman also had four digs and two block assists.

Regardless of the promising momentum in the second set, the Tritons never saw the lead in the third. Stanford shot a stunning team

attack percentage of .480 with their most kills accumulated at 16.

A hard-fought fourth set unfortunately ended in the Cardinals' favor pushing UCSD to 7-3. Before taking off for a four game road trip, UCSD will take on Brigham Young University on Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. in the one and only RIMAC Arena.

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