

## UC SAN DIEGO'S SYN BIO TEAM



UC San Diego's synthetic biology student org earned the title of best team in North America at this year's iGEM competition.

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**METAL AND GLASS**  
PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY  
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LIVING ON THE EDGE OF FIRE  
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## VERBATIM

*"Offering metal to-go containers would be a step in the right direction for all of campus because they are a truly sustainable solution and would help normalize bringing your own to-go containers."*

Geena Roberts  
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Leland performs at Hullabaloo 2018, held on Founders' Day, in Matthews Quad. UCSD Guardian // Photo by Mckenna Johnson

## UC SYSTEM

### Top UC Official Responds to Proposed Federal Title IX Changes

BY TYLER FAUROT NEWS EDITOR

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos proposed changes to Title IX Regulations on Friday, Nov. 16, which would narrow the definition of sexual harassment and change protocol for hearings. Title IX is a federal civil rights law passed in 1972, which standardizes the treatment of sex discrimination in educational systems that receive federal financial assistance.

Under the guidelines laid out in 2011, sexual harassment was defined as "unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature." These guidelines were criticized as being too broad and were consequently rescinded by the current administration last September. The new categories would narrow the definition.

The new rule creates three categories under which sexual harassment can be defined. The first is "unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the school's education program or activity." The other two are and sexual assault and "quid pro quo" harassment, such as cases of school employees soliciting sexual favors in exchange for extra credit.

At the UC Board of Regents meeting on Nov. 14, the Public Engagement and Development Committee's presentation on Federal Governmental Relations highlighted its anticipation for the Title IX updates. According to Chris Harrington, Associate Vice President for Federal Governmental Relations at the UC Office of the President, UC representatives had met with officials at the Office of Management and Budget to review the drafted updates two weeks prior.

One of the new changes to Title IX rules laid out by DeVos and the Department of Education would allow the accused party to cross-examine its accuser by a representative during hearings.

The same day as the Department of Education's announcement, UC Interim Systemwide Title IX

Coordinator Suzanne Taylor sent out a statement in response.

"The proposed hearings would allow representatives of alleged assailants to directly cross-examine complainants, which is wholly unnecessary and inherently intimidating, especially to students making the already difficult decision to come forward," Taylor said. "[The Education Department] proposes these rules under the guise of protecting respondents, yet [the UC system's] procedures (and those of many other universities) already ensure due process, including the respondent's right to question complainants and witnesses in a manner that does not cause further trauma."

Taylor also argued that the new guidelines narrow the scope of what is defined as sexual assault and for that reason could have a potentially negative impact on other civil rights issues.

"The proposed rules significantly weaken OCR (Office of Civil Rights) authority to enforce Title IX ... Applying these standards to other areas of OCR's jurisdiction, if that is [the Education Department's] intent, will also undermine important civil rights laws that protect students from racial- and disability-based discrimination," Taylor said.

Taylor assured the UC community that the university will continue to protect students' rights and equity on their campuses.

"The rights of the most vulnerable among us are under attack, and it is important that we continue to counter ill-advised attempts to erode important Title IX protections for all members of the community," Taylor said.

The proposed changes to the rule are open to public comment for 60 days; after that, the Department will assess whether to finalize them or not.

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## COMMUNITY

### Hillel Center Moves Forward With Development After Lawsuit Victory

A one-person organization brought suit against Hillel over the project, citing concerns of "community character."

BY STEPHANIE BEGLE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hillel of San Diego's path to build a long-planned center for Jewish life adjacent to UC San Diego appears to be clear after a lawsuit filed by the Taxpayers for Responsible Land Use was thrown out. San Diego Superior Court Judge Timothy Taylor ruled in favor of the San Diego City Council's approval of Hillel's project, known

as the Beverly and Joseph Glickman Hillel Center for Jewish Life. which would serve as a place where Jewish students along with the public and cultivate community

Last October, the City of San Diego approved Hillel's long-planned project to begin construction of a center for Jewish community on a vacant triangular lot located across the street from the southwest corner

of Roger Revelle College. The plan for this center includes three buildings totalling 6,500 square feet, which will surround a central courtyard. TRLU, an organization comprised of one listed member, claimed that the approval for this project infringed upon residential zoning laws within the La Jolla community despite the City's unanimous approval.

See **HILLEL**, page 3

## 2018 ELECTION

### Twice As Many Ballots Cast at UCSD Compared to 2014

Fewer than 50 percent of all voters registered to the UCSD campus actually voted in this year's midterms.

BY REBECCA CAMCHO, ANDREW HA  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UC San Diego saw an immense growth in voter turnout during the 2018 U.S. midterm elections. On Nov 6, many people in UCSD's eight voting precincts went to the polls to choose their next governor, a U.S. senator, vote in five U.S. congressional districts, and many other local and state legislature seats. The electorate also got to vote on various propositions.

The preliminary data presented comes from the San Diego Registrar of Voters, but they are still counting more ballots and will not be finished until Dec. 6, 2018. The UCSD Guardian, in consideration to the eight UCSD precincts, compiled the total number of registered voters and compared it to the total number of people who actually voted in the 2018 and 2014 elections.

The overall voter turnout rate for UCSD was 40.86 percent. Of the total 4,731 registered voters in the eight precincts on the UCSD campus, 1,933 voted during this midterm election.

Compared to the 18.29 percent turnout rate from the 2014 midterm election, voting turnout for UCSD's precincts substantially increased during the 2018 elections. In fact, there was a 123.4-percent increase in voter turnout since the 2014 U.S. midterm election. The net number of people who voted during the 2014 election was 814 people compared to 1,933 voters this year.

The grassroots initiatives on campus leading up to voters casting their ballots also garnered significant attention in bringing young voters to the polls. The campaign by non-partisan Student Organized Voter Access Committee — organized by the UCSD undergraduate student government's Office of External Affairs of the Associated Students — in conjunction with UCSD student activism prevailed in registering college students this election cycle.

The "Get Out the Vote" campaign of UCSD's students activist organization, California Public Interest Research Group and that of its members to promote voter participation among the student population signaled such unified mobilization to this cause.

In an interview with the Guardian, the CALPIRG Statewide Outreach Coordinator and Sixth College student Sophie Haddad

See **VOTING**, page 3

## FOLDING CRANES

By Michi Sora



## LIGHTS & SIRENS

Lights and Sirens is compiled from the Police Crime Log at [police.ucsd.edu](http://police.ucsd.edu)

Sunday, November 11

### 12:21 a.m. Public Intoxication

Intoxicated male laying on sidewalk  
Transported To Detox

### 2:55 a.m. Excessive Alcohol

Adult male heavily intoxicated, semi-conscious and breathing  
Transported To Hospital

### 10:40 a.m. Lost Property

Report of lost passport  
Service Provided

### 6:42 p.m. Information

One hour prior, male left hospital before he was discharged with IV in his arm  
Information Only

### 7:09 p.m. Marijuana Contact

Four subjects smoking marijuana

Gone On Arrival

### 9:23 p.m. Attempted Petty Theft - Bicycle

Reporting party observed male suspect cutting U-lock off of a bicycle, suspect ran off when confronted by RP

Report Taken

### 9:35 p.m. Petty Theft

Unattended wallet stolen from table, loss \$100

Online Report

### 10:25 p.m. Suspicious Person

Reporting parties caught known non-affiliate male leering at them through the open window of their apartment

Stay Away Order Issued

Monday, November 12

### 3:23 p.m. Information Only

Recently-fired employee made suicidal threats to his boss, subject resides off-campus  
Referred To Other Agency - San Diego Police Department

### 4:57 p.m. Lost Property

Report of lost foreign passport  
Information Only

### 5:40 p.m. Petty Theft - Bicycle

Loss \$370

Report Taken

### 9:31 p.m. Suspicious Person

Non-affiliate adult male contacted, after a report of a suspicious male looking into office and trying office door handles

Stay Away Order Issued

### 10:16 p.m. Information

San Diego Police Department received report of a bright light blinking, possibly someone trying to send an S.O.S signal, SDPD was advised that signal is part of new art piece in Revelle College

Information Only

### 11:06 p.m. Medical Aid

Young female adult possibly having an asthma attack, experiencing chest pains and having trouble breathing

Transported To Hospital

Tuesday, November 13

### 2:32 p.m. Disturbance

Male subject screaming in Police Department lobby

Checks OK

### 10:15 p.m. Warrant Arrest

Outside Agency Warrant  
Misdemeanor

### 10:40 p.m. Medical Aid

19-year-old female having hot and cold flashes and feeling like she is going to faint

Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, November 14

### 6:25 a.m. Suspicion Person

Adult male trying to get into a building without an ID

Unable to Locate

### 7:34 a.m. Excessive Alcohol

Original call for welfare check of young adult male sitting on bench, rocking back and forth, male did not respond to reporting party when asked if he was OK

Transported To Hospital

### 8:18 a.m. Person Down

Adult male sleeping in vehicle with expired tags and a suspended license

Vehicle Impounded

### 9:41 a.m. Medical Aid

Young adult male fainted  
Transported To Hospital

### 4:11 p.m. Domestic Violence Incident

Non-affiliate couple seen pushing each other before boarding a city bus

Stay Away Order Issued (x2)

### 7:30 p.m. Suspicious Person

Unknown male hiding under stairwell for 30 minutes

Checks OK

### 9:13 p.m. Suspicious Person

Subject was making offensive sexual comments while friend filmed people's reactions

Checks OK

### 10:18 p.m. Fire

Metal container on fire at very end of dirt parking lot, adult male cited for unlawful fire

Citation Issued

Thursday, November 15

### 1:00 a.m. Burglary

Unknown suspect(s) entered victim's apartment and stole several items, loss \$2100

Report Taken

### 3:19 a.m. Unknown Trouble

Intoxicated female contacted after report of female yelling for help in area of baseball field, subject released to sober friend

Service Provided

### 10:51 p.m. Unknown Trouble

Reporting party was on the phone with friend in Berkeley, CA, friend started screaming and reporting party is now unable to reach her

Referred to Other Agency - Berkeley Police Department

— Tyler Faurot  
News Editor

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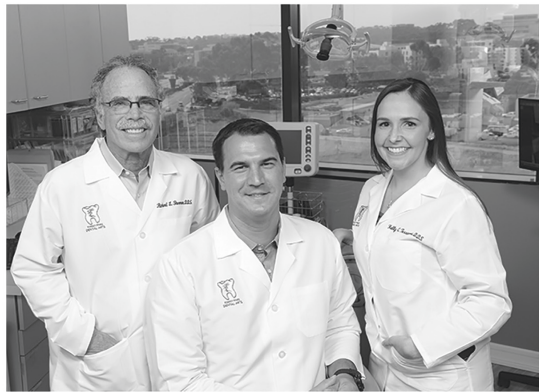
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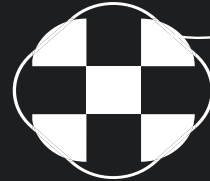


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## Many State and Local Initiatives Targeted Turnout

► **VOTING**, from page 1

explained how the results of this election's voter turnout came as a result of a comprehensive incorporation of calls to action.

Haddad explained how legislation such as the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993," or "Motor Voter Act," and the "California Students Vote Project" and "Ballot Bowl" competition created by the California Secretary of State in partnership with the California Lieutenant Governor, provided a platform for more innovative approaches to increasing voter registration.

"This election cycle really shows us the need for young voters to make their voices heard and elect individuals who will give proper agency to their concerns," Haddad said. "It is so important that we use this momentum to excite college students to register and vote."

With actions including tabling on Library Walk, text reminders,

and classroom announcements CALPIRG's "Get Out the Vote" campaign obtained 500,000 contacts and registered 6,000 students statewide.

The overall rise in the UCSD voter turnout rate and net totals was, in great part, a referendum to President Donald Trump in his past two years in office, as discussed in a New York Times article. Moreover, greater media coverage of the midterm elections may have galvanized more people to get to the polls.

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## The Architect Behind the Hillel Center Hopes to Begin Construction Shortly

► **HILLEL**, from page 1

"TRLU's lawsuit was a baseless attempt to further delay the Hillel project," Executive Director of Hillel and Rabbi David Singer said. "TRLU has argued without proof and contrary to the opinion of every expert and city leader that the center would have a negative impact on the neighborhood." According to its website, TRLU opposes this project because of the "potential impacts to aesthetics, community character, land use, traffic, parking, and growth."

In response to TRLU's efforts to move the center elsewhere, Taylor said, "We don't do that in the United States. That is evocative of Eastern Europe and not appropriate."

Funding for the Hillel center is based solely on the contributions made by members and alumni of the non-profit organization, along with friends in the surrounding community. Hillel has a campaign goal of \$15 million. So far, it has raised \$12.5 million with a \$5 million

contribution by Joseph Glickman (a neighbor of Hillel, community leader, and philanthropist) before he passed away this May. Glickman, who was dearly referred to as "Chickie," believed that creating this center would build community, inspire leadership, and develop relationships among the hundreds of participants in Hillel programs. Singer said this facility will make a positive impact on the surrounding community by turning an empty lot into a picturesque landscape between the busy La Jolla streets while also providing a public park-like area with pedestrian access.

"We are especially delighted that our project will serve as a welcoming beacon of inclusivity at the entrance to La Jolla, a neighborhood that once forbade Jewish ownership," President of the Board of Directors of Hillel of San Diego Joel Smith said.

La Jolla has a history of widespread restrictive housing

policies toward Jewish people since the 1960s. The Real Estate Brokers' Association played a large role in making sure Jewish people were not able to purchase homes in La Jolla and also made it difficult for them to have success with other real estate agencies in the area.

The architect of the Hillel community center is actively proceeding with the design drawings and is working to get construction "shovel ready" as quickly as possible. At this time, it is unclear when the center will be finished and open to students and the public.

To commemorate the start of Hanukkah, Hillel will be hosting an event on the property on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 11 a.m. It will also serve as a celebration of its legal victory, as well as kick off its public fundraising campaign.

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# OPINION

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## Sustainability Goes Beyond Straws

*The UC system has committed to reducing the amount of waste it sends to landfills each year. Programs aimed at transitioning to recyclable materials are a good leap forward, but UC San Diego will have to consider other techniques if it to ever come close to its goal of 90-percent diversion of waste.*

By: Geena Roberts // Contributing Writer

In 2012, the University of California committed its campuses (minus the medical facilities) to achieving zero waste, defined as 90-percent diversion from landfills, by 2020. UC San Diego, though, still has a long way to go before it can reach this zero-waste goal. As anyone living on campus knows, this year, Housing Dining Hospitality enacted a few big changes to combat its role in UCSD's trash creation. Central to these initiatives, it has become harder to get to-go containers and plastic silverware in campus dining halls. Manager of HDH Sustainability Colin

Moynihan reports that the initiative reduced use of single-use recyclables by up to 50 percent for food containers. These efforts, coupled with the to-go containers being fully recyclable, will definitely help campus to reach its 90-percent diversion by 2020.

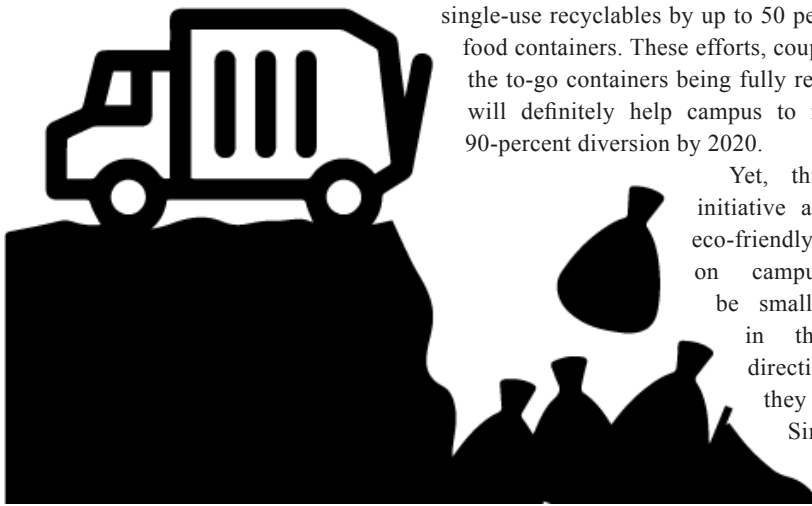
Yet, this HDH initiative and other eco-friendly policies on campus may be smaller leaps in the right direction than they seem. Simply put,

the HDH initiative continues to add to the problem of single-use items despite their recyclability and more limited availability. It also does not directly address other vendors on campus, who should be held equally responsible for taking tangible action against UCSD's trash creation. We can do better.

Thus, while it's certainly cheaper for HDH to move toward recyclables and have campus vendors do their own thing and transition to solutions that sound nice, the campus needs to move in a different direction. To create a more sustainable campus, instead of single-use recyclables and unused biodegradables, UCSD should introduce reusable metal or glass to-go containers for use in HDH locations and Price Center. This initiative would enable UCSD to achieve its 90-percent diversion and create a more convenient and optimal environmental impact.

Data from UCSD's campus sustainability manager demonstrated that UCSD only diverted about 34 percent of its trash this year. Unfortunately, one of the easier and cheaper ways to achieve 90-percent diversion from landfills in San Diego lies in single-use recyclables, like the dining hall to-go containers. Still, these recyclables can only be recycled a limited number of times before they end up in landfills for good; National Geographic reports that plastics can only be recycled "2 to 3 times," and that for each time repurposed, "virgin materials" are added for strength. By using recyclables, UCSD would, by its definition, reduce the amount of waste leaving campus, moving toward the 2020 goal. However, each

See SUSTAINABILITY, page 5



## Why the United States Needs to Federalize Elections

By: Jacob Sutherland // Senior Staff Writer

Under the federalist system we know and love, many responsibilities are divided up among federal, state, and local governments. This has allowed many programs and statutes to be streamlined for citizens. Broader programs like Social Security are given to the federal government to standardize the retirement process for all citizens while more nuanced legislation, such as the regulation of the sale of drugs and alcohol, is left to the states, allowing for more citizen input. However, America's electoral system perpetuates many variables in conflict with our ideal of democracy.

Currently, federal elections are held on one Tuesday every two years at the national level. Even so, this practice seems to be one of the few electoral continuities across state and local entities throughout the country. The enfranchisement of voters, the way polling locations are run, and the requirements for ballot representation are, for the most part, at the will of the party in control of the state legislature.

These issues have manifested themselves throughout the 2018 midterm election process. In the weeks leading up to the election, a law supported by Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp, who happened to be running for governor of that state, withheld over 53,000 voter registration applications from being processed, a majority of which belonged to black voters. In areas like Florida where the counts for governor and senator were too close to call, cries for every vote to be counted were denounced by President Donald Trump. He falsely claimed that "the Florida Election should be called in favor of Rick Scott and Ron DeSantis in that large numbers of new ballots showed up out of nowhere, and many ballots are missing or forged. An honest vote count is no longer possible — ballots massively infected." A similar issue even occurred at UC San Diego, where on-campus precincts ran out of English-language paper ballots as the polling hours drew to a close.

Furthermore, even though the election is long over, there are still votes being counted. As of Nov. 14, eight House races, two Senate races, and two gubernatorial races have yet to be called. While the Senate race in Mississippi is delayed due to a runoff rule, the long counting times of the other states can be attributed to the varying state legislation determining how votes are counted. While some states have stricter measures in place to ensure that all votes are received and counted by Election Day, others have looser policies, which leads to votes

*"In order for the United States to fully enfranchise its citizens, speed up the ballot counting process, and facilitate a higher level of democracy, the country must create a system that ensures everyone has equal access to the ballot."*

continuing to trickle in weeks after the official election occurs.

The fear of an outside group interfering in the electoral process, as was seen in the 2016 presidential election, further complicates the discussion on how to fully extend voter enfranchisement and ease as many citizens into the process as possible. However, one need not look further than West Virginia and Oregon to find a possible solution.

In West Virginia, new voting machines were implemented in 2018 to try to prevent hacking and speed up the vote-counting process. Although these machines are digital, they print out a paper ballot for every voter, and the vote count is connected through a closed-circuit system, meaning that the whole voting

system is not connected to the internet. These measures have greatly decreased the risk of outside manipulation while also streamlining the vote-counting process.

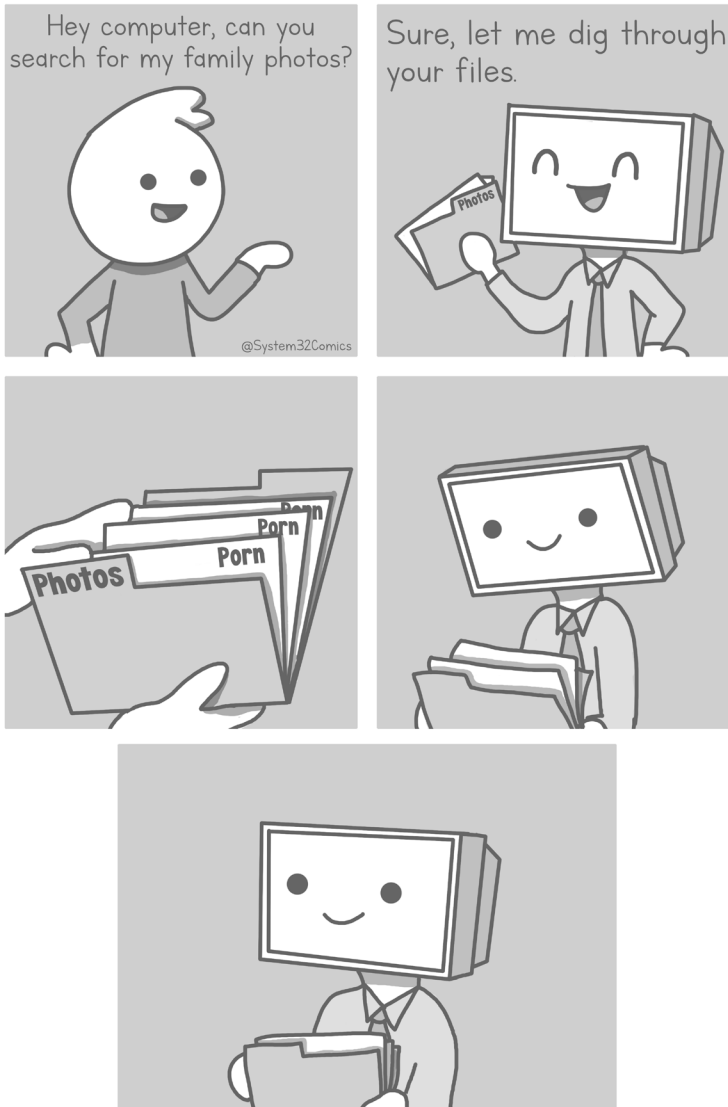
Likewise, in Oregon, vote-by-mail was implemented to ensure that every registered voter would not have an excuse to opt out of this year's elections; voters only need to have their ballot received by 8 p.m. on Election Day, which can include turning in the physical ballot at a polling location. This method has led to an increase in voter turnout in comparison to the rest of the country.

In order for the United States to fully enfranchise its citizens, speed up the ballot counting process, and facilitate a higher level of democracy, the country must create a system that ensures everyone has equal access to the ballot. This can be done through several steps. First, the federal government ought to register everyone to vote at birth. Since every U.S. citizen has a Social Security number assigned at birth, this will ensure that no one is prevented from registering due to niche local laws. Next, all states should implement universal vote-by-mail. This program would ensure that everyone can receive a ballot with plenty of time ahead of the election to fully do their research and come to conclusions on who to vote for. Also, the national government must make Election Day a federal holiday. It is absurd that Election Day is held on a workday. Many people, especially those with a lower socioeconomic status, do not have the ability to take time off to vote or may be pressured by their employers not to do so. Making elections a federal holiday would remove an economic barrier to voting for low-income voters. Finally, elections should use closed internet machines that also leave a paper trail. This will greatly minimize the chance for election fraud and external interference.

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# SYSTEM32

By Anonymous



System32 Comics

► SUSTAINABILITY, from page 4

of these items would soon land in a landfill, meaning we would be taking a less sustainable option for the planet in the long term.

For most people, the obvious alternative to recyclables is biodegradables. In fact, UCSD is currently transitioning vendors in Price Center to biodegradable containers upon the start of their new contracts in an effort to become more eco-friendly. Unknown to most, however, these biodegradables are not the blessing they appear. For one, many biodegradables require perfect conditions to actually biodegrade: 130 degrees from an industrial composter and often must be made from a high-quality bioplastic to be taken in by these composters. According to Moynihan, "Compostable ware typically requires added processing before it can be composted, which is not currently available to use [around the San Diego area]." The kicker is that even if composting was more accessible locally, students have historically mixed up recyclables and compostables, harming both causes.

Other types of biodegradables are also not without fault; they can take decades to decay, harming wildlife and the ozone layer in the process. What's clear is that biodegradable packages will not save the environment and will not help campus reach 90-percent diversion, if they just end up in landfills.

Offering metal to-go containers would be a step in the right direction for all of campus because they are a truly sustainable solution and would help normalize bringing your own to-go containers. Currently, Moynihan is piloting a project that will roll out Winter Quarter of 2019 that will offer "reusable to-go containers in [their] John Muir College facilities [where] residents can opt to have their food served in a reusable to-go box and exchange their container for a new one on their next visit, at no cost to them."

While the exact details of this program are unknown, for these to-go containers to have the largest impact, they will ideally be made of metal or glass and be available soon in several locations, including campus vendors, for use by students, faculty, and campus employees. Needless to say, the more widespread this

program is, the less recyclable to-go containers and useless biodegradable containers would be used on campus. For this ideal scenario to come into fruition, the financial burden may fall solely on HDH, but it would not necessarily have to.

Incorporating the use of these containers, on-campus vendors via their contracts (as was done with biodegradables) would help to shoulder the financial burden of these containers. In fact, chain pop-ups in Price Center, like Panda Express, may prefer to use reusable containers instead of having to order different types of to-go ware for UCSD and their other locations or to switch the company completely to biodegradables. They, as well as HDH, would also have no need to buy regular to-go containers again and therefore eliminate that expense with this program.

Additionally, less trash creation means that UCSD would spend less money on waste collection. As reported by Facilities Management, last year, UCSD spent almost a million dollars on campus waste removal. Therefore cutting the use of to-go containers in a majority, or all, of campus eateries would save the university money that could instead be used to fund this project.

While it's unlikely these containers will be made of metal or glass due to their steeper cost, these materials offer the most environmentally conscious option. For example, glass and metal containers have more longevity than single-use recyclables and weak biodegradable products. Most importantly, when they wear out, they can be recycled completely and indefinitely without the need of additional virgin materials to support them. Meanwhile, stronger more durable biodegradables take longer and more intense conditions to break down due to additives. Thus, metal or glass containers would do good on campus and beyond.

Clearly, UCSD can expect many more positive changes in the future as it attempts to continue to revolutionize its waste policies. Still, as students, let us not be afraid to demand better.

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**FALL 2018**

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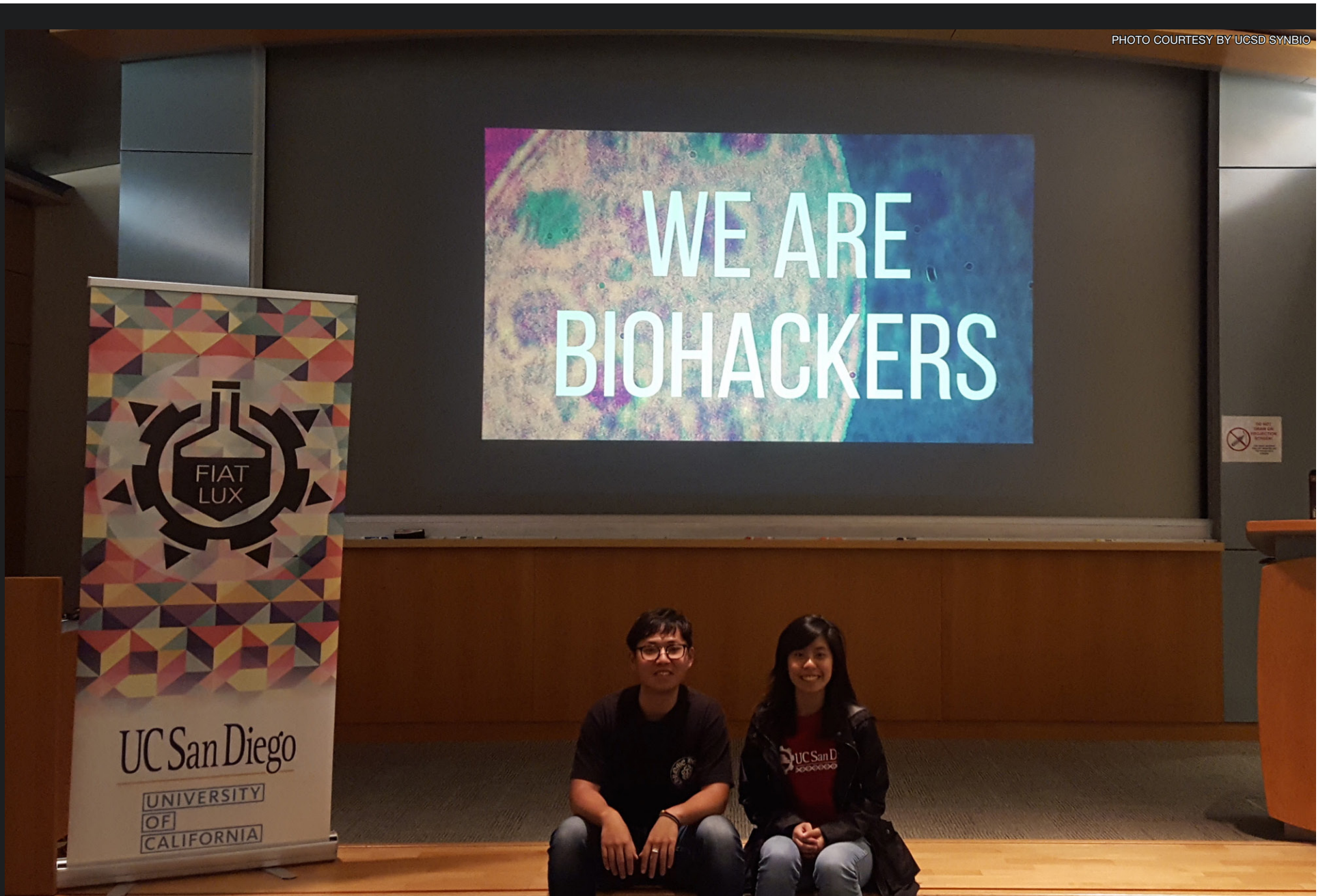
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## FEATURES

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# UCSD'S SYN BIO TEAM WINS SECOND-BEST IN THE WORLD

*UC San Diego's synthetic biology student org earned the title of best team in North America at this year's iGEM competition.*

**By Charlotte Armstrong // Senior Staff Writer**

Not many people can say that they're the second-best in the world at something. The members of UC San Diego's SynBio team, however, can do just that. This organization was founded only four years ago, yet it managed to climb to the near-top of the world standings at the annual International Genetically Engineered Machine competition in Boston, an international, research-based competition which centers on using synthetic biology to solve relevant medical and biological global issues. UCSD's team took second place for its overall project and won a multitude of other sub-category prizes, beating out powerhouse favorites Imperial College London and Heidelberg University in Germany, as well as 300 other teams who competed at iGEM. The UCSD team's achievement is nothing short of remarkable.

SynBio is an on-campus organization dedicated to teaching students the importance of synthetic biology. It aims to bridge the gap between the acclaimed engineering and biology programs at UCSD and encourages collaboration between the two. Earl Warren College junior and bioengineering major Varun Govil joined the organization during Winter Quarter of his freshman year in the hopes of shepherding a vision for the group. He came up with the ideas for both this year's project and last year's competition. He reads countless amounts of academic literature, hoping to get inspired and find an area that his team can supplement with its research.

"The project we did last year was a really cool concept, but it didn't spark an interest for the judges. This year, we wanted to focus something in the cancer diagnostics field," Govil said. "We looked at the large body of research at UCSD, and we came across a paper that had been talking about using different markers, a completely different approach on how

*"When I saw the results, I felt awful, because I felt I had let everyone down. On the plane back from Boston, I was drafting my letter of resignation. But then I thought, 'You know what? You can probably do this; you just need a sexier idea, if you will. And you need a larger team,'" Govil said.*

to diagnose cancer compared to the many pitfalls you see in the current method. We thought we could build off that, so we started looking at research from years prior and coming up with an outline of what we needed done."

Govil recruited members for his team by conducting multiple interviews and dividing the chosen students into the three main categories that the project would cover: the dry lab (coding and other computer data work), the wet lab (the work in the lab with cells, DNA, and proteins), and the public-engagement component. He found seven members for his technical team.

"Part of the job is not just doing the work, but communicating effectively. Scientists are notoriously bad communicators, so to address that, we brought in a four-person design team: a graphic designer, a web design engineer, a person for poster design, and a person to design the documents we were going to deliver at the competition," Govil said. "The beauty of this project is that it's not just a technical research competition: There's product design; there's entrepreneurship; there's public engagement. We need people who are passionate about these, too,

and I learned that freshman year."

Roger Revelle College fifth-year chemistry major Anser Abbas, saw a slide advertising SynBio in one of his biochemistry lectures and decided to apply. He was brought into the team to do wet-lab work and to write policy. The idea of implementing the group's research into the real world was particularly interested Abbas. "At iGEM, you present the research you've done and a plan to implement it in the real world. That was

► SYN BIO, from page 6

interesting to me; it's sort of a unique opportunity," Abbas said. "Our research labs are focused on science, and this was an opportunity to learn about things I hadn't had a lot of exposure to. I got a sense of the other aspects that I didn't have experience with before, such as the law behind scientific policy or international rules about genetically modified organisms."

SynBio's project this year was to establish a noninvasive diagnostic technology that could detect cancer. Tissue biopsy, the common method of diagnosing cancer, or "the method we were all taught in grade school" (as Govil puts it), involves extracting DNA from the patient and comparing it to a healthy DNA pattern to determine whether or not the patient has cancer. However, this procedure is not only invasive for the patient, but it can also be relatively inaccurate

SynBio's research and planned alternative procedure involve liquid biopsy, or a simple drawing of blood, which is a far less intrusive method of evaluating DNA patterns. The team decided to look at alterations in the patient's genetic code once the blood had been drawn. The members of the team analyzed endless patient samples that were provided to them by the lab they partnered with, and used machine learning (artificial intelligence) to find patterns in the DNA, which vary depending on the type of cancer. The proteins the team engineered bound to regions on patients' DNA that were hyper-methylated and gave off a fluorescent signal. All of this work was done over the summer at UCSD's School of Medicine. The complex process meant that Govil worked 80 hours a week all throughout the summer.

Last year, Govil acted as team leader, and though the team's project was much-talked about and supported by all of the bioengineering department, a devastating mistake in failing to provide sufficient validation for the DNA sample used cost the team any chance of placing at iGEM. Feeling defeated, Govil was ready to resign upon returning to San Diego from Boston.

"When I saw the results, I felt awful, because I felt I had let everyone down. On the plane back from Boston, I was drafting my letter of resignation. But then I thought, 'You know what? You can probably do this; you just need a sexier idea, if you will. And you need a larger team,'" Govil said. "It's very easy in the vacuum of the first six months to be like, 'Oh, we got this!' But then when you go to the competition, you see these world-class teams who have never not made finals. It's a whirlwind of emotion."

The SynBio team saw a complete turnaround over the course of a year. It kept its expectations in check this time, simply hoping its results this year would be a building block for next year's team.

"You can win an award just in your track, and that was our goal. We just wanted to win Best Diagnostic, so it was kind of surprising to find out that out of all of the teams, we placed second," Abbas said. "We collected some minor prizes as well: Best Public Engagement, Best Entrepreneurship, Best Poster, Best Diagnostic. Not too shabby."

Govil and his team kept an eye on their emails after they had competed for the past three days, constantly checking for any notification from judges. None came, which made it all the more of a surprise when the team saw "UC San Diego" listed as a finalist.

"I thought we were maybe in the top 15, but you don't get something for top 15 in this competition. You get top three or nothing," Govil said. "We knew we had to prepare. When we went and saw 'UC San Diego' under finalists, everyone on our team just started screaming. It was absolutely amazing chaos. UC San Diego currently holds the ranking as the best North American team, which is pretty wild."

"It was an amazing experience. It was really cool to see teams from all over the world working in the same growing field," Abbas said. "It was stressful, trying to arrange all our figures and get everything correct for the presentation. But being in a new city to present the work we've been working on all summer, it was a really good experience."

Govil has far too many favorite memories to count over the course of the experience. It's clear this endeavor has been a passion project since day one, and the amount of pride he has in his team members and their accomplishments is reflected in his speedy recollections of their moments of victory. The team's transformation over the past year is what he's most proud of.

"I took a picture of our 2017 project and our 2018 project, and you can tell the difference immediately. The fact is that 12 months ago, we were at the bottom of the pile. Seeing the jump from year one to year two for me personally is amazing: being on the plane home from Boston first year almost in tears, and then second year just being stunned at what's happening," Govil said. "Today is my first day I'm planning to sit down and internalize everything."

He gives a special shoutout to his team, who were grilled with 15 complex questions from a seasoned professional judge during

the competition. They answered them all. This moment was Abbas's favorite in the entire competition.

"My favorite memory was after we had presented, and after that, you stand by your poster and answer questions. The questions that we got, we were prepared for, but it's still a little different once you get the question," Abbas said. "By the time we got to the point, we had kind of gotten into the rhythm to answer questions and we were starting to feel more confident about our project. We realized we actually had something worthwhile that people actually liked."

While Govil won't be leading the team next year, he'll be back as a mentor. He wants to build on its current success and restructure the team. Most of all, he wants to see SynBio's popularity and presence grow. The organization has even written a textbook to make synthetic biology more accessible for students in grade school.

"We're hoping that what we've done kind of gives them a leg up. A lot of the work we did over the summer was organizational stuff, and while we got a lot done, we could have done a lot more," Abbas said. "Hopefully we're able to pass down the structure of how we arranged our work. They can adopt that and then spend their energy doing more creative scientific things."

Both Govil and Abbas believe that being a part of SynBio has affected their goals for the future. Govil originally thought he would go into the biotechnology industry and spend his days at a lab bench. Now, he's realized he wants to be more involved in the big picture by pulling the strings.

"The iGEM competition was a really good way to experiment with that. It helped me realize there were other fields in biology I wanted to explore. Having won this has taught us the power of never giving up. It took only 12 months to turn around from the bottom all the way to the top of the world," Govil said. "It also has given me the confidence to take on more ambitious technical projects in the future, as I develop more stuff in medical device and product innovation."

"The work gave me a look into regulatory law; it definitely sparked an interest in things like that. It hasn't made a huge change, but it strengthened some areas that I was uninformed about," Abbas said. "I feel like a more complete scientist. I'd like to go into clinical research, and this gave me a big insight into how clinical research works. I feel more confident now."

Perhaps most importantly of all, SynBio at UCSD has contributed to a field that needs as much help as it can get, given the current political climate. The Trump administration has announced its plan to redirect finances used for cancer research into immigration detention. This includes taking away millions of dollars from the National Cancer Institute. Govil points out that scientists get stuck in their "little vacuums" all too often, and it's important to think politically and economically when conducting research.

"What the Trump administration is doing is hurting our youth's future. In terms of the technical and scientific knowledge, there are going to be huge ramifications. We're really fortunate to be living in California, where the UCs are really supportive of research. We don't feel that pressure in decreased cost," Govil said. "Implementing synthetic biology in low-resource communities would be very important. I think that the way that scientists think these days is that they realize they have to factor in financial costs."

Abbas also thinks that the lack of reliable and affordable healthcare in the United States should be a matter of utmost concern for scientists and researchers everywhere.

"I think a big aspect of our project was to come up with a diagnostic tool that was low-cost. So we did a lot of research into how underserved communities that don't have good health care structures in place would be able to use our tools. We have thought about the economic ramifications of our research. We're proud we were able to consider that in our project; we know that it's an important thing to look at," Abbas said. "SynBio is really unique in that way. I haven't seen another organization on campus like this. It's important not to have blinders on, to understand the larger aspects of the work that you do and the connections to other fields."

Though Govil believes President Donald Trump and his cabinet are sabotaging the future of many citizens by perpetrating scientific falsehoods, instead of focusing energy on innovation, he's hopeful that scientists can and will continue to adapt and make advancements for those in need. Govil can see this happening at UCSD.

"It's unfortunate, but I'm optimistic, especially in the state of California and at UC San Diego," Govil said. "It's really empowering for me to say that I did something that will stand the test of time. I've helped further UCSD's legacy."



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Open Enrollment for UC San Diego employees ends Tuesday, November 20.

UC San Diego Health



# WEEKEND

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## ALBUM REVIEW



# ORIGINS BY IMAGINEDRAGONS

Release Date November 9, 2018

**B-** Imagine Dragons' newest album "Origins" contains a diverse set of tracks that highlight the band's transitory stage into a new style.

The much-anticipated release of "Origins" drew all eyes once again on Imagine Dragons. With several hits under their belt such as "Radioactive," "Believer," and "Thunder," Imagine Dragons enjoys its status as a household name amongst pop-rock lovers. As such, it is no surprise that a few of their songs from this album are already widely popular, including "Zero," which gained fame as part of the soundtrack to the upcoming movie "Ralph Breaks the Internet," and "Natural," which was chosen as ESPN's anthem for the 2018 college football season.

Lead singer Dan Reynolds says that "Origins" should be seen as a companion album to the group's previous release, "Evolve." While Imagine Dragons' newest album shares the adventurous experimentation the band channeled into "Evolve," "Origins" unfortunately lags behind its predecessor in overall stylistic cohesiveness, with "Bullet In A Gun" being by far the worst offender in the album. Random rap lines frame an awkward auto-tuned electronic chorus, and drum-heavy instrumentals make the song seem almost atonal. "Digital" faced similar issues; the

chorus contains an exciting drum and bass line, but it sounds painfully edgy when contrasted with its smooth, lyrical verses.

On the other hand, Imagine Dragons' choice to experiment with different sounds produced some great, if not unexpected, works from them. "Zero," one of the lead tracks of the album, is a peppy tune with the high spirits of a high school garage band. In "West Coast," Imagine Dragons delves into folk rock, fully capturing the image of a hopeless lover watching the sun set over the rugged Central California coast. Most notable in Imagine Dragons' excursion into new musical styles, "Love" is a feel-good song featuring a backup choir. The music builds up with more and more singers until everyone is singing in the heartwarming climax. Reynolds shines in this song with his expansive range on full display along with his emotive delivery of the lyrics. As such, this song easily contains some of his best studio vocals to date.

Continuing from where they left off in heavily electronic-based "Evolve," "Origins" also showcases the band's foray into electronic pop. Were it not for Reynolds' raspy rocker voice, "Cool

Out" with its heavily synthesized background could easily be confused as electronic dance music along the line of the Chainsmokers. "Bad Liar," one of the more tender songs on the album, has a slow wavering feeling which captures the emotional vulnerability one experiences when they try to hide their pain. A similar effect is used in a more empowering way in "Boomerang," where the singer is letting go of a past lover. In fact, the final bridge in "Boomerang" contains some floaty, synthesized vocals that represent the fleeting nature of lost love.

Despite their shifting style, Imagine Dragons still remembers its roots. "Natural" and "Machine" continue with the signature stomp-and-shout headbanger formula from the band's "Radioactive" days. "Stuck" is emblematic of Imagine Dragons' older ballads like "Polaroid." The vocals in this song faintly lag behind the beat, which is a clever musical interpretation of the singer being "stuck" on old feelings during a breakup.

With such an eclectic mixture of musical styles, "Origins" seems to be the band's attempt at sampling different sounds and deciding what

does and doesn't work. As such, individual songs by themselves are decent, yet one can't help but feel disoriented by the whirlwind of different music genres flying by when listening to the album all the way through — sometimes even within the span of a single song. Further, Imagine Dragons' experimentation with innovative sounds is a double-edged sword, creating emotionally-charged songs like "Love" while also falling completely flat with "Bullet In A Gun." Nonetheless, the band attempts to push the rock scene into uncharted territory by combining rock with various musical styles which, given its notoriety, is quite a noble thing to do.

"Origins" is one of Imagine Dragons' most interesting albums to date. Extremely experimental, this album represents an awkward transition in Imagine Dragons' musical evolution. Through this album, Imagine Dragons will hopefully decide on what type of sound they want to progress toward.

— STEVEN ZHOU  
Contributing Writer

## EVENT REVIEW



### CAMP FLOG GNAW

Event Dates November 10-11, 2018

Venue Dodger Stadium

**A-**

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW RUDAS

The annual Camp Flog Gnaw Carnival occurred over the weekend of Nov. 10 at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles for its seventh annual installment. The event was hosted by rapper, fashion developer, TV actor, and whatever else you want to call him, "Tyler, the Creator." Although Camp Flog Gnaw is a music festival, it is designed to be much more than that. Camp Flog Gnaw attempts to create an escape from the outside world into a music fan's dream destination. Two stages featured artists such as the up-and-coming Hobo Johnson and hip-hop staples Kanye West, Kid Cudi, and A\$AP Rocky. With carnival games and rides, various camp decorations, and unparalleled performances, Camp Flog Gnaw is an experience any festival goer should add to their bucket list.

The atmosphere was beautifully crafted by all those involved, with each detail creating a true summer camp vibe, one full of unity and utter happiness. When walking into the venue through rows of winding lines, loudspeakers broadcasted directions, always referring to event attendees as campers. After getting past the security screenings, visitors walked up a hill. Upon reaching the peak, they witnessed an overview of the wonders the weekend had to hold. The skyline of Downtown LA loomed in the distance with an ashy, red tint as a result of the fires blazing in the valley a few miles south. The jaw-dropping landscape, showcased high-flying rides, two Ferris wheels, swings, and so much more scattered throughout. All of these structures, from the city skyline to the towering carnival rides, transformed the bland parking structures of the Dodger Stadium into the LA

County Fair's little brother.

Despite the music performances beginning at about 12:35 p.m., the main attraction seemed to be none other than Kanye West's clothing. No line for any ride was close to rivaling the wait time for purchasing merchandise from the hip-hop duo, Kanye West and Kid Cudi (otherwise known as Kids See Ghosts, who would be headlining Sunday night). From the time the gates opened to the time the stadium was cleared, the lines raged on with individuals desperate to get one piece of merchandise from hip-hop moguls Kanye West and Kid Cudi. Hordes of eager yet frustrated fans waited upward of three hours with hope that the clothes would remain available.

The energy throughout the weekend seemed to gravitate toward the headline event of Sunday night however, they were not the only artists the crowds couldn't wait to see.

A few artists showcased powerful sets that the crowd couldn't get enough of. Despite not being the biggest name of the day, Rex Orange County completely shined throughout his hour-long set. The crowd's energy matched his insane vocal riffs and well-designed set, featuring a shifting sky background to match his always flowerlike aesthetic. As the sun set, his voice somehow softly boomed into the crowd in a way that makes as little sense as the oxymoron itself. The crowd was lovingly involved, echoing each and every line, showing just how much traction Rex has picked up in recent months. Playboi Carti's set was an entirely different vibe from that of Rex's; as the sun was well gone and night time loomed, Playboi Carti performed hit songs "Shootah" and "Flatbed Freestyle." He greatly encouraged

the crowd to form mosh pits and match his on-stage energy, and they responded accordingly. Those who managed to stay through the whole set shoved and swayed to the heavy beats and distorted vocals.

As Saturday concluded, rhythm and blues singer SZA, whose debut album CTRL brought her support from countless fans, gave the headline performance. The crowd favorites seemed to be her pieces "Love Galore" and "Normal Girl." SZA opened each song with brief background statements that perfectly captured the charisma and on-stage energy that has garnered her such a devout following. As the night concluded, she delivered a heartwarming and impressive set to end the long Saturday. The singer battled many emotions as she sang her hit song "Twenty Something," which she dedicated to the late hip-hop artist Mac Miller, who passed away in September. All around, the crowd was unified. The audience seemed to appreciate the space given to reflect on the passing of hip hop's beloved Mac Miller, especially as his image spanned the screens on each side of the stage.

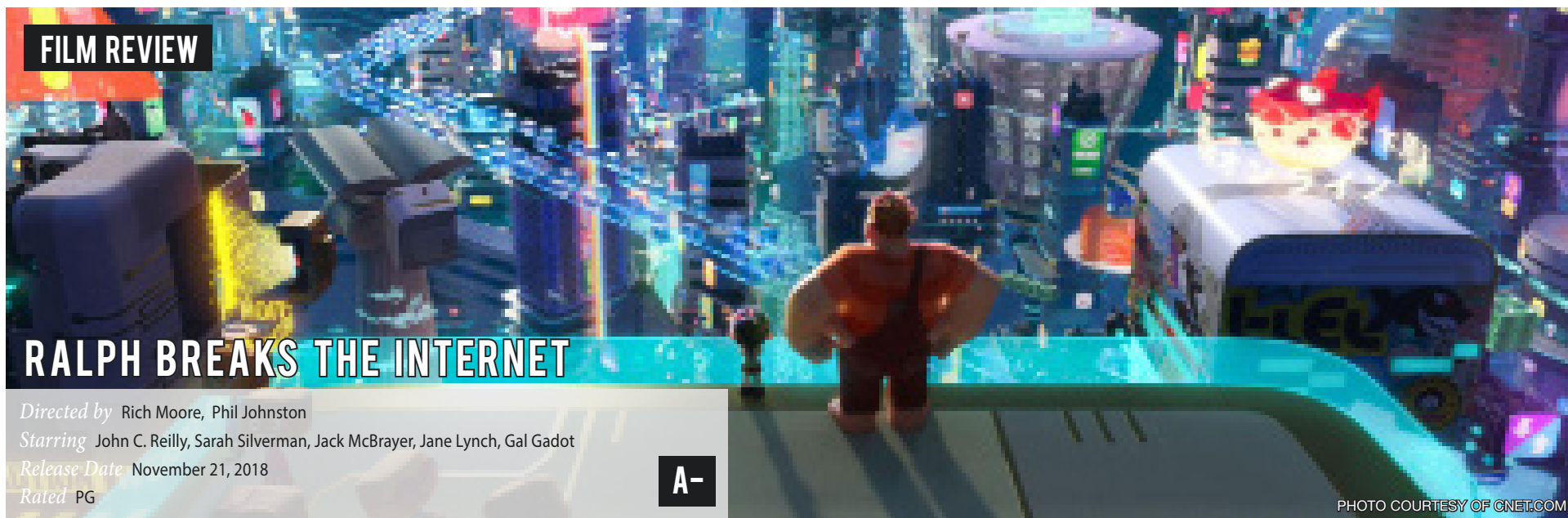
Sunday featured performances by artists such as Billie Eilish, Earl Sweatshirt, Lauryn Hill, and Brockhampton. However, nothing was equivalent to the anticipation for Kids See Ghosts. Although the duo would be on stage at 10:10 p.m., crowds began to gather at 2 p.m. just to ensure a decent spot for the performance. Discussions throughout the day centered on what the Kids See Ghosts performance would entail. I overheard several people pondering if Kanye West would perform in his now signature "Make America Great Again" hat. Many were also prepared for a

potential Kanye West rant, which we have come to expect.

However, the performance as a whole contained nothing of the sort. It was clear that the set was about sharing music and nothing else. The hip-hop dream team played nearly every song off its debut album Kids See Ghosts and also showcased beloved songs such as "Pursuit of Happiness" and "Paranoid." The crowd's energy was unmatched throughout the entirety of the set as individuals tried to take in as much as they could. Just about every individual in the crowd found themselves belting the lyrics to each song, creating a truly unified environment. The fact that the consistently controversial Kanye West accomplished this was something beautiful to see, as his music, not his politics, represent so much for so many.

As the crowd chanted for an encore, the two stars walked off-stage, concluding the weekend festival. The highly anticipated performances and overall event had fulfilled the crowd's expectations. The event as a whole was seemingly over as soon as it began; with the constant entertainment provided, there was never a second to breathe. From the carnival rides and games to performances and connections made, Camp Flog Gnaw achieved its purpose as the music festival that prides itself on being much more. The weekend was beautifully planned and executed. Kudos to you, Tyler, the Creator; see you in 2019.

— MATTHEW RUDAS  
Contributing Writer



## FILM REVIEW

## RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET

Directed by Rich Moore, Phil Johnston

Starring John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman, Jack McBrayer, Jane Lynch, Gal Gadot

Release Date November 21, 2018

Rated PG

A-

PHOTO COURTESY OF CNET.COM

“Ralph Breaks the Internet” ventures into a buzzing and unpredictable technological world beyond the accustomed scene of classic arcade games.

Six years after the release of “Wreck-It Ralph,” we are graced with a sequel that once again features the good-bad guy who demolishes buildings with his fists, and his spunky, candy-coated friend who glitches during car races. It’s out with the old and in with the new, as “Ralph Breaks the Internet” explores a realm away from retro-arcade games and connects to the inner workings of the World Wide Web.

After the steering wheel of the Sugar Rush game console breaks, Vanellope von Schweetz (Sarah Silverman) is left discouraged and homeless with her game permanently out of commission. But when she and Wreck-It Ralph (John Reilly) discover that a spare part could be purchased from a nebulous and enigmatic place called “the Internet,” they don’t hesitate to jump to the nearest WiFi router and travel into the digital dimension to find it. With full gusto and a pinch of naivete, the dynamic duo traverses through the fictitious behind-the-scenes world.

“Ralph Breaks the Internet” puts a creative spin on the depiction of the internet, allowing audiences that grew up with this digital network to witness it through a fresh set of eyes. Vanellope and Ralph begin to learn the intricacies of online platforms that feel as equally new and anticipating to the viewers. By personifying internet culture, this movie provides amusing interactions

between the two heroes and manifestations of algorithms, malware viruses, and search engines. Each convoluted concept is shaped into a likable character with a pertinent personality, such as a pop-up ad having a scruffy, sketchy disposition, and the video-sharing algorithm having a trendy, selective style. Every character immediately becomes distinctly memorable, as we start to associate their specific attitudes with tools of the actual internet.

The film’s setting also cleverly displays a bustling, sleepless city in order to deliberately mirror the internet’s constant movement and rapid pace. The space starts to feel three-dimensional and alive, as Vanellope and Ralph weave through legions of online users and enter edifices that represent different websites and servers. Similar to most cities, the internet is also a place of corporate fixation and progression, so we witness our pair adapt to modern customs such as monetary video content and popular online gaming. Even though viewers are stripped from the familiar domain of the first “Wreck-It Ralph,” there is an intrigue to see how our vintage characters clash and collaborate with the modern advancements of newer territory.

Although the movie celebrates the innovation and growth of the internet, it doesn’t excessively glorify it, which is a sigh of relief. “Ralph Breaks

the Internet” attempts to maintain this balance by also touching on the web’s dark and ugly facets. Though the negative aspects are distilled in order to keep a lighthearted tone, there is still subliminal commentary on the potential toxicity that could hurt an entire generation. But, the film is cautious to not be too preachy or denigrating in discussing the dangerous side of the internet.

As “Ralph Breaks the Internet” distinguishes internet culture, it also generationally distinguishes its audience. The blockbuster locks millennials’ and Gen Z’s sense of comedy into place, using a plethora of memes and viral videos to be hilarious and relatable. Although there are moments with one-too-many outdated internet references, the film still holds up by priding an entire generation as a social media zeitgeist. It more or less reflects the current ironic and personal humor, so that young viewers can rewatch the animation in a distant future with a wistful semblance of nostalgia.

To instill even more nostalgia in the audience, this movie is also packed with pop culture references, ranging from Disney itself to Marvel to Star Wars to Pixar. Though it is exciting to see big crossovers, it also becomes quite unsettling, yet impressive, for film spectators to know that the Disney corporation owns the rights to all these popular studios and franchises. This

conglomerate giant dominates the entertainment industry and has a majority of consumers wrapped around its finger. It’s a cultural monolith that succeeds frighteningly well by giving the people what they want. Hence, “Ralph Breaks the Internet” garners the most laughs by turning comically meta and self-referential at many points. It pokes fun at Disney tropes and cliches and peppers in the right amount of eponymous cameos and Easter Eggs for viewers to enjoy. These self-aware gimmicks aren’t milked, and instead make the audiences feel like they’re all in on well-received inside jokes.

“Ralph Breaks the Internet” freezes parts of the digital 21st century by forever plastering its culture on screen for audiences to remember. It’s a film about the components of the internet, but it also contains sweet moral messages of friendship and self-discovery. As the two titular arcade characters usher us through a reimagined Interweb, the audience can’t help but feel awe and sentiment, like they’re immersing into a new world for the first time.

—ASHLEY CHEN  
Senior Staff Writer



## FILM REVIEW

## FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD

Directed by David Yates

Starring Eddie Redmayne, Johnny Depp, Jude Law, Ezra Miller, Zoe Kravitz, Katherine Waterston

Release Date November 16, 2018

Rated PG-13

B

PHOTO COURTESY OF EW.COM

“Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald” leaves audiences spellbound with its connections to “Harry Potter” canon, but it fails to impress with the lackluster, titular character of Grindelwald.

“Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald,” the sequel to the 2016 film “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,” takes place four years after the first movie, amidst growing concerns regarding Gellert Grindelwald (Johnny Depp). Grindelwald is a wizard who encourages the uprising of pureblood wizards and the strict oppression of non-magic beings. The film is rife with surprises and spoilers, but the general plot revolves around Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne), a “magizoologist” who cares for magical creatures and travels to Paris under orders from Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law) in an attempt to thwart Grindelwald’s plan. What initially begins as an investigative quest soon turns into a race against time to uncover lineages and secrets of the past, upon which the future relies.

This film is enjoyable on multiple levels and was altogether a rare instance where the sequel is much stronger than its predecessor. Most importantly, this film succeeded where the first film failed by including a deeper investment in the original “Harry Potter” canon and world.

While the first film in the “Fantastic Beasts” franchise included elements of magic, fans were largely disappointed by its lack of connectivity to the “Harry Potter” universe. However, this is not the case at all with “The Crimes of Grindelwald,” as fresh faces with familiar names begin to emerge, forming a much richer plot with the effect of a more complex film overall.

Another factor that added significant value to the film was how it multi-dimensionally developed its main characters. Rather than playing it safe and sticking to basic outlines for each character, ulterior motives and elements of the past influence each character to develop more naturally than in the first film. Particularly pleasing were flashback scenes from the lives of individual characters throughout the film, which added a level of depth and accuracy to characters that “Harry Potter” fans will recognize and appreciate. In doing so, the film reaches far darker places than its previous film, including gruesome implications regarding young children, which I note here as a trigger warning. These instances are, unfortunately, necessary to the

plot. However, apart from these moments, each character in the film is handled in a safe and satisfying manner.

Grindelwald is a highly-anticipated character, as he is only briefly introduced in the previous movie. However, the character of Grindelwald fails for multiple reasons, the first and most obvious being the controversy surrounding J.K. Rowling’s decision to represent the character with Johnny Depp, an alleged domestic abuser. However, even disregarding these allegations, the choice to cast Depp in such a role was poor and misguided. He comes across as a flat, unemotional, and unbelievable villain, with a lack of any dimension or passion. There seems to be no motive behind his actions. Of course, this impression may be attributed to bad writing, a desire to portray Grindelwald as a sociopathic character, or the effort to preserve mystery around a character in what appears to be an ongoing series. However, the character does not indicate that he is nuanced in any of these facets. Depp’s offensively mediocre performance, combined with the film’s adamant decision to

choose such a controversial actor amidst public disapproval, reflects poorly on the management of the film as a whole.

“Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald” impresses audiences by outshining its first film. The main characters are more fully developed and cleverly situated. Satisfying surprises in the film’s plot and flashbacks keep audiences engaged and unprepared for the film’s final outcome. However, Depp’s portrayal of Grindelwald is disappointing and offensive to many, preventing this film from receiving an “A.” That being said, the film’s contributions to the “Harry Potter” canon and bloodlines within the wizarding world are executed beautifully. David Yates’ meticulous direction allows for the same incredible visual effects and vivid quality that one can expect from a film set in the “Harry Potter” world. It is this attention to detail and whirlwind plot that leaves audiences highly anticipative of the next film in the series.

—LAURA HATANAKA  
Contributing Writer



PHOTO COURTESY OF JADE HOOKHAM.

## When Life Gives Us Wildfires

by Jade Hookham // Staff Writer

I awoke at 6:30 a.m. on a Friday morning for the sake of an 8 a.m. meeting, a worthy cause which did little to ease my murky feeling of tiredness. This I-only-have-to-be-on-campus-by-11 body clock that I had going was not working in my favor. As per usual, I looked to my cellphone for a mindless stroll through Twitter to get my gears going. In the absence of such a ritual, I would be worse off than ... lots of things. Give me a break, 6:30 in the morning is too early to think of a good metaphor.

Surprisingly enough, I saw that I had two missed calls from my younger brother, a rarity given that high schoolers would rather catch the plague than be forced to talk on the phone. Though I had a sinking feeling as to what this might have been about, I called him back as if this situation fell within the realm of normalcy.

"Hey, what's up?" I gravelled through the receiver. "Why'd you call so early?"

"Oh, yeah ... so, we're evacuating right now. And I called to ask what you want saved from your room? The fire is pretty close to the house." My heart dropped a little as the

suspensions wriggling around in my mind came to fruition.

The situation had escalated compared to the night before. Whereas the prior evening was full of anxious texts from my other brother at our mom's reluctance to evacuate, this was the real deal. A groggy attempt to laundry-list my most treasured possessions was interspersed with fire updates in my brother's static-laden voice; apparently the blaze had progressed to the end of our street. Evacuation for the neighborhood of Bell Canyon was now mandatory.

As much as I felt relief that my family and pets would be safe, a measure of melancholy washed over me, too. Could the place that I'd called home since the age of two really be incinerated within hours? The bedroom which housed countless memories, now ash? Regardless, I'd have no way of knowing for sure until about 36 hours later. I watched news about the Woolsey fire that Friday night with what felt like a stone wedged in my windpipe, praying that none of the houses I saw burning was my own.

After a full day without any updates, I

finally got a text from my mom saying that our house had been spared. Our part of the neighborhood was lucky enough to have avoided the brunt of it all, though others weren't as lucky. A family friend who happens to be my hairdresser lost her home entirely, along with tens of other residents. When I saw a news photo of her signature red lawn chair (which I'd sat in myself, with hair full of bleach) fronting a pile of rubble, I had a sort of out-of-body experience.

The fire risk in Southern California is very real, as many of us know well. But to be honest, the gravity of such a danger never hit me directly until now. I'd been forced to evacuate my home once before in elementary school, but that's a memory more so tinged with curiosity than alarm. That whole event felt like a giant sleepover at my grandma's house, which was all good in my book. Plus, nobody had lost their house back then, either.

As horrendously cliché as it sounds, this fire made me realize how fragile modern existence is. We all want a place to go back to, craving stability above all in a world that is anything but. In that moment when

my brother called me, I didn't think to save anything of monetary value; I wanted to preserve what, in my mind, was irreplaceable. If the room itself was to depart from this world, then I would take the items which would best represent the memories from my time spent there. Art projects, books, Pokemon cards: I was grateful for it all.

In the wake of this upcoming holiday season, I'm keeping in mind more than ever to treasure the basic things. I have a house to eat Thanksgiving dinner in, and some people do not. While I experienced a couple days' anxiety, some people will have to endure months of rebuilding. Reality can be cold in that way.

It shouldn't have taken a near-catastrophic event to smack some gratefulness into me, but it did nonetheless. Hopefully, other people won't be forced to do the same.

For anyone in the spirit of giving, organizations such as Red Cross, GoFundMe, and the International Association of Firefighters all have fundraisers for various relief efforts.

## Ways To Give Back

by Lifestyle Staff

Oxford Dictionaries recently announced that "toxic" was the official word of 2018. This word was chosen not only for the prevalence of the phrase "toxic masculinity" and its relation to the #MeToo movement, but also for its scope in describing a plethora of events and circumstances over this past year — be it in politics, health, cultures, or other.

Our world does not have to be scary, difficult, or challenging, but we have to put in the work to create safe and supportive environments for all. This season of giving, we offer you a few ways to give back to San Diego communities and to fight against this toxicity that is still so embedded in our society today.

### Food Insecurity

In San Diego County, one in eight adults and one in five children face food insecurity, meaning that they will not know how they will get their next meal. The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank and our North County Food Bank feed 370,000 people per month by working with 400 local nonprofits that operate feeding programs. Volunteers can help at the warehouse, food distribution sites, or at events by cleaning fresh produce,

labeling food donations, assembling food packages, and more.

### Improving Literacy

Eighty-three percent of low-income students in the U.S. cannot read at grade level by the fourth grade, making them more likely to drop out of school. Traveling Stories attempts to change this by inspiring a love for reading while also teaching financial literacy skills at a young age. Volunteers read with children at weekly StoryTent events at a variety of locations around San Diego; for every book that a child reads, they earn "book bucks," which can then be redeemed for prizes.

### Human Trafficking

As one of the top eight cities in the United States for human trafficking, San Diego has many organizations that work to support survivors and stop the practice. GenerateHope provides long-term housing and trauma-informed resources to survivors, and volunteers can work directly with residents through teaching a class, tutoring, or providing mentorship. Indirect efforts include positions in program support, creative skills, professional partnership, or outreach. Hidden Treasures, a nonprofit

that aims to "provide residential therapeutic services to teenage girls who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation," offers many volunteer opportunities in similar areas.

### Border Advocacy

San Diego is located close to one of the busiest border crossings in the world. Border Angels is a nonprofit involved in many areas of border advocacy, including migrant outreach, immigration consulting, and education. One of its most famous programs is the Water Drop, where volunteers leave dozens of water jugs along high-traffic migrant paths at the border to prevent unnecessary deaths from dehydration. You can also support Border Angels when you shop at Ralphs by choosing the organization under "Community Rewards." A small percentage of your purchase will be donated automatically whenever you use your Ralphs Reward card.

### Supporting Refugees

The International Rescue Committee provides services to ensure refugees thrive in America. Volunteers can tutor high schoolers or university students, aid people in finding a job, help clients applying for naturalization or permanent resident status, and more.

Internships are also available for college students or recent graduates in areas such as financial opportunity, youth, food and farming, and safety and wellness. Mentorship and "friendly match" opportunities are also available through the Jewish Family Service of San Diego.

### Environment

Whether you believe or don't believe in climate change, it never hurts to better our planet and keep it healthy for our generation and the generations after us. The Natural Resources Defense Council is a nonprofit organization founded in 1970 that works with lawyers, scientists, and other nonprofit organizations to help ensure everyone the right to "clean air, clean water, and healthy communities." Its website offers many ways to get involved, including an option to sign petitions on important environmental issues, detailed articles on how to be more sustainable, and donation options. If you are interested in maintaining a clean and happy environment, please visit [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org) to get involved.

# Cook with a Commuter

## Volume 3: Barbacoa Fajita Taco Bowl

by Hakyung Yun // Contributing Writer

Ever since I entered college, my palate has gradually expanded. For example, a cuisine that I never really cared for before coming to La Jolla was Mexican food. I especially did not understand the hype over burrito bowls. Over time, however, the burrito-and-taco-goodness that permeates San Diego won me over, and I can now happily say that Mexican food is one of my favorite cuisines.

Because going out to eat all the time is impractical and costly, I often choose to recreate my favorite dishes (even if it would be easier and faster to microwave instant ramen). Recently, my sister introduced me to Twisted via Instagram. Twisted is a social media community dedicated to creating unique recipes by remixing existing ones. Some of its tempting concoctions include lasagna fries, “potato tornadoes,” and cheesecake brownie sandwiches. Many of the recipes seemed tasty and simple enough to replicate. What caught my eye, however, were the chicken fajita taco bowls. True to their name, these scrumptious snacks are made by stuffing shredded chicken, onions, bell peppers, tomatoes, guacamole, Mexican seasoning, cheese, and sour cream into homemade taco bowls. Aside from the sour cream and Mexican seasoning, I had the necessary ingredients on-hand. This dish also seemed to demand very little effort other than preparing the meat and baking the tortillas. I

decided to test this recipe out during the week to see how practical and yummy it was.

Last Tuesday, I returned home late after a rather long day on campus, so exhausted and ravenous that I nearly gave up on making the fajita taco bowls in favor of microwaving a frozen beef burrito. I also considered trekking to the nearest Chipotle Mexican Grill. In the end, I decided to spare myself another mediocre frozen meal and save money. Fortunately, I had picked up some premade barbacoa from Ralphs a few days ago in lieu of the shredded chicken. This may be considered cheating, but — as I have stated in my first volume — I am lazy and impatient.

Per the package’s instructions, I boiled the bag of barbacoa for eight minutes while preparing the other ingredients. First, I tucked two medium-sized white flour tortillas brushed with a light drizzle of olive oil (since I didn’t have butter like the recipe asked for) in between the grooves on a cupcake tray and baked them for just another eight minutes. As expected, they turned out nicely crispy. While the tortillas were in the oven, I diced my vegetables and briefly sauteed them. Instead of sour cream, I opted for some Southwest-style salsa. Once the barbacoa had finished cooking, I assembled everything into the tortilla cups and sprinkled shredded sharp cheddar on top. After a little over 20 minutes,

the moment of truth had arrived. I eagerly dug into my dinner, too famished to even remember to photograph the finished product for this article. However, I am pleased to write that the fajita taco bowls were a success. Granted, while some lime and seasoning would have further elevated the flavors, the meal was still delicious. It is difficult to go wrong with simple ingredients that are likely already in your kitchen. I recommend this easy and flexible recipe for anyone who fancies a slightly more elaborate meal without any of the stress. Because everything can be prepared simultaneously, you won’t spend too much time in the kitchen — perfect for any commuter or university student.

**Barbacoa Fajita Taco Bowls (adapted from Twisted’s chicken fajita taco bowls)**

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 medium-sized soft tortillas
- ½ cup of Del Real Foods Slow Cooked Beef Barbacoa or any product of your choice.
- ¼ bell pepper
- ½ onion
- 2 large white mushrooms
- 1 avocado
- ½ tomato
- ½ cup of shredded cheddar cheese
- ¼ cup of salsa

- ¼ cup of pickled jalapenos
- 1 tsp. of salt and pepper
- ½ tsp. of olive oil

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Lightly brush olive oil onto the tortillas. Fold them in between the underside of a cupcake tray, creating a square taco bowl shape. You can also place custard cups on a shallow baking pan if you don’t have a cupcake tray.
2. Bake the tortillas at 350 F for eight minutes.
3. While the tortillas are in the oven, prepare the barbacoa according to the product’s cooking instructions.
4. Wash and dice the vegetables.
5. Heat up a skillet or frying pan to medium heat, add a drizzle of oil or a pat of butter, and saute your vegetables for just a few minutes.
6. Mash an avocado in a bowl and sprinkle salt and pepper to your liking. You can also drizzle some lemon or lime juice.
7. When the tortillas have finished baking, remove them from the oven. Allow them to cool for a minute or two.
8. Scoop the barbacoa and vegetables into the tortilla bowls. Top off with as much jalapenos, guacamole, and cheese as desired.
9. Enjoy!



# ASCE

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**BIT.LY/ASCEFALL18SURVEY**

# FOOD DRIVE

IN SUPPORT OF THE  
**TRITON FOOD PANTRY**

Drop off food in designated department office boxes or directly to the Triton Food Pantry, located in the Old Student Center.

Visit the Triton Food Pantry Facebook page for more info!

**2018**  
**THIS WEEK**  
 at UC SAN DIEGO  
 POWERED BY THE STUDENT EVENTS INSIDER AND THE UCSD GUARDIAN

**NOV 19 - NOV 25**



**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 12pm**

**TURKEY CALLING SHOW**  
 GEISEL LIBRARY - SEUSS ROOM



**MON 11.19**

**SMOG EATING WALL DESIGN SUBMISSION - PRICE CENTER**

Greeks Gone Green will be installing a Smog Eating Wall outside of PC in an attempt to mediate noxious emissions on our campus. The poster will be located on the wall by the ATMs by PC loop, and will be very visible to passing foot traffic. This would be a great opportunity for any student who would love to make a lasting impression on UCSD's campus or would like to gain recognition or exposure for their work. We are looking for any kind of creative submission that inspires sustainability and environmentalism and would love to encourage anyone to submit a design concept. We are currently taking submissions for the design of this mural that will be displayed for a minimum of 1 year. Submissions are accepted on an ongoing basis until November, 27, 2018. Submit your designs at <https://goo.gl/forms/9cizV0eL5dN3Nkt32> Contact: [ucsdgreeksgonegreen@gmail.com](mailto:ucsdgreeksgonegreen@gmail.com)

**10am YOGA ZONE - THE ZONE**

Taught by a FitLife instructor, this free program is on first come, first serve basis. All materials including yoga mats are provided. Contact: [srlu@ucsd.edu](mailto:srlu@ucsd.edu)

**11am UNIVERSITY CENTERS PRESENTS: DESTRESS MONDAYS - PC COMMUTER LOUNGE**

Mondays are stressful (and also sometimes a drag), start your week right with some FREE coffee, tea and snacks! Come destress with University Centers EVERY MONDAY this fall quarter! Contact: [ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu](mailto:ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu)

**2pm PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS PROGRAM INFO SESSIONS - THURGOOD MARSHALL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

TMC's Partnership Schools Program encourages you to apply to be an intern or volunteer tutor at one of our two Partnership Schools Gompers Preparatory Academy and the Preuss School for the 2019 Winter Quarter. Volunteers who also take the TMC 198 course can earn 4 credits and satisfy requirements for Marshall, ERC, and Sixth College! For more information please come to one of our info sessions or visit our website! Contact: [partnershipschools@ucsd.edu](mailto:partnershipschools@ucsd.edu)

**TUE 11.20**

**9:30am BODY COMPOSITION - THE ZONE**

Walk in for your free analysis which includes: body weight, percentage body fat, total body water, and blood pressure. One free assessment per quarter is available to registered UCSD students. Contact: [srlu@ucsd.edu](mailto:srlu@ucsd.edu)

**11am ART AND SOUL: DIY ANYTHING - THE ZONE**

Let your creativity flow at The Zone by creating a craft of your choice! All supplies will be provided and limited to a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact: [srlu@ucsd.edu](mailto:srlu@ucsd.edu)

**5pm UNIVERSITY CENTERS X ACCB PRESENTS: THANKFALL CRAFTS - THE STAGE ROOM**

University Centers and ACCB will be providing supplies so that everyone can create a felt craft\* We have holiday ornaments and miniature animals such as foxes and dogs! ACCB will also provided snacks!!! Contact: [ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu](mailto:ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu)

**6:30pm PROFESSOR UNSCRIPTED: PANDA LAB - THE LOFT**

How do you feed your brain around the clock? In this edition of the Professor Unscripted series, Professor Satchin Panda from the Regulatory Biology Laboratory in Salk Institute is introducing the phenomenon of our brain in relation to dietary health. A leading researcher with prolific works established in time-restricted eating, Dr. Panda will be presenting reasons and ways to boost your well-being by syncing your circadian clock with eating habits. Come learn about self-care in the scientific way! Contact: [ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu](mailto:ucenmarketing@ucsd.edu)

**7pm MEN'S BASKETBALL: UC SAN DIEGO VS. CAL STATE SAN BERNARDINO - RIMAC ARENA**

The Tritons were picked to finish first in the CCAA Preseason Coaches Poll. Looking back at its 2017-18 campaign, UC San Diego finished at 21-11 overall and 15-7 in the CCAA, tied for third in the regular season standings.

**WED 11.21**

**12pm TURKEY CALLING SHOW - GEISEL LIBRARY, SEUSS ROOM**

The UC San Diego Library invites you to learn turkey calling techniques and participate in an old school radio broadcast filled with music and stories! You'll learn about the American turkey, its surprising presence in European art, and review worldwide Thanksgiving traditions via Library research tools. Contact: [spaulson@ucsd.edu](mailto:spaulson@ucsd.edu)

**2:30pm DESTRESS WITH BIOFEEDBACK - THE ZONE**

Come de-stress with the CAPs Wellness Peers! Measure your psychological stressors and learn more about what makes you most stressed, how it affects your well-being and how to keep your stress levels down! Workshops are all free. Space is limited and is first come, first served. Hosted by the CAPS Wellness Peer Educators Contact: [srlu@ucsd.edu](mailto:srlu@ucsd.edu)

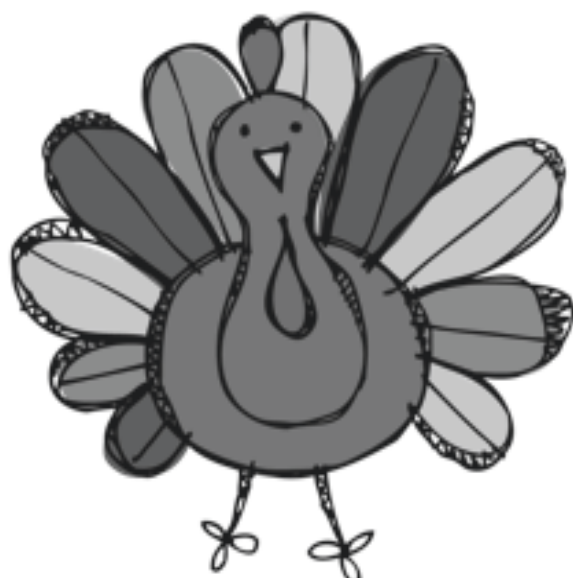
**5pm RECREATION PRESENTS: TRIVIA NIGHTS AT HOPS & SALT - HOPS & SALT AT HOME PLATE**

Come flex your trivia knowledge with a small group, or on your own, every Wednesday night at Hops & Salt. Enjoy food and drink specials while attempting to outwit your friends, colleagues, faculty, and staff. Prizes go to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place! Contact: [cgriebenow@ucsd.edu](mailto:cgriebenow@ucsd.edu)

**6pm LANGUAGE CONVERSATION TABLES (LCTS) - ASANTE CLASSROOM**

One of I-House's most popular events, Language Conversation Tables (LCTS) creates an environment where people can learn another language through the art of conversing with a fluent speaker. LCTS has successfully helped people know more about both the language and the accompanied culture, as well as generating long-lasting friendships! Please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/Fall18LCT> Contact: [ihousemarketing@ucsd.edu](mailto:ihousemarketing@ucsd.edu)

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 Calendar  
**SUBMIT your  
 EVENT for FREE!**  
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 more exposure = higher attendance



gobble 'til  
 YOU Wobble!  
 HAPPY TURKEY DAY!

THE GUARDIAN

# CLASSIFIEDS



Guardian Classifieds are FREE for the UC San Diego community.  
www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds

## CARS

1966 Ford Mustang - \$13,900. 302 V8 Engine C4 Transmission, completely restored, front disk brakes, new paint Grabber Orange, New upholstery, New wheels and tires. New windows and rubber, New decals, New Radio, Holly four Barrel Carburetor, Electronic Ignition, New radiator, water pump, belts, and hoses. [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

used 2017 Chevrolet Cruze LT 4D Hatchback - \$14,800. six Speaker Audio System Feature,6 Speakers,Am/Fm stereo: SiriusXM, Radio data system, Radio: AM/FM Chevrolet MyLink w/7 Touch-Screen,SiriusXM Satellite Radio,A-c,Rear window defroster, Powered steering, Powered windows,Remote keyless entry,Steering wheel mounted audio controls,Traction control... [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

Nissan - \$10,995 . Free carfax on our web site [www.Govrautos.Com](http://www.Govrautos.Com) we finance great credit to bad credit!! Low down payments and low monthly payments [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

## JOBS

Math and Chemistry tutor.We are looking for a tutor from UCSD for a high school student studying advanced algebra and chemistry. Our home is located within walking distance from UCSD (3-4 blocks). We would ideally like to find someone who is available 1-2 hours daily. Previous tutoring experience is helpful but not necessary. We need someone who can teach, review homework and offer extra practice questions. [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

Undergraduate Healthcare Marketing Fellowship Opportunity.Anyone interested in a paid fellowship to promote a UCSD startup that's developed a revolutionary acne treatment should apply here: <http://rebrand.ly/dermala>. [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

Mendocino Farms - Walk In Apply - Hosts, Runners, Bussers. Mendo Production team members must be: - Interested or skilled in preparing gourmet food- Able to CREATE HAPPY! - Age 18+ All you need to bring is your passion for people and your inner "foodie" out. We can teach you all the technical stuff. At Mendo, we'll cross train you so you're ready to handle more than one job.[ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

## BIKES

\$75 OBO Expandable Truck Bike Rack - Hollywood T900. The Hollywood Truck Rack's patented clamping system allows installation of the rack onto the truck bed this rack without any drilling holes in the truck or pushing out against the side walls... [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

Banjo Brothers Grocery Pannier - \$30. Like New! Banjo Brothers Grocery

Pannier. The tough as nails, Grocery Pannier includes a shoulder strap and carry handles great for shopping. Capacity to fit 1 standard grocery bag or plastic bags, and works great alone with its built-in shoulder...[ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

Women's Electra Hawaii Beach Cruiser - \$200. Like new. three speed. Coaster brakes. Includes basket for your treasures and a bell to let them know you are coming! [ucsdguardian.org/classifieds](http://ucsdguardian.org/classifieds) for more information

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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59													62			
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66																69

### ACROSS

- Maximum limit
- Grocery cart rider, often
- Grave letters?
- Ludacris output
- Sports legend from Kentucky
- Stark
- Univ. Web letters
- He was the first image aired over TV
- 10th anniversary material
- Corp. hotshot
- Bowery denizen, perhaps
- Mr. Maverick
- Kuwaiti official
- Brutal
- He thinks it's not easy being green
- They may be designated for rest or play
- "Thereabouts"
- Like Gen. Wesley Clark
- Pawnshop sign, perhaps
- Word with light or line
- Thesis counterparts
- Snaky character?
- Ireland, e.g.
- 1976 Olympics name
- Noted public safety crusader
- Female reunion attendees
- Mint or sage, e.g.
- Clothes hanger option
- Starter for legal or graph
- Merry undertaking
- Deep Throat's employer
- Mascot with a N.J. gravesite
- Crowd-sized server
- Late parties
- Senora Peron
- Trail
- Play on words
- Eco hazard
- Cubby hole?

### DOWN

- Outdoor eatery
- Yankee slugger Rodriguez
- Carpet thickness
- Push to the limit
- Circumvent
- One place for a slogan
- Patient's goal
- 401(k) supplement
- Obedience school attendee
- Go backward
- Debussy's farewell
- Eschews a fourth-and-long pass
- Sum of the first three prime numbers
- He cometh in a title
- Part of a speaker's intro, often
- The Alamo, once
- Hypotheticals
- Bing Crosby or Harry Connick, Jr., e.g.
- Cabbage variety
- Mythical Greek archer
- Confidence-boosting
- Obviously contrived
- Kazan of Hollywood
- Peter or Ivan, e.g. (Var.)
- Takes a morning off
- Unruly crowd
- Bouncy Jamaican music
- Montmartre Mrs.
- Having height, width and depth, briefly
- Like some arguments
- Ghastly
- The Scales, to astrologers
- Make public
- Passed handily
- Move around
- Olympic skating medalist Michelle
- Seer's skill
- Hulk portrayer Ferrigno
- Successor to F.D.R.

## SUDOKU

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## WORD SEARCH

### THANKSGIVING

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

- PILGRIMS
- BLACK FRIDAY
- FALL
- GRAVY
- AUTUMN
- CORN
- PUMPKIN PIE
- TURKEY
- STUFFING
- FAMILY
- THANKSGIVING
- MAYFLOWER
- FEAST
- CELEBRATE
- HARVEST



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## Minor League Baseball Accentuates All The Best Parts of Baseball

*With the help of social media and viral marketing, minor league baseball has become a major success.*

BY JACK DORFMAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, in what normally would have been just a procedural move, the San Diego Padres announced that their minor league Double-A affiliate was being renamed the Amarillo Sod Poodles. Subsequently, baseball Twitter erupted with praise. Another minor league baseball team had rebranded with a head-scratchingly brilliant new name and logo. This marked trend has been growing over the past few years and has brought nothing but good vibes and smiles from all involved.

The vastness of baseball's minor leagues is unmatched across any major sport in America. The MiLB is the largest minor league in sports and thus has the ability to spread baseball fandom to areas devoid of a major league team. High school football inspires small town communities to congregate around sports, and minor league baseball does the same. With

just as much history and connectedness to the town, minor league baseball excels in Small Town, USA because of its ability to bring professional-grade athletes and entertainment wherever it lands.

Fun. Whacky. Captivating. All of baseball's best qualities are encapsulated within the friendly confines of minor league baseball stadiums nationwide. From the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs to the newly-dubbed Amarillo Sod Poodles, in recent years, minor league baseball has been successful in making baseball stadiums a more family-oriented and fun place to spend on a Saturday night. With bounce houses, beer gardens, and an intimate atmosphere to go along with goofy mascots, minor league stadiums really do bring a little something for everyone.

Minor league baseball does not seem like it would be inherently entertaining. Watching these athletes, who have not yet proven themselves worthy of the big leagues, play baseball in front of as few as a couple thousand

fans does not seem like it would imbue joy into the hearts of many. It especially does not seem capable of becoming a viral and marketable entity. But over the last decade or so, minor league baseball has done just that. With quirky team names, cute and well-designed logos, and players filled to the brim with heart and hustle, minor league baseball has become a huge hit.

This is largely due to the freedom minor league teams have. Unlike professional baseball teams in the MLB, which have large TV audiences and tens of thousands of fans packing the stands to watch millionaires in some of America's largest cities, minor league baseball teams have small, specific audiences to tend to. Over time, minor league teams have become more and more successful at reaching these audiences while simultaneously garnering national appeal.

The Sod Poodles are a great case study for how a team can do so much with so little. Their example demonstrates how something as

simple as a name can help integrate a minor league team within the fabric of the small town it is located in. "Sod poodles" are prairie dogs, and this funny moniker, while unheard of in cities like New York or Los Angeles, is common and widely understood in Texas, especially in Amarillo. Their team colors — blue, red, and white — match the colors of the Texas flag, once again connecting the team to fans while also creating a color combination unusual in professional sports.

That's the genius of this new style of marketing that is sweeping across minor league baseball. It creates a brand deeply intertwined with local culture to attract fans to sit in the bleachers and support the team, but also a nationwide appeal due to funny yet fashionable logos and flashy colors. It has resulted in the proliferation of teams like the El Paso Chihuahuas, the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, and the Lansing Lug Nuts — much to the delight of baseball fans everywhere.

Now that minor league teams are

gaining more than just a cult following with the help of social media, major league teams are starting to bring pieces of the minor league experience into their own cavernous ballparks. In San Diego's own Petco Park, the home of the Padres, this is evident in the inter-inning antics the team employs, such as dancing groundcrews that work in tandem with the traditional "Kiss Cams" and "Dance Cams." In Oakland, drums and cowbells can be heard clanging from a small group of decked-out superfans in right field, bringing some of the most well-known sounds of the minor league game up to the big leagues.

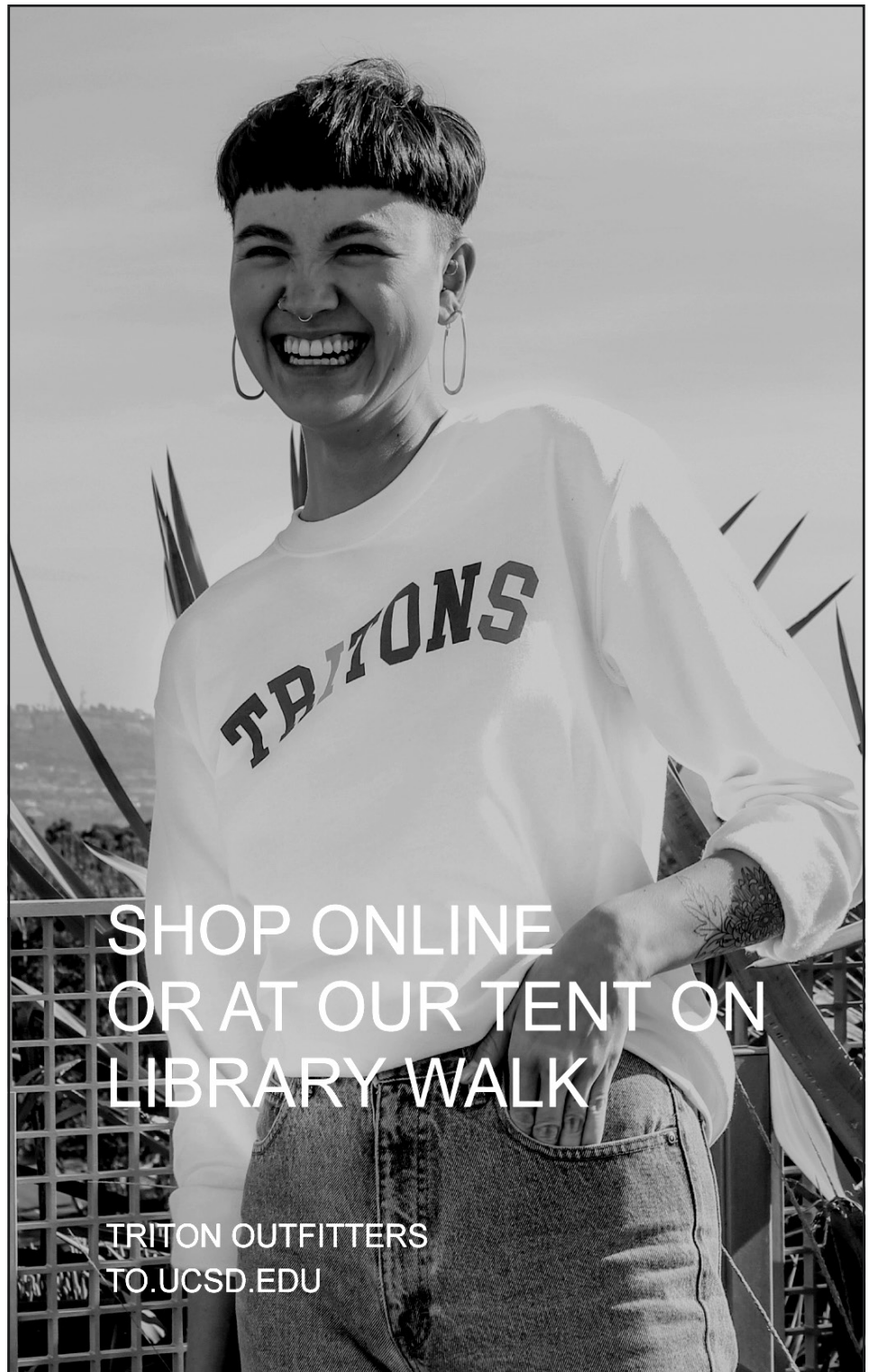
This infusion of youthful energy is good for the game of baseball at all levels and will hopefully continue to expand into the front offices of other major sports franchises across the country.

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## SPORTS

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UPCOMING  
UCSD  
GAMES

M Basketball	11/20	7PM	vs CSU San Bernardino
M Water Polo	11/24	TBA	at TBA
W Basketball	11/24	5:30PM	vs Chico State
M Basketball	11/24	7:30PM	vs Chico State
Swim & Dive	11/28	All Day	Winter National Championships



PHOTO COURTESY OF DERRICK TUSKAN

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Tritons Fall By 2 Against Point Loma Nazarene

UCSD goes 1-1 for the week, crushing Saint Martin's 96-69 and narrowly losing 73-75 to Point Loma in OT.

BY LUCAS ARMSTRONG  
STAFF WRITER

This past week, the UC San Diego men's basketball team split two matches. It won on Monday at home against Saint Martin's University 96-69 and lost on the road on Wednesday at Point Loma Nazarene University, 73-75, in overtime. That week, UCSD secured its third win of the season but suffered its first loss of the season. This week, the Tritons have two more games as they will play California State University, San Bernardino at home on Tuesday night and California State University, Chico at home on Saturday night.

### Versus Saint Martin's

On Monday night at RIMAC arena, UCSD played a squash match against Saint Martin's University and defeated the Saints, 96-69. The Tritons stayed hot behind the arc as they hit an astounding 9 3-point baskets in each half, compared to the Saints who only sunk 10 3-pointers the entire game. Within the first

minute, UCSD took the lead and never trailed in the matchup. The Saints tied the Tritons only three times during the match but were never able to take the lead.

Senior forward Christian Oshita was the star for the Tritons, scoring an astonishing 35 points for the Tritons. For most of the first half, the Tritons kept feeding him the rock and every time he put it up, the whole arena knew it was going in. Oshita scored 10 of the Tritons' first 17 points of the game. At that point, only seven minutes had passed and Oshita had as many points by himself as the entire Saint Martin's team. Oshita scored 26 points at the end of the first half and was on pace to break the Tritons all-time single game points record (46). He put up 9 more in the second half to finish the game with 35 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, and was 9 out of 12 on 3-point shots.

In the second half, the Tritons kept up the fast pace of the first half. After putting up 50 in the first half, they scored another 46 in the second

half for a total of 96 points. After dropping 97 points against Western Washington University last week, no one expected another offensive explosion from the Tritons. As a team, the Tritons shot 18 out of 26 (69.2 percent) on 3-pointers and won their second straight game simply by shooting the lights out against the Saints.

### Versus Point Loma Nazarene

On Wednesday, the Tritons had less luck getting the ball to fall and fell to Point Loma, 75-73, in overtime. They were only 10 out of 31 on 3-pointers for a pedestrian 32.3 percent. Despite that, the Tritons put up a hard fight from the opening tip off until the end of the game. UCSD led until there was only one second left in the fourth quarter when Point Loma junior forward Sterling Somers had a put-back buzzer beater to move the game into overtime. The Tritons were outscored 11-9 in overtime and suffered their first loss of the 2018-2019 season.

In the first half, both teams put

up monster numbers. UCSD scored 40 first-half points and Point Loma put up 37. This was a contentious first half, with a lot of back and forth, but the Tritons remained on top. The Tritons were facilitators in the first half as they managed to get the ball moving all around the court. They had 7 first-half assists to Point Loma's 5. UCSD also had three players, Oshita, freshman guard Tyrell Roberts, and junior forward Scott Everman all put up at least 8 points on the board.

As balanced as the first half was, the second half had even more momentum swings with 4 ties and 6 lead changes. Neither team had an inch to each other and in doing so, the score remained tied going into overtime. In the second half, Roberts came alive as he was the Tritons leading scorer with 11 points. Unfortunately, he was unable to hit any of his 3 free throws he was allotted, which comes as a surprise because Roberts is typically a skilled free throw shooter.

Roberts cooled off after that hot

second half and was not playing his best during overtime. He took and missed 3 3-pointers in overtime which account for 75 percent of the Tritons missed field goals in OT. Despite that, the Tritons remained in the game. With just a few seconds left, Oshita hit a clutch 3-pointer to put the game within 2, but the Tritons were unable to get the ball back. Oshita led the team in scoring for the second-straight game as he followed up his career-high 35 point performance on Monday with 20 points on Wednesday. When the time expired, the Tritons still trailed by 2 and were handed their first loss of the season. The Tritons and Saints are not scheduled to meet again this year, but with how competitive this game was, fans shouldn't be surprised to see these two teams matched up in the NCAA tournament next spring.

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## Women's Basketball Off to a Hot 4-0 Start

Tritons outscore the Seattle Pacific Falcons 28-14 in the 4th quarter to extend winstreak.

BY GEORGIANA SOO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Coming off of a hard-fought win over Western Washington University in the first game of the Sodexo Tip-Off Classic, the UC San Diego women's basketball team faced off against another Washington state team, Seattle Pacific University. Having already played exceptionally since the start of the season, the Tritons kept their

consistency against the Falcons. With a final score of 83-72, UCSD came home with yet another win, keeping its season perfect with an overall record of 4-0.

The Tritons led the game at the end of the first quarter but only marginally (20-18). UCSD scored the first 3 points of the game, with junior forward Mikayla Williams's 2-pointer and free throw giving the Tritons the initial lead. Nevertheless, despite the point gap widening to

10-3 during the quarter in favor of the Tritons, the Falcons battled back, eventually taking the lead for the first time with two and a half minutes left in the quarter. The second quarter mirrored the first as both teams scored back and forth, with both teams earning 16 points apiece; the first half ended with a score of 36-34.

The third period was much less auspicious for UCSD, with Seattle Pacific scoring 5 more points than

the Tritons in the quarter and leading by the time the final quarter of the game started. Still, the Tritons were not to be phased, doubling the 14 points the Falcons earned in the fourth quarter with a huge gain of 28. With decisive final quarter play, UCSD took the game 83-72.

Offensively, on paper, the Falcons did better individually, with their lead scorer boasting more points than redshirt senior guard Joleen Yang's 25 points. Still,

the Tritons ultimately prevailed with their strong defense — junior forward Haleigh Hatfield claimed a game-high 16 rebounds — and more cohesive team play.

The Tritons come home to play California State University, Chico State on Nov. 24. The game starts at 5:30 p.m. in RIMAC Arena.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDY WILHELM

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL