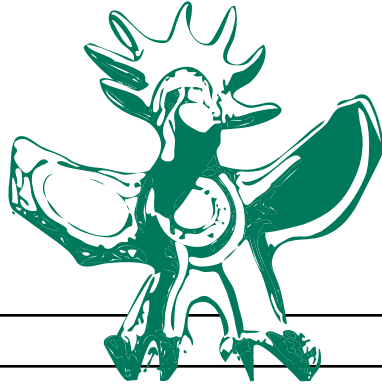


THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO GUARDIAN

www.ucsdguardian.org

Thursday, February 26, 2009

The Student Voice Since 1967



Sixth, Muir Students to Vote on Fee Increases

Inflation trends, decreased funding from A.S. Council lead college councils to tap students for cash.

By Yelena Akopian
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The John Muir College and Sixth College councils recently approved proposals to include student activity-fee increases on the A.S. Council's general election ballot next quarter.

The Muir College Council's referendum would increase the college's quarterly student activity fee — which currently stands at \$7 per quarter per student — by \$3 in the 2009-10 academic year, with an additional \$2 every five years over the next 10 years. The plan would cap the student activity fee at \$14 per quarter per person.

MCC Chair Keaton Denlay said that in the past, annual events such as the Muirstock concert and Muir Musical received up to \$3,500 each in funds from the A.S. Council, but that declining support forced MCC to propose the referendum.

"A.S. has been gradually cutting funds that used to go toward Muir programming in the past few years, so [the fee increase] will go toward recuperating those funds, and for the expansion and betterment of Muir organizations and programming," Denlay said.

The fee increase would be subjected to the campus' return-to-aid policy, under which 29 percent of funds collected through such increases go to financial-aid scholarships and incentives.

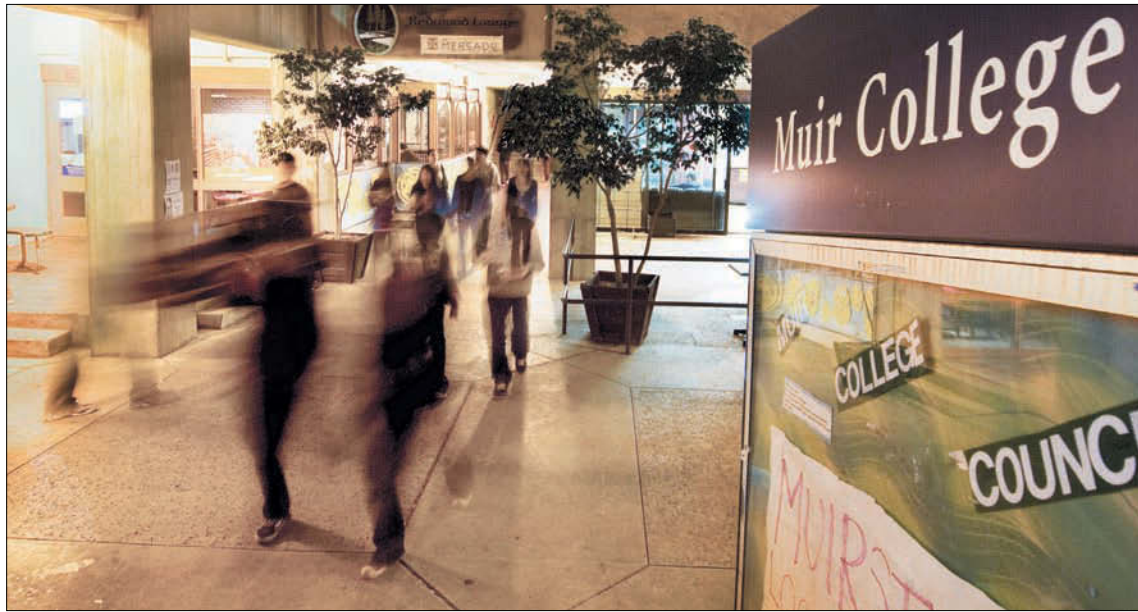


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN
The student fee increase proposed by John Muir College Council would provide funding for annual events such as Muirstock and Muir Musical.

Muir College Dean of Student Affairs Patricia Mahaffey said MCC decided last year that the college's activity fee must be raised to maintain the quality of future events, but that the council put the issue off until this year in order to concentrate on Muir's 40th anniversary celebration.

"When the A.S. [Council] cut funding to the [Muir] council, that resulted in the [Muir] council having to dip into their reserves and spend money that they don't normally spend," Mahaffey said. "This money has been critical. The council needs to go back to Muir students and say 'Can we raise the fees by a couple of dollars to provide the flexibility we need?' I think the fee increase will provide much-needed revenue and funding for our big tra-

ditional events and organizations, and for subsidized tickets to events like semi-formal and other trips."

The Sixth College referendum proposes to increase the quarterly student activity fee — currently at \$8 per student — to \$10, and promises not to propose any further fee hikes until at least fall 2012.

Sixth College Council Vice Chair of Internal Affairs Thach Tran said the fee increase was suggested by the finance committee last year to compensate for inflation, to avoid another budget crisis and to allow Sixth College to create annual events comparable to those put on by other colleges.

"We need to improve and work on our programs and events to compete with other colleges ... and create our own traditions," Tran said.

"The fee increase will help us do that."

If the increase is passed, Sixth College would have the highest activity fee of all six colleges, which the council attributes to the fact that Sixth has the fewest number of enrolled students.

Both referenda are currently awaiting approval by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Penny Rue. If approved, the measures will be voted on during the second week of Spring Quarter via the A.S. Council's general election ballot. In order to pass, both referenda must see a turnout of at least 15 percent of college-specific students and receive a majority of affirmative votes.

Readers can contact Yelena Akopian at yakopyan@ucsd.edu.

POLICE FIND UNDERAGE DRINKING AT KOALA OFFICE

By Matthew McArdle
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Campus police detained several members of controversial student humor newspaper the *Koala* early Monday morning after discovering underage drinking in the publication's Student Center Media Lounge space. The violation of university policy could lead to the organization's suspension from its on-campus location for the second time in two years.

Koala Editor in Chief and Earl Warren College senior Kris Gregorian and three other students were held by officers for individual questioning after loud noises were heard coming from the Media Lounge at approximately 2:20 a.m. on Feb. 23. Police discovered trash bins containing empty beer cans as well as an underage student holding a half-empty beer, and issued three citations for public intoxication, adding that they would notify the appropriate administrative officials about the violation.

Gregorian, who was not issued a citation, denied responsibility for the incident.

"The beers were in the trash when I found them," he said.

According to UCSD police Sgt. John Smart, the department has been increasing police visibility at night in

See **KOALA**, page 3

National Security Study to Determine Future of Prominent UC Nuclear Labs

By Sarah de Crescenzo
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A federal study is under way this week to assess the possibility of moving the University of California-managed Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories from the Department of Energy to the Department of Defense, according to an internal memo from the Federal Office of Management and Budget.

The labs — currently co-managed by the university and the Department of Energy — are two of the nation's premier nuclear weapons research facilities and are aimed at sustaining and improving the safety, reliability and performance of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile.

If the results of the study do advise such a switch, the laboratories would see a shift from civilian to military control by 2011.

According to UC spokesman Chris Harrington, it is not yet clear whether a move from the Department of Energy to the Department of Defense would affect either UC management or employees currently employed at either lab.

The Livermore site is one in a trifecta of national laboratories that make up the National Nuclear Security Administration's nuclear-

design programs, the other two being the Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories.

The Livermore lab was founded at the start of the Cold War in 1952 and has been co-managed by the university ever since. The Los Alamos location, founded a decade before Livermore, was the birthplace of the first atomic bomb.

Management of the Los Alamos lab opened to bids from other vendors in 2003 for the first time; in response, the university partnered with private companies and won the seven-year contract that is currently in place.

While both laboratories are still heavily involved in nuclear security activities, such as preventing the proliferation and use of nuclear weapons, they have expanded to host such projects as climate-change research and modernizing the nation's energy infrastructure through nuclear fusion projects.

"The University of California has a proud tradition of bringing strong science and technology to the important work of the Department of Energy national laboratories," Harrington said.

Readers can contact Sarah de Crescenzo at sdecresc@ucsd.edu.

'My Vagina Is an Eccentric Tulip'



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH DILLON
"The Vagina Monologues" played at the Price Center East Ballroom for three nights last week. Performance proceeds will support License to Freedom, an organization working against domestic violence in the San Diego community, and the International V-Day Organization, which will contribute funds to fighting violence against women and children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

HIATUS Tailing the Weekend

Collegiate buzz band Ra Ra Riot closes out Sunday at the Loft with a pensive take on sunny scholar rock.



PAGE 6

SPORTS Taking Back the Crown

Swimming: Failing to defend dual conference titles last season, the Tritons reclaimed their place at the top last week.



PAGE 12

INSIDE

- Comics2
- Currents.....2
- New Business.....3
- Letters to the Editor4
- Classifieds10
- Sudoku10

ONLINE

Poll: Do you think the A.S. Council should invest more money in the Grove Caffe?

Tell us at www.ucsdguardian.org.

WEATHER

Feb. 26 H 65 L 49	Feb. 27 H 67 L 50
Feb. 28 H 74 L 52	March 1 H 71 L 52

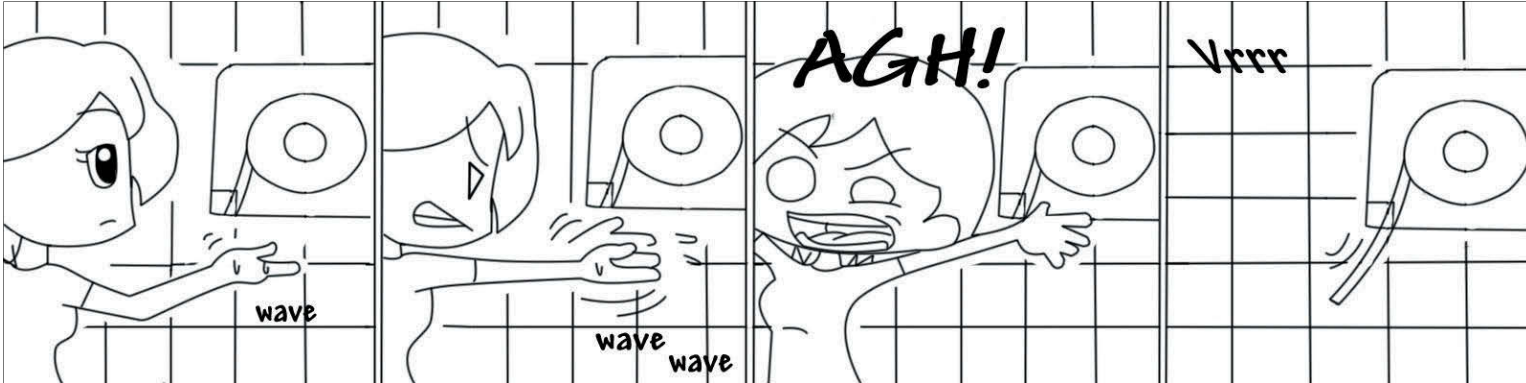
SUNNY-SIDE UP

BY PHILIP RHIE



TWO COKES SHORT

BY SAM PELLE



CURRENTS

Police Release Sketch of Rape Suspect



COURTESY OF UCPD

UCSD police released a composite sketch Wednesday of the man who sexually assaulted a female student in parking lot 102 near Revelle College earlier this month.

The student reported to campus police last week that on the evening of Feb. 3 the suspect knocked her to the ground as she was locking

her vehicle, held her down between two parked cars and raped her. The suspect was described as an Asian male about six feet tall between the ages of 18 and 22, and was last seen running toward North Torrey Pines Road.

UCSD Senior Named Churchill Scholar

After being named a Churchill Scholar by the Winston Churchill Foundation, Sixth College senior Vikram Juneja will be awarded \$50,000 to complete a one-year graduate program at Cambridge University, where he plans to complete a master's thesis on cancer stem-cell research.

Juneja, a mechanical engineering major who has maintained a near 4.0 GPA during his time as a UCSD undergraduate, is the university's first Churchill Scholar recipient and one of 14 scholars selected this year from a pool of 99 applicants from 63 colleges and universities nationwide.

Laurie Smith, a biology professor and UCSD representative for the scholarship program, nomi-

nated Juneja based on academic achievements, which include intensive, 30-hours-a-week research on cancer stem-cell biology at the UCSD School of Medicine and studies with the Instrument Development Group at Scripps Institution of Oceanography on Spray, an autonomous underwater glider.

New UC Davis Facility to Research Wine, Beer, Food

The UC Board of Regents recently authorized plans to build a state-of-the-art research center in which to study wine, beer and food.

The facility will include a research and teaching winery and the August A. Busch III Brewing and Food Science Laboratory. Working with the UC Davis Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science, it will host scientific research, student training and industry collaboration.

Construction on the building — which will include a food-processing plant, a dairy-processing facility and a pilot brewery for the department of food science and technology over

its 34,000 square feet — will be completed next year. The winery will also house a large experimental fermentation area, controlled temperature rooms for large-scale testing, barrel and bottle cellars, a testing lab and a special bottle cellar for donated wines. A 12.5 acre teaching and research vineyard, along with educational gardens, will be located outside the winery.

"Our students will be able to learn about winemaking using the most advanced facility, and learn approaches to improve sustainable and precision wine production," Andrew Waterhouse, professor and chair of the UC Davis department of viticulture and enology, said in a statement.

Both the winery and the laboratory will be modeled to achieve certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design through the U.S. Green Building Council. The winery will be the first in the world to include sustainability features such as onsite solar power generation, rainwater capture and water conservation and carbon dioxide containment and removal for sequestration.

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Council Affirms Support for Statewide Tuition-Freeze Legislation

Due to a recent rape at a Revelle College parking lot, Nancy Wahlig of the Sexual Assault Resource Center paid a visit at last night's council meeting to inform councilmembers about resources available for victims of sexual crime.

Lumumba-Zapata Coalition member Sam Huang delivered a passionate speech on the alleged cancer cluster in the Literature Building and pushed the council to approve a resolution she drafted demanding that the university take immediate action to relocate the staff and faculty in the building, which councilmembers did not consider.

Associate Vice President of External Affairs Lisa Chen, Arts

and Humanities Senator Sam Jung and Muir College Chair Mabel Tsang gave a presentation on the state budget and the toll it has and will continue to take on higher education, specifically the University of California system.

Free-Speech committee members James Baldwin and Associate Vice President of Local Affairs Erin Brodwin then gave the most up-to-date information on the campus free-speech policy, which should be complete in a few more weeks.

The council then moved to approve a resolution supporting the UC Student Association's College Affordability Act of 2009, a measure which calls for a five-year freeze on fees for resident UC and CSU undergraduate students, prevention of future increases from surpassing the inflation index and raises the income tax by 1 percent for millionaires.

The council also approved a resolution for the Sustainable Concept Design of phase four of the Wedge that was introduced last week.

A.S. Speaker Jordan Taylor would not allow the resolution to support all affiliates of the Literature Building to be added to the new business section of the meeting because the language of the resolution was not submitted last Friday as is required by proper protocol. This incited a debate over whether or not to overturn the decision.

"This issue [of the alleged cancer cluster] has been around for weeks," Sixth College Senator John Cressey said. "I do understand that this is timely but I think e-mail traffic would have

been good on the listserv. This [document] is timely but would have been even more so last Thursday."

The speaker's decision was not overturned and the council moved on to announcements from councilmembers.

All-Campus Senator Chris Westling enthusiastically informed the council that the Web site for the Save the Wedge campaign is now up and running. The site includes a history of the planning and development of the four phases of the Wedge, and the Sustainable Concept Design proposal for the final phase of the project.

Revelle College Senator Brian Youm informed the council that the search for a new Revelle provost is now over, and the new provost will be announced next quarter.

Vice President of Finance and Resources Naasir Lakhani announced that the Grove Caffe will be working with the DeeJay and Vinylphiles Club for a weekly event called DJ Thursdays, an initiative to increase student traffic and business in Student Center.

"Let's all come out and support [the Old Student Center] as much as possible," Lakhani said.

Policy Calls for Eviction Upon Terms Violation

► **KOALA**, from page 1

response to the recent on-campus sexual assault of a female student, which occurred in parking lot 102 during the early evening hours of Feb. 3.

University Centers, the administrative faction responsible for overseeing on-campus space agreements with student organizations, specifically prohibits the presence of alcohol or drugs in student offices.

According to policy guidelines, rule violations result in the loss of an organization's space assignment.

University Centers Director Paul Terzino said in an e-mail that he was made aware of the incident by campus police, but would offer no further comment before reviewing the official incident report, which he said would be released today.

Because of its provocative content, the *Koala* has had historically rocky relations with the university over its nearly 30 years as a registered student organization. The newspaper was kicked out of its office two years ago after a Student Center employee discovered alcohol and drug paraphernalia. Following a lengthy dispute during which *Koala* members handcuffed themselves to a couch for nearly a week, the newspaper's office space was reassigned; however, the publication regained a slot in the Media Lounge at the beginning of last academic year.

Warren College freshman Wes Field, one of the students issued a citation, said that if members face eviction, they would continue to produce the *Koala* on private computers.

"Those computers we use right now are shitty anyway," he said.

Readers can contact Matthew McArdle at matt.mcardle@gmail.com.



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Connie Shieh
cshieh@ucsd.edu

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UCSD FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

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Continuing aid recipients were sent a reminder notification with instructions on completing their 2009-10 FAFSA application on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov

- To help you complete your FAFSA on the web, a worksheet is available in our office or can be downloaded at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Your Department of Education PIN is needed to "pre-fill" your application with prior year information.
- You do not need to complete your 2008 tax return or wait for W-2s to file your FAFSA. Estimate the amounts and then update your estimates once your tax returns are filed.
- If your parents are required to sign the FAFSA, they may also request a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov in lieu of submitting a FAFSA signature page.
- If you do not receive a Student Aid Report email or notice from the Department of Education processor two weeks after you have filed your FAFSA, follow up with the processor on the receipt of your application. The processor can be reached at 1-800-4FED AID (1-800-433-3243).

Don't miss out on financial aid next year – apply on time by March 2, 2009!

Also be aware that **May 1st is the deadline to provide additional required documents such as verification worksheets and income tax returns or to resolve processing holds.** If verification information is submitted or holds are resolved after May 1st, funding is limited to loans, Federal Pell Grant/ACG/SMART grants and Cal Grants only, based on eligibility.



Props to Pres. Barack Obama for pledging to provide ample support for every American to graduate college at a national address Tuesday night.

Flops to Tatiana Tye and Jazmine Finley, two 16-year-old Arizona students charged with child prostitution and pimping other girls at their high school.

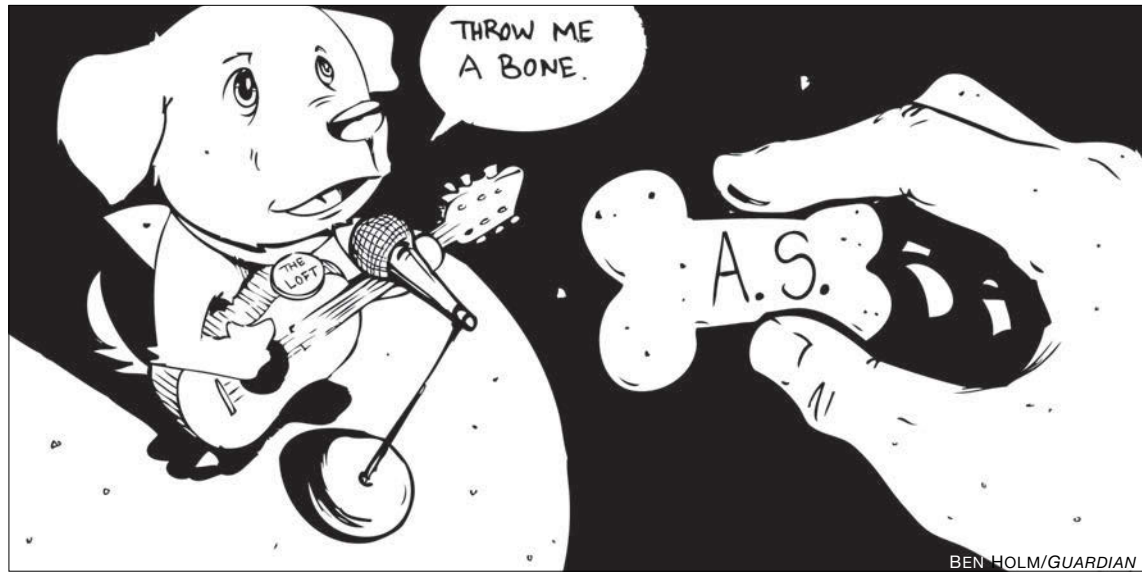


EDITORIAL

Council Denies Loft, Ignores Students' Interests

Last week A.S. councilmembers blocked the Loft from adding a fee referendum to their spring ballot, swiftly denying students the ability to fund UCSD's infant nightclub, should they so choose. The council's reasoning? The A.S. general election is for voting on A.S. things *only*; those Loft kids can go make their own election on the other side of the sandbox. You know, people might confuse this *Loft* referendum for another A.S. referendum (because there are certainly no other instances when people vote for multiple measures at once). Oh, and because the council represents all students — based on that strategically maneuvered unopposed election, which only a fifth of the campus voted in last year — it's totally within the group's jurisdiction to make decisions regarding the future of this well-attended, albeit brand new, venue. (Note that this meeting took place, appropriately enough, over the bumping beats of a capacity-filled Loft show.)

And it's a shame — regardless of whether the Loft ultimately deserves student funding, students definitely deserve the chance to vote on the issues affecting them directly. By not even allowing this issue to go before the student body, councilmembers are completely disregarding the best interests of their constituents. If the council is really concerned with student oversight, there is no greater oversight than a student vote,



the language of which had been presented by the student-involved University Centers Advisory Board and was open to council adjustment.

Running a separate election, as the council suggested, would be an unnecessary waste of funding (the council is already going to spend a few grand to organize and publicize its election) and energy, given that the A.S. election occurs annually, regardless. In order to provide students the most efficient and relevant voting experience — and to help overcome a history of low voter turnout — councilmembers should be doing everything they can to get

campus issues like Loft funding on their spring ballot.

Forget students, putting the Loft referendum to a vote would even be in the council's best interest. In addition to boosting turnout — think how many more students visit, and thus care about, the Loft than its upstairs neighbor the A.S. Forum — a reasonable (\$3.29 was proposed) fee referendum would allow the A.S. programming office to gauge student interest in the space it has largely utilized for events this year.

There is absolutely no reason students shouldn't be voting on a Loft fee referendum come spring, and this council's egoism is getting old.

THE GUARDIAN

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Expert Advice From a Weathered Roommate

As Winter Quarter winds down and the roommate habits we once found cute grow increasingly obnoxious, it's important to stop reminiscing about our former lives of solitary splendor and start perfecting practical solutions to deal with our tiny dorm rooms. Living with a complete stranger reminds us that sleeping naked and toenail chewing aren't very endearing habits. But even more, it forces us to take a step back and realize we can no longer rely on

**Ties That Bind**

Gabriella Capisan

gcapisan@ucsd.edu

Mommy the maid to clean up our messes. Rather, we must work with whom — and what — we're given.

So here are some tips, from my own experience as a weathered roommate, on how to deal with common issues when you are at your wit's end.

First off, those stuck with the drowsy-eyed roommate who requires 16 hours of sleep each night to function, and who consequently kicks you out of your room at 7:30 p.m., should consider relocation. Find the comfiest couch you can — whether it's in your dorm's common lounge or the nearest Starbucks — and claim it as your own. Take refuge in these public areas, because with great focus, they can easily be transformed into your own private study room. Pretty soon, uncomfortable passers-by will stop asking you to move your pile of books from the couch, and if you make a butt imprint in your favorite chair, no one will dare touch it. Plus, with an unlimited supply of caffeine at your grasp, you might just be more efficient. With this compromise, your narcoleptic roomie can sleep in peace, while your couch-conquering prowess will earn you some relieving elbow room.

In terms of actual dorm cleanliness, OCD companions are tricky. I've come home to see my current bug-fearing roommate crawling on her hands and knees for a full 20 minutes in search of creepy crawlers in our room's every crevice. Her reluctance to keep our window open in fear that bugs might slither through the screen has left our room smelling prison-cell rancid. To combat mystery scents of any kind, ignore your roommate's complaints of security or temperature and bust open a window. Basking in a fresh breeze should be everyone's individual right, and cannot be sacrificed. During business hours, invest in some Febreeze or illegally burn some incense. But don't forget to throw your roomie a bone every once in a while and help her slow her breathing when she mistakes a piece of bed lint for a ravaging, disease-ridden fly.

As for ridding yourself of unwanted noise — deafening music and endless phone calls — the best policy is honesty. The truth hurts, but peace and quiet will only be a distant dream unless you remind your roommate that not everyone

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**Admin Response to Cancer Cluster Still Inadequate**

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your coverage of the outcry raised by many members of the UCSD literature department last week. However, I was dismayed at the rather flippant and dismissive editorial published along with it. In attempting to emphasize "the need to make transparent all information relative to the situation," the editorial board neglected the history of the issue, leading it to advance a misguided opinion regarding our frustration and subsequent activism.

The editorial strongly suggests our protest was unwarranted, given that "the university is actually doing more at this point than at any point up until now." Considering that members of the literature department first expressed concerns regarding the health of the faculty, staff and students, and requested an investigation into the possible link between this and the plant facility five years ago (in 2002 and again in 2005), to say that the report commissioned by the administration last year demonstrates evidence that it is indeed "doing more," is hyperbolic and misleading. Moreover, beyond a superficial consideration of *how much* attention the administration is now paying to the problem, it strikes me as amazing that the editorial board did not pause to consider *what* precisely the administration has done since the publication of the 2008 report — at least up to the time of our demonstration last Tuesday.

How did administrators respond to the results of the 2008 report? Did they agree to follow the report's recommendations? They did not. Rather, they announced to us in a special meeting that, while the health and safety of the university's faculty, staff and students, were their "top priorities," the admin-

istration saw no reason to accept the results of the 2008 report as conclusive or authoritative, and immediately requested another study. Bear in mind that the first report was *also* commissioned by the administration, and placed in the hands of an epidemiologist who the administration praised as a top specialist in his field.

The details of the report are available online at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/EHS-LIT>. The questions that fuel the exasperation and demoralization of many students and faculty who work in the building are rather simple: if the administration is concerned with our immediate health and safety, why are we waiting around for more reports? Why has there been no attempt to either follow the recommendations, or relocate us? Consider the following analogy: if you are the manager of a movie house and your patrons complain that they smell smoke, and that, moreover, some patrons are actually suffering from different forms of asphyxiation, what do you do? You respond to an emergency with the appropriate concern, responsibility and leadership. It is this that we are asking of the UCSD administration. The literature department and its academic community cannot be made responsible for the burden of proof of detecting and eliminating the health-risk factors in the building.

For more information, consider reading our petition at PetitionOnline.com/litdept/petition.html.

— John D. Blanco
Associate professor, UCSD
Department of Literature

Anthropomorphic Robots Are More Intimidating

Dear Editor,

In concert with your article about the Robotic Einstein personality, I wanted to share a similar research

from our 3-year-old group called International Robotics, Inc., in a field we have called "Technology-to-People Behavioral Psychology."

The study involves the inter-relationships between humans and machines, employing specially designed adult-size interactive programmable and remote-controllable robotic surrogates, which our group began to employ as communications aids for the learning disabled, socially maladjusted, handicapped, autistic and emotionally challenged. This research began in the early '70s and has led to many unique discoveries in terms of a robot's ability to circumvent the many constraints of social protocol, including fears, stress, anxieties, suspicions and defense mechanisms.

These studies have shown that behavior and mannerism are of tantamount importance; even more so than an ability to express actual emotions in the physical sense. IRI's findings have shown that, in the same manner a person will imagine the visual contents and emotions generated by reading a well-written book, a person interacting with an appropriately designed and behaving robot will process that robot's words and simple behavior more successfully when the robot does not appear to physically duplicate the human form in its entirety. During the past several decades of experimentation with all manners of robotic form, it has been found that a robot attempting to completely and accurately duplicate a human being's physical appearance will tend to send out a threatening or competitive message. By contrast, robots who display simple but not entirely human anthropomorphic form tend to be more easily approached and welcomed by people.

We find that, in more intimate or public settings where a fully operational robot communicates, interacts or performs a variety of tasks, a robot with reduced levels of human-like

features is seen as less threatening and more approachable by its human audiences. Conversely, when such a robot mimics human emotions, idiosyncratic behavior and many of the unpredictable factors prevalent in a human-to-human interaction, it is also received more positively than those who behave predictably like a machine. There seems therefore to be a winning formula prevalent in this unique science of human-to-machine interface, and this formula appears to be a synthesis of very extroverted behavior in the embodiment of an intentionally nonhuman yet somewhat anthropomorphic robot. We have noticed audiences of all sorts relish in the opportunity to let down their defenses, interacting with less concern for acceptance, judgment, criticism or even rejection. This is especially true when the robot's behavior is compassionate, nonjudgmental, loving and able to offer its human counterpart its unconditional friendship.

In concert with this research, our group is also working on biosensor technologies which will someday give intelligent machines the ability to sense humans' health signs and emotions, thus adding considerably to their ability to more accurately understand and respond to the complex nuances and intricacies inherent in human behavior.

— Bill Ewing
International Robots Inc.

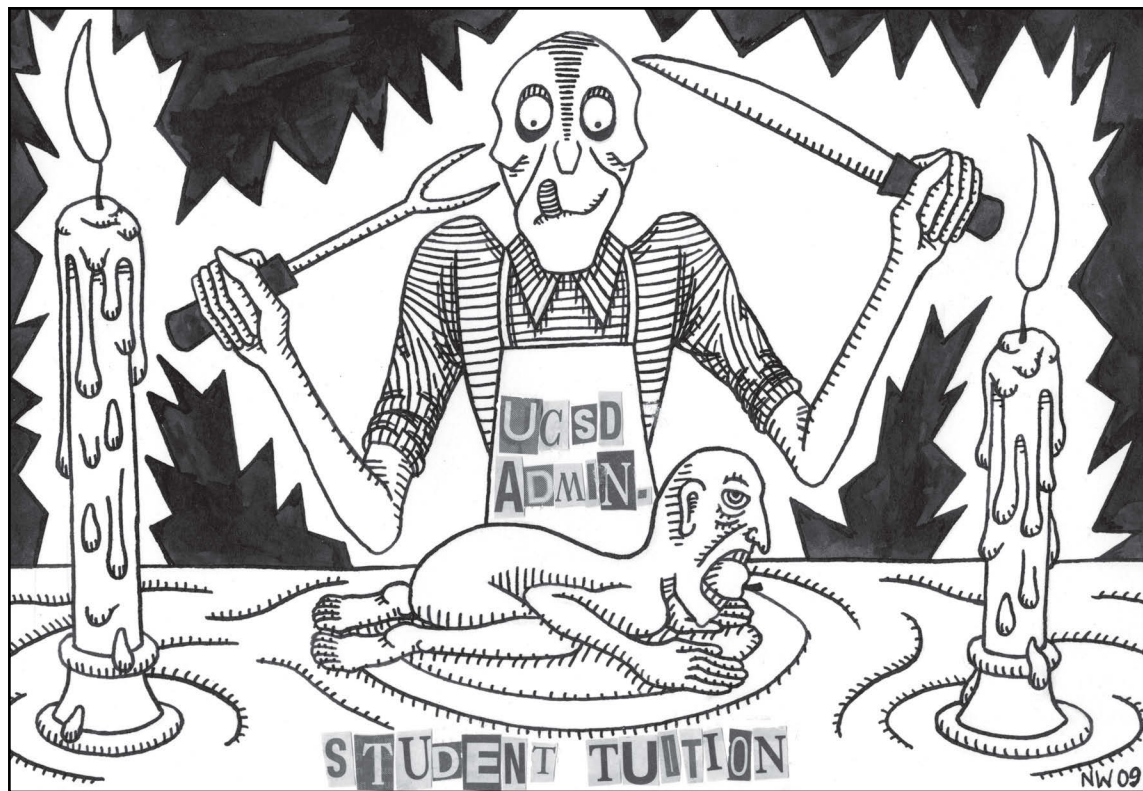
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THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

By Niven Wilson



Student Fee Freeze Act Would Restrict University's Leg Room

By Alyssa Berezna
OPINION EDITOR

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA — It's budget season, and this weekend 35 UCSD student delegates will travel to the University of California Student Association's annual Student Lobby Conference in Sacramento to rally for the College Affordability Act — a five-year fixed tuition plan that would be included in the Nov. 2009 general election.

It's no doubt that the University of California's funding has endured quite the beating this year, and the College Affordability Act — a proposal that would freeze tuition for undergraduate students at the University of California and California State University — is a tempting opportunity to stop increases in student fees for the next five years. Not only would students finally stop worrying about creeping increases as scholarships and aid seem to dissolve before their eyes, the proposal would also limit fee increases to no more than the annual percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index. It all sounds too simple. And it is.

In terms of fiscal aid, the act would earn revenue by implementing a 1 percent tax on incomes exceeding \$1 million. Sixty percent of this tax — roughly \$1.2 billion — would go toward the University of California and California State University systems and the remaining 40 percent would be available for general state purposes. The \$1.2 billion would then be split evenly between the two state systems so that the University of California would receive \$60 million annually to distribute to its 10 campuses. That makes \$6 million for each one.

Ignoring the fact that this act would throw another financial burden onto the back of the same citizens whose taxes already solely fund our state's mental health services program, it's likely that — considering each campus' current infrastructure — a mere \$6 million per year would leave little flexibility to maintain existing programs and confront urgent financial issues.

For the 2007-08 academic year, UCSD's resident undergraduate fees were \$8,062 per student — only a fraction of the approximate \$23,000 in total cost to attend college. And while fee increases during our current budget crunch shouldn't be taken lightly, simply forcing an umbrella freeze on each campus and offering a set sum for current programs and emergencies overlooks both the individual needs of each UC campus and limits their ability to tailor their budgets themselves. That doesn't necessarily mean that each campus should allow for over \$6 million in fee increases each year, rather, they should carefully consider what's necessary to sustain already-existing programs that enrich the college experience.

The good news: Because the UC Board of Regents is bound by the State Constitution — not the statute — it could reject the fee freeze by resolution and pass the entire \$1.2 billion on to the California State University. If the UC regents want some elbow room to realistically maintain the programs that make the University of California such a successful institution and deal with unforeseen financial disasters (which seem to be quite common lately) they should do just that.

Readers can contact Alyssa Berezna at aberezna@ucsd.edu.

Compromise Necessary in Cohabitation

► **TIES**, from page 4
thinks Katy Perry is a lyrical genius. The next time you're at your desk, desperately trying to finish a paper and the only way you can think to complete a sentence on heteronormativity is to comply with Beyoncé's demand to "put a ring on it," don't be afraid to say something. Suggesting headphones, or relocation altogether isn't rude — it's necessary to your sanity. Remember, you are paying for half of that room. Demanding your right to silence is OK. This straightforward solution may be intimidating, but when you turn in your paper the next day without any

references to Leona Lewis, you'll be patting yourself on the back.

For most, stepping out of bed onto a slew of dirty laundry is nearly as horrifying as the potent scent of moldy, three-week old milk in your fridge. Address this situation by swallowing your ego and becoming the maid. Do weekly fridge cleanings, vacuum regularly and put the rest of your energy into keeping your side neat because as tempting as it may be, ignoring the mess as a silent form of protest will only add to your discomfort. When she comes home to find her dirty underwear neatly piled on her pillow, or the crusty,

half-empty packages of turkey on her desk, she is bound to take a hint.

Good roommates are hard to find, and it's likely that disagreements will pop up often while sharing such a small area. But with my suggestions, even the most incompatible personalities can mesh. Although I have not been blessed with the ideal roomie, I have learned to put away the complaints and bust out the big guns. Not only has my building named the comfy green chair in our communal lounge after me, but my roommate no longer goes into cardiac arrest when I open the window. Baby steps, people, baby steps.

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The Appleseed Cast

- "As the Little Things Go"
- "Raise the Sails"

N.A.S.A.

- "Hip Hop"
- "N.A.S.A. Music"

COMIC BOOK HIJINKS SINK TO SINFUL LOWS

When "Sin City" hit theaters four years ago — sending sycophants into caps-lock, fan-blogging glee — it was on the lithe heels of "Spider-Man," a summer gangbuster that saw studios rushing pell-mell to patent every superhero they could seize. But while Spidey waxed epic with young love, tragedy in the family and Kirsten Dunst's ginger tresses, Robert Rodriguez and creator Frank Miller conjugated the graphic novel with a different accent, focusing less on the action hero and more on the antihero's aura of homicidal cool.



Panoramic Sleights

EDWIN GONZALEZ
e8gonzal@ucsd.edu

Since then, it seems we've been inundated by an endless font of adolescent pulp, streamlining sanguine-chic reproductions (not interpretations, mind you) and storyboarding the same flat "characters" with intolerably faddish appeal. And this year's lot isn't looking any more nuanced.

"The Watchmen," billed as the golden bough of comic fandom and Alan Moore's wizardly genius (he's worked on everything from the D.C. pantheon to self-published explorations of murder and eroticism), is one of the year's most anticipated films, and understandably so — especially now that Fox has settled its bout with Warner Bros. However, "Watchmen," for all the purported brilliance it reams as a graphic novel, will probably brandish the same self-indulgent, hollow amusement as its predecessors (epitomized by "300" director Zack Snyder's kitschy filmography).

After all, slapping comic books onto the big screen, virtually panel for panel — with added slow-mo effects, bloated aesthetics and stretched CGI wallpapers — hardly seems the point of adapting a screenplay. Still, it's been in vogue among a mostly male demographic for quite some time now.

In the '80s, when Reaganite nostalgia for a morally upright small-town hero was in demand, Clark Kent sprung into live action to become one of the first

See **PANORAMIC**, page 7

DON'T JUST STAND THERE RA RA RIOT

By Simone Wilson
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Planets rarely align as effortlessly as they did in 2006, over the haloed curls of preppy private-college rockers Ra Ra Riot, who had hardly put in half their requisite house-party hours and self-released a snappy little EP before being recruited for the CMJ Music Festival and rocketing to new-generation stardom — mostly by cyberword of their killer live show — a clan of smart, happy-sad little siblings in the footsteps of blog-hype heroes like Clap Your Hands Say Yeah.

Wait — wasn't that Vampire Weekend? Admittedly, it's hard to find anything immediately remarkable about the East Coast fivesome that couldn't be found in the four-car-garage jam sessions of their squeaky-clean indie-pop brethren. (Though many would disagree; say, hyperbolic buzz-hound Spin magazine, which — resorting to scare tactics in a jaded new world that crawls with far too many so-so bands to care much about any of them — initially hailed Ra Ra Riot "one of the best young bands we've heard in a really long time." And claimed their "Each Year" to be "a song you'll undoubtedly listen to about 37 times during the first 24 hours the EP is in your possession, chills invariably coursing up your spine as the first cello swells

stumble out of the silence." Then again, if you did force that many listens, I can't say you wouldn't be a little addicted.)

Even the band name resembles a Rapture outtake, at best — cute, yes, but slipping through the cracks with all the attention-whoring Go! Teams, Hot Hot Heats and Yeah Yeah Yeahs of the world. Thanks to this somewhat nondescript likeability — and despite the manic fandom of paid-off critics — when longtime pals Vampire Weekend dynamited the scene in all their mop-topped fab-fourness, leaving the hipster hordes crapping their pants like 12-year-old girls at the

"Help!" concert, Riot avoided household-name-dom by sort of just chilling behind the curtain, finger-painting with the mellowed confidence of later Beatles, opting out of direct prep-school references and *Graceland* rip-offs to explore the vaguer, slower corners of life and love.

It's not that they don't have the potential for that instantly desirable, sarcastic cockiness that sets their overshadowing counterband apart — in fact, Vampire Weekend keyboardist/guitarist/singer/producer Rostam Batmanglij and Riot frontman Wes Miles have ping-ponged riffs and brainstormed across genres since their playground days, and currently record together as Discover — they're just feeling a little more melancholy today. Thus, the pair of co-ed hotties — definitely the Ra and Ra of the operation — commissioned to sex up business-as-usual on a violin and see-through electric cello, very calculatedly lending the band that churning Arcade Fire drama (so much more sincere when classically trained females are present).

Plus, they have a reason to be sad — debut album *The Rhumb Line* is dedicated to late principal member John Pike, who tragically drowned right before the band's big break. Those tracks not co-written by Pike are equally touched by his



COURTESY OF BARSUK RECORDS

JUMP THE HYPE WITH VAMPIRE WEEKEND'S UNSTRUNG SUITEMATES

See **RIOT**, page 7

POLITICAL FERVOR BREAKS A SWEAT IN TEDIOUS 'DEATH'

By Leila Haghighat
STAFF WRITER

Premiering at the Mandell Weiss Theatre and set to the head-splicing staccato of the French Revolution's guillotine, George Büchner's "Danton's Death" sees undergraduate and graduate actors tackle the operatic scope of a 200-year-old work — under the direction of Dominique Serrand, Quinn Martin Chair in Drama — halting too often for the fermatas of long-winded monologues in attempting to capture the despair of political upheaval. Straddling eras, the drama ponders 20th century existentialism in the metaphoric Elizabethan language of Shakespeare, befuddled with the mysteries of humanity and never quite gripping the terrors of homicidal revolution — offering instead a two-and-a-half-hour-long reign of stupor.

"Death" smacks audiences down in medias res, opening on a quarrel among members of the Committee of Public Safety in the heated aftermath of King Louis XVI's execution: The committee, which had initially banded to protest aristocratic extravagance, experiences a sudden civil rift.

Danton (Bowman Wright), a nonconformist who heads the committee's liberal faction and generally indulges in "what gives him pleasure" (heavy drinking and the carnal pleasures of whorehouses), resigns support for the guillotine after realizing that "the Revolution devours its own children."

But despite Danton's empathetic appeals, his adversary — Robespierre (Ross Crain), who governs the committee's opposing faction with staunch conservatism — is preoccupied with creating a Republic of Virtue. For the adamant technocrat, "the social revolution isn't finished. Anybody who goes only halfway with a revolution digs his own grave." Robespierre sentences Danton to death, convinced that the degenerate class of political dissenters must be duly punished.

Tugging at the traditional yarns of storytelling, Danton's wife Julie (Sara Garcia) and that of his confidant, Lucille (Maren Bush), add romantic confusion to the play's melange of genres, desperately pleading their husbands to forfeit their resistance against the bloodthirsty Robespierre.

See **DEATH**, page 7



Danton's Death

★★

Starring Ross Crain, Sara Garcia and Bowman Wright
Directed by Dominique Serrand

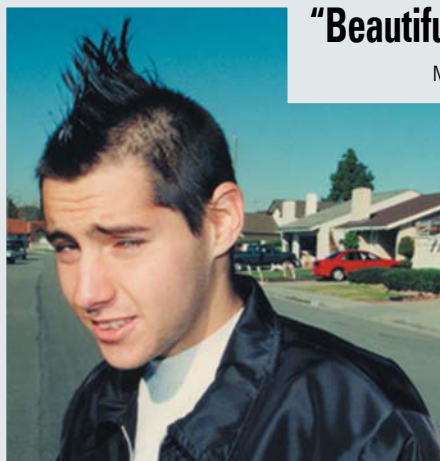
COURTESY OF MANNY ROTENBERG

druthers

Busta Rhymes

HOUSE OF BLUES / MARCH 2 / 7 P.M. / \$46

Ever since 1996 breakout single "Woo-Hah!! Got You All in Check," Busta Rhymes has directed airwaves with one of the most recognizable and revered styles in the game, spitting rhymes like an Iron Chef chops onions — with devastating precision that's earned him legendary status and collabs with Diddy to Dilla to Dre. Now on tour to promote his eighth studio album *Back on My B.S.*, staged for a March release, Busta proves he's still — without doubt — what it is, right now. (SM)



COURTESY OF SIDETRACK FILMS

"Beautiful Losers"

MCASD LA JOLLA / FEB. 26 / \$5

In an offbeat tale of the artistically dispossessed, "Beautiful Losers" celebrates the creative spirit of our generation's underground movements. The documentary is a collective portrait of imaginative outsiders who have propelled the art scene for years. Following the likes of Harmony Korine, Mike Mills, Ed Templeton, Shepard Fairey and Cheryl Dunn — among others — we gain insight into an early '90s milieu scored with quirk, crafts and a streetwise brand of politics that collects its due homage in this San Diego premiere from directors Aaron Rose and Joshua Leonard. (EG)

Wanda Sykes

GRAND CABARET PALA CASINO / FEB. 28 / \$48

Wanda who? The former "Evan Almighty" extra and Comedy Central mainstay is slated to perform at Pres. Barack Obama's White House Correspondents' Association dinner, joining the ranks of Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart. No big deal, right? Syke's out-and-proud activism also gives her the distinction of being the first lesbian performer in the history of the event — just another accolade to boast alongside her Entertainment Weekly hype as one of the 25 funniest people in America. Catch her sassy social critiques while you can: Wanda's rates will likely soar after her D.C. act. (AC)

exit strategy

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ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY

Mandeville Auditorium
Feb. 26, 8 p.m.
\$10

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SSB 2250
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FREE

PIDGEON JOHN

The Loft
Feb. 26, 8 p.m.
FREE

ECLIPSE DANCE PARTY

The Loft
Feb. 27, 9 p.m.
FREE

"THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES"

Price Center Theater
Feb. 27, 8:30 p.m.
FREE

SAN DIEGO SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Balboa Park
Mar. 1, 8 a.m.
FREE

ONETHREETO

Espresso Roma
Mar. 2, 8 p.m.
FREE

"MILK"

Price Center Theater
Mar. 3, 6 p.m.
FREE

MINIMALIST SET CLASHES WITH SHAKESPEARIAN DOPPLEGANGER

► **DEATH**, from page 6

In tangential, Aristotelian musings, "Death" departs from its political underpinnings with scatterbrained aesthetics that only further entangle a muddled narrative. Taking up half the stage, a makeshift pit prevents close interaction between characters — perhaps reflecting their escalating emotional and political distance, but more likely a judgment slip by overambitious set designers. Unintentionally, the pit requires characters to march sternly around its expanses (as if storming the Bastille wasn't hard enough), failing to complement the realism of the play's harsh political context. If not for the imitation culottes, nothing on stage would connote a French milieu.

The play opens with only a projection screen, phrases of political turmoil emerging there from a scrambled paragraph. The screen then lifts to reveal a trippy and mountainous arrangement of wooden chairs on stage left — the legs of some jutting across, atop and beneath the backs of others. But — like the impetus for Robespierre's ornery despotism — the play glosses over so glibly over the reasoning behind this surrealist eyesore.

Deft lighting casts shadows eerily over the set's backdrop, creating a stark contrast that momentarily salvages the play's artistic merit. But the transient brilliance soon capitulates to histrionic sound bites: Opera clips signal the end of emotive scenes, the pious gloom of hymns like "Donna Nobis Pacem" awkwardly jolting a heavy-lidded audience.

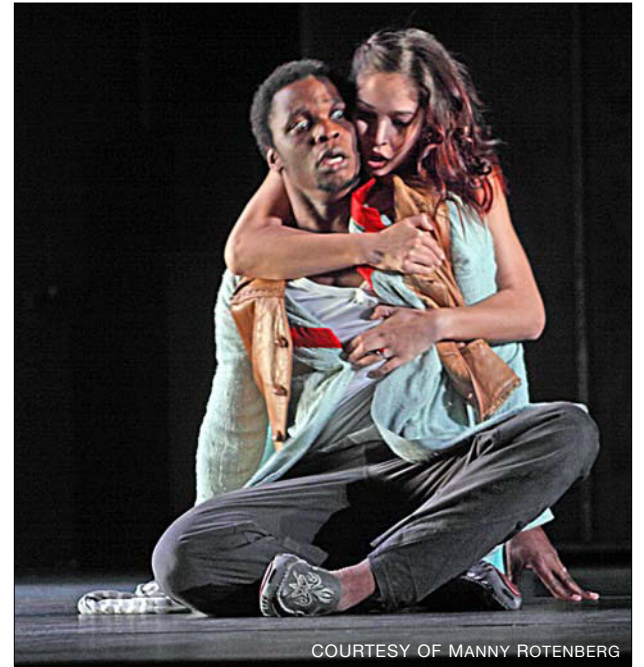
The personification of Liberty (Bianca Harlow) as a silent omnipresence, one of the play's greatest stabs at symbolic depth, proves brilliant in its irony — that a woman clad in African tribal garb can represent ultimate freedom.

Lost in its own gaucherie, "Death" desperately clings to the puns and tropes of Shakespearean classics. Here, the hamartia of Danton, Büchner's tragic hero, lies in his sloth and indecision. The Hamlet allusion resurfaces when a newly emo Robespierre, self-alienated from the fresh wave of bourgeois, mourns: "Everything is empty and desolate. I am alone."

Robespierre then turns into Lady Macbeth, guiltily rebuffing Danton's accusation: "It doesn't matter how many rags I wrap around it — the blood seeps through." Before the words "Out, damned spot!" leak, he harkens "The Tempest," comparing life to reverie: "Are we only sleepwalkers? Isn't our life like a dream?"

For Büchner, too, all the world's a stage — characters repeatedly iterate the scarcity of free will in their marionette-strung lives, forever at the mercy of some intangible force.

But "Death" lacks the Bard's sophistication. Its frequent squabbles demand extensive political know-how, leaving us scrambling to comprehend the drama's impossibly antiquated discourse. The play approaches us with the double intent of demystifying the enigmas of humanity and recapitulating the Reign of Terror à la SparkNotes. And, in a way, it does — we experience confusion akin to the French Revolution's own bewildered peasantry. *C'est la guerre!*



COURTESY OF MANNY ROTENBERG

Graphic-Novel Knockoffs OD on Big-Budget Steroids

► **PANORAMIC**, from page 6

Americana icons. And while it took nearly another decade, Tim Burton's nocturnal caped crusader followed suit. For all their costumed theatrics and cartoonish villainy, both "Superman" and "Batman" attempted to make some sort of commentary on the escapist worlds their heroes inhabited, all the while scoring profitable celluloid debuts to boot.

Of course, money-hungry studios at their imperial Cold War prime managed to ruin a good thing, resurrecting increasingly campy, zombieified sequels to the first films and expunging any socio-significance they once retained.

All bitterness aside, translating comic-book art into film is nothing ingeniously fresh-faced to the current millennium — or to American independent cinema, for that matter. Terry Zwigoff's catatonic "Ghost World" (featuring a laconic and relatively green Scarlett Johansson) and the sublimely crotchety Paul Giamatti in "American Splendor" both pulled it off skillfully, faring well at the vanity fair of festivals worldwide. Even this year's Academy Awards featured an Israeli foreign-language nomination ("Waltz With Bashir") that hoped to win — as at the Golden Globes — by

whetting our craving for post-traumatic surrealism.

"Sin City" and "300" — the collaborative efforts of Frank Miller and acolytes — were emblematic of comic-book cinema at its pits: digitally blown in proportion to their egotism and pieced together with picaresque hijinks. And whether angling for moral ambiguity in hooker heaven or vilifying effeminate Persian emperors, they measured out hyper-macho violence by the ton.

Anyone remotely chaffed by now is probably thinking that films of this sort aren't meant to be taken so seriously — that such creativity should be a welcomed change in a sea of big-budget blase. That the graphic heavyweights are justified in their kinetic energy, entertainment value and visual exuberance. But — while they certainly master new levels of technical and imaginative clutch — it all comes at the invaluable cost of an over-the-top aesthetic that obstructs any life-giving significance.

Though "Watchmen" certainly won't be the worst of recent attempts (cough, "The Hulk"), it's in the same sullied vein that's swiftly retrogressing action-adventure into an immature reinforcement of "cool" — so feel free to leave your brain at home.

Put Your House-Party Pants on for this Reach-School Riot

► **RIOT**, from page 6

passing ("I wouldn't like death if death were good/ Not even if death were good"), recorded in pastoral backcountry New Jersey with nothing but a scene-making filly to kink the flow.

But those pretty, skittery dreams of an African beat are always there, keeping the Rioters highly ranked in their genre-circle of studied youngsters and making it damn near impossible not to hop along. "House parties were so fun because the audience wasn't really critical at all. They were purely there to have a good time," violinist Rebecca Zeller said. "For a new audience member, as opposed to a partygoer, they just seem to kind of stand there and watch." So try not to judge these newcomers too hard, perhaps pretending for a moment that the Loft is a dorm-room den at your East Coast reach school and keeping an ear out for that darling music-box Kate Bush cover — 'cause Vampire Weekend would have never done that.

Ra Ra Riot will perform live at the Loft on March 1 at 8 p.m.

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The Appleaseed Cast

▪ **Sagarmatha**

MILITIA

★★★★★

It's hard to say whether Kansan rock 'n' rollers the Appleaseed Cast were they inspired by Sagarmatha, Amsterdam — kingdom of high-quality cannabis — or Sagarmatha, Mount Everest — the Nepalese name for highest peak in the world — when naming their latest LP. Either way, the definitively post-rock album smokes up the sky, graduating the band from stale emo stylings to soaring instrumental highs. Taking cues from their atmospheric colleagues, *Sagarmatha* rises above verse-chorus pairings to mist through staggering vocals and light-struck guitars and find a solid face in experimental rock.

On 1999's *Mare Vitalis*, the boys captured the ocean — now, they've brought home the rainbow. The trip begins in moody, glorious sonic shafts on "As The Little Things Go," an 8:15 tribute to California soul. Filled with driving oceanic drafts and sweeping Santa Anas, its silvery Coldplay echoes explode midway into epic battlefield beats, soft Killers whispers, grinding rock feedback and a spine-tingling fade for proper release. The boys almost

get drunk on it, raising the resurrected guitar on "The Road West" high over quavering strings and soul-pulling drums. This kind of heaviness is a new acquaintance to the Cast. They're swept in foglike thickness, then broken with sudden floating interruptions of sunlit keys. "Raise The Sails" then opens the sky for good, clashing screams from the drumset with easy, deep-throated chords.

Though they sometimes face the post-rock noise problem — tracks melting into tedium — plaguing L.A. acts like El Ten Eleven and Beware of Safety on the same heartbeat drums, holy trembling guitar and 3D hallucinations (any variations mostly derived from mainstream metal, dance or pop tricks), the Appleaseed Cast go beyond beautiful, exposing the soil beneath the snow and heralding a new spring.

— **Allie Cuervo**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



N.A.S.A.

▪ **Spirit of Apollo**

ANTI-

★★

Though the immensity of five-year, 40-guest *Spirit of Apollo* rivals that of the actual space program, N.A.S.A. pair Squeak E. Clean and DJ Zegon prove their chain of musical relativity is only as strong as its weakest link: them.

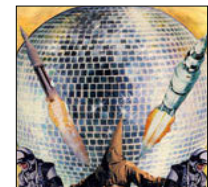
Operating under a unite-the-world manifesto (proclaimed with first-year-art-student vigor over an album-starting swarm of mechanical junebugs and intellectually sparse xylophone), the duo abandons context in a genre founded on locality, pasting rhymes gleaned from North America's wildest hitmakers over an artificial smattering of South American instrumentals, all the while preoccupied with a cosmos sub-obsession that Kool Keith's space raps don't help.

Standouts Fatlip, E-40 and Method Man loan the proj-

ect enough listenability to cover the cheap mixes beneath; but most guests get caught in the ultimately boring hiplash caused by this concept album's lack thereof; and many remain hideously squandered, glued indiscriminately onto N.A.S.A.'s my-first-keyboard beats. We're left wondering how Clean and Zegon ever convinced so many all-stars to join their roster. Whatever their method, it set moving a self-perpetuating bandwagon that has spiraled so out of control no one wants to be left out — too bad they're way better at dropping names than dropping beats.

N.A.S.A. will perform live at the Casbah tonight, Feb. 26, at 8:30 p.m.

— **Hadley Mendoza**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER



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Directed by Quinn Martin Guest Chair in Directing
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GREEK DATES

February 28th: EXCEL Leadership Conference

March 2nd-7th: Greek Week

March 17th: All Greek Study Break



GREEK AWARDS



IFC Individual Award Winners

Greek Man of the Year

1. Chris Childers, Lambda Chi Alpha
2. Sean Dorian Mayer, Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Wm. Taylor Stuart, Sigma Nu

Chapter President

1. Sean Dorian Mayer, Pi Kappa Alpha
2. Greg Reynolds, Sigma Phi Epsilon
3. Piyush Goyal, Beta Chi Theta

Chapter Service

1. Tobias Haglund, Pi Kappa Alpha
2. Faraz Ellahie, Lambda Chi Alpha
3. Paul Nedeau, Sigma Chi

Scholarship

1. Chris Childers, Lambda Chi Alpha
2. Matthew Drasner, Sigma Chi
3. Tim Waller, Alpha Epsilon Pi

Senior Campus & Community Involvement

1. Jacob Carl, Sigma Chi
2. Darryl Nousome, Lambda Chi Alpha
3. Mike Bland, Pi Kappa Alpha

Senior Greek Award

1. Tyler Van Buren, Pi Kappa Alpha
2. Josh Leonard, Sigma Nu
3. Blayne Scott Hearney, Delta Sigma Phi

Junior Leadership

1. Rakim Johnson, Sigma Chi
2. Tobias Haglund, Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Jamin Eggert, Sigma Nu

Sophomore Emerging Leader

1. Vishwas Sastry, Tau Kappa Epsilon
2. Garron Engstrom, Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Robby Naoufal, Sigma Nu

IFC Chapter Award Winners

Chapter of the Year

1. Sigma Chi
2. Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Alpha Epsilon Pi

Alumni Relations

1. Pi Kappa Alpha

Sports Banner

1. Pi Kappa Alpha: 740 points
2. Sigma Chi: 560 points
3. Delta Sigma Phi: 455 points

Chapter Achievement

1. Beta Chi Theta
2. Sigma Chi
3. Phi Gamma Delta

Chapter Management

1. Beta Chi Theta
2. Pike Kappa Alpha
3. Sigma Phi Epsilon

Chapter Scholarship

1. Alpha Epsilon Pi
2. Phi Gamma Delta
3. Sigma Nu

Greek Community Involvement

1. Pi Kappa Alpha
2. Sigma Phi Epsilon
3. Sigma Chi

New Member Education

1. Alpha Epsilon Pi
2. Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Delta Sigma Phi

Philanthropic Involvement

1. Sigma Chi
2. Pi Kappa Alpha
3. Sigma Nu

Recruitment

1. Sigma Chi
2. Alpha Epsilon Pi
3. Pi Kappa Alpha

Risk Management

1. Pi Kappa Alpha
2. Beta Chi Alpha
3. Lambda Chi Alpha

Brotherhood

1. Alpha Epsilon Pi
2. Sigma Chi
3. Tau Kappa Epsilon

PHC Individual Award Winners

Greek Woman of the Year

Melissa Yastic

Chapter President Award

1. Maggie Milstein, Alpha Epsilon Phi
2. Rachel Taylor, Chi Omega
3. Corinne Spencer, Delta Gamma

Chapter Service Award

1. Katie Maxwell, Delta Delta Delta
2. Elizabeth Caldwell, Alpha Epsilon Phi
3. Adrienne Ramos, Chi Omega

Junior Leadership

1. Gerilyn Slicker, Chi Omega
2. Brittany Scotto-Sanchez, Alpha Chi Omega
3. Kristen Evans, Pi Beta Phi

Scholarship

1. Sharon Wirawan, Sigma Kappa
2. Chelsea Maxwell, Chi Omega
3. Marnina Rothschild, Pi Beta Phi

Senior Campus & Community Involvement

1. Chelsea Maxwell, Chi Omega
2. Sarah Tillema, Kappa Alpha Theta
3. Naomi Shiffman, Alpha Epsilon Phi

Senior Greek Award

1. Ashley Barberio-Kitts, Chi Omega
2. Tamara Geiger, Alpha Chi Omega
3. Jaclyn Schlemmer, Kappa Alpha Theta

Sophomore Emerging Leader

1. Brianna Serrano, Pi Beta Phi
2. Rawee Gobena, Delta Gamma
3. Chelsea Dufour, Chi Omega

EXCEL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 28th

12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

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EXCEL focuses on individual development to mutually enhance the community around us. This year we are bringing in new topics of discussion that focuses on the changes taking place in our society, such as the economic meltdown to environmental awareness.

PHC Chapter Award Winners

Alumni Relations

1. Alpha Chi Omega
2. Delta Gamma
3. Delta Delta Delta

Chapter Achievement

1. Pi Beta Phi
2. Chi Omega
3. Kappa Kappa Gamma

Chapter Management

1. Delta Delta Delta
2. Pi Beta Phi
3. Alpha Chi Omega

Greek Community Involvement

1. Alpha Chi Omega
2. Delta Delta Delta
3. Kappa Kappa Gamma

New Member Education

1. Sigma Kappa
2. Chi Omega
3. Alpha Chi Omega

Philanthropic Involvement

1. Pi Beta Phi
2. Alpha Chi Omega
3. Chi Omega

Risk Management

1. Delta Delta Delta
2. Kappa Alpha Delta
3. Alpha Chi Omega

Sisterhood

1. Delta Gamma
2. Delta Delta Delta
3. Alpha Epsilon Phi

Chapter of Year

1. Alpha Chi Omega
2. Chi Omega
3. Kappa Alpha Theta

GREEK COLUMNS STAFF

Any questions, comments, or errors?
Contact us at greekcolumnsUCSD@gmail.com.

Check us out on the IFC and PHC websites!

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MONDAY Feb. 23 Crossword Solution

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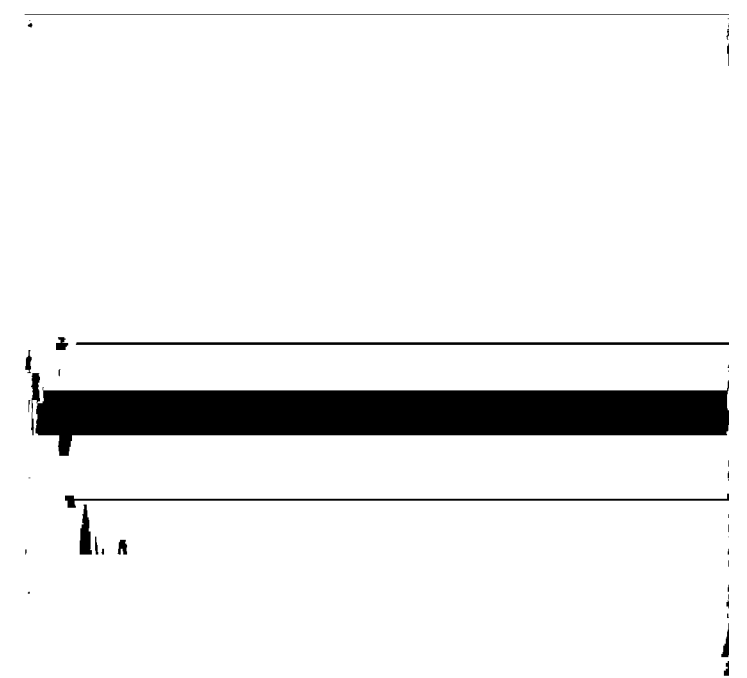
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Find the SUDOKU solution in next Monday's Classified Page.

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Tritons Return to RIMAC for Grueling Homestand

► **VOLLEYBALL**, from page 12
as the Cougars opened up to an early 10-5 lead. After the Tritons closed the margin on a junior opposite hitter Jason Spangler kill at 12-11, BYU went on a 6-0 run to take an overpowering 18-11 lead. The Cougars would go on cruise control for a 30-18 win in the second set.

The third set was also controlled by BYU after the Cougars jumped out to a 15-8 lead, forcing a Triton timeout. BYU continued its tear and finished the sweep of UCSD with a decisive 30-17 victory.

On Friday night, the Tritons were held to a measly .071 hitting as BYU controlled each set.

BYU set the tone of the night in the first set, surging to an early 20-13 lead. UCSD then stormed back behind Fritsch to cut the lead by two

points, at 24-22. After a score of 26-24, BYU closed the door, scoring the last four points and winning 30-24. The Cougars controlled the entire second set, eventually taking it by a score of 30-22.

BYU once again jumped out to an early lead in the third set, but UCSD came back to put up a fight. The Tritons took only their second lead of the night after consecutive block assists from redshirt sophomore middle back Adrian Guthals and Ehrman for a 15-14 lead. However, more of the same took place after a scorching BYU offense went on an 8-1 tear after trailing 18-17. The Cougars swept the Tritons and sealed the third set with a 30-21 win.

Fritsch led the Triton attack with 16 kills on .345 hitting, with eight of the kills coming in the first set. Kent

Tuttle, who had 12 kills, led BYU.

After back-to-back sweeps at the hands of the Cougars, UCSD must get back on track in MPSF play to solidify a playoff spot. After eight straight games on the road, the Tritons will finally return home to RIMAC to host MPSF powerhouses UC Irvine, UCLA, University of Southern California, Pepperdine University and University of Hawaii in consecutive matches.

"We are very excited to finally be returning to play in RIMAC," Leserman said. "Our matches this week against UC Irvine and UCLA are both going to be tough, but if we put together a solid game there is a great chance for a UCSD victory or two."

Readers can contact Cameron Tillisch at ctillisc@ucsd.edu.

UCSD Sends 25 Swimmers to Division-II Finals

► **SWIMMING**, from page 12
man Shea Kopp, freshman Mercedes O'Brien, sophomore Jessica Ferguson and senior captain Aubrey Panis, the relay team set the Tritons' tempo for the rest of the meet.

"It was a really close meet and we did a great job of pulling it off," Panis said. "We didn't know for sure what the result would be until the very end of the last heat, so we were all very tense."

The top UCSD women's finishes belonged to freshman butterfly specialist Alexandra Henley, who took second place in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:05.91, first place in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:25.87, participated in the 400-yard individual medley relay which took first place with a time of 3:50.98 and set a meet record in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2:01.82. Senior breaststroke specialist Kendall Bohn also had a remarkable meet, placing first in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:03.54 and in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:16.22. UCSD swept the 200-yard race with O'Brien taking second and junior breaststroke specialist Carianne Cunningham placing third.

The 400-yard individual medley relay team of Henley, Bohn, junior butterfly specialist Karla Holman

and senior captain Shannon Simonds also took first place, with a time of 3:50.98.

"Our girls really showed they could handle the pressure in a close meet," McGihon said. "It's good for them and it will help prepare us for nationals."

Sophomore backstroke specialist Anju Shimura missed the meet because she was battling the flu. Despite the star's absence, the team showcased its depth by prevailing against the odds.

On the men's team, top honors belonged to senior individual medley specialist Knief Lohse, who took first place in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:30.56 and first place in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:39.57. Senior captain Daniel Perdew also blew away competition in the final conference meet of his collegiate career, taking second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 50.13, first in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 20.47 and first in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 45.26. The men's 200-yard medley relay team, led by senior captain Steve Hardy, junior Juan Carrillo, Perdew and junior Todd Langland, took second place with a time of 1:31.17 — another great accomplishment for the biggest meet of the year.

The men's 800-yard freestyle

relay team took second place, with a time of 6:45.76 led by freshman Brandon Maryatt, Langland, freshman Michael Lorch and Lohse. The 200-yard freestyle relay team of freshman Sam Stromberg, Todd Langland, freshman Blake Langland and Perdew finished first with a time of 1:22.10. The Tritons closed out a terrific meet that was effectively locked by Thursday night with a second place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

"We really wanted to beat those guys," Perdew said of UCSD's conference opponents. "We lost last year to them by such a short margin so we just wanted to come and blow them away."

With the women's team being the stronger squad during most of the regular season, the results were slightly unexpected.

"I thought our guys would have a pretty close meet and the girls would run away with it, but this just goes to show how deep of a team we are and how we can really compete," McGihon said.

The Tritons will take some much-needed rest after this meet before traveling to the NCAA Division-II finals in Houston, Texas, on March 11.

Readers can contact Tyler Nelson at tnelson@ucsd.edu.

Women's Water Polo to Host No. 10 UC Irvine

► **WATER POLO**, from page 12
ter, entering halftime trailing 9-5. The difference proved too much for the Tritons to overcome, falling to Loyola Marymount by a final score of 14-8. Senior attacker Sydney Gstettenbauer's five goals were not enough to lead UCSD to victory over the Lions.

"We had some tough games this

weekend, but it was a great experience for our team that can only help us down to the road to winning conference," junior utility Stephanie Bocian said.

Despite the four tournament losses, Sanders said the Tritons showed improvement from their early season play.

"We just played two games that I

think we could have won," Sanders said.

The Tritons next compete against No. 10 UC Irvine on Feb. 27 at Canyonview Pool at 6 p.m. before hosting No. 16 Long Beach State on Feb. 28 at noon.

Readers can contact Tyler Nelson at tnelson@ucsd.edu.



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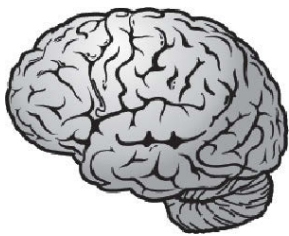
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The junior catcher and third-year starter drove in the winning run with a walkoff double in UCSD's 2-1 victory over University of Hawaii at Hilo on Feb. 22.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Chastain Earns Two Victories in Softball's Weekend Split

By Janani Sridharan
SPORTS EDITOR

SOFTBALL — Playing host to non-conference opponents last weekend, the Tritons split two-game sets against Grand Canyon University on Feb. 21 and University of Hawaii at Hilo on Feb. 22. Senior starter Lauren Chastain earned her third and fourth wins of the season in the Tritons' two victories.

"When [Chastain's] on the mound she hits her spots," senior first baseman Jenni Habib said. "She's going to lead to a lot of our success this year."

Locked in a pitching duel, the Tritons and the Vulcans entered the seventh inning of the opening game of Sunday's doubleheader tied at one. Junior catcher Nicole Saari then launched a walk-off double to center field that plated Habib, giving UCSD a 2-1 win.

The two teams found themselves in another 1-1 tie midway through the second doubleheader before Hawaii-Hilo scored three runs off extra-base hits, taking the victory.

Anchored by Chastain's complete game, UCSD squeezed out a 5-4 win over Grand Canyon to begin Saturday's doubleheader. Senior outfielder Allison May's two-run single in the fifth scored the tying and go-ahead runs.

A disastrous top of the fourth inning sealed a 10-2 UCSD loss in the second game of the day against Grand Canyon — the only game of the weekend that was decided by more than two runs. With the game scoreless through the first three innings, the Antelopes scored seven runs in the fourth, burying the Tritons in the dust.

The Tritons have a tough weekend ahead as they open up a four-game set with the defending national champions Humboldt State on Feb. 27 and Feb. 28 at home.

"In practice we're approaching [this series] as we would any other one," Habib said. "We're working on fundamentals and are going to go out and stick with our game."

Readers can contact Janani Sridharan at jsridhar@ucsd.edu.

Swimmers Take Back Conference Titles



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN FILE

Competing without their top backstroke, sophomore Anju Shimura, the UCSD women's swimming and diving team defeated defending champion Loyola Marymount in the league championship meet.

By Tyler Nelson
STAFF WRITER

SWIMMING & DIVING — With a spectacular 2008-09 campaign already on the books, the UCSD men's and women's swimming and diving teams capped off their respective seasons with victories at the Pacific Coast Swimming and Diving conference championships last week in Long Beach. The event started on Feb. 18 and ended on Feb. 21, and featured teams from across the Pacific Coast, ranging from University of Alaska-Fairbanks and Seattle University all the way down to UCSD. The men's team completely obliterated the competition with a total of 1,561 points — over 400 more than second-place

UC Santa Cruz. The women's team did not win as definitively, earning 1,403 points; just 20 points over rival Loyola Marymount University. Despite tough competition from the Lions, the Triton women took first place in the tournament and will be sending 14 swimmers to nationals — a program record — along with 11 swimmers from the men's team.

"We're pretty excited," head coach Scott McGihon said. "We didn't really expect the meet to turn out like this."

The meet began incredibly fast, with the women's 200-yard medley relay team taking first in the opening race of the day with a school-record time of 1:45.29. Led by fresh-

See **SWIMMING**, page 11

Nationally Ranked Squads Sweep Tritons in Irvine

By Tyler Nelson
STAFF WRITER

WATER POLO — It was a bitter, unforgiving weekend in Irvine for the No. 18 Tritons. Coming into the UC Irvine Invitational last Saturday as the No. 15 seed and ranked 16th nationally in the standings, the women's water polo team suffered four consecutive losses against teams ranked among the top 15.

"It was disappointing," head coach Larry Sanders said of the tournament results. "I really felt there were some games that we lost that we should have won."

After suffering one-sided defeats in the first day of competition, the Tritons showed improvement on Sunday in losing efforts against No. 11 Michigan University and No. 13 Cal State Long Beach.

The Tritons and the Wolverines battled it out defensively in the early going, pulling to a 1-1 tie at halftime. Neither team was able to hold an advantage in the third quarter and the period ended in a 3-3 tie.

Things fell apart for the Tritons in the final period as the Wolverines' endurance proved too much for UCSD to handle. Michigan scored four goals in the fourth quarter, handing the Tritons a tough 7-3 loss.

In their final match of the week-

end, the Tritons played a bare-knuckle, wire-to-wire match against Cal State Long Beach, which ended in a 9-8 sudden-death victory for the 49ers. The Tritons came out exceptionally strong, holding on to a one-point lead after the first, second and third quarters before letting Cal State Long Beach tie it up to force overtime. In the first time out, the Tritons came out with an early lead, 7-6, before the 49ers fought to tie it up, yet again, and force sudden death.

"We just made some silly mistakes that the other team capitalized on," Sanders said. "We need to fix those for our season."

The Tritons were thrust into the second-best team in the nation's line of fire right off the bat, facing off against Stanford University in the opening game of the tournament. UCSD played tough, but the Cardinal was too much to handle as the Tritons fell by a score of 16-6, with junior utility Stephanie Heinrich scoring a team-high five goals.

The Tritons led by a margin of 4-3 after the first quarter in their effort against Western Water Polo Association rival No. 9 Loyola Marymount University, but could not maintain that lead. UCSD was outscored 6-1 in the second quar-

See **WATER POLO**, page 11



DANIEL CADDELL/GUARDIAN FILE

Seeded 15th in a field of 16 teams, the UCSD women's water polo team was defeated in all four games of the UC Irvine Invitational last weekend. The Tritons will host UC Irvine and Long Beach State this weekend.

Men's Lacrosse Tires in Loss to Sonoma



DANIEL CADDELL/GUARDIAN

The men's club lacrosse team fell 16-5 to Sonoma State University on Feb. 22 at Warren Field. The Tritons found themselves with a 3-0 deficit early in the first quarter but were able to keep the game close in the second, trailing the Seawolves 4-2. However, UCSD was unable to match Sonoma State's pace late in the game, eventually taking the one-sided loss. The Tritons return to action on March 1 against the University of Arizona on Warren Field at noon.

Volleyball Falls Twice to BYU Over the Weekend

By Cameron Tillisch
STAFF WRITER

VOLLEYBALL — The UCSD men's volleyball team (7-6 overall, 5-3 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) got back into action this weekend while taking on the No. 9 Brigham Young University Cougars in Provo, Utah. Looking to carry their recent success into league play against a team they had never previously beaten, the Tritons were swept on back-to-back nights 30-24, 30-22, 30-21 and 30-28, 30-18, 30-17.

"This weekend at BYU we did not play up to our potential, and unfortunately for us, BYU played extremely well," senior libero Eric Leserman said. "There were some positives, however, including [junior opposite hitter] Frank Fritsch having a great weekend for us."

After suffering a sweep the previous night, UCSD had a chance to take the first set on Saturday, leading by five points before the Cougars rallied back

late and took the match.

The Tritons broke a 10-10 tie in the opening set, scoring three straight points to go ahead 13-10 after a dual block by Bannan and senior middle back Gerald Houseman. UCSD would go on to take a 17-12 lead after taking advantage of consecutive BYU errors. When the Cougars cut the lead to 17-15, the Tritons surged again to 20-15 and continued to control the set. With the score 28-25 in UCSD's favor, BYU came back on a block and a Triton error to bring the score to 28-27. After a UCSD timeout, BYU scored three straight to take the set by a score of 30-27.

UCSD was led by Fritsch, who had 10 kills on .381 hitting. Redshirt sophomore outside hitter Will Ehrman did his part with nine kills while Leserman had seven digs. Sophomore setter Phil Bannan had 36 assists and five digs.

BYU dominated the second set,

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page 11