

## A.S. COUNCIL DEBATES POSSIBLE FEE REFERENDUM

Next year's council will inherit the task of ensuring increased funding for student orgs, campuswide events.

By Sarah de Crescenzo  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

At its meeting last week, the A.S. Council heard from its Task Force on Referenda about the necessity of the fee referendum that UCSD undergraduates voted on in last quarter's election survey.

The revenue from an increase in student fees would help bolster campuswide events such as the Sun God Festival as well as funding for student organizations.

While next year's council will make the final decision on whether there should be a referendum, this year's councilmembers informally recommended a quarterly student activity fee increase of \$9.60. This amount falls within the category

See **REFERENDUM**, page 3

## IRS Audit Uncovers \$200K Error

By Matthew McArdle  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After months of examining records and other information, the Internal Revenue Service has nearly completed its extensive audit of campus finances, finding that UCSD may owe up to \$200,000 in additional taxes on improperly reported cell-phone costs incurred by campus officials.

The audit, a relatively uncommon procedure among universities, has been characterized as routine by campus officials and is being conducted by the tax agency's "non-profit/government agency" group.

Specifically, the IRS has focused on examining taxes remitted on compensation and benefits of higher-level administrators, athletic coaches and a research unit. It also

See **AUDIT**, page 6

## SDSU Drug Ring Exposed; 75 Students Arrested



Members of SDSU fraternities Phi Kappa Psi and Theta Chi were arrested Tuesday in connection with the recently exposed drug network. Six other campus fraternities, including Lambda Chi Alpha, have been suspended pending further investigation of their involvement in the operation. Campus officials have not yet announced whether the implicated fraternities will be removed from campus permanently.

ERIK JEPSEN AND WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

### LOCAL NEWS

#### Undercover narcotics investigation results in the largest student drug bust in San Diego County history.

By Reza Farazmand  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Nearly 100 people suspected of involvement in a recently exposed drug ring at San Diego State University were arrested this week, ending a months-long undercover sting operation that revealed a network of illicit substance distribution and purchase within and around the campus.

Officials said a total of 96 people have been arrested in connection with the case, 75 of whom are students. Investigators have reported confiscating up to \$100,000 worth of cocaine, marijuana, Ecstasy and illicit prescription drugs. A number of weapons — including a shotgun and three semiautomatic pistols — and \$60,000 in cash were also seized as evidence, authorities said.

"This operation shows how accessible and pervasive illegal drugs continue to be on our college campuses, and how common it is for students to be selling to other students," San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie M. Dumanis said in a statement.

Of those arrested, about 20 were suspected of involvement in drug

sales, officials said. The rest were individuals suspected of having purchased drugs from members within the drug operation.

Authorities also confirmed that one suspect, Omar Castaneda, 36, is a documented gang member who may have connections to Mexican drug cartels. Officials said Castaneda may have received his supply of cocaine from Mexico and members of the cartel.

Campus police, along with the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, began the investigation, dubbed "Operation Sudden Fall," last year in response to a student's death by cocaine overdose on campus in May 2007. The death

See **BUST**, page 7

### THE INVENTORY

The following was seized by authorities in the raids Tuesday:

<b>\$60,000</b>	in cash
<b>350</b>	Ecstasy pills
<b>50</b>	lbs. of marijuana
<b>48</b>	marijuana plants
<b>30</b>	vials of hash oil
<b>4</b>	lbs. of cocaine
<b>4</b>	guns

SOURCE: SAN DIEGO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## Spreading La Voz Through Rhymes and Flores



WILL PARSON/GUARDIAN

SoKal: Latino Urban Group performs during Raza Awareness Week at Price Center on Wednesday. The week-long event includes lectures, dances, talent shows, art exhibits, car shows, learning workshops and social activities to celebrate Chicano culture and awareness about the Raza community.

## UC KICKS OFF PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

By Kimberly Cheng  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The University of California has launched a public education project this week to publicize the impact of the institution's numerous contributions to the state.

Financed by private endowments rather than state funds or student fees, the project will recognize the university's efforts through advertisements on news Web sites and National Public Radio stations in major California markets such as Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento, San Diego and Fresno. The university has also created a Web site to promote

See **CAMPAIGN**, page 6

### HIATUS Running on an Empty Tank

Review: Despite the film's awe-inspiring special effects, "Speed Racer" just doesn't seem to stay on track.



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### SPORTS Tritons Enter Tourney Time

Baseball: The Tritons are headed to the league tourney with the o. 2 seed to face the Wildcats.



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### WEB EXCLUSIVES MORE DETAILS PAGE 2

**The Hiatus Podcast:** This week, editors get deeper into Iron Man, jump on the Batman bandwagon and adventure with Indy Jones.



**An Inside Look:** Photo Editor Will Parson takes his audio slideshow to the Earth Day Trash Sort Extravaganza.



POORLY DRAWN LINES



BY REZA FARAZMAND

CURRENTS

UC Berkeley Student Stabbed to Death

Berkeley homicide detectives are investigating the death of a UC Berkeley senior who was stabbed in the chest last week in front of the Chi Omega sorority house a few blocks from the Cal campus. Police officers responded to reports of someone brandishing a knife and found the victim, 21-year-old Christopher Wootton, surrounded by a crowd of about 20 people. According to police, Wootton was transported to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead early Saturday morning. Andrew Thomas Hoeft-Edenfield, a 20-year-old Berkeley City College student, was arrested on suspicion of the homicide and is being held without bail. Sigma Pi Chapter Director Mark Hanna in a statement that Wootton was a Sigma Pi fraternity member and a nuclear engineering student set to graduate at the top of his class. Wootton had recently been offered full scholarships to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and UC Santa Barbara. "There were a lot of students around at the time of the incident and many of them [had] been drinking," Sgt. Mary Kusmiss said in a statement. "It's a couple weeks before graduation so it's been very celebratory over here. There were a couple of verbal disputes prior to the stabbing which became deadly." The victim's brother, Joshua Wootton said, he believes his brother

er was trying to stop the fight and keep the peace.

Scientists Use Nanotech 'Worms' to Target Tumors

Researchers at UCSD, UC Santa Barbara and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have developed nanometer-sized "nanoworms" that move through the bloodstream with little interference from the body's immune defense system and lock on to tumors. The nanoworms will be able to detect developing tumors that are too small to locate by conventional methods. Composed of magnetic iron and oxide and coated with a polymer, the microscopic vehicles carry payloads targeted to specific features of tumors and could more effectively transport toxic anticancer drugs in high concentrations without damaging other parts of the body. "Most nanoparticles are recognized by the body's protective mechanism, which capture and remove them from the bloodstream within a few minutes," Michael Sailor, a UCSD chemistry and biochemistry professor who headed the research team, said in a statement. "The reason these worms work so well is due to a combination of their shape and to a polymer coating on their surfaces that allows the nanoworms to evade these natural elimination processes. As a result, our nanoworms can circulate in the body of a mouse for many hours." The scientists' discovery is published in this week's issue of the journal *Advanced Materials*.

GUARDIAN ONLINE

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FOCUS

**Audio Slideshow:**  
*An Inside Look*  
Photo Editor Will Parson documents the Earth Day Trash Sort Extravaganza.

OPINION

**Web Poll:**  
After graduation, what kind of employment options do you expect to have?

HIATUS

**Blog:**  
*The Mixtape*  
Hot tracks reviewed weekly. This week: indie hip-hop cuts from Bilal, Jay Electronica and Quelle.

**The Hiatus Podcast:**  
*Episode V*  
This week's talk includes first impressions of GTA IV, Iron Man and summer movie trailers.

WEATHER

- May 8  
Partly cloudy  
High: 65  
Low: 55
- May 9  
Partly cloudy  
High: 64  
Low: 53
- May 10  
Partly cloudy  
High: 66  
Low: 54
- May 11  
Sunny  
High: 67  
Low: 55

CORRECTIONS

A news article published on May 5 titled "Budget Deficit a Hot Topic at State Capitol" incorrectly stated that the California State University system employs about 445,000 faculty members. In fact, the CSU employs about 44,000 faculty members.

The Guardian corrects all errors brought to the attention of the editors. Corrections can be sent to [editor@ucsdguardian.org](mailto:editor@ucsdguardian.org).

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## Talk of Ice Rinks, Petting Zoos Dominates Final Council Meeting

UCSD's pressing need to combine petting zoos and ice skating rinks came to a head last night as this year's A.S. Council convened for its final meeting and considered a number of superfluous proposals.

The nonsensical bills — including one to dissolve Sixth College and another to use \$100,000 for a movie remake starring A.S. councilmembers — belied the seriousness of many of the issues that the council grappled with throughout its term in office.

Early in the academic year, councilmembers had a rough encounter with a funding bill that perhaps should have been left in the realm of loony proposals. The council's first substantive debate erupted at its third meeting after \$2,100 worth of sexually suggestive "shocker" foam fingers were delivered to the A.S.-sponsored Triton Tide spirit crew.

In the ensuing months, council members became entangled in questions about using student fees to fund organizations and events that are specific to just one college, and how to best amend its constitution in light of the implementation of instant runoff voting. Most recently it hotly debated the construction of the RIMAC Annex because it contained decidedly nonathletic elements.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Penny Rue made quarterly visits to the council covering a variety of topics, including the potential fallout of cuts to state funding and the need to build new campus traditions. Rue and the council also found themselves at odds over the scheduling of alcohol-dispensing Bear Gardens during class time and the necessity of spending thousands of

additional dollars to beef up security at the Sun God Festival.

A perennial issue at this year's meetings was UCSD's strained parking resources, which the council met with a desire to promote sustainability and a forthcoming regional transit pass that will give students free access to public transportation throughout San Diego.

Among the issues that councilmembers will pass on to their successors next week are improving the relationship with the local La Jolla community and bolstering the mental health services available to students.

Both issues led to tense moments over the course of the year. Associate Vice President of Local Affairs Aida Kuzucan nearly broke down at a council meeting in January while she recounted the zero turnout of her fellow councilmembers at a La Jolla Christmas parade after she spearheaded UCSD's participation in the event.

Arts and Humanities Senator Samantha Peterson spoke out later that month during one of Rue's visits about her difficulties in finding adequate mental-health resources when she was going through a difficult period in her life. Rue, who had just finished explaining that UCSD's mental-health system was not critically flawed, agreed to discuss the matter privately.

Last night wasn't a night for seriousness, though. As many councilmembers prepare to hang up their A.S. polo shirts for good, new blood is waiting to pick up where they leave off.

The petting zoo/ice rink had its 15 minutes of fame, but union negotiations, campus diversity concerns and rising tuition costs are sure to make their respective returns.



### New Business

Michael Bowlus

mbowlus@ucsd.edu

## Incoming A.S. Council to Vote on Referendum

► **REFERENDUM**, from page 1

chosen by the most students who indicated support for a quarterly fee increase on the election survey, task force member and Vice President of Finance and Resources Sarah Chang said in an e-mail.

The voting process will most likely take place during Fall Quarter if next year's student representatives approve the referendum with a special election to determine whether the student body supports raising quarterly fees in exchange for the continued growth and funding of campus activities and groups.

If the new A.S. Council moves to host a special election, the majority of the money will go to the Sun God Festival and student organization programming, as these were the top two priorities as indicated by the survey on the election ballot, VP of Finance and Resources-elect and task force member Naasir Lakhani said.

While there is no plan to cut funding for these types of campus events, Lakhani said that without increased funding to compensate for the growing cost of upholding such programs, A.S. programmers will struggle to maintain the current quality of events.

"With the rising costs of putting on concerts and festivals, the programming office would likely be unable to reach the caliber of events that they have had in the past," Lakhani said.

A.S. President-elect and task force member Donna Bean agreed that the quality of future events is dependent on the referendum.

"If the referendum does not hap-

pen, there will be a tangible backlash in the quality and quantity of programming and funding available to the student body," she said.

While students involved in on-campus organizations are likely to support higher quarterly fees, the task force members are unsure of what the general student body is willing to pay for the events that their fees support.

"I suspect the students that are involved in organizations across cam-

cated that approximately 1,100 students were in favor of some sort of fee increase, while approximately 800 students were opposed," he said. "However, I am a little skeptical of these results because I am unsure of whether the 1,900 students that voted in the election represent a true random sample of the student body."

The task force committee has also strongly recommended to the council that any referendum include a four-year moratorium on further referenda, which will ensure that students only face a referenda once in their UCSD careers.

"This would help avoid the situation students have had to deal with concerning the athletics, P.U.L.S.E., and possible A.S. referendum within a span of two years," Bean said.

Between inflation, which has essentially decreased the value of student fees in real dollars, and rising costs such as additional security for Sun God, quarterly fees are no longer enough to financially support the events that students enjoy without more funding, task force member and All-Campus Senator Utsav Gupta said.

Bean added that while a moratorium would allow UCSD students to forget about referenda for a few years, the overall funding outlook does not look good.

"Unless the California government decides to invest more in education, fees across the board will continue to rise," she said.

Readers can contact Sarah de Crescenzo at [sdecresc@ucsd.edu](mailto:sdecresc@ucsd.edu).

**“But I also know that fees are always increasing and that our wallets can’t take much more.”**

— Sarah Chang, vice president, Finance and Resources

pus will support it, because they know what it means for them and how hard it is to please groups with a limited amount of funds," Chang said. "But I also know that fees are always increasing and that our wallets can't take much more."

According to Lakhani, the election survey counted more students for than against raising fees, but he said that due to low voter turnout, he would not cite the results as a perfect representation of campuswide student opinion.

"The results of the survey indi-

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# University May Owe Communication Fees

► **AUDIT**, from page 1  
reviewed accounts payable, student accounting and other payroll-related transactions in an attempt to verify that tax information was properly reported to the federal government.

IRS spokesman Raphael Tulino said the agency does not comment on active audits, but Marvin Friedlander, the chief of the IRS branch that oversees colleges and universities, told the *San Diego Union-Tribune* when the audit began that the agency only audits public universities when it believes that business income or employment taxes are not being properly reported.

According to university spokeswoman Stacie A. Spector, the university is providing the IRS with information relating to a few dozen payments made in 2005, after which the agency will present UCSD with a final report of its findings and give the university an opportunity to comment on or correct anything that it believes to be inaccurate or incomplete.

While the audit has so far found that UCSD has been properly reporting tax calculations and remittances on compensation, Spector said that

for the 2005 and 2006 tax years, the university will likely be required to pay additional fees for cell-phone costs incurred by UCSD.

"In looking at various benefits provided to employees, and the potential for taxable transactions, the IRS has indicated that the UC policy on

**The UC policy on accountability for use of cell phones does not fully comply with regulatory requirements."**

—Stacie A. Spector,  
UCSD spokeswoman

accountability for use of cell phones does not fully comply with regulatory requirements for documentation," Spector said in an e-mail.

Although there is legislation currently pending in Congress to reduce documentation requirements for cell phones, Spector said it is unlikely that the IRS will apply

those changes retroactively to the tax years currently under examination.

The last time UCSD under went an investigation by the IRS was about 10 years ago as part of a UC-wide audit of "unrelated business income," which is generated by activities deemed by the agency as unrelated to the academic missions of colleges and universities, including travel tours, intellectual property and advertising revenue generated from sports events and television shows.

Friedlander added that that complaints from businesses have led the agency to increasingly focus on the UBI of colleges and universities, although the current audit of UCSD does not fall under that category.

"We've had complaints from some businesses that felt there is unfair competition with universities, in the area of travel tours and the production of TV shows and movies," he said. "Some businesses felt that there was not a level playing field."

Spector said the audit would most likely be finished by June.

Readers can contact Matthew McArdle at [mmcardle@ucsd.edu](mailto:mmcardle@ucsd.edu).

# Project to Inform Public of UC Benefits to State

► **CAMPAIGN**, from page 1  
its "UC The Way Forward" campaign with an informational video and fact-based examples of how their work benefits the state.

"In San Diego, there will be advertising on the local NPR affiliate and on the *Union-Tribune* web site," UC Executive Director of Strategic Communications Brad Hayward said in an e-mail. "We have a multimedia Web page that will reach out to people across the UC community, including at UCSD. And we're going to be building out the effort in new ways in the months ahead."

The campaign costs \$700,000, an amount that will help the university reach a wider audience in its effort to inform the public of its many services to California.

"We believe public institutions have a responsibility to tell the public about what they are doing for the people who support them with their tax dollars," Hayward said. "UC has a great story to tell — our faculty, staff and students have a huge impact on the economy, health and quality of life of this state — and we want the public to be aware of those contributions."

The UC system provides health care for over three million patients a year,

supplies nearly 400,000 jobs, enrolls more than 220,000 students each year and generates over \$14 billion for California's economy. With more than 13,000 students, the UC system also operates the nation's largest health science and medical training programs.

**Public institutions have a responsibility to tell the public about what they are doing ... with their tax dollars."**

— Brad Hayward, executive director,  
UC Strategic Communications

"The educational quality of the University of California is widely recognized," UC Executive Vice President of Business Operations Katherine N. Lapp said in a statement. "But the broader societal benefits of UC, and its active presence in communities beyond the boundaries of its campuses, are not as well known or understood."

Honored by the Sierra Club for ranking among the nation's top 10 sustainable universities, the UC system plays a key role in developing new sources of renewable energy worldwide. Other contributions include the university's agricultural and nutrition programs — which help farmers produce more than half of the nation's fruits and vegetables — outreach programs for K-12 schools and prominent research initiatives in fields ranging from transportation to medicine.

"An important responsibility of any public institution is fostering understanding of what the public receives in return for its investment in that institution — and that is what we seek to do with this new project," Lapp said. "We hope it will begin to give the people of our state a better understanding of how the work of UC contributes to the lives of every Californian, every day."

The UC system partnered with Citizen, a San Francisco-based marketing firm that specializes in serving public-interest organizations, to launch the project, which had been under development since last fall.

Readers can contact Kimberly Cheng at [k2cheng@ucsd.edu](mailto:k2cheng@ucsd.edu).

And the winner is ...

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# Seven SDSU Fraternities Targeted in Undercover Narcotics Sting Operation

► **BUST**, from page 1  
of a second student on campus, also from a cocaine overdose, in February 2008 prompted authorities to step up their efforts.

“This investigation spotlights two tragedies,” DEA Special Agent in Charge Ralph W. Partridge said in a statement. “The tragic drug overdose deaths of two college students and secondly, the shattered futures of those students who choose to continue to engage in the illicit sale and usage of a myriad of controlled substances.”

The investigation targeted seven campus fraternities and led to the arrest of several members of the Theta Chi and Phi Kappa Psi fraternities. Officials said that, in some fraternities, nearly all of the members were aware of the drug sales conducted by members from within their own fraternity houses.

Throughout the investigation, authorities conducted over 130 separate undercover purchases and seizures. According to officials, undercover agents regularly purchased cocaine from fraternity members over the course of the investigation. An official report from the San Diego District Attorney’s office stated 19 arrest warrants were issued for students who had sold drugs to undercover DEA agents.

Authorities said several of the

arrested individuals sent out mass text messages advertising drug sales over the last few months. In one case, Kenneth Ciacchio, 19, a member of the Theta Chi fraternity, sent a mass text message to a group he referred to as his “faithful customers,” informing them he and his associates would be unable to sell cocaine for a weekend while in

“Today’s arrests underscore the scope of the challenges universities face as we fight this ... problem.”  
— Stephen L. Weber, president, San Diego State University

Las Vegas. He also wrote that they would be having a “sale” on cocaine and listed the reduced prices in the message.

The investigation saw a total of nine search warrants issued for houses and apartments on and around the campus, including the Theta Chi fraternity house.

Students arrested in the raid have been suspended and those resid-

ing in university-managed housing have been evicted, campus officials said. None of those arrested will be allowed to attend classes or take final exams until all necessary legal proceedings have been completed.

In addition, campus officials announced Tuesday that six fraternities — Phi Kappa Psi, Theta Chi, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Kappa Theta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Alpha Mu — have been suspended until further investigation into their involvement with the drug ring is completed.

SDSU President Stephen L. Weber, who requested DEA assistance in the case upon learning of the scale of the drug ring early in the investigation, commended the efforts of investigators in a statement Tuesday and said that the bust reveals a larger national narcotics problem.

“Certainly today’s arrests underscore the scope of the challenges universities face as we fight this major societal problem,” Weber said. “We are determined to remove people from our community who have placed our students at risk, and to see that they are turned over to the criminal justice system. Today’s arrests are a big step forward toward a safer environment for our students, faculty, staff and neighbors.”

UCSD Chief of Police Orville King said that while no evidence



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN

Sigma Alpha Mu was among the six fraternities suspended from campus after the drug raids April 7. Seven fraternities were investigated throughout the course of the months-long sting operation.

that a drug operation of the magnitude witnessed at SDSU might exist at UCSD, any indication of such activity could produce a similar response that involves federal enforcement agencies.

“It would be naive to think that drug violations are not occurring on our campus, but we haven’t witnessed anything that would indicate an operation of the scale at SDSU,” King said. “In order to conduct an

[investigation] like that, you have to have information or intelligence that indicates that something like that is occurring. If we had information that led us to believe that activity like that was occurring on campus, then we would consider that kind of action and possibly with the involvement of an outside agency.”

Readers can contact Reza Farazmand at rfaraзма@ucsd.edu.

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Props to the trio of university system leaders that took their agenda to better prioritize higher education to politicians in Sacramento.

Flops to San Diego's newly marred reputation following the bust of a large fraternity-related drug ring at San Diego State University.



## EDITORIALS

## Loan Industry Problems Could Engulf Students

In his first conference interview with college newspaper editors, incoming UC President Mark G. Yudof voiced worry about the state of student loans. The industry that was embroiled in nationally recognized scandals of mismanagement and misdirection is apparently still reeling.

As college degrees become must-haves in an ever-increasingly competitive job market and tuition levels across the nation continue to rise, the end result is more broke students. A recent editorial on *Insidehighered.com* drew a scary comparison: What if this year's housing market crash happened to the loan industry?

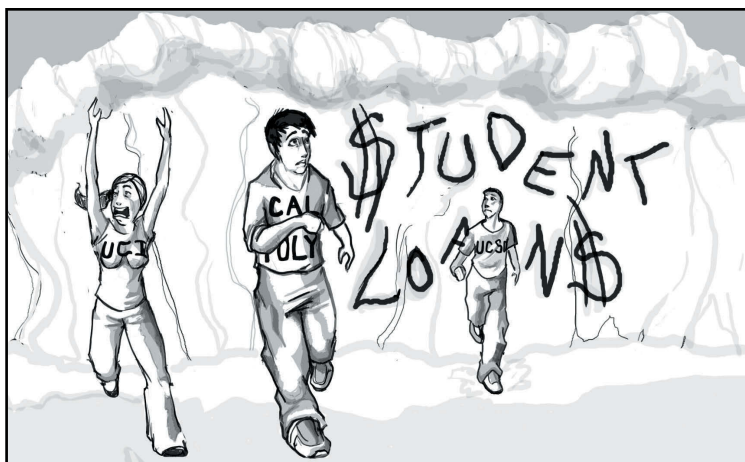
The logic isn't far-fetched. Like in the housing market, students are more likely to default on larger loans. As a result, private lenders are shying away from the market, leaving a big burden on federally subsidized loan sources. More than 50 lenders opted out of the massive Federal Family Education Loan program, finding that federal support was dwindling along with profits.

With the industry reaching what politicians consider a near-crisis

stage, federal agencies have rightly stepped in to nip disaster in the bud. U.S. Education Department Secretary Margaret Spellings announced to state agencies that they could soon be enlisted to administer a "lender of last resort." The program has been in the works for months as a deterrent to the industry's troubling trajectory, and offers aid to students who aren't able to obtain federally guaranteed loans from private lenders.

Congress is offering proper attention to the problem, recently passing legislation that extends Spellings' power to purchase loans from private lenders to manually revitalize the loans market. President George W. Bush is also lining up behind the legislation and is expected to approve it.

Meanwhile, Sallie Mae is enjoying stable profitability. A Wall Street research firm published a report of the legislation's impact on the largest student-loan company in the nation, finding that the bill would even further develop the company's share of the loans market as lesser competitors continue to retreat from the wavering industry. This board



would want moves in Washington that flood the market with different types of loans at different levels of interest.

But politicians are at least positioning themselves to get their arms around the fattening problem. Once Washington can shore up the gaping problems within the student-loan industry, politicians will be able to move toward more longer-term solutions to give accessibility to higher education the shot in the arm that it needs.

THE  GUARDIAN  
Charles Nguyen  
EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Matthew McArdle  
Hadley Mendoza  
MANAGING EDITORS

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## Nation's Economic Health Drags Down Job Outlook

Nationwide economic alarm has bled into higher education, producing grim predictions its future health: Degrees will continue to cost more as the assurance of them attracting employers shrinks. According to this season's latest national Job Outlook report, the damage will be concentrated within certain fields, but no less disabling.

UCSD's recent Life Sciences Career Expo was an accurate picture of the biotech industry. Job-hungry students hunted Price Center's floors for the juiciest opportunities — and there were plenty. The job fair ran the local gamut of biotech companies, from major institutions to specialized niche companies, with available tastes for every possible variety of biologist, chemist and biochemist. The Job Outlook report found that the overall 8-percent increase in job opportunities from companies specifically seeking to employ new college graduates was focused within the science sector. The report's authors added that job availabil-

ity in many other careers, such as finance, would be hit hardest by the economic slump.

No matter how robust the biotech industry becomes, the severity of recent economic troubles spells disaster for other job fields that are faltering. As a whole, students are disenchanted with the worth of their education. A recent national survey conducted by California State University Monterey Bay's Panetta Institute found that two-thirds of students are worried about being able to find a good job while 85 percent view the economy's health as "not so good or poor."

The most potent cure offered by experts is realism: "The important thing is to keep an open mind and be flexible — it's your first job, but it's not going to be your only job," said Mimi Collins of the National Association of Colleges and Employers. It's an astute but misdirected diagnosis: How far can you climb the ladder if you start at the very bottom? The disparity between careers' attractiveness is widen-



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ADAM PELTIER/GUARDIAN

ing because "administrative assistant" is accounting's entry-level position while the biotech industry hires its new graduates into higher-paying jobs with more potential for advancement.

The health of the job market shapes U.S. higher education — how it functions, what it offers and the kinds of students it enrolls. But the relationship is also mutual. Institutions of high-

er education can nudge the job market by developing its weaker areas. Constant cultivation of careers in nonscience fields, through career-specific job fairs, scholarships and grants, will make them more lucrative to students. Demand for employees in such fields must parallel a rise in interested employees before the health of job availability in nonscience sectors is rejuvenated.

## A Grim Diagnosis at National Mental Health Summit

By Charles Nguyen  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The link between mind and body is weakening, according to mental health experts around the nation. A meeting of mental health professionals this week produced a loud call for mental-health reform in institutions of higher education. It marked the first time that the American Psychiatric Association presented such in-depth discussion about how colleges and universities deal with issues of mental health and public safety.

Specifically, the 100 conference participants discussed issues of substance abuse, suicide, privacy laws and campus violence, highlighting the inefficiency of overwhelmed and underfunded campus mental-health facilities as well as current policies from campuses around the nation that push troubled students away. The most alarming trend is the slow deterioration of resources for vital campus services such as mental health, while the demand for such services is unfortunately not shrinking.

The University of California is ailing from the nationwide problem, as is UCSD. With the state's gloomy fiscal picture, priorities will be stretched across an expansive set of services, and mental health services are already taking a hit. At UC Davis, university administrators proposed a 7-percent budget cut to their funding to campus services, according to the *California Aggie*. The student government at Davis responded, arguing through a unanimously approved resolution that the drastic cuts, which would impact both professional counseling services and student organizations that provide counseling, would damage the university's mental health resources.

At UCSD, Vice Chancellor of Student Life Penny Rue has prioritized mental health. She rightly connects the vague element of campus climate to issues of mental health, an equally complicated but more institutionalized issue. Rue has seen the creation of several Wellness Centers on campus, which this year have provided students with a crucial

See **HEALTH**, page 5

## How to Get Good Money From Science, Without the Learning

Jobs are overrated. I mean, unless you're an engineering student who gets a bomb-ass paid internship or a bartender (seriously, if you are, Facebook me — let's hang out), it's kind of hard to get a well-paying job as a college student.

Sure, I have friends working part-time in labs and retail, and friends who spend a few hours a week tutoring middle schoolers, but between juggling classes and extracurriculars (ahem, *Guardian*) and maintaining a social life, it would be nearly impossible for me to squeeze in a job during the small amount of free time that I have left available. It's just not worth it to kill myself over some extra pocket change because the added stress of throwing a job into the mix would most likely send

my life into an unstoppable downward spiral.

I know, I know. There are people currently reading this column who are definitely thinking, "F--- you, man. You don't know what it's like to have to work to put yourself through school. My daddy isn't paying for college like yours is."

And I say to you all: "Pshaw."

I do know what's like to put myself through college, because I pay for every single expense myself. Although I am lucky enough to receive grants and Stafford Loans, oftentimes with sizeable refunds that provide me with a comfortable cushion that among paying for rent, food and books occasionally allows me to be a baller at the bar for a night, when I need easy money I just

look around campus.

You read correctly. UCSD is filled to the brim with opportuni-

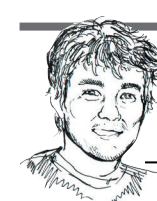
**“UCSD is filled to the brim with opportunities to make money with little or no effort required on your part.”**

ties to make money with little or no effort required on your part. More frequently than you might expect,

your answer for cash is just a mere phone call or e-mail away, and you don't even need to look hard to find layer upon layer of enticing income-boosting imagery.

Yup, look at the walls. Next time you're traipsing through Price Center on your way to grab a \$5 foot-long (quite possibly the best deal ever) or wait in an abnormally long line to chow down on a bite of decrepit orange chicken (seriously, the gnarled, glazed chunks look like aborted fetuses — and WTF is "Beijing beef"?), take a glance at the columns in the dining area.

They're loaded with flyers advertising none other than research studies — and they pay bank. As students at a research university, we're lucky to be constantly bombarded



**Word Up**

Matthew McArdle  
mmcardle@ucsd.edu

with chances to become human subjects in experiments. From political science and sociology to psychology and medicine, UCSD is a scientific ziggurat, so there's no good reason why every single one of you shouldn't be reaping the benefits.

Lo and behold, the opportunities stretch far behind the cramped Yellow Brick Road intestine of the newly expanded Price Center food

See **WORD**, page 5



# A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lazaro



## Fat Checks and Quick Money, Just an Experiment Away

► **WORD**, from page 1

court. Next time you walk past one of those giant concrete slabs sticking out of the ground (the ones that let you know you're in "Sixth College" on the way to class), look at the flyers a little more carefully. Beyond the event announcements and creepy offers to allegedly earn lots of money for the simple act of mailing envelopes (c'mon, if that was actually legit, everyone would be doing it) lies a treasure trove of research-study advertisements flashing money signs right in your face. Check out the San Diego Weekly Reader for even more sweet deals.

Since freshman year, I've enrolled in numerous studies, raking in hun-

dreds upon hundreds of dollars in cold hard cash during the process. Complete a quick survey and give up a dozen or so drops of blood from a finger for \$75? Count me in. Paste weirdly cool nodes to your head and take an easy computer test for \$20 during that two-hour break you have between classes? Obviously a yes — plus, you get to see what your brain waves look like, which is pretty cool even without the cash supplement.

I've even earned \$200 by acting as a guinea pig in an experimental acne-drug study (not to mention my skin improved), and just this week I completed the first leg of a study

that will send me home with another \$200 just for lying in a hospital bed for a few hours with an IV in my arm while a nurse takes some harmless blood samples. A friend of mine even got \$400 for stopping smoking weed for a month and giving up a few brain scans. (I didn't qualify because I was over the age limit, but seriously, how could you pass something like that up?)

So go, people. Screw that job and start taking advantage of the bevy of wallet-fattening research-study opportunities oozing from every campus nook. You'll thank me when you finally get a hold of that fatty check. And if not, I'll happily enroll in your place.

## Wellness Centers Offer Holistic Take on Campus' Mental Health

► **HEALTH**, from page 4

variety of holistic health services. At one of her first public meetings with the entire A.S. Council, Rue characterized UCSD's mental health as more related to anxiety than depression, based on meetings with the campus' mental health officials. This is an essential separation that needs to be considered when constructing a solution to campus mental health woes.

Cases of depression need long-term services that would mandate the employment of more professionals who could treat patients for longer periods. Cases of anxiety, however, would require professionals who are available for the sudden, abrupt kind of situations that produce intense anxiety.

Rue approaches mental health with a nicely calculated style. She's both identified the character of UCSD's mental health and how to treat it. Unfortunately, students at other campuses have found administrators less understanding. At the APA meeting, attendees said that students are afraid to report mental-health problems for fear of being forced from campus during mental health crises by "mandatory-leave policies." APA officials said that the policy strands needy students without a support system and permanently harm self-esteem.

Speakers also addressed the

gap between student and administrator interests in the area of mental health, saying that on-campus suicides tend to tarnish the university's reputation a lot more than deaths that take place at home or on breaks, leading universities to maintain mandatory-leave policies even though they are harmful to students. UCSD maintains no such policy, offering a number of post-suicide services to help students cope.

**It may be the best investment that students can make — after all, what pays more than good mental health?"**

During the discussion, the group also stressed the importance of increased peer interaction among individuals — especially graduate students, who face a higher suicide risk than undergraduates — sharing similar mental-

health issues to create a viable, tightly knit support system.

With funds waning, a fully developed system of mental health services will most likely find slowly paced university and state support. It is wholly possible to see students forced to pay for better mental health services. But it may be the best investment that students can make — after all, what pays more than good mental health?

Readers can contact Charles Nguyen at [charles\\_nguyen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:charles_nguyen@sbcglobal.net).

—Additional reporting by **Matthew McArdle**  
Senior Staff Writer

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THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008



THE BEST SONGS  
IN HIATUS  
THIS WEEK

Lil' Mama

- "Shawty Get Loose"
- "G-Slide"

Lykke Li

- "Dance, Dance, Dance"
- "Little Bit"

## RETRO ANIME LOSES IN THE CLUTCH

by edwin gonzalez + staff writer

**A** blaze with the dynamism of hurling headlights and steering comets' tails, the epileptically paced "Speed Racer" is an imaginative reincarnation of the '70s television show it once was. The Wachowski Brothers (the "Matrix" trilogy) seamlessly transition from the semiotics of eastern philosophy to the stylization of eastern cartoons: a family comedy made bearable for older audiences by its ambitious visual aesthetic and the speed at which its capriciously innovative camerawork paints cinematic impressionism.

From an early age, Speed (Emile Hirsch) has dreamt of growing up to be a world-famous racecar driver. Even after the death of elder brother Rex Racer, he continues to foster his automotive ardor, and with the support of his family and girlfriend Trixie (Christina Ricci), he commands the Mach 5 racecar under countless checkered flags to victory.

Soon enough, Speed's celebrated talent attracts the attention of an eminent racing corporation, but upon refusing to sign with Royalton Industries, Speed finds himself bullied by the cheap tricks of Dick Dastardly-esque villains trying to keep him from ever winning again. Partnering with enigmatic Racer X (Matthew Fox), Speed enters The Crucible, the same race that killed his brother, hoping to win and validate the honor of a sport marionetted by limitless greed.

By no means as referential or recalcitrant as previous efforts, the Wachowskis' "Speed Racer" frolics in its genre as a family comedy with jocose, cartoonish exuberance. Unconcerned with the darker themes of their more mature works, it performs on a similarly eccentric facade — only in Speed's world there is no sense of reality to ground it.

Hybrid characteristics coalesce throughout the film's style in a timeless atmosphere where even the rules of gravity don't exist.

Rendering hand-drawn animation through Technicolor CGI, the Wachowski Brothers' expansive vision is distinctively retro-futuristic. While technology seems to have become far more baroque in its grandeur, fashion has apparently reverted back to monochromatic articles — not to mention the fact that interior design hasn't changed much since 1972.

The film employs a variety of modern techniques that fragment and splice the narrative with disjunctive jumps back and forth in time. While many cultural critics are quick to cite the influence of television in conditioning

audiences to wince at the tiniest hint of boredom (and cinema's constant efforts to alleviate it with new and exciting ways to hide the story), "Speed Racer" has some logic in its seemingly chaotic discontinuity. Acting as a trajectory of thought, the racetrack becomes the stage for Speed's reflections, memories and ghosts. It's as if conventional notions of time dissolve on the track as slow-motion, flashbacks and jump-cuts struggle to keep up with depictions of his present state of mind.

But it is a racetrack nonetheless, and since neither the camera nor the eye is quick enough to match the velocity of Speed's thoughts or his car, a type of cinematic impressionism cavorts on the screen with a parade of colored lights wheeling in the background. Although at times the overwhelming digital-image bombardment creates an aura of artificiality that reads as



See **SPEED**, page 12

## THIS WEEK'S best new music

Lykke Li

★★★★★



Youth Novels

EMI Sweden

**T**hose frequenting popular music blogs will no doubt recognize the name Lykke Li, an artist who's been receiving quite a bit of hype thanks to her incredibly infectious single "Little Bit." Produced by Bjorn Yttling of Peter Bjorn and John fame, the song recalls the poppy percussions and addictive hooks that made "Young Folks" so memorable. Despite the single's brilliance, whether or not the hype-driven artist could follow up with an equally stellar album remained to be seen.

While *Youth Novels* starts slowly with "Melodies & Desires," the opener is easily overlooked thanks to a series of solid tracks, including standouts "Dance, Dance, Dance," "Let It Fall" and, of course, "Little Bit." The album's varied instrumentation, from strings to brass to quirky percussions, imitates the indie-pop aesthetic that made *Writer's Block* such a success. The songs not only characterize Lykke Li's vocals, essentially a sexually repressed El Perro del Mar, but also craft the identity of the rest of the album — catchy hooks interlaced with lyrics of lust and love.

"This Trumpet In My Head," a song which we can only assume was included to shift the album's tone, is pointlessly jarring. The combination of Spanish-style acoustic guitar riffs and trumpets laid over Li's redundant chant, "I can't get that trumpet out of my head," border on stupidity. The tune "Complaint Department" shares similar failures by trying to mix things up. Aside from its dullness, the strings, brass and percussion indicative throughout the album is suddenly replaced with laptop electronica, creating an obvious disconnect with the rest of the album and keeping the whole from truly shooting through the stratosphere.

*Youth Novels* redeems itself with some solid closers, like "Time Flies," a ballad that showcases Li's vocals. Despite setbacks, Li proves that even hyped artists can still deliver a fantastic debut.

— Philip Rhie  
STAFF WRITER

## TORTURE, BUSINESS AS USUAL

by josh christensen + senior staff writer

**F**our years ago, there was a cascade of news coverage on the tortures taking place in Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison. Within days of the story's release, there wasn't a man, woman or child not stumbling over its pronunciation and shaking they're heads in disgust. It was a nauseating display of abuse and exhibition, an ugly reminder of human nature's dark side, when the boundaries of moral behavior disappeared.

In Errol Morris' probing documentary, "Standard Operating Procedure," he attempts to shine some light on the scandal and reveal what lingered beyond those cropped photos brandished across television and the Internet. His design is clear — to expose what was eventually dismissed as an isolated incident for what it really was: a cover up of sanctioned torture and systematic abuse.

There are extensive interviews with the soldiers most intimately involved, excluding those still serving jail time. They offer insight into the circumstances of the photographs and tell the story of how civilian contractors and interrogation specialists set the standard for inhumane treatment. They're all apologetic, but none admit to much guilt, only that they did what they were instructed to do, as soldiers.

Throughout the interview material, the pictures themselves are displayed with a grandeur that could never be achieved on the news or Internet browser. The silver screen is tarnished by image after image of Iraqi men being tortured and humiliated. There are hundreds of photos that we never saw in 2004, presented now on the big screen to be etched into our collective memory.

Morris' most recent work, "The Fog of War" was a bril-

liant documentary on the life and times of Robert S. McNamara, the secretary of defense during the Vietnam War. It was a stunning film that had two things to thank for its success, a fascinating history in the embodiment of McNamara, and Morris' cunning special effects that brought his testimony to life. "Standard Operating Procedure" is Morris' attempt to repeat the magic of "Fog" by splicing the same mix of special effects and candid interviews. But where the special effects in "Fog" were both beautiful and haunting, adding depth to an already compelling narrative, the effects in "Standard Operating Procedure" served only as levity from a constant barrage of grotesque pictures and nonconfessionals.

After the months of intense media coverage of the infamous photographs the shock value is all but gone, and Morris' relentless parade of naked prisoners and grinning soldiers is like shoving a dog's nose in its own mess. We learned our lesson already, and have done our best in the last few years to forget. So now Morris wants to hold us by the neck and shout "NO! That's a bad citizen! Never do that again!"

But after four years, including two of research and production, Errol Morris' documentary fails to shine any new light on the scandal or break it down so we understand how to keep from repeating the past. It serves much more as a reminder of an event in America's past that most people have no control over, and would rather forget.

Standard Operating Procedure

★★

Directed by Errol Morris  
118 min.





# Words White People Like (When They Go to the Cinerama!)

**M**ovies are predicated on words. Images too, yes, but words make film. They create the blueprint, sell it and spread the message. So it's with great chagrin to look at the movie establishment (and the public) and their ill-chosen words. Words that, when removed from their original cinematic meaning, convey something different, something wrong, something dumb.

Some context: a while back, I recommended "Rushmore" to a friend's brother, a fan of "I Heart Huckabees," saying, "You might enjoy it — it's got a similar vibe." To which he replied, "Oh, they're both indie style?" Despite a strong urge to explode into a tapestry of obscenities, I resigned, "Yes, indie," and left him to fawn over "High School Musical."

Hearing that bitter word "indie" over and over again, I started thinking about movie-going words that get disconnected somewhere between meaning and intent. Those that we, as an audience, recklessly wield as if their usage will give the film purpose. Hundreds of overused terms clutter my mind, but here are the big four, the most wanted. Let's get this hate train rolling:

**Indie** — When did the abbreviated slang for independently funded filmmaking become the phrase for a full-on cinematic style? The easy blame: Wes Anderson, director of "Rushmore." His vibrant color schemes, geometric production designs, camera trickery and refined music selections have all but defined the "hip" style of the decade. This is not to argue that he set out to accomplish this, rather, the result is an unintended byproduct of his work.

Go back far enough, and you'll see where Anderson gets it: Mostly from the films of Hal Ashby, an oft-forgotten filmmaker from the 1970s who made some of the decade's most powerful pictures, notably "Harold and Maude," whose look and feel is appropriated by Anderson into his modern fare. And so, began a feel fashioned out of the cult status of "Harold and Maude," tooled into a viable visual scheme by "Rushmore," commercialized by "Garden State," and finally inducted into the mainstream by "Juno." I'm not trying to denigrate any of these flicks — in fact, I happen to like most of them — but it's the ridiculous faction of film enthusiasts who blindly equate method to means. I'm assuming they wouldn't count "Boys Don't Cry," a Sundance favorite, as "indie." Nor would they insist Gus Van Sant's "Last Days" is in the same "style," because it's not (warning: meaningless stock phrases ahead) sweet, or offbeat, or the most heinous of them all ...

**Quirky** — The be all, end all of words that give absolutely no resonance to the subject they're ascribed. You hear this one a lot as "a hilarious, quirky comedy." What does it even mean? The Oxford English dictionary limits "quirk" to either a "peculiar behavioral habits" a "strange chance occurrence," or "a sudden twist, turn, or curve." All that given,

what makes Juno MacGuff any different from Tony Montana in "Scarface"? Sure, little Juno dishes pop-culture references with the speed of that guy from the '90s Micro Machine ads, but Tony Montana has just as many verbal spins — with profanity — to also count as a "peculiar behavioral" habit. And he fucking kills people! Seems like an awfully "peculiar behavioral habit" to me. Juno's "strange occurrence" may be getting knocked up, but how does that top the "strange occurrence" of becoming a drug kingpin on a virtual whim? Judging by definition alone, "Scarface" is as much a quirky comedy (yes, the film is hysterical) as last year's critical darling. What, then, makes something quirky if the word is used for interesting characters and plots? You know, general practices of moviemaking?

**Gritty** — Almost every time you catch a glimpse at any new crime-drama, you'll spot the word "grit" or "gritty" machine-gunned across the reviews, posters, trailers, you name it. Anything about a gun in a big city is now gritty. It's most shamelessly abused during Oscar season, when studios roll out their cops-and-robbers shoot 'em ups in hopes of equaling the critical success of 2006's "The Departed," — and that film was one of the worst offenders of the word.

The concept of grit and gritty film emerged out of the late 1960s and early 1970s American New Wave movement, when young directors were given virtually free reign (and free coke) over their pet projects. Directors like Martin Scorsese, Arthur Penn ("Bonnie and Clyde") and Dennis Hopper ("Easy Rider") merged their lifestyles and interests with *cinema verite* — a stylistic technique designed to offer a "truer" sense of film, often applying documentary filmmaking concepts to fiction. Scorsese's "Mean Streets" from 1973 is probably the best example. It was gritty because Scorsese filmed it true to how he must have experienced growing up in Little Italy — and it wasn't pretty. Compare Robert De Niro fighting on a pool table to Leo Dicaprio slamming a thug through a soda fridge. Scorsese chose to follow De Niro with a hand-held camera, as if we're in the room, while offering a smooth tracking shot for Dicaprio — a cool number indeed, but it doesn't put us in closer touch with his character. "The Departed" is not street grit, it's Hollywood gloss.

**Urban** — You'll often see this one paired with "gritty" on movie posters littered throughout theater lobbies. But while "The Departed" was hailed as "the year's grittiest crime drama," it couldn't get the "urban" moniker sewn on. Why? Look at the cast: Dicaprio, Jack Nicholson, Matt Damon. You've got some white folks on the big screen. But take "American Gangster" and its cast (Denzel Washington, Common, Ruby Dee), and you've got yourself "the year's grittiest urban crime drama." Somewhere in the wake of independent black filmmakers, notably Spike Lee and John Singleton ("Boyz

**Better Red Than Dead**  
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See RED, page 12

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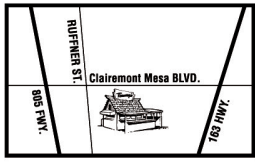
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Oh, what a night! S.D.'s House of Blues hosts a Nylon-curated evening of rockers starting with Switches, who come from the Franz Ferdinand school of angular post-punk — only these guys bring a melodramatic air to their struts. Then the discofied Virgins take the stage with their hipster-friendly, faux-British androgynous pop. Personal favorites Be Your Own Pet play the night's wild card act with bright-eyed guitar ballast and nostalgic high-school quips that appeal to the young soda-fiend in all of us. If you want to brood more, stay for goth-pop headliners She Wants Revenge. (CK)

“Redbelt”

LA JOLLA VILLAGE CINEMAS / OPENS MAY 9

If playwright/director David Mamet had an actor equivalent it would be Alec Guinness. While Guinness was the veritable man of many disguises — Mamet similarly leapfrogs from style to style, between hard-boiled “Glengarry Glen Ross” and charming “State and Main.” His new “Redbelt” finds the chameleon shifting again, this time in the form of martial arts meditation, as Chiwetel Ejiofor (“Children of Men”) must choose between his samurai code and a need for cash. Mamet's unmistakable sucker-punching dialogue makes “Redbelt” more than your standard fight film schlock. Plus it costars Tim-the-Tool-Man-Taylor, Tim Allen, and that's gotta count for something, right? (CM)

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recordings

Lil' Mama

■ VYP: Voice of the Young People

JIVE

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Matmos

■ Supreme Balloon

MATADOR

★★★★

There's a reason we don't judge artists by their first major singles: Ludacris would've been tossed out with his lick-lick-licking in "What's Your Fantasy" and we would have impulsively knocked off Lil' Mama, whose "Lip Gloss" is her inaugural single off *Voice of the Young People* that sells this femme firecracker short.

That's not to say "Lip Gloss" wasn't the best gym-room banger in years; it was just awkward glorifying a ditty about MAC brushes and boy crushes.

But why not consider Lil' Mama the second coming, a brand-new breed of novel hip-hop-stress that does the bounce-step hotter than Missy Elliott, tears down bars on Lil' Kim's level and reps an age group younger than Rihanna?

Lil' Mama isn't flanked by any of those big-timers on *VYP*, flying solo on some of the most addictively danceable tracks since Chris Brown's *Exclusive*. "G-Slide" is a rowdy, hopped-up version of the infant tune "Wheels on the Bus," horns bring swing-and-sway flavor to "Make it Hot," and "Lip Gloss" is shamefully undeniable with its teenage brashness.

By the time Lil' Mama brings Chris Brown and T-Pain for "Shawty Get Loose," we know the album's score: *VYP* is the bible of pops and locks, the handbook to stomping 'round the blacktop and romping through the streets. In the music video, the trio brings the hottest spaceship dance battle since Michael and Janet's "Scream."

But this ultra-addictive "hip-pop" album gets weak beyond its schoolyard-slammers. Some even manage to fall terribly flat, including the Pain-produced "What it is (Strike a Pose)," a mucky mixture of drumlines and anthem cheers. Odd pairings wreck other tracks: Lil' Mama is dragged to the depths of pop by Avril Lavigne's "Girlfriend Remix" and gets sickeningly cutesy on "Truly in Love" with the Stryder's Peter Toh.

*VYP* isn't the perfect career starter but rings an alarm loud enough for all of the industry's females to hear: This Mama can cook up some hot shit in her kitchen.

— Charles Nguyen  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

San Francisco glitch pioneers M.C. Schmidt and Drew Daniel take a turn for the light-hearted with their carnival synth suite *Supreme Balloon*, a heady departure from their previous sound documents of surgeon equipment and animal bowel movements. The gay partners in techno crime decided to craft an all-electronic album, dusting off antique gear from the likes of Waldorf and Moog to flesh out a fully realized retro Godzilla of tech nuance.

Opener "Rainbow Flag" sways like a lounge pianist in an old hotel, but when you walk a bit closer you realize the man and piano are actually made of millions of tiny robotic insects. It's a little disheartening to hear such eerie frequencies alone, but the pulsing sum is surprisingly pleasant. In contrast, "Polychords" steams ahead with the nostalgia of an aging amusement park ride, each analog pad perfectly aligned with the locomotive beat.

Occasionally, a grating cell phone ring from the early '90s or an 8-bit death rattle bubbles up to the surface, helping to alleviate any monotonous machine fatigue. However, the slipshod "Mister Mouth" glitches itself to hell without even offering listeners a warm electro chord to take the edge off; too much binary riffing can wear down your mind.

To lighten the inhuman mood, the duo summons a cavalcade of robo-fart tones on "Exciter Lamp," which sound fascinating on a pair of quality headphones but never exceed joke-novelty status. They follow it up with a morsel of baroque composition called "Les Folies Francaises," imitating the electric pomp of the "Clockwork Orange" soundtrack. The minimal piece segues into *Supreme Balloon*'s monstrous 24-minute title track, which builds and builds an aged mini-orchestra on a plain progression with the same mild epiphany of someone playing Earthbound on Super Nintendo for the first time. It doesn't burst like Godspeed's crescendos do, but Matmos seems to be more intrigued with restraint and how subtle you can get with circuits.

— Chris Kokiousis  
ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

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# No. 9 Tritons to Take on Wildcats Today



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN  
The Tritons were all over the basepaths during the May 4 series finale, scoring 16 runs in total, but needed one more run to tie their game against the Otters.

► **BASEBALL**, from page 16  
in the top of the ninth and UCSD fell by a final of 8-4.  
The Tritons lost a heartbreaker in the series and season finale, scoring eight runs in the bottom of the ninth, but fell one run short of tying the game and ended up losing 17-16. UCSD was down 4-2 through three innings before scoring in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to take a 7-4 lead.  
In the top of the seventh, the Otters put up seven runs and after the stretch, the Tritons responded with a lone run to cut CSUMB's lead to 11-8. The Otters put up three more runs in both

the eighth and ninth innings, making the game seem out of reach when the Tritons came to bat in the bottom of the ninth down 17-8. But UCSD put up eight runs and had the bases loaded with two outs, with a chance to pull off the walk-off win in the finale. But sophomore shortstop Vance Albitz, just named to the CCAA's Second Team, grounded out to the pitcher and the Otters escaped with the 17-16 win.  
Although the Tritons dropped their final two games before the postseason, the team is still entering the conference tournament with confidence.  
"If we play our ballgame — if our

starting pitching throws a few good innings, our offense hits the ball and we execute and our bullpen shuts it down at the end of the game — we should be pretty solid," Shibuya said. "We just have to go into each game saying 'we're going to throw our guy out there and we're going to beat you and we're going to move on to the next team.' As long as we have that as our plan and don't get too far ahead of ourselves, I think we're sitting pretty good."  
*Readers can contact Rael Enteen at renteen@ucsd.edu.*

# Scores in Final Round Lift Two UCSD Golfers

► **GOLF**, from page 16  
overall. Olsen experienced an opposite roller coaster on his round, playing the first 13 holes at even par before ending by stumbling on the last five holes to finish his round at +5 (77).  
In the final round on May 7, Phan shot a 72, giving him a three-day total of 223 and placing him 19th in the

tournament. Olsen shot a 75, making his total for the tournament 225 and sneaking him into 25th place.  
It is unclear if Phan or Olsen's scores will qualify either golfer for the NCAA Division-II National Championships, which start on May 20.  
Aside from the NCAA championships, the Tritons are looking forward

to making significant progress with next year's campaign. Because the Tritons have no seniors on the roster, the squad expects Phan and Olsen to improve on this year's results and lead the team next season.  
*Readers can contact Neil Joshi at nejoshi@ucsd.edu.*

# Broncos Buck at Triton Tennis' Talent



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN FILE  
With two more wins at the West Regional, the women's tennis team could earn a berth to the Division-II National Championships for the first time in three years.

► **TENNIS**, from page 16  
and get to know one another, but it's amazing how quickly they all came together."  
Holding a 3-0 lead after doubles, UCSD only needed two of the six singles matches to secure the win. The Tritons didn't have to wait long to secure their spot in the second round. Senior Molly Sullens was superb at number five singles, annihilating Kaitlin Woolridge by a perfect 6-0, 6-0 score. Tang clinched a UCSD victory in the tie with another dominating

win, defeating Michelle Stock, 6-1, 6-0. The other four singles matches were left unfinished; all matches are halted once the result has been decided in tournament play.  
The win improved UCSD to 14-10 overall and set up a blockbuster second round matchup with Brigham Young University-Hawaii in Laie, Hawaii, the eighth straight year that LaPlante's Tritons have made it that far in the tournament. The Seasideers are the top seed in the West Region and are a perfect 25-0

in the season.  
UCSD's matchup with BYUH in a West Regional Semifinal puts the Tritons two wins away from a possible invite to the Division-II National Championships. It's been three years since UCSD has made it that far nationally. The Tritons are still optimistic, but they know that BYUH is a large hurdle that has been tough to clear in years past.  
*Readers can contact Neil Joshi at nejoshi@ucsd.edu.*

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The RHP was named the CCAA's Freshman of the Year and earned an all-conference team honorable mention after a perfect 7-0 regular season to go along with a 1.99 ERA.

# UCSD Earns No. 2 Seed for Tourney



ANDREW RICCI/GUARDIAN

The Tritons were unable to capture the No. 1 seed for the postseason tournament after splitting their four-game set against CSUMB May 2 through May 4. UCSD will open its postseason play against Chico State today.

After splitting four games against Cal State Monterey Bay, the Tritons head to the CCAA tournament with the second seed.

By Rael Enteen  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BASEBALL** — A series split against Cal State Monterey Bay kept the No. 9 Tritons from capturing the California Collegiate Athletic Association's regular season crown, but with a 24-9 conference record, UCSD will enter the dou-

ble-elimination postseason tournament with the second seed in the field of four and face No. 11 Chico State today.

The Wildcats earned the tournament's third seed following an impressive 24-11 conference record, but lost the season series to the Tritons, 3-4. Although the Tritons won their regular season series against both the Wildcats and the Cal State Stanislaus Warriors, the tournament's fourth seed, they could only pull off a split with the CSUMB, one of the CCAA's cellar dwellers.

"It's always kind of nice to be going into the postseason on a high note," freshman pitcher Tim Shibuya said.

"But we didn't play our best baseball and Monterey definitely deserved to win those games. But it's over now and we have other things to focus on and right now our only concern is looking at Chico."

UCSD hosted CSUMB for four games, with the opener on May 2 a 4-0 Triton win. Sophomore starter Kirby St. John improved to 8-0 with seven strong innings and Shibuya, recently named the CCAA Freshman of the Year, and senior Keith Noe went the last two innings to complete the shutout.

On May 3, UCSD split a double-header with the Otters, dominating the first game 11-1 before falling 8-

4 in the nightcap at Triton Baseball Field. Freshman Guido Knudson was the latest Triton pitcher to stymie the Otter bats, as he went eight innings and allowed a lone run.

Sophomore Matt Rossman was the first UCSD pitcher to get hit hard, as the Otter bats finally awakened and tagged the righthander for five runs, only three of them earned, in 3.2 innings. The Tritons fell behind 7-1 after the Otters scored two more runs in the top of the fifth and started to come back with one run in the sixth and two in the seventh. But the Otters added an insurance run

See **BASEBALL**, page 15

# Tritons Blank Broncos to Advance in NCAAs

UCSD sweeps Cal Poly Pomona 5-0 to make it to the second round of the Division II Tennis Championships.

By Neil Joshi  
STAFF WRITER

**TENNIS** — The Tritons just completed their fifth consecutive undefeated season in California Collegiate Athletic Association play, a streak that now stands at 48 straight matches. However, in her 29th year with the Tritons, head coach Liz LaPlante plays down the streak's magnitude.

"We are proud of that streak, but it's the NCAA postseason play that has the most significance," she said.

With the regular season finished and another undefeated conference season in the books, the women's tennis team can now turn its attention to bigger and better things. The Tritons began their postseason road on May 3 when they hosted conference rival Cal Poly Pomona at home on the North Courts.

Even though UCSD dominated the Broncos, winning their two meetings by a combined score of 17-1, LaPlante insisted that everything changes in the postseason.

"I make sure to let my girls know that no team can be taken lightly since anyone can have a great day or a bad day," she said. "[Cal Poly Pomona] has some good players with a lot of potential and since they have nothing to lose, they can come in a little more relaxed."

The Tritons came out strong in the



ERIK JEPSEN/GUARDIAN FILE

The No. 23 women's tennis team dominated Cal Poly Pomona in the postseason after beating the Broncos twice in the regular season by a combined score of 17-1.

first round of the Division-II Tennis Championship, continuing their domination of Cal Poly Pomona with a 5-0 victory, which was sure to send a statement to the Broncos for the future and more importantly increase UCSD's momentum coming into its next match.

The 23rd-ranked Tritons started strong in doubles play against the Broncos, winning all three matches to gather some early momentum. At number one doubles, freshmen Taskeen Bains and Natalie Varnay battled hard

in the first postseason match of their careers, holding off Cal Poly's top duo of Jenny Tsai and Jennifer Chow, 8-6. Another freshmen pairing of Valerie Tang and Kimmie Dao made successful debuts in the Division-II tournament by beating Fallon Blattner and Kara Fisher, 8-3, at the second doubles position. The Tritons sent out a veteran group at the third doubles spot, with senior Justne Ang Fonte and junior Ina Dan taking on Kaitlin Woolridge and Jessica Winkler. The experienced duo jumped on their opponents early, and

never lifted their feet off the gas, blowing by them 8-0.

LaPlante has relished the talented group of freshmen that has come in, and she has repeatedly praised their skill and contribution to the Tritons' continued success.

"I've never had a stronger or more talented group of freshmen, and it's been great to see their progress," she said. "Everything was a little challenging at first just getting everyone to bond

See **TENNIS**, page 15

# JUNIORS POST TOP-25 FINISHES AT NCAA SUPER REGIONAL

By Neil Joshi  
STAFF WRITER

**GOLF** — Juniors Nathan Phan and Billy Olsen played some of their best golf during the regular season's final run. Their play at the California Collegiate Athletic Association Championships was superb, and they were each given individual bids to the NCAA Division II Men's Golf Northwest/West Super Regional in which both Tritons finished in the Top 25. The 16-team tournament comprised of the top eight teams of the West and North Regionals gathered at the Adobe Creek Golf Club in Petaluma, Calif., for a three-day event from May 5 to May 7. Only one team will advance to the Division-II Spring National Championships Festival in Houston on May 14 to May 17.

Phan and Olsen participated in the individual tournament that fielded 10 competitors who were all striving for the only spot in the national championships. The 10 participants in the individual field posted the top scores of teams that didn't qualify for the Super Regional. Phan earned his bid by posting a 218 at the CCAA championships, which was good for ninth place overall. Olsen ended that competition at 34th, with a score of 235.

In the first round, Olsen led the way by firing a first-round 73 (+1), which put him in a tie for 10th. Meanwhile, Phan shot an opening round 75 (+3), a showing that put him in a tie for 20th. Olsen started fast, getting birdies on his second, fourth and sixth holes. Three bogeys on the front nine had Olsen going out with an even 36 and birdies on 16 and 17 helped him climb the leaderboard and end with 73.

Phan started fast, going out with a -1, 35 on the front nine after tallying no bogeys and eight pars. However, Phan's strong opening round took a turn for the worst on the par-5 11th, where a triple-bogey eight set him back several strokes.

"That 11th hole was a disaster," Phan said. "I was playing some excellent golf, especially on the front nine, and was in a groove. 'Eleven proved to be an adventure, and really was a downer after the terrific start I was able to put together.'"

Olsen was understandably more pleased with his results.

"I really started and ended the round well, and it put me in a great position heading into the second round," he said. "My main concern is to keep the bogeys down because I know there are opportunities out there to get birdies and get closer to the leaders."

However, Olsen abstained from thinking too far ahead to finals and said he wanted to stay focused.

"There's a lot of work to do before that happens," he said.

Things took a turn for the worst for both golfers in the second round as Olsen stumbled to a 77 (+5) that dropped him to 24th place overall at +6 while Phan shot a second round 76 (+4) that has him at +7 overall and in 28th place. Phan endured a rough start to his second round, posting a double-bogey on the opening hole and a bogey on number two. He settled down after the tough start, and finished his front nine with a 40 (+4). Fortunately for Phan, he rebounded on the last nine, using two birdies to shoot an even par on the back nine and finish at 76

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Monday, May 5th  
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H	O	L	E	I	N	O	N	E	S	U	A	V	E
O	U	T	A	N	D	O	U	T	P	E	N	A	L
T	R	O	D	D	E	N			R	E	T	A	P
			S	E	X		T	H	I	N		N	O
H	E	M	I	N		O	R	A	L	S	A	R	T
O	L	I	N	S		T	U	B	E		A	R	A
T	I	N	T		S	T	A	I	D		M	I	T
R	E	D	O		C	E	N	T		S	A	V	E
O	W	L		F	O	R	T	S		C	R	E	S
D	I	E		R	O	S	S		S	A	Y		
D	E	S	P	O	T		H	E	L	L	M	A	N
E	S	S	E	S		D	I	A	N	E	L	A	N
R	E	L	E	T		A	R	S	O	N	I	S	T
S	L	Y	L	Y		D	E	P	R	E	S	S	E

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				8	3							4	
								1				8	
			1					9				3	
	8				6				7				
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		3											
5					1	2							
	6				7				2				

Level: **1** 2 3 4

				4		1				9			
			6			9			2				
	3									8			
8				3									2
		1			7				6				
2							5						9
	8									3			
		5			8				7				
	4		5			2							

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

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Find SUDOKU solutions on  
next Mondays Classified Section