

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

**A.S. Council Plans Grade Distribution Tool**

BY SARAH KANG  
*Staff Writer*

In three weeks, students will be able to see grading history and other statistics that can be used to evaluate classes and professors before choosing courses. This is due to a new grade distribution tool that will be available on the A.S. Council website.

The grade distribution tool, a free service provided by A.S. Council, will use data sets from all UCSD classes since 2007. Students will be able to search by class, department or professor. “They [will be able to] see a summary of GPA — what the grade point average that the professor gives out on average, how much students tend to drop the class, and things along those lines,” Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Mac Zilber said. “They [will] also be able to see... which classes at UCSD give out the most As, which ones give out the least.”

UCSD’s original grade distribution tool was taken down several years ago. The tool was not widely known to students and did not receive much traffic, Zilber said. The A.S. Academic Affairs Office had been working on creating a new grade distribution tool for about three years.

“Up until pretty recently, UCSD had a tool like this on its website,” Zilber said. “Once UCSD took the tool off the website, we felt that it would be useful for students to have access to this information in a way that was provided by a ucsd.edu address, not by some private company or something along those lines.”

See **EDUCATION DISTRIBUTION**, page 3

**SHUTTLE**

**New Shuttles Unveiled**



ANDREW OH/GUARDIAN

**Despite previous budget concerns, UCSD unveils five environmentally friendly shuttles**

BY NATALIE COVATE  
*Staff Writer*

**T**ransportation Services revealed five new, environmentally friendly buses at the beginning of this quarter.

These buses cost \$385,000 each. Vehicle reserves and grant funding financed the purchase. Transportation Services received \$50,000 for each bus from a grant awarded for replacing

diesel-burning buses with buses that use alternative fuel.

While the buses do not currently display any UCSD insignia, they will soon feature the new UCSD logo. “There really haven’t been any complaints about the buses because they have the same speed, acceleration rate and size,” A.S. Representative to the Transportation Committee Parminder Sandhu said. “The quality of the ride hasn’t changed, but it’s newer and cleaner inside.”

Unlike the old buses, which ran on diesel fuel, these buses run on compressed natural gas. According to Sandhu, the Transportation Committee is in favor of the purchase of these buses. Since CNG burns cleaner than diesel fuel, they are more environmentally friendly than the old buses. “The new CNG buses will help the campus meet its sustainability goals of reducing greenhouse gases and particulate emissions, while creating significant savings in fuel costs

See **SHUTTLE**, page 3

**DIVISION 1**

**Student Athlete to Council: Stop Publicizing Division I Election**

BY NICOLE CHAN  
*Associate News Editor*

A letter alleging that the athletics department is trying to keep the upcoming Division-I vote on the “down low” was leaked late Wednesday night. The letter, supposedly written by a student athlete, alleges collaborative efforts between A.S. Council and the athletics department towards securing the vote.

“As a member of the athletic community and a leader in trying to get the referendum passed, we were trying to keep the vote on the [down low],” the letter reads. “This is straight from the athletic department, we want people to vote, but we only want them to vote yes.”

According to former Sixth College Senator John Condello, the letter was released by an unnamed vice president to a group against the move to Division I. It began circulating on Facebook on Wednesday night.

“The VP who released it was approached by Alyssa Wing and was told to keep all of this on

the down low,” Condello said. “That didn’t really happen.”

Wing denied any connection to the note and said that A.S. Council has a policy of neutrality.

“As far as we know, the note that appeared on Facebook was entirely unaffiliated with A.S., the pro campaign, the athletics department, or any other organized group involved with the referendum,” Wing said in an email. “Contrary to some of the comments made, the Facebook message was not an A.S. email that circulated. To my knowledge, it was a message that was sent to an A.S. councilmember.”

Wing said A.S. Council will partake in an “unprecedented neutral voter awareness operation” when voting opens during Week 8.

The referendum, if passed by students in the upcoming special election, would add a \$165 fee per student per quarter to fund the move to Division I sports. Voting begins Week 8 and will continue into Week 9.

Readers can contact Nicole Chan at n3chan@ucsd.edu

**INTERNATIONAL CLUB 70’S DANCE**



BRIAN MONROE/GUARDIAN

UCSD’s International Club presented “Discorama,” an international fever mixer on Wednesday Jan. 18, inviting students to participate by dressing up in creative 70’s era costumes.

**SPOKEN**

“It’s about doing what we need to do, playing the game we love, and having fun.”

JESSICA MILLSAP  
UCSD Women’s Softball  
Assistant Coach

**FORECAST**



THURSDAY  
H 69 L 45



FRIDAY  
H 72 L 44

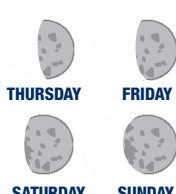


SATURDAY  
H 72 L 42



SUNDAY  
H 72 L 45

**NIGHT WATCH**



**SURF REPORT**

THURSDAY  
Height: 2 ft.  
Wind: 5-10 mph  
Water Temp: 58 F

FRIDAY  
Height: 3 ft.  
Wind: 5-9 mph  
Water Temp: 58 F

SATURDAY  
Height: 2 ft.  
Wind: 5-9 mph  
Water Temp: 58 F

SUNDAY  
Height: 3 ft.  
Wind: 7-8 mph  
Water Temp: 58 F

**GAS PER GALLON**

LOW  
**\$3.57**  
Costco, Chula Vista  
895 East H St. near Tierra Del Ray

HIGH  
**\$4.49**  
76, Coronado  
900 Orange Ave & 9th St.

**INSIDE**

- Birdland ..... 2
- Lights and Sirens..... 3
- Talking to Machines..... 4
- Letter to the Editor ..... 5
- Best of San Diego ..... 6
- Sudoku ..... 9
- Sports ..... 12



## AS PER USUAL By Dami Lee



### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

# Cold Turkey More Effective Than Smoking Aids

BY JAVIER ARMSTRONG  
Staff Writer

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REBEKAH HWANG/GUARDIAN

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15 Year Celebration of Faithful, Soulful Expressions



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Lunch served from 11am-2pm • Program from 12pm-1:30pm



UC San Diego

\*Lunch Prices vary.  
Visa and MasterCard accepted.

UC San Diego students, staff, faculty, and the public are invited to enjoy a taste of African-American culture through home-cooked soul food, inspiring entertainment, and more!

General Admission is free.  
Complimentary dessert is included with the purchase of a full entrée\*. For more info, please visit [hdh.ucsd.edu/bhm](http://hdh.ucsd.edu/bhm).

**SPECIAL GIFT FOR THE FIRST 100 GUESTS**  
(STARTING AT 11:30AM)

ENTERTAINMENT FEATURING:

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Grammy Award-Winning saxophonist from

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**THEOTIS DUNCAN,**

Singing *The Black National Anthem*

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**HIGHER AUTHORITY, Female Gospel Group**

**TAM TAM MANDINGUE USA,**

African Drum & Dance Troupe

**SD SCHOOL OF CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS, Dance**

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**V i c e**  
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"The March 1 protest is going to happen anyway," Associate Vice President of College Affairs **Leonard Bobbitt** said. "Even if A.S. doesn't endorse it, you can still plan the event. I think ultimately we will endorse it, but [the resolution] needs some development."

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Sixth College Senator **Cody Marshall** discussed his senator project, the Division I Speed Dating event. During this event, up to 350 students will be able to sit with A.S. Council and discuss the Division I referendum over free pizza. Hopefully, the attendance for free pizza will be even higher than it was for Wednesday night's free cheese balls.

## New Business

NATALIE COVATE  
ncovate@ucsd.edu



# Grade Distribution Tool is Hoped to Increase A.S. Publicity

► **DISTRIBUTION**, from page 1

Although similar third-party websites that evaluate teachers and classes, such as [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com) already exist, Zilber said that the council's new tool will be less subjective. "I think this provides them with information that is more objective than things like Rate My

Professors," Zilber said. "I think that I often hear faculty complain that Rate My Professors is biased because only the students who love the class or the students that hate the class will report on what's happening. So I think it's nice to give students access to more objective information, and they don't have to rely on a small sample size."

Zilber said he hopes that offering the grade distribution tool on the A.S. Council website will draw more traffic to the website and help A.S. Council promote a variety of other services in the future.

Readers can contact Sarah Kang at [sak019@ucsd.edu](mailto:sak019@ucsd.edu)

# New Buses Will Save UCSD Over \$200K Annually

► **SHUTTLE**, from page 1

for the university," Assistant Vice Chancellor of Auxiliary and Plant Services Russel Thackson said in an email. "Environmental sustainability is a part of UC San Diego's DNA and a top priority for Transportation Services."

CNG costs about half of what diesel fuel costs. Thackson estimates a savings of approximately \$30,000 per bus per year, meaning the current fleet of five new buses will save Transportation Services about \$150,000 per year.

Thackson said this savings will ultimately help Transportation Services' current \$7 million deficit. "The new CNG buses are a smart investment both fiscally and environmentally," Thackson said. "Not only do they provide significant operational costs savings, they also lower our overall emissions. Purchasing the CNG buses is just one element in our ongoing push to

meet UC San Diego sustainability goals."

While there are currently five new buses in the bus fleet, Transportation Services is expecting two more buses, which will make the annual fuel and maintenance savings \$210,000 annually. The two additional buses are expected to arrive in late 2012. The blue and white shuttles that these buses replaced were past their ten-year lifespan. According to Thackson, their age made them expensive to operate and maintain.

"To ensure the [old] vehicles were in compliance with the California Clean Air Act, each bus would have needed to be retrofitted with diesel pollution control devices," Thackson said. "The buses were also due for further repair of major components like engines and transmissions."

Rather than purchase these parts for the old buses, which would have cost over 50 percent of the

initial purchase price for the old buses, Transportation Services put the money towards the new buses. "The cost to replace a bus is pretty expensive, but from this point on, every bus [Transportation Services buys] will be an environmentally friendly CNG bus," Sandhu said. The buses currently run on the Regents route, as well as on the Arriba and Nobel routes. "The routes [that the buses are used on] were chosen based on passenger usage and bus capacity, as well as to maximize use of the more cost-effective CNG fuel in an effort to be as environmentally and economically efficient as possible," Thackson said.

Currently, the Transportation Committee is surveying commuter students to help determine if shuttle routes or MTS services will be cut or combined.

Readers can contact Natalie Covate at [ncovate@ucsd.edu](mailto:ncovate@ucsd.edu)

# Majority of Smokers Able to Quit Without Medication

► **QUITTING**, from page 2

you." Pierce said that an increase in people who attempt to quit has not translated to higher success stories. The increased availability of quitting aids has not shown to be effective, according to Pierce.

"The policy at the moment says get a drug," Pierce said. "Yet the results we found show that 60 percent of successful quitters do it on their own." Pierce said the current policy is not beneficial because it discourages people from quitting on their

own. "There will be a lot of discussion on this topic, at the next World Conference on Tobacco or Health," Pierce said.

Readers can contact Javier Armstrong at [jtarmstr@ucsd.edu](mailto:jtarmstr@ucsd.edu)

# CALL FOR CONTENT

The Zone is launching its new wellness magazine, *The Good Life*, formerly known as *LiveWell*. We are looking for UCSD students, staff, faculty and alumni interested in submitting written material and/or artwork that thematically revolves around at least one of the following **8 Dimensions of Well-being**:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Social</li> <li>□ Spiritual</li> <li>□ Occupational</li> <li>□ Financial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Environmental</li> <li>□ Physical</li> <li>□ Intellectual</li> <li>□ Emotional</li> </ul>
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**We are looking for :**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articles</li> <li>Poems</li> <li>Short Stories</li> <li>Columns</li> <li>Healthy Recipes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photos</li> <li>Comics</li> <li>Graphic Designs</li> <li>Artwork</li> <li>Illustrations</li> </ul>
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Please submit your pieces by Friday of Week Six and include your name, contact information, and status (student, staff, faculty or alumni) to [goodlife@ucsd.edu](mailto:goodlife@ucsd.edu).

Thank you!



## AS PER USUAL By Dami Lee



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Council decided it would be best to vote again next week so that the language of the resolution would have a chance to develop.

"We all talked about Samer's proposal and were critical of it, but none of you said that you would sit down and hash it out with him," Roosevelt Senator **Jackie Clavin** said. "These are the things we should be taking a stance on and we should all be willing to help."

Sixth College Senator **Cody Marshall** discussed his senator project, the Division I Speed Dating event. During this event, up to 350 students will be able to sit with A.S. Council and discuss the Division I referendum over free pizza. Hopefully, the attendance for free pizza will be even higher than it was for Wednesday night's free cheese balls.

## New Business

NATALIE COVATE  
ncovate@ucsd.edu



# Grade Distribution Tool is Hoped to Increase A.S. Publicity

► **DISTRIBUTION**, from page 1

Although similar third-party websites that evaluate teachers and classes, such as [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com) already exist, Zilber said that the council's new tool will be less subjective. "I think this provides them with information that is more objective than things like Rate My

Professors," Zilber said. "I think that I often hear faculty complain that Rate My Professors is biased because only the students who love the class or the students that hate the class will report on what's happening. So I think it's nice to give students access to more objective information, and they don't have to rely on a small sample size."

Zilber said he hopes that offering the grade distribution tool on the A.S. Council website will draw more traffic to the website and help A.S. Council promote a variety of other services in the future.

Readers can contact Sarah Kang at [sak019@ucsd.edu](mailto:sak019@ucsd.edu)

# New Buses Will Save UCSD Over \$200K Annually

► **SHUTTLE**, from page 1

for the university," Assistant Vice Chancellor of Auxiliary and Plant Services Russel Thackson said in an email. "Environmental sustainability is a part of UC San Diego's DNA and a top priority for Transportation Services."

CNG costs about half of what diesel fuel costs. Thackson estimates a savings of approximately \$30,000 per bus per year, meaning the current fleet of five new buses will save Transportation Services about \$150,000 per year.

Thackson said this savings will ultimately help Transportation Services' current \$7 million deficit. "The new CNG buses are a smart investment both fiscally and environmentally," Thackson said. "Not only do they provide significant operational costs savings, they also lower our overall emissions. Purchasing the CNG buses is just one element in our ongoing push to

meet UC San Diego sustainability goals."

While there are currently five new buses in the bus fleet, Transportation Services is expecting two more buses, which will make the annual fuel and maintenance savings \$210,000 annually. The two additional buses are expected to arrive in late 2012. The blue and white shuttles that these buses replaced were past their ten-year lifespan. According to Thackson, their age made them expensive to operate and maintain.

"To ensure the [old] vehicles were in compliance with the California Clean Air Act, each bus would have needed to be retrofitted with diesel pollution control devices," Thackson said. "The buses were also due for further repair of major components like engines and transmissions."

Rather than purchase these parts for the old buses, which would have cost over 50 percent of the

initial purchase price for the old buses, Transportation Services put the money towards the new buses. "The cost to replace a bus is pretty expensive, but from this point on, every bus [Transportation Services buys] will be an environmentally friendly CNG bus," Sandhu said. The buses currently run on the Regents route, as well as on the Arriba and Nobel routes. "The routes [that the buses are used on] were chosen based on passenger usage and bus capacity, as well as to maximize use of the more cost-effective CNG fuel in an effort to be as environmentally and economically efficient as possible," Thackson said.

Currently, the Transportation Committee is surveying commuter students to help determine if shuttle routes or MTS services will be cut or combined.

Readers can contact Natalie Covate at [ncovate@ucsd.edu](mailto:ncovate@ucsd.edu)

# Majority of Smokers Able to Quit Without Medication

► **QUITTING**, from page 2

you." Pierce said that an increase in people who attempt to quit has not translated to higher success stories. The increased availability of quitting aids has not shown to be effective, according to Pierce.

"The policy at the moment says get a drug," Pierce said. "Yet the results we found show that 60 percent of successful quitters do it on their own." Pierce said the current policy is not beneficial because it discourages people from quitting on their

own. "There will be a lot of discussion on this topic, at the next World Conference on Tobacco or Health," Pierce said.

Readers can contact Javier Armstrong at [jtarmstr@ucsd.edu](mailto:jtarmstr@ucsd.edu)

# CALL FOR CONTENT

The Zone is launching its new wellness magazine, *The Good Life*, formerly known as *LiveWell*. We are looking for UCSD students, staff, faculty and alumni interested in submitting written material and/or artwork that thematically revolves around at least one of the following **8 Dimensions of Well-being**:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Social</li> <li>□ Spiritual</li> <li>□ Occupational</li> <li>□ Financial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Environmental</li> <li>□ Physical</li> <li>□ Intellectual</li> <li>□ Emotional</li> </ul>
--	--

**We are looking for :**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articles</li> <li>Poems</li> <li>Short Stories</li> <li>Columns</li> <li>Healthy Recipes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photos</li> <li>Comics</li> <li>Graphic Designs</li> <li>Artwork</li> <li>Illustrations</li> </ul>
--	---

Please submit your pieces by Friday of Week Six and include your name, contact information, and status (student, staff, faculty or alumni) to [goodlife@ucsd.edu](mailto:goodlife@ucsd.edu).

Thank you!



CONTACT THE EDITOR **MADELINE MANN**  
[opinion@ucsdguardian.org](mailto:opinion@ucsdguardian.org)

# OPINION

## EDITORIALS

# Stepping Up the Competition

*The UC system continues to pay administrators below other comparative systems, but with the reputation of the UC campuses, the system will find the talent it deserves.*

**THE GUARDIAN**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO

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Last July, our CSU neighbor San Diego State University hired a new president — a feat we're in the midst of here at UCSD ever since Chancellor Marye Anne Fox announced that she will end her eight-year tenure this June. The new SDSU president, Eliot Hirshman — previously provost and senior vice president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County — was offered a hefty salary of \$400,000. The amount is a \$100,000 raise from his predecessor's salary, and has the dubious distinction of being the highest salary in the CSU system.

What's worse, the CSU trustees hired him at this 34-percent salary increase on July 12, the same day they voted to increase student tuition by 12 percent.

As a result, a state senator has introduced legislation to limit UC and CSU executives. Senate Bill 967, introduced Jan. 13 by Sen. Leland Yee (D-San Francisco), would prohibit pay raises within two years of state budget cuts or when tuition and student fees are increased. Additionally, the bill would cap the salaries of newly hired administrators to no more than 5 percent of their predecessor's pay. If passed, the bill would be legally binding for the CSU system, but only a recommendation for the autonomous UC system.

Yee — who has been a vocal supporter of public higher education — introduced a similar

bill in 2009 that passed in the state legislature but was later vetoed by former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Gov. Jerry Brown, who recently cut 1 billion from higher education, probably wouldn't do the same, considering that even he objected to Hirshman's pay package.

But CSU and UC officials have defended such raises, claiming that they're necessary for recruiting top talent. And while it's difficult to swallow such overwhelming salaries when schools are fighting to keep libraries open, we have to admit that, looking at the compensation received by other public university admins nationwide, \$400,000 doesn't look so unreasonable.

At University of Alabama — a public school with a smaller overall budget than SDSU (685 million to 776 million, respectively) and smaller enrollment (30,500 to 31,700) — the president's salary is \$192,161 more than Hirshman's. Across the board, presidents at other public universities are making the same, if not more, than the newly hired exec at SDSU. Regardless, the pay increases send the wrong message to students struggling to pay rising fees. More importantly, we simply can't afford it.

Such comparisons to other universities

See **SALARY**, page 5

## Buy Back Your Pride by Saving on Textbooks

Buying textbooks is the bane of every poor college student's existence. The only thing worse than getting back \$20 for a \$200 book at the bookstore is being forced to buy those god-awful course readers that go straight into the recycling bin mere seconds after your final. Never fear, How-to Guru will teach you how to cheat the system and get texts cheap, so eating will no longer be an occasional luxury.

First things first — your most essential resources are your friends and social groups. Don't be afraid to



[opinion@ucsdguardian.org](mailto:opinion@ucsdguardian.org)

turn the ol' puppy-dog eyes on your friends when you ask to mooch their old textbooks for a quarter or two. If this doesn't fly, try negotiating for a reasonable price by dropping hints at how their friendship has changed your life all the while. Don't be afraid to brown-nose — you may be pleasantly surprised at the results.

If you're lucky, sometimes you can get away with skimping on buying texts altogether. Checking RateMyProfessors can be a lifesaver because sometimes a kind soul will announce that that grossly overpriced textbook on your list is supplementary reading at best. This can save you from parading into class with your massive textbook in hand, only to bust a vein when the professor announces the class is based off of lecture material.

For the linguists out there: Don't buy any of the multiple textbooks, CDs and DVDs required for linguistics courses because you can simply use and abuse the language lab on the third floor of HSS, where all of the materials are available for free.

If you can't weasel your way out of buying textbooks, look no farther than using online resources such as Facebook Marketplace, PostYourBook, and Uloop. Through these sites, students can negotiate prices and arrange to meet with each other on-campus to make exchanges. PostYourBook has been mass-emailing the entire UCSD campus for two consecutive quarters — the website boasts good prices that can be bartered down with actual students.

For the starving literature majors out there, PDFs of public domain books (Shakespeare, Kant, Locke, etc.) can be downloaded free from sites like Project Gutenberg. You can read these on your laptop, or a Kindle if you're feeling fancy.

Start looking for texts as soon as you get your required list because ordering online can save you a wad. Websites such as Amazon, Half and AbeBooks can give you a quick fix, with books on the market as low as a few cents (shipping is a sneaky little gremlin, though). What's more, you can sell back your books through these same sites, instead of being massively gypped by the insulting bookstore buyback prices.

Next quarter, do your wallet — and your stomach — a favor and investigate your options before turning to the bookstore as a last resort.

## Davis Pepper Spray Crisis Consultant Will Only Raise More Outrage

It's been three months since the pepper spray incident seen around the world. Since the now-iconic example of police brutality — when Lt. John Pike pepper sprayed a group of seated student protesters — UC Davis has found itself at the center of worldwide press scrutiny. Over 100,000 people have petitioned for the resignation of Chancellor Linda Katehi, the woman who ordered the police involvement. Pike is now instantly recognizable as the dubious star of the “pepper-spraying cop” meme. Davis itself is a symbol of the worst opposition to the Occupy movement. And in dealing with this public relations nightmare, the university committed another public relations faux pas — shelling out \$100,000 for a crisis consultant to help itself deal with the fallout. Worse, the crisis consultant is from a company that had ties to the same organization that's supposed to independently investigate the Nov. 18 incident.

After the initial knee-jerk reaction of annoyance at misplaced funds, it's understandable that the volume of press

inquiries is more than one department can handle. University communications staff are equipped to write press releases promoting campus events, not respond to thousands of requests demanding an interview and demanding it now. And the money isn't coming from students' pockets either. UC spokeswoman Lynn Tierney has said that the consultant's salary is coming from an emergency reserve fund and, as much as we wish that all UC money goes toward education, it's reasonable that each campus has a crisis fund unrelated to student tuition, and that now would be the time for Davis to use it.

But none of this excuses the bigger issue that stems from hiring this particular crisis consultant. Davis hired the consultant from Marsh, a company that was once part of Kroll, the business still investigating the pepper spray event. Though the companies split in 2010, and both Tierney and UC President Mark G. Yudof both see no conflict of interest arising from the former split, the connection still

raises concerns over integrity on both sides. A crisis consultant, responsible for helping UCD respond to an unflattering incident and portray itself in the best possible light, should not be in any way connected to the people conducting the investigation itself.

As UC Santa Cruz professor Robert Meister stated, without knowing the extent to which the two organizations will work together, there will always be the suspicion that the probe's fact-finding is trying to fit into a coordinated script to make the school look better.

Ultimately, Davis's poor response to a reasonable need for crisis help is likely to inspire more ire.

Although prosecutors have announced that none of the original demonstrators will be charged, and although the police chief who directly approved the pepper spraying is still on (albeit paid) administrative leave, this new move isn't doing Davis any favors in the eyes of the people that should be its most important constituents: its students.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PHILIP JIA/GUARDIAN



## IN OTHER NEWS By Rebekah Hwang



### *Slight Salary Cap Raise Will Strike Adequate Balance*

► **SALARY**, from page 4

lose sight of the more dire circumstances occurring here in the floundering Golden State. The fiscal condition of California and its public schools is unique.

Let's look at the University of Alabama again. Despite \$59 million lost in state appropriations, no employees at UA have lost jobs, had salary cuts or been furloughed, President Robert Witt said. With our cuts at 1 billion and counting, it's safe to say that we are in a far different place. So rather than compare ourselves to other universities, we should be looking critically at what our much stricter budget can actually sustain, which is what this bill is asking us to do.

And it's not as though this bill eliminates the possibility of raises altogether. The 5-percent wiggle room in the bill will allow us to hold on to our current talent, or seek executives on par with them. In essence, we can afford talent like National Medal of Science winner Marye

Anne Fox now, so we should be able to find someone in her league at a 5-percent salary increase later.

Admittedly, there's high competition for qualified university admin; we aren't searching for replacements in a vacuum, especially if less-struggling systems are offering more. But the reputation of the California public university system and a more-than-decent salary given our hard times should be sufficient to yield a few willing candidates. Perhaps an increase in the percentage from a 5-percent cap to a 10-percent one would be a due compromise, allowing us to stay competitive nationally in the search for top executive talent while keeping an eye on our budget.

But it might be a moot point anyway. As admirable as Senate Bill 967 is, the timing is completely off. CSU plans to hire six new campus presidents this year, and it's unlikely that the bill would become law before the hires take place.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *Magazine Insert Signals Selling Out*

Dear Editor,

It is with great regret that I pen this letter to mark the recent passing of the Guardian's Dignity. It was only after a particularly arduous and protracted suffering that it finally made the dark passage from this world to the next, having been ill for some time from a perilous mixture of media funding deficiencies and student apathy.

In the last week of its life, the Guardian's Dignity submitted to an experimental treatment that included repeated injections of glossy advertising in an attempt to support its failing financial system.

While this treatment imbued the Guardian with the revenue it so desperately needed, in the end it served as a tragic final blow to feeble Dignity. And with that, Dignity departed quietly early this Thursday morning, as the Guardian was being distributed throughout campus.

It will be missed (by some). The Guardian's Dignity was preceded in death by the usefulness of A.S. Council and the affordability of a UC education.

In lieu of flowers, it is recommended that donations be made to local independent media.

—Samantha Sanchez  
Senior, Revelle College

advanced (old) scholar, I've been on a number of campuses all over North America. My parents are both Michigan alumni. Yes, I've been to The Big House (Michigan's enormous football stadium). It was fun. I've got an undergrad degree from Queen's University, Kingston, which has plenty of in-your-face school spirit. Interesting campus life: Fraternities/sororities are totally outlawed. College sports play a minor role at Queen's, for most involved. But as an undergrad, the place crackled with rah-rah enthusiasm. You don't need Greeks or The Big House for school spirit, just a particular brand of school spirit.

The idea that school spirit follows from elite athletics is contrived. School spirit emanates from the student body, not from branding, not from hero worship. The number of skateboards that locomote here is impressive! The student body runs co-ops, Che Cafe, Sun God and a fairly safe campus. Why leave Cal, Stanford and UCLA in order to promote the clamorous, libidinous company of the "college sports" fans? I'll tell you why: to sell more merchandise. Why bother? Save your money, students!

—RMB Hoffman  
Postdoc, Department of Chemistry

► The Guardian welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be addressed, and written, to the editor of the Guardian. Letters are limited to 500 words, and all letters must include the writer's name, college and year (undergraduates), department (graduate students or professors) or city of residence (local residents). A maximum of three signatories per letter is permitted. The Guardian Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, clarity and civility. The Editorial Board reserves the right to reject letters for publication. Due to the volume of mail we receive, we do not confirm receipt or publication of a letter.

### *Student Collaboration Creates Needed Spirit*

Dear Editor,

I was inspired by Roberta Alexander's letter published Jan. 30. As an — ahem — somewhat

## MTS Moves Me!

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sdmts

### FREE Rides with Your UC San Diego Bus Zone Sticker!

Ride to La Jolla, Old Town, University City and Hillcrest.  
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www.sdmts.com

Includes a UC San Diego subsidy. Limit one pass per student. Student ID required for purchase. Student pass stickers are not transferable and are VOID if removed.

## Bus and trolley arrival times on your phone

Text INFO to GOMTS (46687)

**READY. TEXT. GO!** Text and data rates may apply.

# triton

WEEK 4 PHOTO CONTEST

## OUTFITTERS

The Associated Students Store

### Submit a creative photo featuring Triton Outfitters Merchandise!

### The winning photo gets a FREE Triton Outfitter T-Shirt.

Be sure to Like our Facebook page and post your photo submission on our page. Contest runs during Week 4 (1/30-2/3). See rules on our page. Winners will be notified through Facebook.

facebook.com/tritonoutfitters



CONTACT THE EDITOR REN EBEL  
hiatus@ucsdguardian.org

## hiatus

arts &amp; entertainment

CONCERT PREVIEW

hollywood &  
WHIMSY

He's My Brother, She's My Sister  
take the Loft to the theatre.

By Andrew Whitworth • Associate Hiatus Editor  
Illustration by Jeffrey Lau/Guardian

**L**os Angeles sextet He's My Brother She's My Sister is no stranger to the stage. Indeed, two of the band's performers own a successful theatre company in Los Angeles, while two others are Hollywood actors (in fact, you might recognize cellist Satya Bhabba from his role as villain Matthew Patel in 2010's "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World"). Upon experiencing the band's live show, this dramatic background should come as no surprise, as He's My Brother She's My Sister attempts to make each performance a theatrical experience that transcends the boundaries of an ordinary concert.

**HE'S MY BROTHER,  
SHE'S MY SISTER**

When: Feb. 3, 9 p.m.  
Where: The Loft  
Tickets: \$8  
Phone: (858) 534-8497  
Online: artpwr.com

Lead singer and songwriter Robert Kolar took the time this week to speak with the *Guardian* over email about the band's upcoming show, its aesthetic influences and the unrelenting theatrical quality of its live performances.

"I think it helps us appreciate showmanship and putting on a performance that can engage and hopefully sweep the audience away," Kolar said. "Most audiences gravitate towards our live energy and instrumentation. Plus we experiment live and throw in a spontaneous flair."

The band generally performs in whimsical costume, and the lineup includes a tap dancer who uses her shoes to emulate hi-hat and snare drums.

"We are always exploring new ground with attire and various patterns, hats, make up, dress, stripes, glitter and beyond," Kolar said.

Indeed, the band feels that "most bands who dress in t-shirts and jeans [are] living in a rigidly defined aesthetic space," a sort of creative stagnation that He's My Brother She's My Sister avoids through rigorous aesthetic reinterpretation.

On the musical side, the band draws from a compelling list of influences. Referencing diverse artists such as T. Rex, The Everly Brothers, Howlin' Wolf and early David Bowie, Kolar acknowledges that such musicians have "really shaped my end of the musical stylings of the band."

Kolar also feels influenced by Los Angeles, the band's home.

"Any environment can have its influence," Kolar said. "And certainly California makes its mark on us artistically. Traveling through the south, east, deserts, mountains and swamps have had a significant impact on us as well."

The band is particularly excited about its upcoming debut LP (set for release on Pledge Music this spring), produced by Thom Monahan, who has worked with Vetiver and Devendra Banhart in the past.

"The music out at the moment doesn't quite capture the energy and instrumentation of the current lineup," Kolar said. "This new record definitely feels like a proper introduction to our sound."

He's My Brother She's My Sister will bring its brand of flamboyant vaudeville folk to the Loft's stage this Thursday, Feb. 2. The show begins at 9 p.m. and costs \$8 for UCSD students.



## A "Bad" Ending Is Better Than None At All

**F**our seasons is enough to dub "Breaking Bad" one of the best television dramas out there. It's the show that has been called "Weeds" on meth, the show that single-handedly changed

### Jumping the Shark

MARGARET YAU  
m1yau@ucsd.edu



everyone's perception of Hal from "Malcolm in the Middle" and the show that taught fans to "respect the chemistry." Season four ended with a bang, literally. Arguably one of the best season finales ever produced, the show made us question, again, the morality of Bryan Cranston's evil protagonist.

The good news is, the producers of the show have responded in kind, planning a 16-episode season five. The bad news is, season five will be the show's last. Producer Vince Gilligan is ecstatic about this finality. For him, the opportunity to plan an ending, to fully, deftly end his story is a dream come true.

This is a rather unusual request. One of the only other times that a hit television show has deliberately asked for artistic license to, well, end its story is "Lost" in 2007. And though many, myself included, might believe that a conclusive

See SHARK page 7



# EXIT STRATEGY

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

21ST CENTURY CHINESE FILM SERIES PRESENTS: "CRY WOMAN"  
PRICE CENTER THEATRE  
FEB. 2, 8 P.M.  
\$4

VISITING ARTIST LECTURE SERIES WITH GAIL WIGHT  
CALIT AUDITORIUM  
FEB. 2, 7 P.M.  
FREE

CUMBIA NIGHT  
CHE CAFE  
FEB. 3, 7 P.M.  
\$3

TALKDEMONIC WITH RANGE ROVER  
THE LOFT  
FEB. 4, 8 P.M.  
\$8

CAMERA LUCIDA OPENING CONCERT  
CONRAD PREBYS MUSIC CENTER  
FEB. 6, 7:30 P.M.  
\$3

"THE HELP"  
PRICE CENTER THEATRE  
FEB. 7, 9 P.M.  
FREE

# DRUTHERS

HIATUS PICKS THE WEEK'S BEST BETS

ELEANOR FRIEDBERGER  
THE CASBAH / FEB. 2, 7 P.M. / \$12

One-half of experimental power-pop giants Fiery Furnaces, Eleanor Friedberger took critics by surprise last year with her solo debut *Last Summer* — a summery gem brimming with the same ingenuity and heart that made the Furnaces so successful. Catch her at the Casbah for a night of eclectic, celebratory jams. (RE)



"SPRING AWAKENING"  
MANDELL WEISS THEATRE / FEB. 3-4, 8-11, 8 P.M. / \$10

The beautiful and provocative 1906 play by Frank Wedekind that inspired the sensational Broadway musical is coming to UCSD's Mandell Weiss Theater. "Spring Awakening" follows Melchior, Moritz and others in a group of adolescent boys at a German school as they discover the pitfalls of sex, love and the coming of age. (RE)

"THE ROOM" WITH TOMMY WISEAU  
PRICE CENTER EAST / FEB. 5, 8 P.M. / \$5

If "The Room" is indeed the "Citizen Kane of bad movies," then writer/director Tommy Wiseau is our modern-day Orson Welles. The film stars Wiseau as a down-on-his-luck Casanova who becomes tangled in a web of deceit, betrayal and one of the most confounding scripts in movie history. Come watch this offensive, genre-defying, unintentionally surreal masterpiece of a disaster at Price Center this Sunday. Wiseau himself will be attendance. (RE)



## ALBUM REVIEWS

### Psychedelic Grown Ups

Kevin Barnes gets personal on Montreal's latest.



8  
10

Of Montreal  
*Paralytic Stalks*  
POLYVINYL

On *Paralytic Stalks*, art-pop eccentrics of Montreal move from the Prince-like, guitar-heavy R&B sound of their most recent work, *False Priest*, into their darkest psychedelic circus yet. The powerful production of the album hits you from the start — it features a heavier, almost shoegaze-esque sound high-

lighted with avant-garde, classical-inspired orchestrations and catchy pop hooks full of lead man Kevin Barnes' trademark melodic sass.

Still holding on to the unhinged aesthetic of earlier works, of Montreal create contemporary soundscapes comprised of industrial synths and organic strings that stress themes of insanity and doom. It's a sad album in that Barnes refers solely to his real life troubles. "Spiteful Intervention," for example, is a spinning lullaby full of bizarre harmonies that lead you into the depths of Barnes' troubled consciousness. As he croons, "It's fucking sad we need a tragedy to occur / To gain a fresh perspective in our lives," a very personal side of the frontman surfaces.

"Ye, Renew the Plaintiff," a multi-part, Bowie-influenced eight-minute jam, sees Barnes addressing his wife with all of his problems. Between great vocal shifts and compelling musical transitions (the track is like several songs in one), lyrics like, "How can I defend myself against this world?" and "I can think nothing but getting my revenge" sum up the thematic spirit of *Stalks*, leading to the beautiful second half of the album — an ultimate release of numbing drones and hypnotic, driving vocals that lift us from the cacophony of Barnes' troubled psyche, and back into our own.

— Tanner Cook  
STAFF WRITER

### Faster, Stronger

Brooklyn songstress sheds insecurities on third album.



7  
10

Sharon Van Etten  
*Tramp*  
JAGJAGUAR

On third LP *Tramp*, the understated mournful croon of Brooklyn-based singer-songwriter Sharon Van Etten is nowhere to be found. After dealing with insecure heartache on

debut *Because I Was In Love* and sophomore LP *Epic*, Etten now sounds more self-assured than ever before.

*Tramp* begins with three powerful numbers that showcase Tom Petty-esque strumming under Etten's beautiful rasp, conjuring a charming sense of melancholy and mystery, while remaining attentive to sharp, catchy songwriting. "Serpents," the album's first single (featuring the omnipresent Dessner brothers of The National), is lyrically darker and more aggressive than much of her past work, complemented by a driving cacophony

of electric drums.

But *Tramp's* latter half drags, delving into lazier dream-pop songs that at times feel emotionally draining. With the help of a Fender ukulele and Beirut's Zach Condon on back-up vocals, the album begins to regain some zeal on the excellent track "We Are Fine." It's not quite enough to stir up the same engaging bravado of the album's explosive first half, but it's more than enough to keep us anticipating a more confident fourth release.

— Amanda Martinek  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

## Television Shows Could Benefit From Finality

► SHARK from page 6

ending actually enhances its overall quality, some attention must be paid to television's unusual form of storytelling.

By its very nature, television shows aren't meant to end. One of the longest running scripted shows, "Days of Our Lives," is a soap opera that has clocked 47 seasons and is still running strong. It's the narrative that never quits narrating, and writers who truly know their craft are the ones to make this happen. By gauging the audience's approval or disapproval, television writers know just when to ax unpleasant characters (Nikki and Paulo from season two of "Lost" come to mind) and can tweak their show accordingly. Without the luxury of a conclusive ending, writers can drag the story into a dead end and quickly turn it around, or just lose focus altogether (ahem, every season of "Heroes" after the first one).

Still, I argue that many shows have dragged on for

far too long. "How I Met Your Mother," for example, has overstayed its welcome. Despite a built-in ending, there is no ending in sight (hint: At some point, it's supposed to involve the mother); instead, the producers are milking their Neil Patrick Harris cash cow for all that it's worth, destroying the liveliness of the story in the process. "Scrubs" almost avoided this issue. Its stellar eighth season, tapped as its final one, had a series finale that made fans forget the tepid 6th and 7th season entirely. But in an act where pride trumped good sense, creator Bill Lawrence allowed season 9 to happen, a pitiful excuse for a continuation/spin-off that ruined the show's season eight high.

For this reason, I'm excited for "Breaking Bad" fifth and final season. After all, when "Dollhouse" was given notice that its second season would be its last, Joss Whedon cranked out one of the best examples of condensing a five-season arc into one, defiantly ending his show on his own terms. Perhaps, control of destiny is for the best.

## UCSD NEEDS HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS (25-65 Y.O.)

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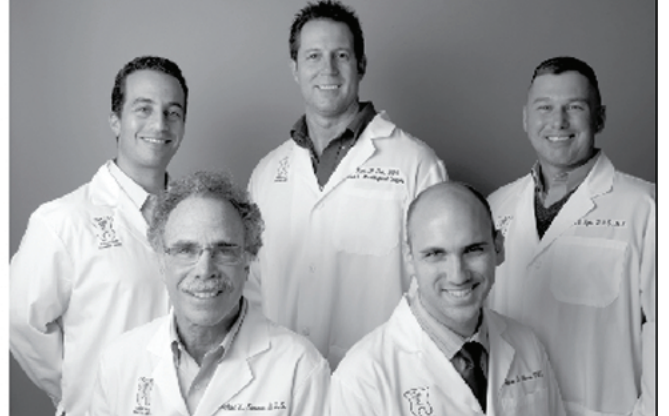
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## MOVIE REVIEW

# Billion Dollar Baby

“Adult Swim” cult heroes go big-budget.  
Ren Ebel • Hiatus Editor

When Tim Heidecker and Eric Wareheim announced that they'd be releasing a feature film, cult fans of the duo's darkly genius Adult Swim sketch show “Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job” reacted with both excitement and uncertainty. The venture seemed destined for one of two unappealing outcomes: It would either a) elongate the show's 15-minute amalgam of fake PSAs, zero-budget commercials and absurdist pop-culture pastiche into an exhaustive feature length, or b) sift out its stranger, more refreshingly transgressive elements in the name of mainstream viability.

During the opening minutes of “Tim and Eric's Billion Dollar Movie” — a commercial for the hazardous “Schlaaang Super Seat,” a faux-movie starring a Johnny Depp impersonator, Jeff Goldblum as someone named Chef Goldblum — the former seems the case. But, as we're swept into the film's surprisingly cohesive plot, “Billion Dollar Movie” assuredly proves itself a new comedic experience all its own.

The film follows two Hollywood wonderkids (Tim and Eric) who — after blowing their billion-dollar budget on a three-minute flop — hide from their vengeance-seeking financier Tommy Schlaaang (a terrifying Robert Loggia) while managing a failing mall in an effort to raise back the money.

## TIM AND ERIC'S BILLION DOLLAR MOVIE

Starring: Tim Heidecker & Eric Wareheim  
90 min.  
Rated R  
B



What's immediately striking about “Billion Dollar Movie” is just how unrelentingly frightening it is. Similar to their recent non-“Awesome Show” outing, HBO's “The Terrys” — the film ups the ante in terms of nightmare surrealism. In fact, much of “Billion Dollar Movie” draws directly from David Lynch: unnerving performances from non-actors and Lifetime-style clichés tinged with surreal horror. “Twin Peaks” star Ray Wise even drops in for a perfectly disturbing cameo as the mall's spokesman for a highly unsanitary new-age cult, while John C. Reilly's sickly, feral mall guide Taquito could simultaneously haunt the recesses of any classic horror flick and land Reilly an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Though, as with the show, “Billion Dollar Movie”'s terror is perfectly counterbalanced by its countless moments of unorthodox hilarity. Zach Galifianakis is unsurprisingly outrageous as the duo's pig-tailed spiritual guide, Jim Joe Kelly, and elsewhere the film

revels in incredibly deadpan contemporary satire that might leave some of the older audience members wondering what the few bearded nerds in the front row are laughing about.

That isn't to say that each bit works. Often, the gross-out gags (spoiler: genital piercing) seem more unnecessary than shocking or funny. And Will Ferrell's role as the “Top Gun”-obsessed mall manager is disappointingly flat. But these are a few brief moments in the shuffle of an entertaining, genre-defying piece of filmmaking.

To say “Billion Dollar Movie” is not for everyone seems like a vast understatement — as is the case with most any artists who poses something as new and defiantly un-mainstream as Tim and Eric. And with both Heidecker and Wareheim beginning to test the waters of a wider audience (Heidecker will star alongside LCD Soundsystem's James Murphy in this year's “The Comedy”), nothing could be more promising.



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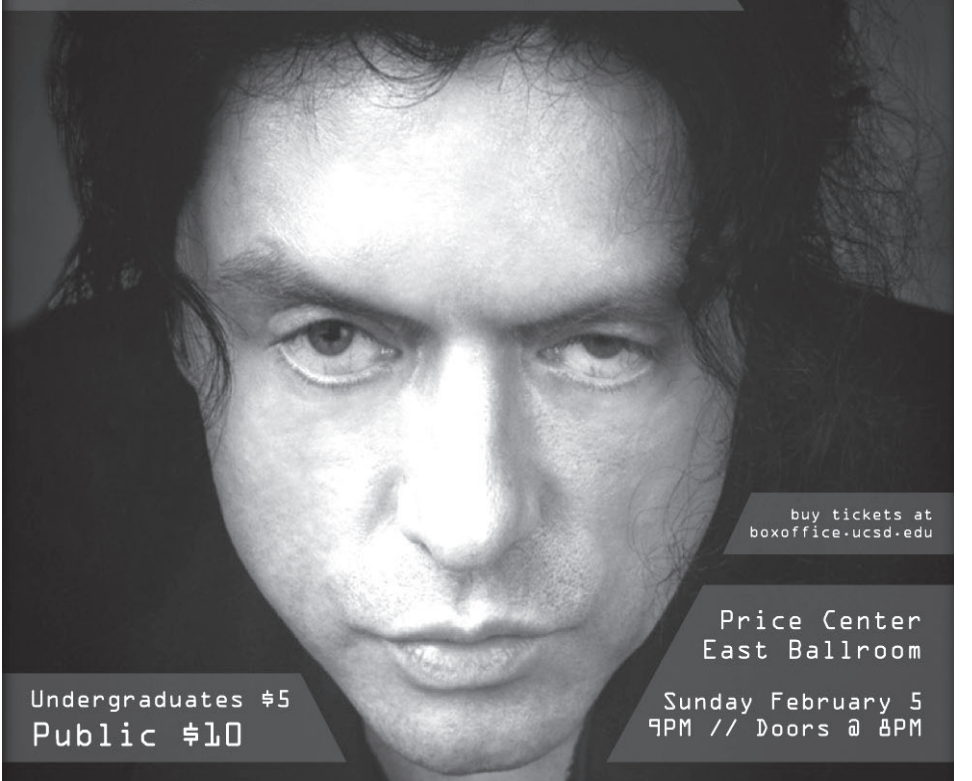
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1	4					2	3
			1			9	
6	5	4					8
			5	9		2	
			8		6		
	2		4	3			
3				4	6		9
	4			7			
5	2					3	1

Level: 1 2 3 4

7	8						4
	6						
2		5		4		8	7
			1	5			
1	3					2	4
				9	2		
9		7	8	2		4	5
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# TRITONS 2-1 IN NEW SEASON

*No. 14 women's water polo goes 2-1 in weekend tournament.*

BY NICK HOWE  
Associate Sports Editor

This past weekend, the No. 14 UCSD Women's Water Polo team traveled to the University of Maryland to participate in the Terrapin Invitational.

The team fared well in the tournament overall, going 2-1 to put the Tritons at 3-1 for the season.

On Saturday, the team started strong as it handedly beat Wagner University in the morning match. Sophomore center Melissa Bartow put the Tritons ahead with the first two goals of the match; afterward, UCSD never conceded the lead.

Bartow scored back-to-back goals again in the beginning of the second period, bringing the Tritons' led up to 5-1.

Sophomore Sara Lizotte quickly tacked on two more goals, while transfer junior Brittany Daniels scored her first goal as a Triton in the 11-6 victory.

But they couldn't keep up the momentum, as the afternoon game saw the Tritons fall to Maryland University 14-6.

Lizotte led the Tritons with four goals, with senior utility Natalie Peng adding two, but it wasn't enough to stop the onslaught from undefeated Maryland.

The two teams were tied at 4-4 after the first period, but Maryland pulled away, scoring five goals in the second half to cement the victory.

Marist University — a squad that has yet to find a win this season — appeared out of its depth against the Tritons in the last match of the tournament.

Lizotte came out red hot against the Red

Foxes, scoring a career-high eight goals.

But the first period had UCSD and Marist trading goals to tie the game at 2-2. Soon after, the Tritons capitalized on a Red Fox penalty that had them playing down five men to six.

With the advantage, the Tritons finished back-to-back goals from Lizotte and senior center Kirsten Bates to turn the tide in the Tritons' favor.

The two squads battled in the first half, but a penalty shot made by Lizotte late in the second period opened the floodgates for UCSD.

In the third quarter, the Tritons extended their lead to five. With just 18 seconds remaining in the period, Lizotte put away another goal to push the score to 12-8.

Junior goalie Alexandra Taylor had a big night, blocking eight shots on goal and allowing the Tritons to walk away with the 12-10 victory.

For her role in leading the Tritons to a 3-1 record, Sara Lizotte was awarded the KAP7 Western Water Polo Association Player of the Week.

Over the past four games, Lizotte has tallied 20 goals and 5 assists, drawn eight ejections and shot over 58 percent.

This is the second time Lizotte has been awarded the WWPA Player of the Week honor, after she was recognized last year as a freshman.

The Tritons play the Red Foxes again at home in the Canyonview Pool at 6 p.m. on Feb. 10.

Readers can contact Nick Howe at [nshowe@ucsd.edu](mailto:nshowe@ucsd.edu)



BRIAN YIP/GUARDIAN FILE

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CONTACT THE EDITOR RACHEL UDA  
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## SPORTS

## SPIRIT NIGHT

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NOLAN THOMAS/GUARDIAN FILE

## TOP OF THE ORDER

*The reigning champions start their new season  
this Friday, February 3rd.*

BY RACHEL UDA  
Sports Editor

**D**espite losing four starters from last season's NCAA Division II National Championship squad, the Tritons come into 2012 as No. 1.

After taking the first national championship in program history last season — winning their championship match against Alabama-Huntsville 10-3 — the Tritons look set to pick up where they left off. The complete 2011 NFCA Coaching Staff of the Year returns, with UCSD head coach Patti Gerckens returning for her 20th season at the helm. The NFCA Coach of the year heads a squad replete with two All-West Region selections and the CCAA Freshman of the Year — all anchored by junior All-American pitcher Camile Gaito.

Gaito returns to the mound for UCSD after recording the fourth lowest ERA in the nation last season — just 40 runs in 47 appearances — leading the Tritons in their undefeated post-season run. The 5'4" pitcher is joined by senior All-CCAA selection Kris Lesovsky, an outfielder and offensive mainstay for the Tritons, who returns as the lead-off hitter.

All-CCAA Freshman of the Year Mya Romero will sit in as short-stop for UCSD. Romero will likely be relied upon to continue generating hits in her sophomore year, as her 46 hit record is second only to Lesovsky on the roster.

Sophomore outfielder Taylor Sepulveda — an All-NCAA Tournament team selection — also returns, along with sophomore catcher turned first baseman Caitlin Brown.

Although UCSD's young team is filled with talent, Gerckens concedes that the graduated seniors left gaps in the roster.

"We definitely have some big shoes to fill," Gerckens said. "But we have some great players returning and we have a talented group of freshmen. But they're young and they'll need time to learn and mature."

But Gerckens said she couldn't attribute the Tritons' mercurial rise from the 2010 season, where UCSD failed to even make the conference playoffs, to any one factor.

"It was just so many variables and so many of our freshmen just came up big," Gerckens said. "But our seniors — Jen DeFazio, Sara Woofter, Katrin Gabriel, in the postseason — the three of them were our driving force. They just harnessed everyone and got them to believe, and as we continued to win and pull out games in the last inning, the team just started to believe. Things just started to come together, and we just had a good bunch of athletes that had the right chemistry. Things just gelled at the right time: Our offense gelled at the right

time and our defense, which had been strong the whole year, continued. And of course, to top it off, [Gaito] stepped up for us on the mound, and that speaks volumes right there."

The first game of the season against Northwest Nazarene will likely be the proving ground to find a replacement for third baseman Sarah Woofter. Woofter, who started all of her four years for the Tritons alongside graduated second baseman Jennifer De Fazio, are two power-hitters that the Tritons will miss.

That is not to say UCSD is without a way to generate offense. One of the strengths of the Tritons is their versatility, giving Gerckens the option to either hit big or play small-ball.

Gerckens said the Tritons' speed running bases is also a huge upside.

"Speed doesn't go into slumps," she said. "We want our athletes to be smart and aggressive on the bases. If we can get the defense thinking about the runner on base, that means that the catcher will be thinking about them stealing, which means that some of her emphasis is going to be taken away from the pitch-call. And the pitcher may be worried about people taking off. Our goal is to confuse them and make them think about us. And when you can force errors, it really can bring a team down."

Gerckens' emphasis on base-running is seen in the new additions, which include senior Annie Wethe, who spent her four years of eligibility as the starting center midfielder for the women's soccer team. Wethe will be playing utility and primarily running bases.

Other Triton newcomers include first baseman Monique Portugal and junior transfer right-handed pitcher Michelle Escamilla, who are both expected to make immediate impacts.

In the National Fastpitch Coaches Preseason Poll, the Tritons claimed the No. 1 rank yesterday, Wednesday, Feb. 1. UCSD received 16 first-place votes.

"We can't look at it from the viewpoint that we're champions," UCSD assistant coach Jessica Millsap said. "It's about doing what we need to do, playing the game we love and having fun. We're just excited, enthusiastic and we can't wait for Friday night."

The Tritons head into the first game of their season this Friday, Feb. 3, against Northwest Nazarene University. UCSD begins CCAA conference play the following weekend against Chico State.

Readers can contact Rachel Uda at ruda@ucsd.edu