

# THE GUARDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

www.ucsdguardian.org THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006 The Student Voice Since 1967

## Tritons United! a No-Show at Election Debate

Watts' candidates abdicate bare-boned debates for Library Walk as Student Voice! touts its positions.

By Charles Nguyen  
NEWS EDITOR

There was more laughing than either clapping or booing at this week's debate between executive A.S. candidates. The rained-out event was relocated indoors, where the half-filled Price Center ballroom held almost exclusively Student Voice! and independent-party candidates.

"This is basically a meeting for our slate," SV! commissioner of student services candidate Kaveh Cyrus joked to SV! A.S. presidential candidate Harry Khanna.

Cyrus might as well have been right. Only a few members of A.S. presidential candidate Daniel Watts' Tritons United! slate showed up to the debate, and candidate for vice president external Eddie Herrera was the only slate member to speak at the microphone. Because the audience was principally SV! candidates, Herrera said, the school's constituencies were not being addressed.

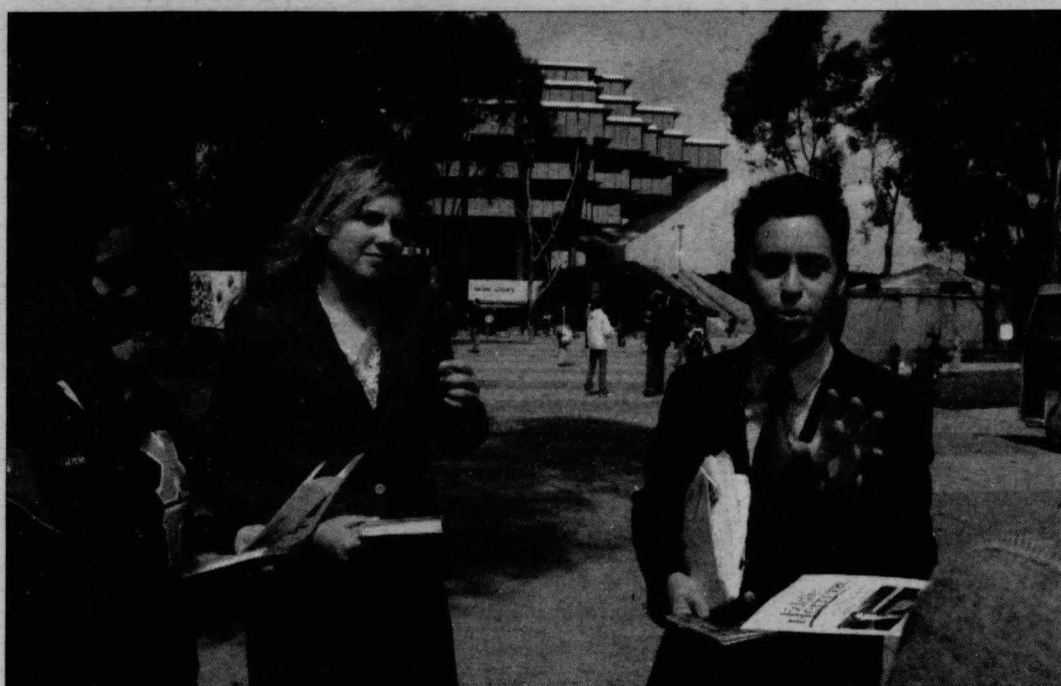
There were few, if any, students that were not members of the A.S. Council present for all of the debate. After reading his candidate statement, Herrera left the room, saying that he was going to Library Walk to speak with students.

"There is no foundation here," Herrera said. "We need to go to take it to Library Walk to talk to real students about real students and real problems."

Watts agreed with his slate members' decision to not debate SV!.

"It was clear what the debate was," he said. "It was a slam-fest for Student Voice!; they shouldn't debate in an echoing chamber. The audience should be the students, but the only audience here was made up of people that already made up their minds. My candidates don't want to waste time talking to a wall."

The A.S. elections committee

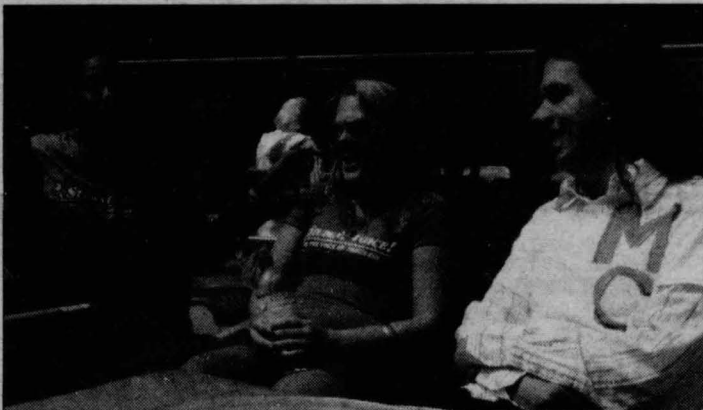


asked two questions of each candidate during the debate. Most questions were broad, and allowed the candidate to publicize general stances on issues. In many instances, specifics were not offered or asked for during the debate, which started 10 minutes late and ended 45 minutes early.

During the questions, SV! vice president external candidate Porsia Thomas touted the slate's plans to continue the A.S. Council's efforts in areas of outreach and lobbying. If elected, the external office should concentrate communication efforts locally with high schools south of San Diego's Interstate 8, where many inner-city schools are located, Thomas said.

"We need to recognize that there isn't diversity at UCSD," she said. "We need to lobby to everyone, UC Regents and all, to make sure that there is funding for academic preparation, especially for high schools that don't have resources to know that [there] are possibilities for college."

Independent candidate Matt Corrales also proposed working locally, especially with other colleges such as San Diego State University and the University of San Diego, in outreach



JASON CAMPA/GUARDIAN  
Top: Tritons United! candidates April Deibert and Eddie Herrera speak with students after the A.S. election debates. Below: Left to right, Student Voice! candidates Porsia Thomas and Sydney Goldberg and independent candidate Matt Corrales share a laugh.

efforts. Increasing access to higher education is a priority, he said.

Corrales also emphasized a specific lobbying plan that included student consultation with the political science department.

Bryce Murray, an independent candidate for vice president finance, said he plans to investigate the efficiency of some student-funded programs, including the Academic

Success Program. The council allocated more than \$40,000 to ASP this year, though the program did not spend its fall allocation in previous years.

"We need to see how many people this program affects," Murray said.

SV!'s candidate for the same position, Conrad Ohashi, said an overhaul

[DEBATE, page 3]

## COLLEGES IN THE HOT SEAT

While a new federal commission threatens higher ed's sovereignty, a college coalition races to find other solutions.

By Charles Nguyen  
NEWS EDITOR

One of the largest college coalitions in the nation is embarking on an ambitious effort to establish accountability within universities, following intense criticism from a federal panel of the effectiveness of America's higher education.

The National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges — which represents more than 200 public research colleges, including all UC campuses except UC Merced — is straying away from publicizing details about its plan, but is preparing to present its agenda to the Commission on the Future of Higher Education, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings' pet-project exploring the nuances of the college system, later this week.

Panel Chairman Charles Miller has been an especially strong detractor of the way colleges measure their successes with students.

"Less than one-third of all colleges nationwide conduct comprehensive evaluations to find out whether they are achieving the purposes of their general education programs," Charles Miller stated in a commission outline of its plans.

NASULGC is hoping to answer the panel's call for a measuring system, and is set on exploring the feasibility of a "voluntary system" of accountability for public colleges, President Peter McPherson stated in a public letter.

There currently aren't enough standardized measures to accurately inform students of colleges' proficiencies, McPherson said. Many college leaders, however, expressed doubt over the federal commission's talks of standardized tests for colleges, calling it reminiscent of the No Child Left Behind Act. A program such as NCLB that targets elementary through high schools could not encompass the nuances of universities across the nation, especially considering the presence of liberal arts, private and public colleges.

"Trying to create an uber-instrument where we simply draw the line and say, 'This is the measurement' will be a grave disservice," David L. Warren, president of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, told *Inside Higher Ed*. "We will get a meaningless outcome at a great cost."

Readers can contact Charles Nguyen at charles\_nguyen@sbcglobal.net.

## House Redo of Higher Ed Act Calms College Lobbyists

By Matthew McArdle  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

While the revamps to the Higher Education Act have eased the outcry of college groups, many still remain skeptical of the legislation's effectiveness as it moves into the U.S. Senate.

The American Council on Education wrote three letters to members of the U.S. House of Representatives last week expressing its support for last-minute changes made to a bill, passed on March 30, that overhauled federal Pell Grants and introduced new federal reporting requirements for institutions of

higher education.

While the House also made several other significant alterations to the bill that led student groups and A.C.E. to drop formal opposition to its passage, the council still expressed several desires for more changes.

"We are disappointed that the bill fails to enhance and strengthen the Pell Grant program and restore the value of this essential need-based aid by providing a more generous increase in the maximum award level," the organization wrote in one of the letters.

The National Association of Independent Colleges and

Universities voiced a similar stance.

"While flaws remain, significant improvements were made to the bill over the past week," NAICU President David L. Warren stated in a press release.

Members of A.C.E. also expressed concerns about privacy provisions of the bill in a strongly worded third letter about Rep. Steve King's (R-Iowa) amendment to the bill, which would have required institutions of higher education to report admissions factors including race, grades, test scores and sex. King's proposal lost by a wide margin, with 142 Republicans joining Democrats in

opposition.

The final version of the bill, known as the College Access and Opportunity Act of 2005, allows students to receive Pell Grants year-round and repeals the federal limits on the amount of Pell Grant aid a student attending low-cost schools can receive.

It also forces the top 5 percent of colleges deemed to have excessively raised student fees for three consecutive years to form committees to explore ways to reduce costs.

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

HIATUS

### Lean, Rock, Pop, Lock

Hip-hop gurus descend on RIMAC to shake what their mommas gave 'em.

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SPORTS

### Making a Racquet

The No. 13 men's tennis team smashes the Vulcans 9-0 in its third-straight victory.





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WEATHER

	
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SUSIE S.D.

BY JENNIFER HSU



CURRENTS

Campus to Open Mexico Extension

As part of Chancellor Marye Anne Fox's new program to partner UCSD with Mexico, the university announced plans last week to open an office and staff a full-time representative in Mexico City in an effort to improve its understanding and ability to identify new opportunities throughout the country.

Snow on Continent Melting Earlier

A new U.S. Geological Survey study led by a Scripps Institution of Oceanography researcher has found that spring is arriving earlier in places where it brings snowmelt-fed rivers.

UCSD Fares Well in National Rankings

A new national survey of graduate programs released last week by U.S. News and World Report chronicled a rise in the rankings of many UCSD programs. The division of social sciences placed 12th overall, with its neurobiology program ranking second and its bioinformatics program ranking sixth.

Mentoring Program Gets New Head

Veronica Henson-Phillips, a professor of speech communication and theater, has been appointed as the new head of UCSD's Faculty Mentor Program.

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- High Schools Stop Ranking Students
Report: Facebook Wants \$2B
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CORRECTIONS
An opinion column published on April 3 titled "Why Higher Activity Fees Aren't Necessary" incorrectly stated that the A.S. Council appropriated reserve funds to pay for a sign twirler to promote the A.S. enterprises.

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A.S. Council, Watts Ride Emotional Rollercoaster

Although there are only five weeks remaining of the current A.S. Council's time in office, the first meeting of spring quarter did not break the recent trend of being emotionally charged and controversial. The meeting began on a somber and reflective note, with A.S. Executive Assistant Chris Terry performing a candle-lighting ceremony in honor of Academic Affairs Chief of Staff Ben Summer, who died in a skiing accident over spring break.



New Business Matt L'Heureux mlheureu@ucsd.edu

Candidates Focus On Student Orgs

DEBATE, from page 1 of the Student Organization Funding Advisory Board is necessary. He pushed the launching of a Web site that would allow organizations to register and monitor their own budgets. Both Murray and Ohashi said focusing on student organizations would be their paramount goal.

Readers can contact Charles Nguyen at charles\_nguyen@sbcglobal.net. Crossword SOLUTIONS

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Props to the snazzy new overhaul of ACS Webmail. Our fingers were worn down to the bone selecting our e-mail server. What a relief!

On April 3, the Supreme Court refused to hear Jose Padilla's case, and provide a needed constitutional assessment of the Bush administration's detention policy.

EDITORIALS

Elections Committee Squandered Debate

In campus politics, securing student interest is hard enough. The job becomes even harder when your own elections committee effectively encourages voters to stay at home on Election Day.

For years, the A.S. Council has complained about student apathy, trying to figure out why so few students care about their representatives. For the council members in attendance at this week's election debate, the answer should have been obvious — since they were largely the only ones in the audience.

It was probably a good thing too, since no people attending the debate would have learned much of anything to help them make up their minds.

We must concede, running an election is a tough job. But that's no excuse for holding a debate — the only time students can question candidates — that serves simply as a platform for candidates to recite their memorized statements to the three A.S.

junkies in the audience; the questions asked by the committee certainly didn't require them to go much beyond that, or invite regular students to participate.

Is asking candidates how they would better run A.S. Council meetings important? Certainly, but to most students, it's less important than finding out what vision the candidates have for the Sun God festival or their stance on funding for A.S. Safe.Rides.

Had this paper been asked to participate, this board would have been happy to moderate the debate and ask the same sort of relevant, tough questions we have put before the candidates in our private interviews this week. Alas, our phones did not ring.

The elections committee, it seems, has yet to realize that getting students to vote requires more than putting a mermaid or two on the sample ballot.

DEAD DEBATE

Student leaders complain about apathy. Maybe this is why.

Outreach Rhetoric Still Trumps Actual Science

Science, to shamelessly quote the famous economist Adam Smith, is the great antidote to the poison of enthusiasm and superstition. In the great debate over academic preparation programs, there has certainly not been enough of it.

That is why the new report on the performance of the Preuss School, the UCSD-run charter school, is a great sign. Mixed as the findings were, the document suggests that the university is finally starting to examine whether the tens of millions it has spent trying to woo underrepresented students has paid dividends.

After voters banned affirmative action in 1996, the University of California turned to outreach as a means of increasing the number of minority and poor students. In recent years, campus cultural groups and the Student Affirmative Action Committee have launched their own student-initiated efforts.

Sadly, few of the outreach pro-

grams face the same rigorous evaluations as Preuss. Up until several years ago, SAAC members didn't even bother following up with attendees of their high school conferences to see if they were attending college, much less try to see whether the conferences made any real difference.

And if these programs don't actually work — which no one knows, since no one has attempted to find out — taxpayers are not the only ones who suffer; ineffective outreach means the very underrepresented groups it is meant to help remain locked out of the state's top universities.

Doing good science of the Preuss variety will ensure accountability on all fronts and would surely help convince state lawmakers not to cut the university's outreach funding next year. Now, it just has to get done.

NEEDED SKEPTICISM

Rigorous evaluation of the Preuss School's effectiveness is a positive sign of change.

A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Riley Salant-Pearce



In Today's Fractured Media, 'Balance' Is Really Propaganda

Do you believe the Guardian is biased? I won't take it personally if you do. In fact, let me tell you a little secret: I kinda think it's a little biased, too.

It's biased toward free speech. It's biased toward full color and having lots of space. It's certainly biased toward beer.

But I'm sure that doesn't surprise you. Nor would it surprise you, I'm guessing, to hear that the New York Times, Fox News Channel, CNN, the Washington Post, the San Diego Union-Tribune and every other American news outlet is biased in ways it both does and does not understand.

So why do they all pretend otherwise? Many journalists see unbiased reporting as an impossible goal worth striving for, perfectly fair souls being rather rare. But that's still hopelessly idealistic. Unbiased reporting is an impossible goal that's no longer worth pursuing. In fact, rather than an ideal, the concept of unbiased reporting has become a mindfuck tool for media outlets to deliver their bias without fessing up to it.

Hence Fox News' relentless "fair and balanced" plug — but more on that later.

There are two main reasons for the nearing death of unbiased news. The first is that human understanding is slowly growing worldly enough to grasp that all knowledge is subjective. As the idea that there is no absolute truth (math and physics dudes, disregard) becomes more accepted, news consumers are much less willing to tolerate a grandfatherly anchor or reporter claiming to have an absolutely fair assessment of an event. News doesn't occur as a neatly compartmentalized development, with easily identifiable and coherent sides — the newspaper just makes you think it does, masking all the subjective reasoning about newsworthiness and change that reporters and editors have to make.

It's become a pastime of the right to point out the ways in which the reasoning employed by the mainstream media is biased against social and economic conservatives, just as it's become a pastime of those on the left to call the mainstream media a complacent lap dog of the status quo. Both are correct, although their complaints say more about the diversity of American consumers than the corruptness of its journalists. Most people want to read the news from a perspective they understand, from an outlet that makes the same assumptions and value judgments they do. The fact that Americans can no longer agree on the general fairness of a major source only shows the diversity of perspectives that make up the United States — and since those are growing, it's likely that the number of media perspectives will, too.

The second reason that unbiased news will soon die is that few people have time to consume it in the patient, judicious way for which it was designed. The idea that people will be able to sit down with a 1,000-word story on the day's major developments and reason out an opinion

on each one, having read and considered both sides, went out with the 50-hour work week and 2-hour commute. It's far quicker to have the day's events folded to fit into a familiar, agreeable perspective — which is what "admittedly biased" news offers.

The Internet is only helping this. Few Web sites carry the once-sacred journalistic respect of the New York Times or CBS (although these houses are doing a good job of spoiling theirs), but the Web doesn't need to. Opinions are opinions no matter what URL they appear on. It's cheaper to pay for opinions than facts, and easier to read opinions than facts, and easier to read from the Internet than a newspaper. So guess who's going to win?

The American media is already moving more toward a European model, where readers are conversant in the varying perspectives (read: biases) of different publications, choosing to read the ones they can most tolerate. We're already there, really: Everybody thinks that the New York Times is liberal and that Fox News is conservative, and because they do, liberals and conservatives flock to those sources, reinforcing the preconception.

So with people already reading news assuming that it's biased, but more or less agreeing with its biases, we return to our original question: Why do these old dogs still play their same tricks and pass themselves off as "All the news..." or "fair and balanced"?

They'll say they're afraid of polarizing American society, of creating a situation in which conservatives completely disregard anything the NYT reports and liberals organize a lynch mob for Rupert Murdoch. And that is a legitimate fear, especially given the already dubious ability of Americans from different perspectives to get along.

But I think the real reason U.S. news outlets cling to their illusions of fairness is because it's fantastically powerful for controlling people. As a goddess, overeducated West Coast liberal, I try to consume every media source critically, looking for its biases and assumptions. Most people, however, hear the news on TV and assume that it's a fair representation of what actually happened. That's not possible if you're watching a TV station or reading a paper that admits it's the "liberal" or "conservative" voice. Getting the news from a perspective that admits its bias forces the consumer to acknowledge that there may be a side of the story that they aren't getting in full detail; "unbiased" news outlets can claim their reporting as the gospel without giving consumers a reason to think twice.

Which is ultimately why Fox News is so terrifying to a person like me: It's self-reinforcing propaganda. The first step in convincing you that Bush, etc., are honest is convincing you that they are honest — hence the barrage of "fair and balanced" blasts when the network was launched.

In the Web-savvy, postknowledge media world, asserting complete fairness is the most dangerous bias.

Lines in the sand  
Ian Port  
iport@ucsd.edu



The concept of unbiased reporting has become a mindfuck tool for media outlets to deliver their bias without fessing up to it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tritons United! Not Given a Fair Shake

Dear Editor:

The Guardian seems to print just about anything these days. You'll print Alicia White's lies about me supposedly "campaigning for president" while fighting for the Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services. I never talked about running for president when I was helping O.A.S.I.S.

You'll print my opponent, Harry Khanna, claiming that he should win because he has "A.S. experience." I'm proud of not being part of the A.S. political machine. Khanna and Student Voice have hurt this campus. No one on Tritons United shut down a TV station. No one on Tritons United voted to illegally triple fund for Khanna's fraternity, screwing other clubs in the process. I'm proud of our record. We spoke out against funneling extra cash to Pi Kappa Alpha, and we spoke out against shutting down Student-Run Television. Khanna, however, did neither. And as far as experience goes: I ran for California governor against Arnold Schwarzenegger and Cruz Bustamante while Harry Khanna was still at his private high school.

You quoted Khanna saying that when I criticize the extra funding A.S. gave to Pi Kappa Alpha, it "makes the whole Greek system look bad." I never mentioned any other Greek orgs: Only Pike had the gall to screw the system for their fraternity Vegas trip. No other Greek org tried to pilfer the student treasury. And Khanna is the one who makes his fraternity look bad: He's the one who covered in fear of Pike and let his Pike brother Greg Murphy, the vice president of finance, give them extra cash for their Vegas trip.

The Guardian is being incredibly biased in this election. You let Harry Khanna rip apart my platform with his lies, but you never gave me a chance to respond to anything he said in his own platform. Half of the article on my campaign consisted of slanderous quotes from Khanna, but his article made him out to look like an angel. You never examined his record of doing nothing, standing idly by while SRTV collapses around him and O.A.S.I.S. loses funding.

You also failed to report on misogynistic comments made by Josh Pengson on the online message board SDuncensored three weeks before the start of official campaigning. Pengson, running for commuter at large in Warren College, attacked Tritons United's vice president internal candidate, Alicia Coates, in a vicious and vile way. He said that people shouldn't vote for her because she's modeled for Maxim magazine and was a Raiders cheerleader. Pengson and Student Voice apparently can't get past the surface — not surprising, since Khanna's campaign slogan last year was "Make A.S. really good-looking." They don't realize that Coates isn't just beautiful, she's also a strong, intelligent, political science honors student with a near-perfect GPA who's advising a San Diego congressional campaign. Tritons United is proud to be running with such a person. I wish Khanna and Student Voice could say the same about Pengson.

I'd like to invite any student who hears something about me or Tritons United to contact me at danielwatts@gmail.com.

— Daniel Watts  
A.S. Presidential Candidate

The Guardian welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be no longer than 500 words, typed, double-spaced and signed with a name and applicable title. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the Guardian office on the second floor of the Student Center or e-mailed. Send all letters to:

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Associated Student Election endorsements in this Monday's GUARDIAN

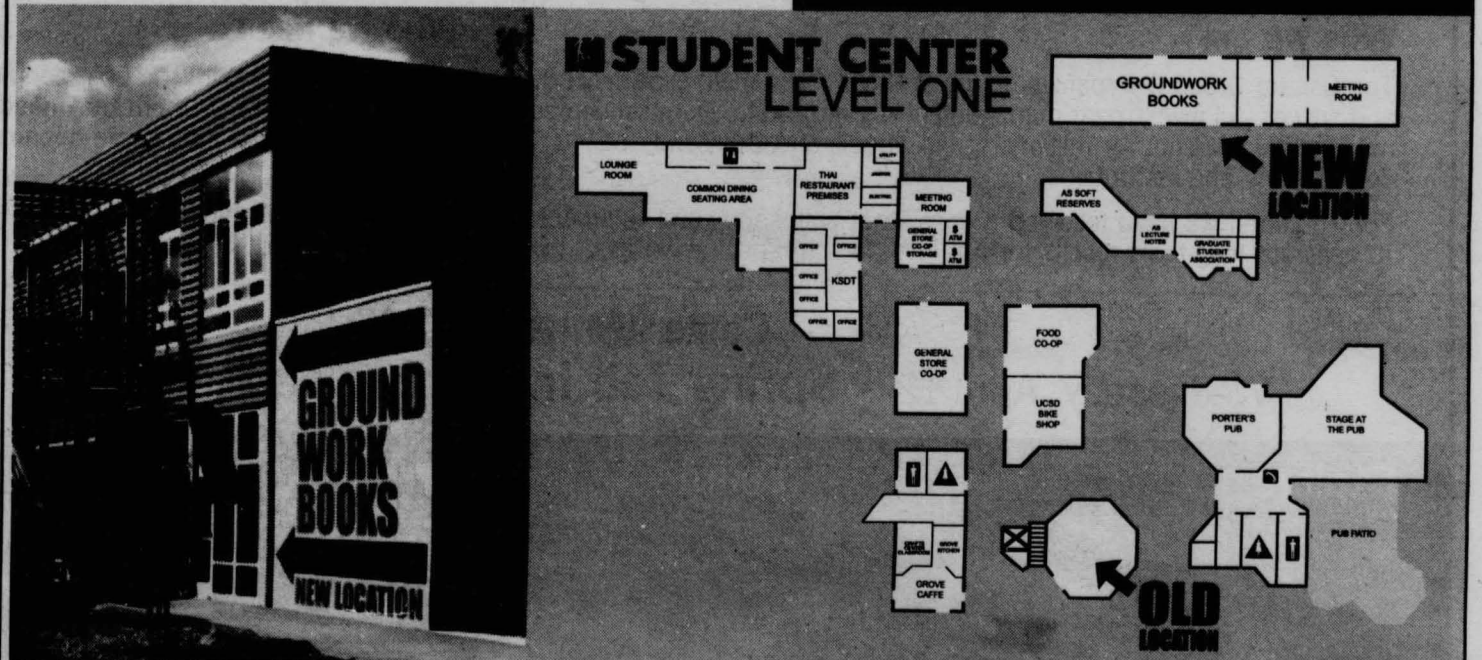
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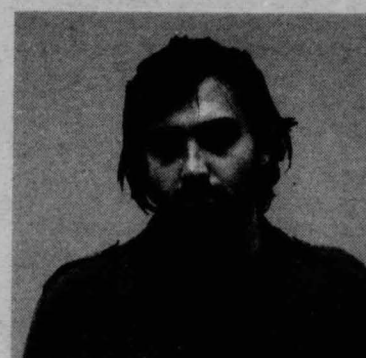
## The Gamekillers **OBITUARIES** April 2006

### Game Killed

Andre Massis  
Fernando Nieves  
Zack Danielson

Hanwey Shieh  
Bharat Kumar

Eric Smith  
Jon Fox  
Chad Utsch



**MASSIS Andre, São Paulo, BR**

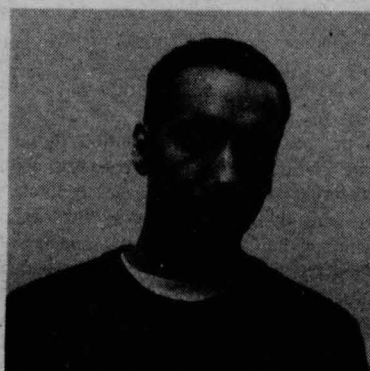
Was lured away from a pretty young thing and into a heated game of "Fos" by his good friend Carl—more commonly known as "The Mayor of No Women's Land." While Andre made several attempts to step away and put himself back into contention with the said female, Carl's relentless pursuit for all things that don't involve getting some, was ultimately too much for the young Andre. He quickly found himself sweating it out over the air hockey table, from where he would catch a glimpse of his young beauty heading out the door with another suitor. Andre's game will be remembered by many, just not her.

handed to him. Upon returning from the bathroom, Zack found the girl he was seeing had been surrounded by a beefy mesomorph, Early Man, who tried to use his abundant muscle to strong-arm him out of the picture. Zack did not keep his cool and accused his young lady friend of flirting with the first guy who came along. His girl, no doubt disgusted by Zack's over-the-top bravado, fled the scene when his far from attractive jealousy escalated into Zack throwing a punch, which was caught in mid-air by something that looked like a hand, but felt like a 20lb vice. By the time Zack regained consciousness, he was home alone and unable to console himself with his dominant hand.



**SHIEH Hanwey, Los Angeles, CA**

Hanwey was chatting up a latin diva at an apartment complex barbecue and his game was hot enough to pose a fire hazard, that is until his friend and cocoon of horror known as The Mess entered the picture and snatched Hanwey up like a flash flood of distraction. Somewhat of a loose cannon, The Mess immediately engaged Hanwey in the age-old male bonding tradition of lighting one's own farts. Sure, there's little more enticing than the ignition of one's own combustible human gasses, but much like riding an electric scooter, you don't look that cool doing it. When the laughter subsided, Hanwey was left with nothing but a good laugh and the faint smell of old eggs, while his lady was snared by a new suitor. Man, talk about blowing it.



**KUMAR Bharat, Jacksonville, FL**

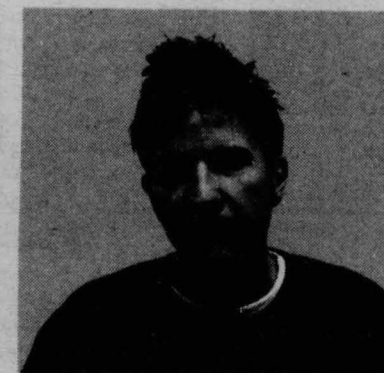
After kicking his game to a leggy redhead at a dorm mixer, Bharat was

### Game Killed

interrupted by Trevor, a.k.a. British Accent Guy. Women are drawn to men with British accents, so all it took was a single "pardon" to make his girl raise an eyebrow toward this game killing Redcoat. This prompted Bharat to get riled by calling out the guy's busted grill of yellowing bad teeth and comparing the merits of baseball over cricket. The British Accent Guy smiled and opened his mouth only to offer small bits of non-confrontational banter, allowing his accent to seep into the girl's brain like a piece of brilliant propaganda. In the end, the Brit would invade on Bharat's territory with ease, taking the girl, and leaving Bharat's game strewn on the road as a piece of collateral damage.

**SMITH Eric, Washington, DC**

His game came to its demise in the most unlikely of circumstances. While engaging in two of his most pleasurable pastimes: talking about boats, with his other passion, a beautiful girl who seemed genuinely interested. They were even planning to go out in his 15-foot dinghy, only to hit unseen rocks in the form of The One Upper, the classic Gamekiller who lives by the motto "Anything you can do I can do better." Sure enough, The One Upper claimed to not only know boats, but he also boasted of captaining his own 40-foot vessel. Eric tried to navigate to the calmer waters of car talk but was run over again by The One Upper's supposed vintage German roadster. The tension quickly mounted, and soon the two were engaged in a ruthless game of one-upmanship. On and on they went, seeing what the other guy just said and raising him. When the smoke cleared, Eric had won the gloat-fest, but the girl was nowhere to be found. No one likes a braggart. Eric's game was last seen drifting away towards the vast sea of loneliness in an undersized boat.

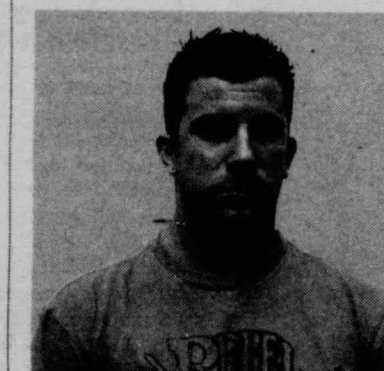


**FOX Jon, London, UK**

Jon's game, beloved to many a cheerleader and facilitator of the ménage of 2003, was fairs well at a Gold Coast club with a delightful pair of sisters. That is until the playboy predator and full time Gamekiller simply known as Kash Munki entered the picture. A well-endowed socialite famous for trashing 5-star hotel rooms, Kash had traveled in from oil rich lands wearing expensive

### Game Killed

Italian loafers and indoor sunglasses. Drinks were bought for willing and unwilling recipients alike with his family's fortune, which he shamelessly flaunted in the form of an array of high status plastic. This caused Jon to suddenly lose his cool and go on the defensive by opening a tab of his own. On his debit card. After three rounds, Jon's account was maxed. Shortly after he was dropped off alone would Jon learn the hard way that a woman's affection should never be for sale, and that many a man has gone broke trying to prove otherwise.



**UTSCH Chad, New Brunswick, NJ**

His game was faring nicely at the local coffee shop with a seemingly receptive latte drinker called Rita and he seemed well on his way to a little afternoon delight, that is until the corduroy-clad Gamekiller known as "IQ" entered picture. This pompous scholastic scavenger, famous for luring men into heated debates on subjects of which they know nothing, overheard the conversation turning to art and pounced. Immediately he steered the dialogue into an area known as Out Of Chad's Depth where he would dish out ever increasing portions of intellectual emasculation. Chad reacted as anyone with a 20 point IQ deficit facing "IQ" would: the wrong way. No, the answer to "When do you feel Picasso peaked?" isn't to shove the questioner in the chest. Rita was left to apologize emphatically for Chad's actions and asked if she could make up for it in some way. Chad tried to recover, but it was too late. He had lost his cool, and his game would retire home, where it would begin its own blue period.

Obituaries can be created and sent via email to friends at [gamekillers.com](mailto:gamekillers.com)



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# hiatus

arts/entertainment

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006

THE BEST SONGS  
IN HIATUS  
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  - "Smoke and Wine"
- Mogwai**
- "Aurorock"
  - "Glasgow Mega Snake"

# dance/of

### Fusion, the biggest dance competition in the West, rattles the rafters of RIMAC

BY SIMONE WILSON  
Staff Writer

**W**ho would have guessed that UCSD is home to the largest hip-hop dance competition on the entire West Coast? From our thriving pool of student organizations, the Multi-Asian Student Association and the Second-to-None dance team (220) joined forces in 1999 to create the Fusion dance competition, the former devoted to preserving the togetherness of a people and the latter to living hip-hop's competitive spirit. Put them together, and you've got some kick-ass dance moves.

This will be Fusion's seventh year raising RIMAC Arena's roof, and the crowd isn't getting anything but fatter. Last year, more than 3,000 hip-hop enthusiasts showed up to witness the spectacle (a 400 percent increase since its debut), including TV stations, radio DJs and Web site representatives. With such an explosive audience upsurge in the past few years, the hype is only expected to keep on skyrocketing.

"A lot of different people are becoming more involved because Fusion is growing," said MASA Fusion coordinator Cherry Duong, at the head of the cultural awareness half of the show. "We're expecting a more diverse crowd this year."

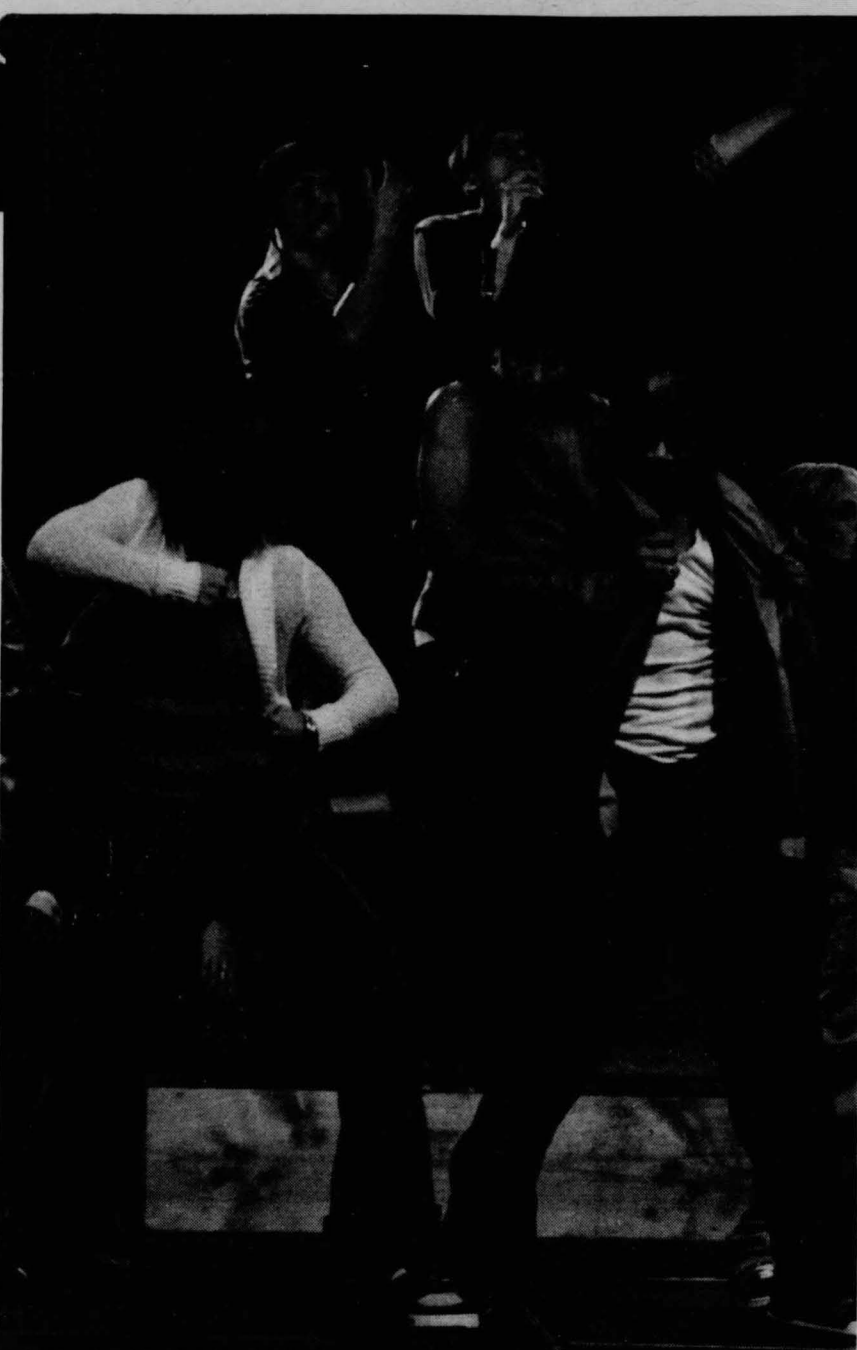
Only the very best California dance teams are selected to perform, as chosen by the event's student coordinators. "First we send them an invitation," said 220 dancer

Kei Tsukamoto. "Then they send us a video of their set, and then one of their practice." Among the nine chosen competitors this year are the twice-victorious UC Irvine Chinese Association Dance Crew, who won in both 2004 and 2005. Four judges with professional dance experience — including one of Gwen Stefani's Harajuku Girls — will present the trophy for 2006. Expect flashy light shows, a deafening beat, and the slickest stage full of poppers ever to rattle the University of California.

Accompanying stiff competition will be a scattering of exhibition acts, including professional San Diego dance team Culture Shock, UCSD martial artists and some babe-alicious Polynesian entertainers to boot. Event coordinators 220 will also be performing only on exhibition — "For us to compete would be kind of like throwing our own talent show," said Tsukamoto.

Though Fusion is an Asian-directed event (the largest one on campus), its goal is not to be exclusive but rather to help the local community recognize different aspects of Asian-American culture, in this case hip-hop. And at a university where 37 percent of the student population belongs to such a culture — a 10 percent increase since 1995 and now the clear majority — it's right time everybody started appreciating.

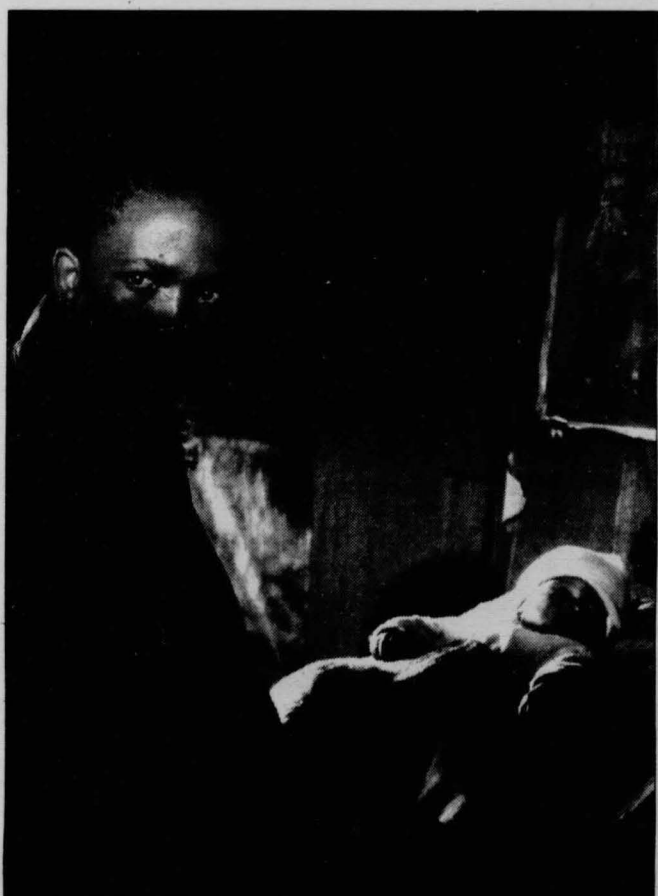
Fusion will take place at 6 p.m. on April 9 at RIMAC Arena. Tickets are \$13 at the UCSD Box Office and \$15 at the door.



(UCSD) Got Served: Fusion, sponsored by the Multi-Asian Student Association, has grown into the biggest hip-hop dance competition on the West Coast, now larger than ever for its seventh year on campus.

## Bringing Up Baby ... In a Gritty South African Shantytown

A stolen infant helps a young criminal find redemption in the slums of Johannesburg



Tough Love: Presley Chweneyagae plays Tsotsi, whose name means "hoodlum." An A.I.D.S.-orphaned street kid, Tsotsi is a successful thief, but less adept with a baby.

By Gaelle Faure  
ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

**I**t's a story so familiar it could take place in any slum. A young criminal, a bad seed through and through, heads deeper and deeper into darkness when a chance encounter (maybe a baby, a paraplegic, a good woman — or all three!) thaws his heart and sets him on the fast track to redemption. "Tsotsi," Oscar's pick for best foreign film, takes place in a bustling, gorgeously shot South African shantytown. Tsotsi (Presley Chweneyagae) — literally "hoodlum" — is the lost soul, and his road is as bumpy as it gets.

An A.I.D.S. orphan, barely a man, Tsotsi leads a small gang in theft and murder. He wears a dead-eyed mask of a face through it all, but his past sneaks back when he steals a rich woman's car, only to discover a baby in the backseat. Newcomer Chweneyagae gives a startlingly pro performance, teetering on the sharp edge of violence, keeping the audience uneasy instead of rooting for him outright. Yet it's the Pampers-ad-worthy-urchin's welfare that provokes the most tension (and sappy smiles) as Tsotsi carries him around town in a shopping bag, stores him under his bed and finds him covered in ants in the morning. He forcefully enlists the aid of Miriam (Terry Pheto, another stunning newbie), a neighboring widow and mother who makes gorgeous mobiles — stained glass ones when she's happy, rusted metal ones when she's sad. Her brave defiance actually gets Tsotsi to put the gun down, and his eyes begin to shine with a fatherly light during these play-family dates.

Take these encounters, add a few subplots and stir in some rather too explana-

tory childhood flashbacks, and it comes as no surprise when Tsotsi starts to shun his friends and his ways.

This tale of redemption may have "arch plot" written all over it, but that's the cool thing about those tried-and-true stories — since it's easy as pie to guess the developments, all the delicious treats are in the details. Sure, Tsotsi will get from A to B, but at what cost? Between the gang-ridden streets pulsing to kwaito music (addictive hip-hop tinged with dance hall — the soundtrack is a revelation) and the gritty/beautiful/mundane details of life in and around Johannesburg, "Tsotsi" achieves its most laudable prowess — by letting us forget its backbone and go along for the unabashedly emotional rollercoaster. Sincerity is key here; luckily, it pours out of every inch of the astounding cast. South African director Gavin Hood flirted with the idea of casting American actors, but instead headed home to shoot the film with actors speaking the local patois.

This is no treatise on postapartheid South Africa, however. All the characters in the film (save a cop) are black, rich or poor. If anything, with scattered public warning posters and the implied culprit in Tsotsi's mother's death, it's a subtle, earnest reminder of the omnipresent, violence-breeding effects of A.I.D.S. on the African continent.

**Tsotsi**

★★★★

Starring Presley Chweneyagae, Terry Pheto  
Directed by Gavin Hood  
Now Playing  
Rated R

## 'Friends' Is a Flick for Grown-Up Chicks

By Christine Clark  
ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

**T**he chick-flick formula is a very standard one: Girl chases guy (usually portrayed by Mark Ruffalo), girl gets guy, girl subsequently loses guy and through the help of sarcastic, slightly less attractive friend, girl wins guy back. But not every girl lives in a romantic comedy. Thankfully, writer-director Nicole Holofcener realistically examines the lives of women. Her latest film, "Friends With Money," like her previous works, is a mature dramedy about a group of girlfriends.

Unlike the female characters replaying on the Lifetime network, the women of "Friends with Money," although insecure, don't sit around pining for Prince Charming or throwing up dinner. They shop, they talk, they work, they talk, they raise children and then they talk some more. But that's the beauty of Holofcener's work. The conflicts don't deal with life or death issues, but the highly relatable themes in her films are just as engrossing.

Her style has not changed much since her 1996 directorial debut, "Walking and Talking." "Talking" dealt with the travails of two friends played by Anne Heche and Catherine Keener (Holofcener's muse). Keener

[ FRIENDS, page 9 ]

## You Can Relate to These 'Friends,' Even If They're Rich

**► FRIENDS,** from page 8 also starred in the follow-up, 2001's "Lovely and Amazing" — a gem about three insecure sisters. It was her second film's acclaim that undoubtedly attracted the A-list stars to her latest project.

"Friends With Money," which stars Jennifer Aniston, Joan Cusack, Francis McDormand and Keener, focuses on a group of yuppie friends living in Los Angeles, and how each handles life's little ups and downs. The film never loses pace with the intertwining stories of each character: Christine (Keener) is a screenwriter who's in the throes of a crumbling marriage; Frannie (Cusack) is a wealthy but dull housewife; Jane (McDormand) is a short-tempered clothing designer in the midst of a mid-life crisis and Olivia (Aniston) is a lonely poethead floundering in her career as a maid. Each actor brings their own accessibility to the flawed, down-to-earth characters.

Then there are the men — the love interests in "Friends" complete the ensemble cast of character actors. Scott Caan plays Olivia's asshole boyfriend and Jason Isaacs plays Christine's insensitive husband. But not to worry, not all men are jerks in this female fest: Simon McBurney (the creepy doc from the "Manchurian Candidate") does a complete 180 as Jane's sweet but ambiguously gay husband.

Money, given the title of the movie, is obviously a running theme. Olivia's friends with more money take pity on her because of her financial situation and single status. But the preoccupation with wealth is the mistake with "Friends." The best thing about the film is its naturalistic tone, but the characters' elite professions disconnect an otherwise relatable story. In Holofcener's world everyone seems either a glamorous yuppie or a dowdy maid. Even in Los Angeles there are people struggling in between. And although the film is shot on loca-

tion (not L.A.'s perennial stand-in, Vancouver) the overly polished set design looks like it was ripped right out of the pages of an Ethan Allen catalog.

Then again, "Friends" isn't exactly a feel-good movie. Realistic means bittersweet — Holofcener isn't afraid to imply that divorce can be a good thing. But thankfully, the film doesn't focus too much on romance. This is a movie about the kind of friendship among females that is not seen enough on the big screen. There are plenty of scenes in "Friends With Money" that any gal (or open-minded male) could connect to. Just don't call it a chick flick.

**Friends With Money**

★★★★

Starring Catherine Keener, Jennifer Aniston  
Directed by Nicole Holofcener  
Opens April 7  
Rated R

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<p><b>druthers</b></p> <p>"The Devil and Daniel Johnston"</p> <p>The word "madness" often finds its way into biographies of artists. Examples abound in the collective memory — see the silly rhyme "Kurt Cobain went insane, shot himself in the brain." Daniel Johnston, singer, songwriter, artist and manic-depressive — is one of these creative people with difficulties relating to the real world. Anyone remember Cobain's gray T-shirt, with a weird, frog-like, bug-eyed creature and the message "In Low Ape You...?" Interesting fact: Johnston created that image for his self-produced "Lies" cassette.</p> <p>The documentary "The Devil and Daniel Johnston" focuses on such fascinating details about Johnston's</p>	<p><b>exit strategy</b></p> <p>"RUMOR HAS IT"</p> <p>BURIAL YEAR, GREYSKULL</p> <p>THE KNEEHIGHS, OF ONE MIND</p> <p>"HOSTEL"</p>	<p>FUSION 2006</p> <p>ROMA NIGHTS: DAVID TONEY</p> <p>"THE FAMILY STONE"</p> <p>F12: THE DIMES</p>
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### recordings

Hank Williams III  
- Straight to Hell  
BRUC

★★★★

When it comes to musical birthrights, famous sons/second bananas like Jakob Dylan, Julian Lennon and Damien Marley have nothing on Hank Williams III. Grandson and uncanny vocal doppelgänger of the king of country-western music (Hank Sr.), and son of fat-voiced '80s star Hank Jr., No. 3 has a lot of musical genius to live up to.

Maybe that's why he picked up a reefer habit (how un-country) and fled the scene to play in hardcore punk bands for a piece. Too bad then that Hank III's love for bands like Black Flag has become his gimmick — he's country music for the Warped Tour kids, playing it fast and loose and filled with barfights, rebellion and stumbling drunkenness — so, what's exactly wrong with that again?

The first thing to be said about *Straight to Hell*: The band plays country music better than most Nashville sessioners. Fiddle, banjo and steel guitar licks peel off the record like coked-out "Deliverance" outtakes, along with III's voice, most times like a raspy, pissed-off Sr. — although he can duplicate his grandpa's nasally wail, as in a minute 6 (of the 42 minute "secret" track) sadder-than-Sr. cover of "I Could Never Be Ashamed Of You."

They rip through barnburners and haystack ballads with a tight, well-rehearsed focus, making for an authentic set

of country tunes. The quick ones are the most remarkable, leaping from verse to fiddle solo to pedal steel like ole Bob Wills' Texas Playboys, but fast almost to the breaking point. It's the perfect template to talk shit on Nashville's pop-trash, which, along with drinking and smoking (weed), is the story behind Hank III's music here, earning the album an extremely rare (for country) parental advisory sticker.

If it were from any other musician, the anti-Nashville sentiment of *Straight to Hell* would seem forced, with lyrics like "The kind of country I hear nowadays/ It's a bunch of fucking shit to me" and "Let's get stoned and proud," but with the Williams heirloom vocals and the hellbilly band behind him, the message comes out as strangely legitimate — who else but Hank Williams can tell the Nashville empire it has no clothes?

He's got the voice, the chops, the band and the fightin' spirit to easily surpass his father, and make for himself a legend of which Hank Sr. would be proud. Hopefully he'll decide to take the genre back from its corruptors (radio country), instead of simply cussin' 'em out from the bars and the punk clubs, because, if anyone can, Hank III will live up to the Williams name.

— Cody B. Nabours  
HIATUS EDITOR

Mogwai

- Mr. Beast

MATADOR

★★★★

With an album title like *Mr. Beast*, one would expect Mogwai's fifth record to be filled with the most deafening, pulse-pounding and raw sounds ever to induce small earthquakes from one's speakers — and in some ways, the record delivers.

Gripping, guitar-leadened tracks such as "Aurock" and "Glasgow Mega Snake" are reminiscent of soundtracks to blockbuster showdowns between the doomed villains and the supermen in tights. But Mogwai's weakness lies in its quieter, entirely forgettable numbers like "Acid

Food." Fans come away with the vague question of how they could have zoned out for a good third of the album.

The song ordering doesn't help anything either, wavering haphazardly between loud, throbbing rock and lethargically soft melodies. The album sounds strangely unbalanced somehow — this beast comes off as more bipolar than ferocious.

— Quynh Nhu Nguyen  
STAFF WRITER

## I Tried to Make Anti-Flag Look Like a Bunch of Fools, But It Seems I'm the Fool!

As is the sparkplug of music journalism. While regular reporters are nominally expected to balance different sides of an issue, music writing only happens when some headphone twat gets worked-up enough to put down the bong and pick up the pen, their inevitably huge ego exploding a proper mix of ignorance and prejudice.

The notoriously acidic Anti-Flag, who signed to a major label seemingly in the wake of *American Idiot*'s smash success, seemed perfect for an interview that would make them look as stupid as they distantly seemed. Political punk too often consists of some unschooled Pabst slob content to scream about how some leader or policy or country sucks with only a self-imposed tattoo and a cheap hangover as evidence. Almost completely unfamiliar with long-angry AF and their music, I stupidly thought I could trap cleverly monitored drummer Pat Thetic into revealing his own Bush-bashing spew for the idiot-fodder it most certainly was.

So I composed interview questions the way all hard-ass rock skeptics do: as a mini-quiz. If Thetic has enough gall to put out endless angry punk records and ask to be considered intelligent, he better be able to back his sting up with detailed knowledge.

To show my journalistic bias for the bullshit prejudice and pretense it was, here's a rundown of the Political Punk Quiz as passed by Anti-Flag's Pat Thetic. My snide grading comments are in italics:

*Requisite first question about new album/tour: Guardian: So is For Blood And Empire anything new? Is it even good?*

*Pat Thetic: The new record fucking rocks my ass off. We've got some really interesting ideas. Musically, we went in some directions that traditionally Anti-Flag would be a little bit afraid of.*

*G: Hmmm, interesting. Yawny reply, now for a real quiz question. What got you interested in politics?*

*P: We grew up in Pittsburgh — it has a blue collar, workers' rights kind of feel. Justin's parents were activists and had one of the first vegetarian restaurants [there]. My family just discussed*

politics and ideas a lot around the dinner table. My parents don't agree with many of the things that I'm interested in.

*(The most important credential.)*

*G: Yeah, I've got conservative parents, too. Which is weird, because lots of my friends' parents are old hippies.*

*P: We don't have those in Pittsburgh. People are interested in workers' rights, but talk about gay rights and those kinds of issues and you run into a brick wall.*

*Why am I surprised that you're not a homophobe? But let's get to the real question, hehe.*

*G: So why mix music and politics, anyway?*

*P: We're inspired by music in the same way we're inspired by activism and social justice. It all made sense to us. Our heroes were always bands that put music and activism together. With music, we go onstage and we say it exactly how we want it to be. That's a very unique position to be in.*

*OK, so that was a typical answer. But at least he mentioned "social justice." That's, like, a big word. ("Activism," mind you, is merely fashion.)*

*But now for the mean reporter smart-bomb, better-get-ready destructo query.*

*G: So does being on a major label (RCA) compromise your message, politics, or punkness?*

*P: So far they've been accepting of what we've had to say and how we choose to say it and all that. It'll be interesting to see how the relationship goes. I think that AF was very lucky because we're in a position of power [having already released six albums by themselves].*

*Damn! Foiled again with a reasonable reply! But let's see how this complicity came about ...*

*G: Were you guys actively looking for major labels or did they come to you?*

*P: There's been a lot of major labels who've been wanting to talk to us for a few years now, and we told them from the beginning that unless you are willing to give us complete creative control of artwork, music, and Web site and those things, there was no point in us talking. But RCA said yeah, we'll let you create the music and the artwork*

[ANTI-FLAG, page 12]

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**News: Mohawks Don't Preclude Intelligence**

ANTI-FLAG, from page 11 and the packaging that you want, and we'll put it in writing. We said wow — we actually didn't think that would happen.

Now I'm really starting to look like an asshole, I mean, a reporter. What shit can I talk about a major label these days, when they're practically the same thing as independents anyway? My grip on the wheel of shame is loosening. The spark plug is ineffective — his mixture is too damn heavy. So let's hit the nitrous with a potentially belittling question.

G: Do you think major label interest in you guys had anything to do with the success of American Idiot, another Bush-hating record with contrasty album art?

P: I think there's a growing number of people who are disenchanting with the Bush regime and who realize that unjust wars and wars of empire are not what American soldiers should be dying for. In 1994 we were singing about the same things but nobody wanted to hear any of the ideas we were talking about.

Nice dodge. But now for the I-dare-you-to-talk-shit question.

G: Do you feel a kinship with other bands like Green Day who are just recently growing overtly political?

P: I always have felt that anybody who is willing to talk about social justice is a friend of mine. I'm not the kind of person who says, well, if you do the math more of our songs are about social justice than theirs so we are cooler than [them] — that's not the world of activism that I'm a part of. We actually did some shows with Green Day last year, they're good dudes and they're talking about things that are important, so I think they're a great band.

How are you possibly this nice? Don't you know you're on a major label? Don't you know this is a college newspaper? Don't you know that Sid Vicious snarled and like, ate babies and stuff? But if you're not a dick, maybe you're still ignorant. I know I'm digging myself into a hole here, but let's see what old Pat knows about the U.S. Gov't.

G: Who is your least favorite political figure?

P: Wolfowitz or Cheney are some of the most evil people that the American political system has seen in a long time. They come off as being much less destructive and evil than they really are. This is true about Bush too.

Correct answer. But can a real punk ever say anything good about anything?

G: And your favorite politician?

P: We've had the amazing honor of being able to work with Congressman Jim McDermott from Seattle. I'm sure he has to go home and explain to his constituency that he is working with a band called Anti-Flag and we're not a bunch of goddess commies — or we may be, depends on which one you talk to.

Again, fuck.

G: If you could change any single American law, which one would you change?

He has to fuck up this one.

P: In the No Child Left Behind Act, there's a provision that says that schools that receive federal funding need to hand over the private records of their students to military recruiters. In schools we should be looking for something better than violence and war. We were told by members of Congress that if we can bring enough signatures and show them that people are interested in this issue, they will adopt legislation and try to change this law.

See [www.militaryfreezone.org](http://www.militaryfreezone.org) to sign the petition, and then Google my music-crit obituary. Pat Thetic scores a 100 percent on the "I'm Not A Stupid Punk" quiz. Now if only their music was more interesting — oohhh, I gotcha there!

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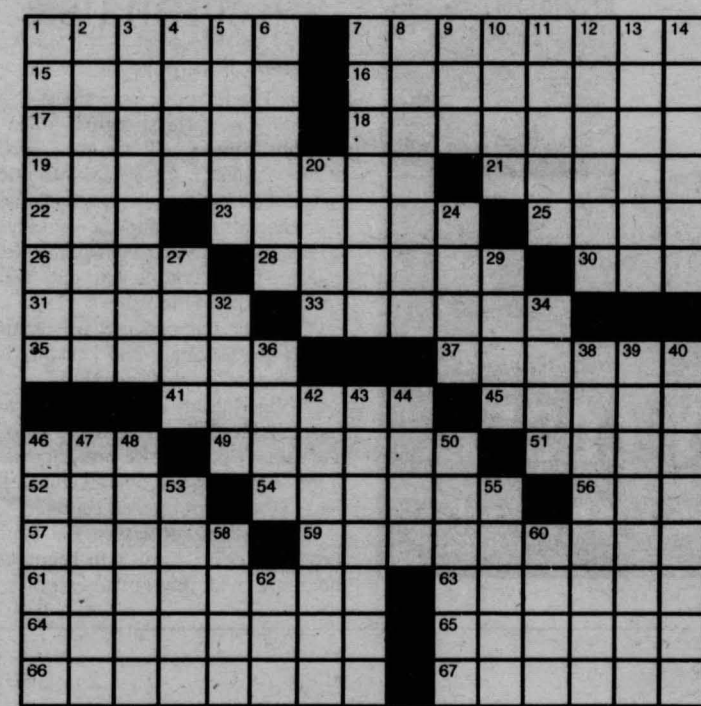
Economics 2nd edition for all Econ 1, 2, 3-565-good condition. Email [k1le@ucsd.edu](mailto:k1le@ucsd.edu) or call 619-793-6988 (4/10)

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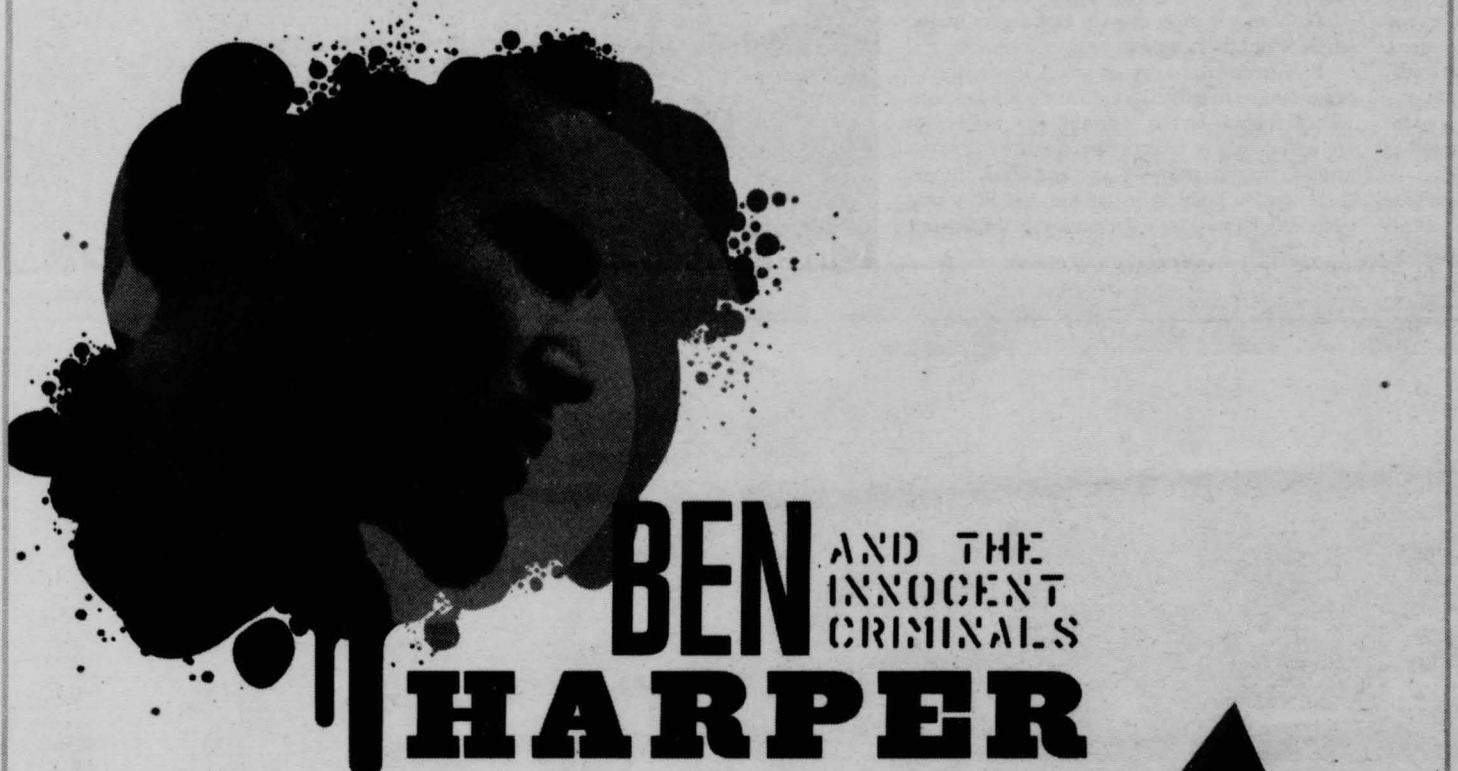
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- 1 Brazilian dances
  - 5 Estimated the value of
  - 15 School skipper
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  - 45 Mesager
  - 46 Printer's measures
  - 49 Cut back
  - 51 Art print, briefly
  - 52 Table extender
  - 54 Hosts
  - 56 Expected to arrive
  - 57 Estuary
  - 59 Medieval musical pieces
  - 61 Achieved levels
  - 63 Old World lizards
  - 64 Colorist's desire
  - 65 Attribute to a cause
  - 66 Desert condition
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- DOWN**
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  - 2 Stored, as records
  - 3 Undergoing a genetic change
  - 4 Semitic deity
  - 5 Moflo and Paquin
  - 6 Foul odor
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  - 12 Sacred beetle
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  - 20 Canter or trot
  - 24 Some antitoxins
  - 27 Low in pitch
  - 29 Dureya and Dalley
  - 32 Golf course hazard
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  - 38 Higher court order to a lower court
  - 39 Hooded mammal
  - 40 Emphasizes
  - 42 Beats with fists
  - 43 Contains in a box
  - 44 Marsh grass
  - 46 Old Testament prophet
  - 47 Trusted advisor
  - 48 Seasoned sausage
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  - 60 Mountain passes
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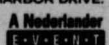
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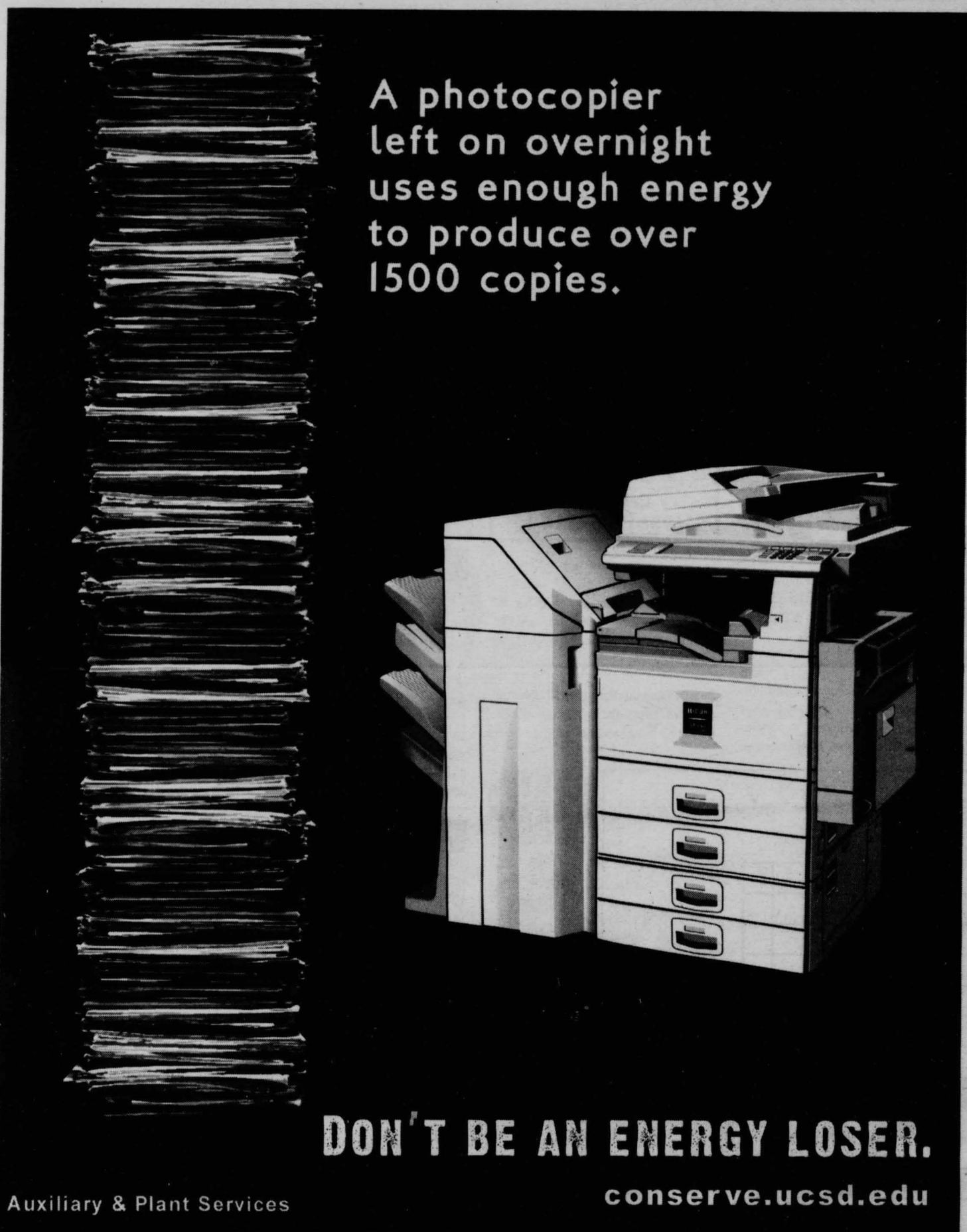




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## Doubles Play Lifts No. 13 Men's Tennis

► **STREAK**, from page 16  
able 8-0 lead. Meister was the only one who really encountered resistance from his opponent, Mikulasek, seeing his match go to three sets, with Meister coming away with the 7-6, 3-6, 10-4 victory.

The last singles win came from Ramesh Thondapu, whose 6-4, 6-1 dismissal of the Vulcans' Fuyuki Samejima gave the Tritons their second-straight 9-0 victory.

The first one came on April 1, when the Tritons hosted Sonoma State and the University of Hawaii-Pacific for a doubleheader. The 9-0 shutout came against Sonoma State in the later match, with Meister, Molden, Rubens, Oechel (making his singles debut) and Negishi leading the way with victories each in singles and doubles. However, the Tritons did not have such an easy time facing No. 31 Hawaii-Pacific.

The match started with singles play, with each school winning three apiece. Rubens, Meister and Thondapu were UCSD's winners and made the doubles competition the deciding factor.

"I had never played singles before doubles," Meister said. "I knew it was going to be tough with the pressure on for the doubles matches, but Erik always has unbelievable energy and it helps me on the court."

In the first doubles match, Ojiala and Meister lived up to their title as UCSD's top tandem, beating Sonoma State's Andrew Laing and Westly Keister in an 8-1 victory.

Molden and Oechel clinched the victory for the Tritons as they defeated Andy Muesse and Miguel Camino 8-4. Rubens and Negishi tallied an 8-4 win in the last match, bringing the final score to 6-3 in favor of the Tritons.

After 10-straight home games, the Tritons will have to face their foes on the road, when the team squares off against cross-town rival Point Loma Nazarene University on April 11.

## Women's Tennis Eyeing Regionals

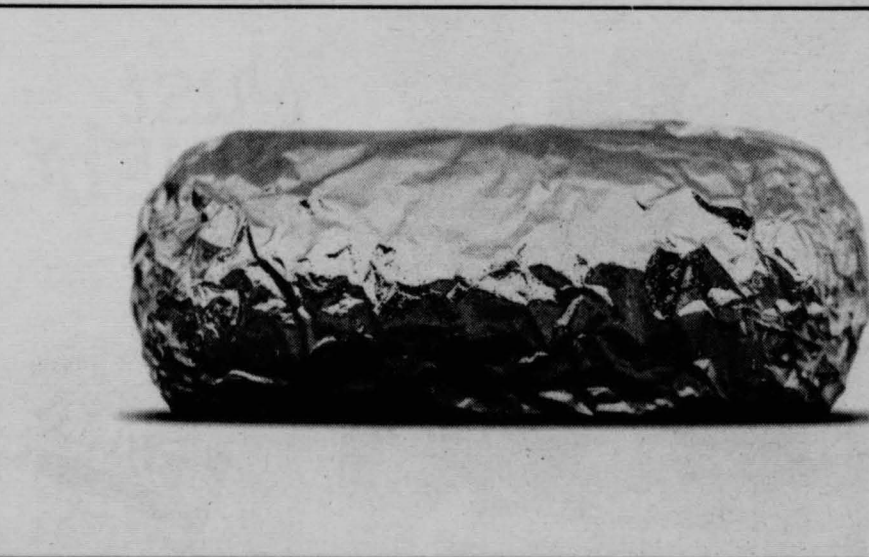
► **ALOHA**, from page 16  
the No. 1 and 2 spots, respectively.

Following the regular season, the Tritons will try their luck at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II West Regional Tournament. Assuming the rankings do not change, UCSD will face the No. 7 team. If the Tritons win, they will advance to play Hilo again.

Only the top two regional teams qualify for nationals, and LaPlante is well aware of the challenge ahead.

"BYU Hawaii always goes [to regionals] ... it's between us and Hilo," she said. "Last year, we beat them at home to go to Florida, but this year we'll have to beat them on their courts."

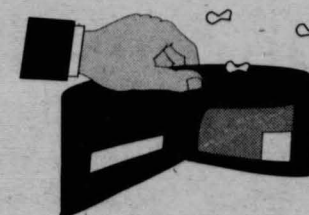
UCSD faces off against Cal State Los Angeles on April 8 to begin its homestretch for the regular season.



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## UCSD Clericals

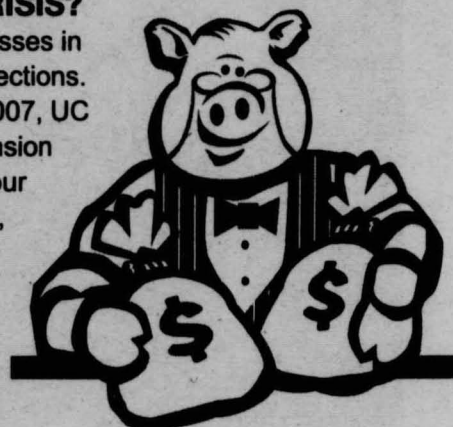


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### WHERE'S YOUR REPRESENTATION?

UCSD main campus Labor Relations and Vice-Chancellor Rogers Davis refuse to allow our most successful steward, Chris Hertzog, to handle grievances. If you are fired, laid off, or disciplined, Chris is banned from representing you. This is illegal and CUE Local 5 has filed charges against UCSD, but it will take a while to reinstate Chris. Right now grievances are being needlessly delayed (another illegal action). This kind of corporate-style union-busting was typical of the way Labor Relations operated under Chancellor Dynes. Is Chancellor Fox going to allow LR to break the law under her watch?




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## Track &amp; Field


 The men's and women's teams finished fifth and sixth, respectively, at the Cal/Nevada State Collegiate Championship on March 31 and April 1, beating out many D-I schools and picking up 10 NCAA qualifying marks.

## Women's Tennis Splits Matches Against Island Squads

No. 17 Tritons earn 6-3 win over Hawaii-Pacific, but fall 4-5 in close match against No. 10 Hawaii-Hilo.

By Danaei Leininger  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Before the University of Hawaii-Hilo women's tennis team returned to its island paradise, it bid the UCSD squad an irksome "aloha."

The Vulcans were one of two Hawaiian teams to visit the mainland this weekend, with the University of Hawaii-Pacific crew also venturing across the Pacific to battle UCSD in a showdown between the region's top contenders. While the Tritons were victorious in an easy 6-3 win over Pacific on April 1, they fell to Hilo in a disappointing 4-5 loss the following day. The loss drops No. 17 UCSD to 8-6 on the season.

In singles play against Hawaii-Pacific, junior Marsha Malinow downed Anastacia Ageychik, 6-4, 6-1, and freshman Ina Dan came from behind to earn a three-set victory over Isidora Ljuri. Sophomore Justine Fonte easily handled Aradna Verdejo to provide another tally for the Tritons, who lost their other three matches to split singles play with Pacific.

UCSD's doubles play remained the Tritons' stalwart, with all three tandems making haste of the sluggish Pacific players. In the closest of the matches, juniors Katie McKee and

Kristin Bronowicki outlasted opponents Ageychik and Ljuri in an 8-6 final. It was the eighth win in 13 matches for the doubles pair.

According to head coach Liz LaPlante, the Tritons' doubles performance has been outstanding and dependable throughout the season.

"Doubles is crucial to the outcome of the match," she said. "If you can be up going into singles, it definitely helps."

Despite the success against Pacific, No. 10 Hilo proved to be a tougher opponent, subduing the Tritons' top three singles players, Malinow, McKee and Dan and their No. 1 doubles squad on its way to victory. All losing singles players fell in straight sets, and the usually battling doubles duo of McKee and Bronowicki also went quietly.

LaPlante said she expected tough competition from both island teams.

"We had been gearing up for the two Hawaii matches all season," she said. "They are both strong teams and a lot rides on the outcome for regionals."

McKee agreed, adding that the teams' strength was no surprise.

"Hilo is always one of our toughest matches," she said. "It could have gone either way."

One bright spot for the Tritons against Hilo was Fonte, who defeated Akimi Kifune in dominant fashion, 6-2, 6-1. With the win, Fonte maintained her undefeated season, bringing her win total to seven.

According to Fonte, her success is due in large part to her composure.

"I've been playing a lot more relaxed



GREG DALE/GUARDIAN

Junior Katie McKee and the rest of the UCSD women's tennis team have four league matches remaining before the NCAA Division II West Regional tournament May 4 and 5. The Tritons fell to Hilo last weekend and may face the Vulcans again in the tournament.

this season," she said. "I've played with more consistency and made my opponent work for each point while I just waited for the opportunity to put the shot away."

While losing is justifiably frustrating, UCSD has reason to bemoan the most recent loss because it was yet another close series that tipped in favor of the enemy. In fact, half of

the Tritons' losses have been decided by one match, showing that the team could easily be 11-3 instead of 8-6.

LaPlante echoed her team's frustration, but was optimistic about the Tritons' future success against Hilo.

"Our 5-4 loss to Hilo is disappointing," she said. "Unfortunately, they were just better that day, but I'm confident we can beat them next time."

With the majority of the season behind them, the Tritons hope to finish their campaign on a strong note, facing four league opponents in six matches in the upcoming weeks. Their weekend results kept them at third in the region, with only Brigham Young University of Hawaii and Hilo ahead in

[ALOHA, page 14]

## Tritons Stay Perfect Against D-II Schools



GREG DALE/GUARDIAN

Sophomore Blake Meister and the UCSD men's tennis team have been on a tear since starting the season 0-6. With their most recent 9-0 win over the University of Hawaii-Hilo Vulcans, the No. 13 Tritons improved to 9-8, including a perfect 5-0 record against Division-II opponents.

No. 13 men's tennis improves win streak to three games with 9-0 win over the No. 32 Vulcans.

By Rael Enteen  
SPORTS EDITOR

With a 9-0 win over the University of Hawaii-Hilo on April 3, the No. 13 men's tennis team improved its overall record to 9-8, a positive turnaround from the Tritons' 0-6 start to the season.

UCSD came into the last match of a 10-game homestand, against the No. 32 Vulcans, with two wins in their last two tries, including another 9-0 clobbering of Sonoma State. The most

recent 9-0 shutout keeps the Tritons undefeated against NCAA Division-II opponents this year with a 5-0 mark.

To keep their streak alive, the Tritons needed the usual strong play of their dominant doubles duos, which took out all three of their Vulcan counterparts for a 3-0 lead going into singles play.

The Tritons' No. 1 and the nation's No. 19 pair of Erik Oijala and Blake Meister managed an 8-5 win, while Brent Molden and Steven Oechel notched an 8-4 victory. The last duo, No. 3 Eric Rubens and Kazumi Negishi kept the doubles squad perfect with their 8-5 win over the Vulcans' Mitchel Gelina and Tomas Mikulasek.

Meister said he attributes his and Oijala's doubles play to experimenting with new methods.

"Erik and I have a unique style

called I-form or renegade style," Meister said. "It's great because it covers up our weaknesses and plays to our strengths. We didn't use it as effectively last year, but we've been practicing and it has really payed off this season."

No matter how good their doubles teams are, the Tritons' matches still put twice the emphasis on singles play. Although their doubles have been more consistent this year, UCSD's singles play has been anything but second rate. In singles play, the Tritons used a combination of their doubles players and fresh legs from the bench. Nationwide No. 50 Molden, Rubens, Meister, Oijala and Negishi all showed their stamina, winning each of their singles matches fresh off doubles victories to give the Tritons an insurmount-

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### GOLF FINISHES NINTH AT SONOMA STATE INVITATIONAL

Team Finishes		Top UCSD Individual Finishes	
1. CSU Bakersfield	576	t29. Robbie Kramer	155
2. West. Washington	587	t33. Ryan Bailey	156
3. St. Martin's Univ.	593	36. Ryo Yamada	157
...		40. Justin Grant	160
t9. UCSD	628	t46. Luke Leveillee	163

