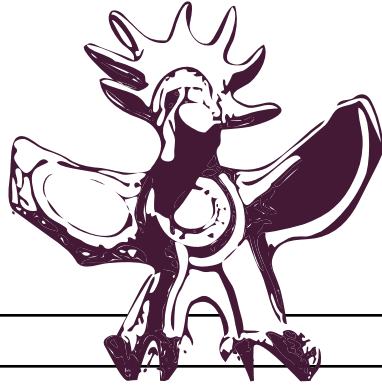


# THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO GUARDIAN

www.ucsdguardian.org

Thursday, April 9, 2009

The Student Voice Since 1967



## Freshman Admissions Rate Hits Decade Low

UCSD admits 38 percent of applicants, down from 41.7 percent in 2008.

By Kimberly Cheng  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The lowest percentage of freshmen in nearly a decade received acceptance letters from the University of California this year. UCSD admission rates fell almost 4 percent from last fall.

According to data released by the university on Tuesday, of the 41,411 UCSD applicants, only 15,718 were offered admission — 2,000 fewer than were accepted last year. Systemwide, UCSD received the second most freshmen applications this year. UCLA received the most at 46,104,

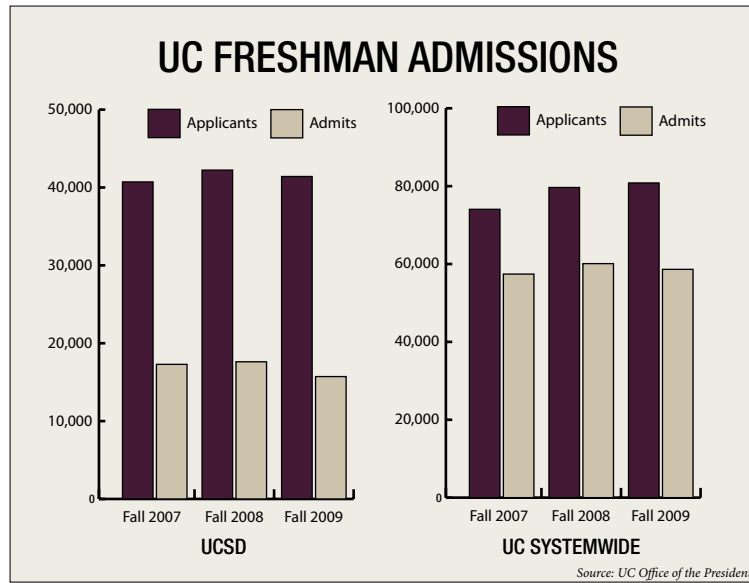
and UC Irvine received the third most at 40,733.

Although a record 80,820 students applied to at least one of the nine undergraduate UC campuses, the percentage of in-state admits dropped from 75.4 percent to 72.5 percent.

Admissions increased at three UC campuses, with Berkeley admitting 526 more students than last year, Riverside adding 2,558 and Merced rising by 193.

Nearly all racial groups — including blacks, Latinos, Asians and whites — saw a decline in UCSD admissions, with the exception of American Indians, whose numbers rose from 63 students last year to 65 this year. The number of white admits took the biggest dive, down by 777 students.

See **ADMISSIONS**, page 3



## Middle Eastern Students Seek Own Category on UC Apps

Existing application groups Middle Easterners with whites, alongside 23 Asian subcategories.

By Heather Houry  
STAFF WRITER

Recent concern over the absence of a "Middle Eastern" option on the UC application has led university officials to consider expanding the range of racial categories, an attempt to recognize ethnicities presently grouped as "white."

According to UC spokesman Ricardo Vazquez, the university currently includes Middle Eastern students in the "white" category to keep classifications as simple as possible.

On the front lines of the campaign to add a "Middle Eastern" option to the UC application are UCLA student organizations the United Arab Society, the Iranian Student Group, the Armenian Student Association, the Afghan Student Association and the Syrian Club.

Yasi Chehroudi, president of ISG at UCLA, said admissions statistics are not useful when they combine racial groups.

"When the university clumps people, it's hard to see trends," Chehroudi said. "It's detrimental when the demographics don't match."

The current U.S. Census Bureau similarly categorizes people of Middle Eastern descent as white. Middle Eastern interest groups lobbied for this change in the late 1970s in order to achieve greater immigration rights.

However, Faisal Attrache, President of UCLA's UAS, said this categorization is no longer an advantage.

"As Arab, we don't feel that 'white' is representative of us," Attrache said.

See **RACE**, page 2

## A.S. Programming Drops \$32K on Sun God Security

Noticably lighter police presence to characterize daytime portion of festival. Security will increase after nightfall.

By Reza Farazmand  
NEWS EDITOR

"Discretion" will be the word of the day at next month's Sun God Festival, when 45 police officers descend upon RIMAC Field armed with zip ties, breathalyzers and enough probable cause to round up the majority of an expected 20,000 attendees.

Despite attempts by A.S. Programming to reduce security costs for this year's festival, a police force as beefed up as last year will again patrol campus come May 15, though fewer officers will be present during the festival's daytime hours.

Security alone will cost students a hefty \$32,223.87, approximately 17 percent of the festival's total operating budget. This sum will primarily pay the overtime salaries of campus police officers from UCSD, San Diego State, UC Irvine and UC Riverside.



The Sun God Festival drew a crowd of approximately 18,000 in 2008. This year, 45 police officers from UCSD, San Diego State University, UC Irvine and UC Riverside will patrol RIMAC Field and the surrounding area. Additional security will be provided by Staff Pro guards hired for the event.

The presence of Staff Pro guards — those yellow-jacketed rent-a-cops seen patrolling at many campus events — will increase due in part to the addition of the dance tent, a massive enclosure that will host a number of

deejay acts, including top-billed headliner Girl Talk. According to Associate Vice President of Programming Garret Berg, the extra guards were necessitated by a decision to allow attendees to dance on stage during the Girl Talk

performance.

Berg, who said he would like to see a smaller police presence at this year's festival at a public Sun God

See **SUN GOD**, page 2

## COUNCIL GRANTS STUDENT ORGS INCREASED START-UP FUNDS

By Connie Shieh  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With only a few weeks left in office, Vice President of Finance and Resources Naasir Lakhani submitted legislation to the A.S. Council last night that changed the process by which student organizations receive funding.

Approved unanimously by the council, the plan will increase basic operational funding for student organizations from a maximum of \$20 to a maximum of \$400 while eliminating the option to request separate

funds for travel expenses. The change also eliminates quarterly programming requests and implements a rolling request process with no limits on the amount of funding that may be granted.

The council will discuss the second half of the legislation, which seeks to establish a committee of



Naasir Lakhani  
A.S. VP of Finance and Resources

individuals appointed specifically to oversee these funding requests.

The proposed advisory committee would meet once a week during the academic year to consider each funding request, and would then recommend an allocation to the A.S. Council.

This has been a yearlong project for Lakhani, a graduating senior. Peter Benesch, current associate vice president of athletic relations and candidate for Lakhani's position in 2009-10, worked alongside Lakhani in making the revisions.

Lakhani observed the student-

organization funding process at other UC campuses to improve the procedure currently used by ASUCSD, which requires organizations to submit funding requests for the following quarter by week five of the previous quarter.

"The system is clearly broken," Lakhani said. "Although our system is supposedly objective, it is still biased toward orgs that understand the system. The orgs that know [the process] know which boxes to fill out and get the most funding."

Both Lakhani and Benesch agree that the changes will benefit both the

A.S. Finance Office and the organizations seeking funds, in that neither party will have to worry about specific quarterly deadlines.

"Right now, 90 percent of requests are done by my position and the AVP Student Orgs position," Lakhani said. "The finance committee only looks at the most minuscule things, which I think is wrong. The bigger requests need to have more eyes on them. This model allows student orgs to show the merits of their event."

Readers can contact Connie Shieh at cshieh@ucsd.edu.

### HIATUS Surrealism in the City

"Tokyo!" weaves three shorts — each detailing the exploits of one urban nightcrawler — with a thread of black magic.



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### SPORTS The Bats Come Alive

Men's baseball: The first-place Tritons drove in 19 runs in the first game of a series victory over Chico State.



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### ONLINE

**Poll:** How do you feel about this year's Sun God Festival lineup?  
Tell us at [www.ucsdguardian.org](http://www.ucsdguardian.org).

### WEATHER

April 9 H 63 L 51  
April 10 H 63 L 51  
April 11 H 59 L 49  
April 12 H 66 L 51

## SUNNY-SIDE UP



BY PHILIP RHIE

## Reduced Force to Patrol During Daytime Sun God Activities

► **SUN GOD**, from page 1

planning forum during Fall Quarter, was partially able to achieve this goal by ensuring that fewer officers would be present on and around festival grounds during the earlier hours of the festival.

In contrast, the police force will grow at nightfall.

"Last year, a very large percentage of the officers were there for the full festival," Berg said. "The majority of those officers coming this year are coming later in the day — once the sun sets, after our more mellow acts are off, kind of at more appropriate times and for fewer hours."

Berg said the excessive number of police officers at last year's event helped him decide to redistribute police activity throughout the day.

"There are definitely times during the festival when it's appropriate to have a larger police presence than at other times," Berg said. "Last year, the problem was that during the day, as people were arriving, there was this overwhelming police presence. I was seeing pictures of people getting arrested with four cops standing around them. That's kind of what we wanted to prevent this year."

The redistribution also allowed

for a reduction in the total cost of security, though these savings were offset by a lack of grant funding for the police department. While last year UCSD police were able to cover approximately \$40,000 of this total cost with the use of such grants, this year the programming department was forced to compensate for much of this cost.

"Unfortunately the cost wasn't able to go down because the money that we would have saved was pretty much offset by [the UC Police Department's] lack of grant support," Berg said. "Our costs would have gone down, but without grant support, our costs went down a lot and then went back up a lot."

According to UCSD police Lt. Dave Rose, the true cost of security for the festival will be unavailable until

after the event.

Although Berg promised that no undercover police officers would be present at the event, he said his department would be unable to regulate the presence of undercover Alcoholic Beverage Control officers at campus venues outside of the festival grounds, such as Porter's Pub.

Readers can contact Reza Farazmand at [rfarazma@ucsd.edu](mailto:rfarazma@ucsd.edu).

## Similar Campaign Added 23 New Racial Categories in 2007

► **RACE**, from page 1

"No one really thinks of us as white."

The UC application currently includes 28 ethnicity options, 23 of which were added in 2007 as part of the Asian Pacific Coalition's "Count Me In" campaign. The campaign, much like the one now being organized by Middle Eastern students at UCLA, lobbied for the inclusion of more ethnic categories on the UC application.

Chehroudi said she would like to see several different subcategories included on the application, including Iranian, Arab, Armenian, Syrian and Turkish.

The UCLA campaign has not spread to the other UC campuses, though it has received student support from other universities — due in part to a March 31 article in the *Los Angeles Times* about the present UC policy.

"It is disappointing that the UC system, especially considering its prestige, does not have a 'Middle Eastern' option," said Hameen Oriqat, member of the UCSD Muslim Student Association and Students for Justice in Palestine. "Other state and private schools have the category, so I don't know why we don't."

**"As Arab, we don't feel that 'white' is representative of us."**

— Faisal Attrache, President, UCLA United Arab Society

According to Vazquez, the addition of the "Middle Eastern" option would involve modifications to the university's computer systems as well as to computers at the individual cam-

pus.

He said in an e-mail Wednesday that adding racial categories could improve the quality and usefulness of student data, but they are still considering the logistical and monetary implications of such a change.

Readers can contact Heather Houry at [hhoury@ucsd.edu](mailto:hhoury@ucsd.edu).

**"I was seeing pictures of people getting arrested with four cops standing around them. That's kind of what we wanted to prevent."**

— Garrett Berg, Associate Vice President of Programming

## CORRECTIONS

An A.S. election endorsement published on April 6 contained a misspelling of candidate Adam Teitelbaum's last name. The piece also incorrectly identified Teitelbaum as the former president of Alpha Epsilon Phi. Teitelbaum was in fact president of Alpha Epsilon Pi.

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

THE UCSD GUARDIAN

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## Fox Stops in to Chat at Sparsely Attended Council Meeting

Chancellor **Marye Anne Fox** gave a most inspirational little speech at last night's council meeting, which was somewhat poorly attended. She commended an absent President **Donna Bean** for "her great leadership" in bringing many student issues to the Chancellor's Office and expressed her wish that the next A.S. president continue the trend.

During Fox's short presentation she mentioned the need for California to pass Proposition 1A so that the university would have a feasible operating budget for the next year. She also joked about the Admit Day e-mail debacle.

"I know you heard about our little problem," Fox said. "It's generated a little bit of interest in the mail coming in, but I say that you can't buy advertisement like that."

Student Foundation President **Sarah Chang** and trustee and Revelle College Senator **Katie Hall** gave the latest update on UCSD's inaugural Dance Marathon, which is set to take place on May 8 and 9 in the Price Center East Ballroom. Details will be available on [ucsdancemarathon.ucsd.edu](http://ucsdancemarathon.ucsd.edu) after Friday.

Last week's open roll-call vote — in which councilmembers call in a vote at will over an extended period of time — was unfortunately marred by the behavior of various councilmembers whom Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs **Lana Blank** called out in a letter to the council. Speaker **Jordan Taylor** clarified to the council that lobbying an issue during open roll call is not allowed.

The council passed an amendment that eliminates changing votes during open-call voting.

Vice President of Finance and Resources **Naasir Lakhani** then approached the microphone stand and belted out the first line of the DuckTales theme song as an admirable segue into a presentation on the proposed changes in the funding process for student organizations.

Lakhani quickly sobered up as he explained the problems with the quarterly and weekly funding process as it now exists. His proposal includes an increase in the operating budget cap from \$20 to \$400. He also took the time to address all the possible critiques of the funding system.

"Just do it," Hall said during discussion in hopes of speeding up the dialogue and voting process.

The issue was split into two and the changes to the standing rules passed 20-0-0. Voting on the document concerning the Student Organization Funding Advisory Board was postponed for a week so that Lakhani could rework and clarify the language defining the composition and role of the committee.

Marshall College Senator **Monica Figueroa** opened up an old can of worms when she motioned to reconsider the open roll-call vote on last week's hotly debated issue of whether the executive members could vote, which Associate Vice President of Student Advocacy **Frank Carroll** supported due to the apparently inappropriate lobbying that occurred during the open roll-call period. The motion passed 10-4-4, and was then mercifully postponed indefinitely.

Friday's Bear Garden may be cancelled due to rain. Stay tuned for weather reports.



**New Business**  
**Connie Shieh**

[cshieh@ucsd.edu](mailto:cshieh@ucsd.edu)

## 10,000 Will Be Offered Spots at Merced, Riverside

► **ADMISSIONS**, from page 1

The medium weighted high-school GPA for UCSD admits was 4.09, up from 4.06 last year, and the average SAT score increased from 1,931 to 1,955.

About 10,000 UC-eligible students rejected by all campuses to which they applied will be offered admission to UC Merced or UC Riverside this month, UC director of undergraduate admissions Susan Wilbur said in a statement.

Wilbur said the economic recession this year could result in more students attending the University of California instead of a higher-cost private school. However, it could also result in more students opting for the California State University or community colleges — rather than attending an out-of-town UC campus.

The biggest plunges in acceptance rates occurred at UC Santa Cruz, where admission fell from 74.3 percent to 63.7 percent; UC Davis, where it decreased from 52.4 percent to 46.2 percent; and UC Irvine, which dropped to 42.8 percent from 49 percent.

UCLA showed the lowest overall admission rate at 21.4 percent, followed by UC Berkeley at 29.5 percent and UCSD at 38 percent.

In January, the UC Board of Regents announced its intention to cut to freshmen enrollment by 2,300 students for fall 2009 due to insufficient state funding and previous overenrollment. University officials are hoping to enroll about 33,000 California freshmen this year and boost community college transfer admits by 500.

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

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Props to Vermont for being the first state to legalize gay marriage via legislative action rather than through the courts on Tuesday.

Flops to UC Santa Cruz for attempting to quell 4/20 festivities by banning overnight guests and reaching out to freshmen parents with a cautionary e-mail.



## EDITORIALS

## With Org Funds Up and Access Easier, Money Ain't a Thang

Student organizations are far and away one of the most important facets of campus life. These groups provide outlets for student expression and routes by which to engage with and serve the campus community. They allow us to grow as individuals and develop our personal interests. They encourage us to interact with our peers on a level beyond that achieved in dorms or at parties, creating relationships based around shared interests and promoting the kind of informed discourse that our years in college are meant to facilitate.

Naturally, then, one of the primary objectives of our student government should be to provide these organizations with all the resources necessary for them to thrive successfully within our campus community. Last night, the A.S. Council did just this, approving a revision to its standing rules that dramatically increases the funds available to these organizations while streamlining the process through which these funds are granted.

Penned by Vice President of Finance and Resources Naasir Lakhani, the new legislation allows registered student organizations to request up to \$400 in initial operating funds, a dramatic improvement over the previous \$20 limit. At the same time, the changes allow for uncapped programming funding requests which can be pursued at any point throughout the year with no worry of impending deadlines.

This improvement will be particularly beneficial to new organizations that may previously have had



BEN HOLM/GUARDIAN

trouble getting off the ground. In the past it was often necessary for those involved in these organizations to dig into their own pockets in an effort to fund their activities, so slow and inefficient was the council's process for granting funding to these groups. Under the new process, however, organizations will be able to request and receive all necessary funds in a timely manner, thus guaranteeing that these groups are able to succeed while encouraging the emergence of new organizations.

On a more tangible level, greater support for our student organizations translates directly into a more improved campus atmosphere. By ensuring that these organizations are attended to in an efficient man-

ner with the resources they need to thrive, the council also ensures that our campus remains alive with activity as these groups stage their various events, participate in campus politics and provide students with an outlet for pursuing a diverse range of interests.

Of course, this new legislation is not without its downsides. For all the good that comes with increased funding for student organizations, there also comes the inherent possibility of the council stretching its funds too thin. Though this outcome is unlikely to appear anytime soon given the now inflated status of the council's bank account (aren't referenda great?), it is still a possibility of which councilmembers should

remain aware.

Until then, however, more power to the orgs.


 THE GUARDIAN

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## A Little Application Tweak Will Make for Better University Data

Applying to the University of California, you're faced with a daunting application filled with pages upon pages of forms asking for everything from high-school grades and standardized test scores to your parents' income and family size.

But for some students, the portion of the university application concerning racial identity poses a serious personal challenge — specifically, for students of Middle Eastern heritage. Of the application's 28 officially recognized racial categories, none apply to Middle Eastern students, forcing them to check either "white" — the category

under which they have been grouped by the U.S. Census Bureau since 1970 — "Asian" or "African," depending on their family's origins. Some students mark "other" or decline to state their racial identity because they feel none of the official groups apply to them.

A coalition of student groups from UCLA is lobbying the university to modify the application to provide an additional category for Middle Eastern students. These students feel that they are not ethnically "white" and being grouped as such is detrimental to the university's racial statistical data, which is used for outreach and

retention efforts across the 10-campus system.

Using momentum from the university's 2007 decision to include 23 more racial options — led by the Asian Pacific Coalition's "Count Me In" campaign, which added groups such as Pakistani, Hmong and Samoan — Middle Eastern students now want their concerns addressed, but have faced hurdles as UC administrators consider the costs of adjusting university computer systems to accommodate the request.

Ultimately, however, the benefits of such a change far outweigh the

costs. Middle Eastern students are no more culturally white than Chinese are Korean, and leaving them excluded skews valuable statistical data. Especially considering the new admission policy — which de-emphasizes test scores and gives more consideration to personal circumstance and under which white students have been projected to make significant admissions gains — altering the application data to allow a Middle Eastern category could provide a more accurate picture of just exactly who is admitted, offering a greater insight into the university's true diversity.

## QUICKTAKES

### CUTTING UNIVERSITY COSTS

The UC system has taken a massive budgetary blow this year and efforts to make ends meet have ranged from an executive pay freeze to shrinking on-campus programs. Still, the regents will consider a 9.3 percent increase in systemwide student fees next month. Here's a look at the pros and cons of other recently proposed long-term plans that might help lighten the fiscal load.

### INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

A recently authorized cost-saving proposal stands to save the UC millions — without cutting services or enrollment. Rather, the program will provide savings through increased energy efficiency, aiding both the university's thinning wallet and the environment.

Increasing energy efficiency will result in an estimated \$36 million in annual operational savings for the university and would untie funds for other necessities, such as building maintenance, that take a backseat to keeping the lights on. Because this program decreases university dependence on outside electricity sources by 11 percent, we'll be writing energy companies smaller checks at the end of the month, allowing us to use our savings elsewhere.

Though \$178 million of the total projected cost of \$247.4 million will have to be financed through 15-year revenue bonds, the program's \$36 million annual savings will be used to pay for the debt itself.

The renovations at UCSD may include solar panel installations, a shift to L.E.D. lighting and improving air conditioning systems, providing students with cleaner and more efficient air flow in facilities. Although costly, by committing to these improvements the university will gain financial security while moving toward its sustainability goals to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions back to 2000 levels by 2014 and 1990 levels by 2020.

— Albert Luong  
STAFF WRITER

### ENDORING PROPOSITION 1A

Desperate times call for desperate measures, like Proposition 1A — and in light of the University of California's \$450 million budgetary deficit, it's safe to say that we're presently in a state of grave desperation. Fact is, no one really likes paying higher taxes, but when it can help prevent future budgetary crises like the one we currently face, we've got to suck it up for a while (Proposition 1A calls for the extension of current tax increases for up to two years) and fork over the cash in the interest of preserving higher education.

If it passes, following the statewide special election on May 19, Proposition 1A would more than double the size of the state's rainy-day reserve fund and restrict state spending — resulting in a more stable state economy (i.e. a state economy that won't be forced to cut funding to the UC system to alleviate its own debt). Some opponents of the measure say it cuts too much spending, and some say it cuts too little. But in reality, the proposition, fittingly dubbed the Budget Stabilization Act, will do just what California higher education needs: Restore university access to sufficient state funding, so that UC campuses aren't forced to rush into destabilizing our university with drastic cost-saving measures like those we are currently enforcing.

— Trevor Cox  
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## A Local Apple a Day Keeps the Pesticides Away

Before organic food began lining supermarket shelves, I bought oranges without questioning their origins. But as the green fever became too prevalent to ignore, I began to question the innocence of my produce: Who grew it? How was it grown? How was it supposed to taste?



### Down to Earth

Albert Luong

aluong@ucsd.edu

Apparently, the average apple is grown with pesticides and monocultures, and has most likely been genetically modified. Your organic apple usually skips the chemical bath, but isn't guaranteed to come from a tree near you — which is why students should also make sure to buy local. If students want to make sure they're buying local they should purchase food from no further than 100 miles away. The average fresh food item travels 1,500 miles to get to your dinner table, according to Rich Pirog, associate director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture.

Despite the time and fuel involved in long-distance transport, we keep buying food from all over the world because industrial agriculture has made it so cheap.

Eating local allows us to re-engage with the natural systems of food and enrich the environment, rather than harm it. Many local farmers take into account the seasons for growing certain crops and enrich biodiversity by growing a variety of produce. While the fruits and vegetables (even the organic ones) sold at supermarkets are picked weeks or months in advance and are chosen for how well they'll ship, local produce is usually picked right after it's ripened. But the number one reason you should eat local is because it's easy.

If you want to buy locally grown groceries, the Food Co-op in the Student Center has provided fresh produce from local sources since it was established in 1978. About 90 percent of their produce is from Ocean Beach People's Co-op and UCSD's Farmers Market. There are also many local food vendors at UCSD's Farmers Market, held near the Student Services Complex every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You can eliminate the middleman by joining Community Supported Agriculture, a group that connects farmers with buyers. The inconvenience excuse doesn't cut it anymore — they deliver a box of produce to you.

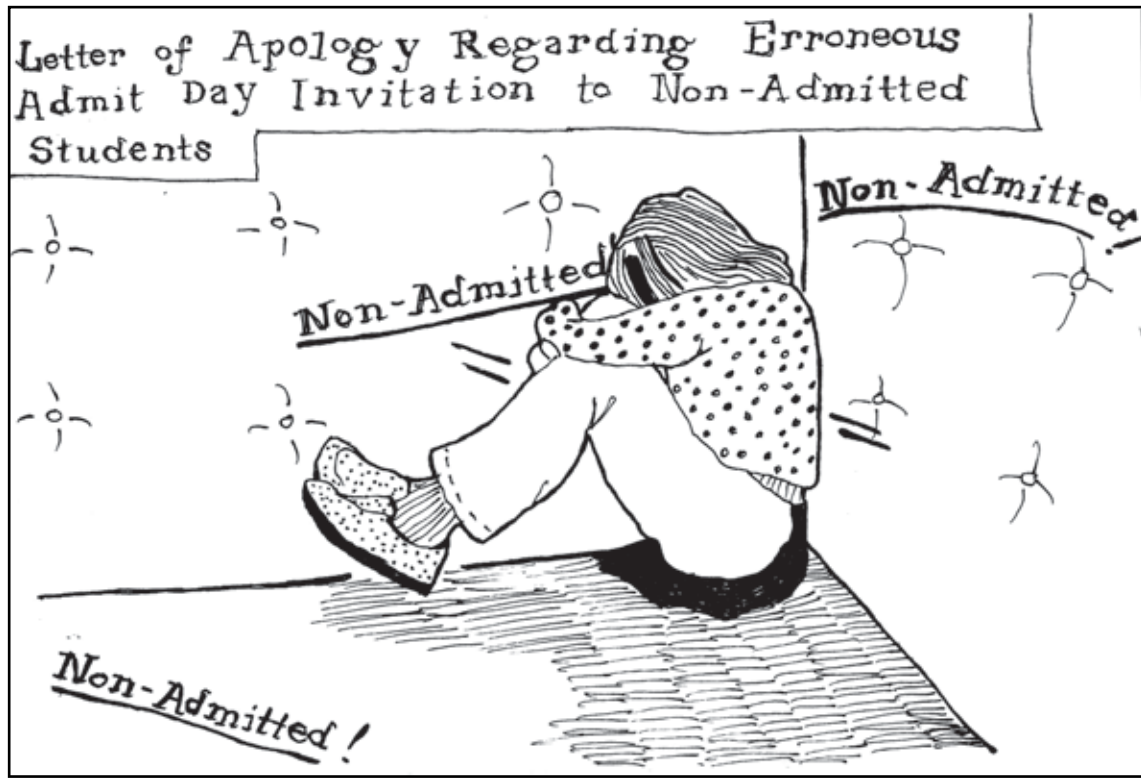
At UCSD, the Garden of Eden Organic Farm delivers to the Great Hall every Thursday. The A.S. Local Affairs office is working to put out a directory that lists local food vendors ranging from farmers markets to restaurants.

And if you're really gung-ho about the local growing movement, you can join the on-campus efforts for an urban farm. The Sustainable Food Project, a student organization created last year, recently earned approval to start an urban farm in Pepper Canyon, which will underscore the need to eat locally and organically and provide practical knowledge on how to grow food in urban and suburban environments.

Food is such an essential part of our everyday lives that taking a moment to taste something locally grown should be a priority for everyone.

# A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lázaro



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

## ENFORCING POSSIBLE PAY REDUCTIONS

California's budget crisis has reached full force, and every sector is facing serious crunch time. From infrastructure management to public education — including here at the University of California — we're all feeling the burn of the state's multibillion-dollar cash shortage, forcing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to implement mandatory leaves of absence for many state workers in an effort to cut down on spending.

While unpopular (Department of Motor Vehicles closures, for example, have increased waiting periods in an already hellish establishment) and oftentimes annoying, such measures must be enacted to prevent the deficit from ballooning any further. Within the UC system, President Mark G. Yudof has proposed that staff begin developing a framework of policies and procedures to be used to institute unpaid leaves and salary freezes should they become necessary to sustain university operations — a precautionary measure at

this point, but vital considering the Legislature has indicated it will not be able to honor, to the tune of several million dollars, the university's full 2009-10 funding request.

Yudof's plan has created uneasiness within many departments as staff members begin designing furlough protocols. Should they become unavoidable, students must be ready to brace for a potentially large impact on services as the university temporarily ceases certain operations, because work becomes backlogged when offices close their doors. If required leaves do become a reality, however inconvenient, they might just teach the university a big, fat lesson: responsible fiscal management — via consolidation of programs, ending exorbitant salary hikes — must be the top priority at all times, not just during state budget crises.

— Matthew McArdle  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Election Plagiarism Should Be Addressed in the Future

Dear Editor,

Based upon our review of the Web sites created by A.S. presidential candidate Utsav Gupta and the Student Voice! slate, we argue that the SV! slate has committed an act of plagiarism outside of the classroom setting that negatively impacts Gupta's campaign as well as the election's fairness.

In addition to the use of the "image slideshow and the pop-up text" feature on the main page and the use of the term "uncage Sun God," SV! also used the same two images Gupta used in his Web site to address the following issues: 1) to stop tuition increases and 2) to enhance our free-speech right on campus with the image of the red arrow and the image of the United States, respectively.

We have the opportunity in this case to address the issue of plagiarism beyond the classroom setting and display the intolerance for such an activity on behalf of the student body. We ask the appropriate A.S. officials to support the need for such changes in the A.S. election code in order to better address this issue in future elections.

— Mona Vaklifathi and Brian Ng  
Sixth College juniors

## Academic Dishonesty Board Advocates Fairness

Dear Editor,

The *Guardian* has done a great disservice to the UCSD academic community with Michelle Chin's March 9 article and its lurid headline: "In Effort to Stop Cheating, Process Cheats Students." I write as someone who served a three year stint (2005-08) as a standing member of the Academic Dishonesty Hearing Board, during which I participated in many dozens

of cases. The article does not accurately describe the process that I came to know. In these inquiries, the panel — consisting of faculty, undergraduates and graduate students, in meetings that were chaired by deans from the colleges — deliberated long and hard about every case. Accused students, usually accompanied by student advocates, were given every opportunity to present their sides of the issue. Those bringing the charges were always made to prove their case, usually with considerable printed material, and often with witnesses. And although, according to the rules, only a majority of the panel is needed to decide a case, in my experience the verdicts, guilty or not, were almost always unanimous.

Cheating is not a "victimless crime." Those who are hurt are the honest majority of students whose standing will always be penalized in a grade-conscious society. As is true on all college campuses, cheating does occur at UCSD. Finding fair and honest ways to deal with it has been a chronic problem since the campus's founding. The current approach has been a distinct improvement over the situation of just a few years ago. In my judgment, the present academic integrity coordinator, Tricia Bertram Gallant, is doing an outstanding job and deserves the praise of the student body, not scurrilous comments from the A.S. Office of Student Advocacy.

— Russell F. Doolittle  
Professor Emeritus

► 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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The current collective bargaining agreement between the University of California (UC), and the University Professional and Technical Employees (UPTe), Health Care Professionals Unit, covering approximately 2,500 Health Care Professional employees, provides for reopener negotiations in 2009. System-wide bargaining may begin following completion of the public notice meetings scheduled below.

The University will convene initial public notice meetings on April 17, 2009 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and May 4, 2009 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at 300 Lakeside Drive #1206 Oakland, CA 94612. Copies of conceptual bargaining proposals will be available at the meetings. Interested members of the public may secure copies of conceptual bargaining proposals from both parties, at the main campus library, or online at <http://atyourservice.ucop.edu/>

Copies of the procedures governing the required public notice meeting may be requested in person or by mail from the University of California, Labor Relations, 300 Lakeside Drive, 12th floor, Oakland, CA 94612-3550.

For additional information regarding this bargaining, please contact Linda Ashcraft, UC Chief Negotiator, at (510) 987- 9316, or Wendi Felson, UPTe Chief Negotiator, at (310) 948-9119.

## Yeah Yeah Yeahs

- "Zero"
- "Soft Shock"

## No Age

- "Here Should Be My Home"
- "Sleeper Hold"

COMEDIANS BREAK  
NECKS (AND THE  
BOX OFFICE) WITH  
SOCIAL WHIPLASH

Whether getting slapped with an NC-17 rating is snaps for an envelope-torching maverick or just a publicity ploy to promote his cutting-edge comedy, it certainly has turned us into a bunch of rubberneckers.

Panoramic  
SleightsEDWIN GONZALEZ  
e8gonzal@ucsd.edu

In case you haven't yet caught eye of the red-band trailer in vogue, "Bruno" makes "Zoolander" look safer than seat belts.

Sacha Baron Cohen's definitely mastered puckish orchestrations of culturally insensitive pranks in heavily accented improv — and curved through a European lithp, his two-and-a-half minute trailer pedals "Chappelle's Show" on rainbow steroids.

Aside from fashion-forward cut-offs and Milanese logos, it's the same old shtick: Foreign reporter comes stateside, seeking acceptance, but mostly just turns a candid camera on our less than attractive American culture. But after a two year interim, Cohen's learned to pilot his tomfoolery to transgressive heights — or amoral lows, depending on how much

See SLEIGHTS, page 8

3-HEADED  
MONSTROSITY"TOKYO!" SHORTS  
SHOCK AND TERRIFY  
WITH TALES FROM THE  
EASTSIDE GUTTER

COURTESY OF BITTERS END

BY ALYSSA BEREZNAK  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Any local will tell you that a postcard or flashy tourist tchotchke doesn't embody a city's real heart and soul. Still, its reputation can't escape an outsider's bias, and it's all too easy to notice that "Tokyo!" — a triptych of shorts filmed in Japan's neon-drenched capital — was written and directed by three non-natives. However disjointed the fantastical set of films, it's got nothing on its marginalized protagonists: It's them versus the city, and the rules of reality don't apply.

## "INTERIOR DESIGN"

An eccentric tale spun by "Eternal Sunshine" mastermind Michel Gondry, "Design" trails a young couple facing the big-city obstacles of their new hometown: no parking, an endless apartment hunt and dwindling cash.

The boyfriend (Satoshi Tsumabuki) is an aspiring director, but his experimental sci-fi film-within-a-film — which nearly suffocates its audience with a supplemental fog machine — doesn't make it past a modest opening at a local seedy porno theater. As their pockets continue to empty, the girlfriend (Ayako Fujitani, Steven Seagal's daughter) feels alienated by her own lack of ambition.

Kafka would be proud of the metamorphosis that ensues: Fujitani awakens one morning to find her rib cage mutating into a chair's wooden pillars. After a dramatic dash through Tokyo's isolating backdrop, she completes her transformation into chair, soon snatched up by a passing musician.

Fujitani ultimately finds solace in her simple utility. Though we're wooed by her new wooden occupation and artsy attitude, her welcoming embrace of chair-dom is almost too sudden to make sense; in the end, even the biggest/most intense identity crisis doesn't seem to justify choosing a painstakingly simple existence just to avoid a couple of rent bills.

## "MERDE"

Up next is Leos Carax's "Merde," which translates to "shit" in French. Playing off the old-school "Godzilla" rampages of which Tokyo is so fond (and with a soundtrack to match), the film focuses on sewer-dwelling Merde (Dennis Lavant), who surfaces to torment the city — stealing cigarettes, eating flowers and licking women.

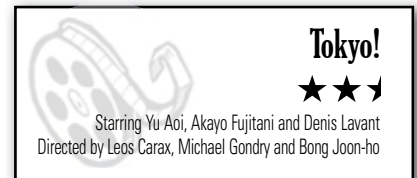
Finally, after discovering some grenades in the sewers and throwing them into a busy intersection, he's arrested and put on trial.

"Merde" is the both strangest and the strongest of the bunch, thanks to Carax's attention to bizarre aesthetic detail and character quirks: We savor the sensory costumes (Merde's green corduroy suit and swirly red hair) and strange body language. A shaky camera captures Merde's chaotic rampage, while extended close-ups of his disfigured face force us to confront the outcast's raw and unforgiving prank-terrorism.

Carax goes overboard with an exhausting 10 minute conversation in Merde's imaginary language, but by the time the death sentence rolls around, we know the pariah so well that we're all rooting for his survival. He may be the shit of society, but he's our shit and we want to keep him.

## "SHAKING TOKYO"

Following part two's energetic romp, "Shaking Tokyo" — directed by Bong Joon-ho — sinks the series with a lethargic and predictable commentary on technology in contemporary society. A Japanese hermit (or *hikikomori*) who's been burrowed in his apartment for a decade makes sudden eye contact with a pizza girl and — in a moment of true magic — the Earth begins quaking. After she faints, the hermit presses a tattooed power button on her leg to revive her. After a contemplative inner struggle, he decides to pursue her, soon realizing Tokyo's streets have been abandoned so that only pizza-delivery robots remain. When he finally arrives at her front door, the hermit pushes her 'love' button, and once again Tokyo begins to tremble. Joon-ho's neatly packaged romance and his obvious critique of our generation's widening isolation is too transparent — and weird — to embrace.



## Tokyo!

★★★

Starring Yu Aoi, Akayo Fujitani and Dennis Lavant  
Directed by Leos Carax, Michael Gondry and Bong Joon-ho

## druthers

HIATUS PICKS THE  
THE WEEK'S BEST BETS

## Jenny Lewis

BELLY UP TAVERN / APRIL 14 / 9 P.M. / \$20

Best known as the vocalist for torch-indie quartet Rilo Kiley (or perhaps as a pinchable '80s starlet), Jenny Lewis broke from premeditated, over-saturated pop last year with sophomore album *Rabbit Fur Coat*, an understated take on country twang and gospel — the kind of joyful vigor that translates well to any stage. (SM)



COURTESY OF BORDER

## "Sugar"

HILLCREST CINEMAS / APRIL 10 / \$10

After drumming up festival fandom at Sundance, "Sugar" gleaned another round of applause when it drew elated reviews for managing to pump a sports film with electric sensitivity. Bent through the prism of Miguel "Sugar" Santos' life — that of a pitcher from the Dominican Republic scaling socioeconomic rungs with his curveball — Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck ("Half Nelson") narrate one man's struggles in the fiercely competitive world of baseball, painting an American landscape soiled with sweat, alienation and discrimination. (EG)



COURTESY OF SONY

## Rachael Yamagata

HOUSE OF BLUES / APRIL 9 / 8 P.M. / \$18

Japanese-American artist Rachael Yamagata launched her solo career in 2002 with *Happenstance* — after six years writing for Chicago funk-fusion band Bumpus. And thank God she did — her latest, the pop-driven *Elephants... Teeth Sinking Into Heart*, layers woodwinds with crushing, complex lyrics, proving indisputably that this singer/songwriter can stand on her own. (SM)



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

## exit strategy

THIS WEEK'S  
ON-CAMPUS EVENTSSPRING INTO  
NEW MUSICThe Loft  
April 9, 8 p.m.  
FREE

## BEAR GARDEN

Matthews Quad  
April 10, 2 p.m.  
FREE"REVOLUTIONARY  
ROAD"Price Center Theater  
April 11, 6 p.m. & 9 p.m.  
\$3

## FRAN NANADIEGO

Espresso Roma  
April 13, 8 p.m.  
FREE

## LUMINANCE

The Loft  
April 10, 8 p.m.  
FREEWOMYN OF COLOR  
WRITINGSCross-Cultural Center  
April 10, 12 p.m.  
FREE

## BITCHY BINGO

The Loft  
April 13, 6 & 9 p.m.  
FREEADVENTURES IN  
OCEANOGRAPHYBirch Aquarium  
April 13, 6:30 p.m.  
FREE

## FRIENDLY FIRES



COURTESY OF XL

## ONE FUNK-PUNK, NU-RAVE REASON TO EMBRACE THE BRITISH

Allie Cuerdo

ASSOCIATE HIATUS EDITOR

Meet Ed, Edd and Jack, the three boisterous Brits behind Friendly Fires. Along with a host of screenprint-ready photo shoots (read: posing on a blank wall with Sharpied-on headphones) and triangle-patterned tote bags (note: the red triangle represents fire), the band boasts a catalog of — 13 tracks. Total. Well, if they're good enough for Coachella...

Hailing from St. Albans, Hertfordshire, the boys' self-titled debut peaked at No. 38 on the UK Albums Chart. Ultra-danceable, slippery synths and rapid, street-funk sampling soon caught the attention of the television conglomerate: The campy, hip-thrusting "White Diamonds" landed a spot on an episode of sex-fest "Gossip Girl," while the treadmill-ready beats of "On Board" sweated through a Wii Fit commercial.

It's all perfectly profitable, but that's the issue: Longevity isn't an option when, after three plays, an album is only fit for Guantanamo torture tapes.

But on first listen — and possibly in a concert with a hundred sweaty bodies writhing around you — their epic MGMT escalades are bloody amazing.

At least four of *Friendly Fires'* 10 tracks fit right in on the American Apparel dance floor. "Jump in

the Pool," for instance, attacks visceral sensations like (the ever-popular) Ecstasy. Imagine bongo drums pounded at 90 mph, exploding dreamboat synths and a sexy British man telling you over and over to jump in the pool. Pretty righteous.

Then there's "Paris," whose relentless break-beats and lead singer Ed McFarlane's starry-eyed promises — "Every night, the city lights/ Will be out for us" — will make you want to drop all your classes and buy a plane ticket with next quarter's tuition funds.

Besides, Friendly Fires have been practicing. To complement their ultra-produced studio gems, the band's live persona garnered enough attention for a spot on the 2009 NME tour with Glasvegas, and a slot at the Indio mega-concert with the Cure.

In a *UGO* interview, lead singer McFarlane said that when they first assembled 10 years ago, they "played like shit" at a birthday party and were eventually shut down in favor of "DJ Spunky." Guitarist Jack Savidge didn't even know how to play the guitar. Fortunately, Friendly Fires learned a couple chords, transforming from ultimate suckage to sampling suckers. And really, what does your Wednesday night look like without them?

*Friendly Fires* will perform live at the Loft on April 15 at 7:30 p.m.



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# Slapstick Satires Keep It Clean on a Blockbuster Budget

► SLEIGHTS, from page 6

comedic leg room you give the guy.

At least, that was the consensus when it screened at SXWS and ruffled enough feathers to make some critics say it made "Borat's" nude scenes look like "child's play."

Now that we're all good and familiar with his asinine aesthetic and soft-core sensibilities, it's not surprising that "Brüno" is already being hell-hounded. But what might be, is the fact that it's being stood behind confidently by the cash-money millionaires at Universal.

While Paramount may have been the first to take a limp lance at the oft-ostentatious world of diet pills and textile — "Zoolander" matched kid-gloved satire with twice as much slapstick — it opted to spare our feelings and stick within PC perforations. I flip past it every time it's looped on TBS, rather than soap box anything remotely easy to critique.

Accordingly, Kubrick might have been able to ride Columbia with "Dr. Strangelove," but it's only because half the humor was armor-plated in phallic symbols and Peter Sellers. Most satires have to learn to stay afloat without a studio and material likely to offend someone.

Waiving studio funds in order to protect their right to effectively piss off who ever they wanted, satirists like Robert Downey Sr. and Ralph Bakshi fastened their lampoons to irreverent plots in the '60s and '70s. As one of my favorite films from a decade alchemizing economic crisis into cinema's golden age, "Putney Swope" imagined what would happen if black militants rubbed shoulders with Madison Avenue in an advertising agency takeover — then slammed it with jive, jazz and product placement.

"Fritz the Cat" did much of the same. Animating a tabby arguably hornier than comic-book creator R. Crumb, Bakshi told the X-rated saga of a "sophisticated, up-to-the-minute feline college student." Watching Fritz relish in the frisky free-love movement while experimenting with drugs, riots and group sex, it isn't difficult to understand why post-menopausal audiences were swift to cry bestiality, though younger ones generally perceived the political subtext. After all, it was an idealized era in which everyone liked to think of themselves as an artists who hated Jesus; the more low-budget and self-made the project, the more edgy, contemporary and poisonously caustic.

What people seem to forget is that Cohen's inherited comedy — for all its misappropriated attention and exaggerated color — holds a mirror to petrified ideologies anchored in America's blind spots. And while I'm sure it won't stick to a stringer skeleton of social satire, "Brüno" looks to glean most of its commentary from our obsession with the tabloids, Bible-belt homophobia and suburban S&M.

The most unfortunate turn of news though isn't that "Brüno" still has to wait three months until opening, but that most of the time, satire can still be so misunderstood — either by those finding it overtly offensive or by viewers who merely reaffirm their prejudices with every joke.

Let's just hope Cohen doesn't run off to Africa at the height of his career — for his sake and ours.



## L.A.'S LOUDEST NOISE-POPPERS GIFT SOME STINK TO OUR STERILE

By Simone Wilson  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Loft is to the Smell (the downtown Los Angeles venue where No Age like to nest) as Whole Foods is to your lopsided vegetable garden out back. The Loft looks like Espresso Roma after an Ikea shopping spree on St. Patrick's Day; the Smell looks like your hip little sister's first art show. The Loft smells like Burger King and Pinesol; the Smell is the fucking smell. The Loft sounds like a live, tinkling stream of indie-pusses pissing — but not for long.

For old-fashioned scenesters — the type that would cut off an arm to have gotten trashed to Patti Smith at CBGB — the new wave of ruckusy, fun-loving Los Angeles punk emanating from the Smell is a modern-day miracle, its smalltime shoulder-to-shoulder standing space just what the digital age was mostly missing.

Indeed, the ex-supermercado lean-to is breeding the most inspired bunch of musical lifestylers on the Left Coast, and — all bias aside — pretty much puts L.A. one big cool-point above San Francisco.

But these punks are a cleaner mess than the spikey devil-worshippers of yore; they like white space, and poems, and the sun. When they say things, they're not mean, and even semi-audible. If they want something, they ask for it. And in thanks, they ruffle your hair three-dimensionally like you're just as cute.

Yeah, right.

One thing's for sure: The phenomenon wouldn't be half as happening without No Age. The multitasking duo was originally two-thirds of fellow Smell staple Wives, which is probably how they scored a house key by the second date, and in return — as word has it — guitar-half Randy Randall helped shovel a second sewage trench under the club to accommodate the basic needs of an exploding punk family. Even New Yorker granny Sasha Frere-Jones stopped by to take notes — and post pics on her blog (almost as weird as my mom joining Facebook).

*Weirdo Rippers*, No Age's 2007 debut LP, was a half-hour, 11-track "greatest hits" of all the EPs they had distributed on the come-up — more just a gathering of anything with a semi-recognizable tune sticking out from under their signature cloud of barbed-wire fuzballs. (Plastered on the cover was a snapshot of the backdoor entrance to the Smell, album information painted straight onto the building's white stucco.) Last year's *Nouns* is fuller figured, with noise-pop melodies that lob past chicken scratch into the realm of laptop-speaker tolerable, meanwhile kicking up more cutting-room sawdust with which to clog the speakers than ever before — if only for some distant pleasure moan of their vegan-or-die tagalong mob. And this Saturday night in Price Center East, that could be you, Kid.

*No Age will perform live at the Loft on April 11 at 8 p.m.*

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# recordings

Gavin DeGraw

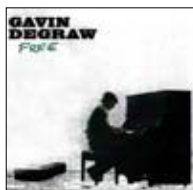
Free

J-RECORDS

★★★★

Less than a year after his self-titled sophomore smash, radio darling Gavin DeGraw breaks *Free*. Soulful, stripped-down piano ballads and bluesy (but still pretty-boy) vocals mark the intimate album, a far cry from last year's might-as-well-be-Maroon 5 single "In Love With A Girl." With nine other singles behind him — notably, the anthemic Billboard Award nominee "I Don't Want To Be" — DeGraw doesn't need the fame anymore. Instead, he opts for inner harmony and a healthy dose of self-loathing: a diary's worth of post-breakup depression.

DeGraw opts for forgiveness on "Stay," warbling: "You don't have to be part of the problem/ I just need a second chance." Sparse drums on silken rhythms slice his words like paper cuts — and they hurt so deep, don't you know?



On "Dancing Shoes," he piano-keys his sensitivity with an occasional stroke of soft flute or broken ivory jangles. Accompanying lyrics "Rush me/ But leave time to wait" are stupid in comparison. Fortunately, DeGraw compensates with an acute acoustic sensibility for the next few tracks, easing up for an organic sincerity that offsets his sometimes sobby poetry.

Bare production figures big on *Free*, a hefty improvement from his previously polished hits. It's an important lesson: Even honey-dipped vocals and emotional hair flips can be served with clever competence. In this sentimental reincarnation, DeGraw's got just enough to pass.

— Neelab Nasraty  
STAFF WRITER

Yeah Yeah Yeahs

It's Blitz!

INTERSCOPE

★★★★

Karen O is back — as the Black Widow? Seems like everybody's getting an alter-ego these days (shout-out to Sasha Fierce). But somehow, even when Ms. O's decked out in spider-web tights and furry tarantula boots, we aren't satisfied. It's the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, and we want more. After a two-year hiatus following the *Is Is* EP, New York's finest shoot sky-high with the deliciously dancey *It's Blitz!*, packed with garage-punk thrashing and '80s synth backing to pave a new era of YYY party rock.

The band grimes it up, getting down and dirty with O's blasting fever-queen vocals. First single "Zero" begins with a clear-cut demand: "Get your leather on." What could be more rock 'n' roll than that? Stadium synths climb above sensual lyrics, racing to a jostling, crowd-rushed release. On "Dull Life," train echoes and resonant "Maps"-like vocals slide into shattered chorus-verse duels.

Hard riffs switch on O's screams, only to give way to the

heartbreakingly gentle, "We see the nightmare of your lies." She's so expressive we could cry — but then all's washed clean with the indie romance of "Hysteric." The soft-smile sentiment "You suddenly complete me" flips "Hey There Delilah" the bird; this is a love song for the dreamy, tattooed art punks (still not too far from chart-topping success).

No doubt, *It's Blitz!* packs a dazzling electric punch. With sold-out audiences in London and a sub-headline after the Cure at Coachella, YYY need no more prompting for a full-scale U.S. tour. (Plus, Karen O once apparently danced off the stage and into the hospital — that's how hard these kids play.) So let's bring them home. Yeah Yeah Yeahs for Sun God 2010!

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— Allie Cuerdo  
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S	C	E	N	T	D	A	T	C	I	T	E	
	E	T	V	A	M	E	L	O	D	I	C	
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O	P	R	E	D	G	A	R	P	A	L	E	D
T	R	I	A	D	S	I	T	U	P	N	A	I
T	A	C	I	T	S	T	I	I	F	K	F	N
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		3	7		1			4
8				2				
	6							
	3		1		5	7	4	
				7				
	2	1	9		8		5	
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2			6	5	7	8		

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

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## We Don't Need a Football Team to Have Pride in UCSD

► **JOE**, from page 12

or when they take you away from something you can no longer deal with. Sports have power, sports have impact, and with all of those fans who were so jacked up with love of a sport and pride for their team at the WBC, the feeling was revitalizing and contagious — like body wash that gives you pink-eye, but in a good way.

The pride shown by the fans in attendance, and disdain shown for the WBC by many Americans who think only USA-dominated sports or tournaments matter, reminded me of UCSD. A lot of people said they would have watched the WBC finals had Team USA been in contention. Similarly, a lot of people say that

UCSD needs a football team, and then they'd go to all the games. Here's the thing: even without Team USA, an amazing game was played and those who watched as the Koreans battled to tie the game in the ninth only for Japan to defend its WBC crown in extra innings got far more than their money's worth. In the same way, UCSD might not have a football team, but we have a women's basketball team that returned to the NCAA Tournament, a men's basketball team that deserved an NCAA spot, a baseball team that swept the top-ranked squad in the country and a crap-load of other teams that are often battling, and beating, Division-I opponents. Sure, one day a football team will be

nice, but reasonable people understand that it is not feasible right now. One day UCSD might get a football team, one day they might move up to Division I. In the mean time, rather than waiting, bitching and envisioning a competitive Triton World of Warcraft or late-night study team, there are games going on and teams to support and take pride in.

I'm not sure I'll get to see or feel the same sense of pride I witnessed at the WBC, but I guess that's the reason I watch a lot of sports, spend far too much money going to games and have this intense connection to something that might be pretty trivial: the off-chance that I might again get to see something that is truly classic.

## Tritons Take on Rival Lions Tonight at Home

► **WATER POLO**, from page 12

goals, but sophomore utility Nadine Shnayderman scored her second goal of the game to give the Tritons the lead for good. In the fourth quarter, senior captain Sydney Gstettenbauer and freshman hole set Kirsten Bates sealed the 8-7 Triton victory.

"It felt good to get some division wins," Sanders said. "We know where we stand in our division and it felt good to see how our competition will play out."

In Saturday's action, Gstettenbauer carried the Tritons in their victory over Sonoma State in a tight game. The Tritons held a slight advantage in the high-scoring first half, but couldn't pull away for a substantial advantage, ending the half with a 5-4 lead.

In the third, Gstettenbauer scored to give the Tritons a two-goal lead, but the Seawolves returned the favor to cut their deficit back to one. Gstettenbauer once again had an answer, scoring what proved to be the game winner early in the fourth quarter.

"This will affect our seeding in the

conference tournament and it has an impact on who we play in the future," Heinrich said.

In their first game of the tournament, the Tritons were not ready for what San Jose State was bringing, and fell behind 5-1 in the first quarter.

"We just didn't expect what happened," Heinrich said. "They came out fast and we just tried to catch up."

The game could have easily turned into disaster after the appalling first quarter, but UCSD came out more prepared in the second quarter after seeing the Spartans' potential. The Tritons scored six times in the second quarter and drew the game into manageable terrain, trailing 10-7 at halftime.

"We mixed up our defense and were prepared for what they were doing in the second quarter," Heinrich said.

Heinrich went on a scoring frenzy in the game, scoring two of the Tritons goals in the second and taking four goals overall in the game. Despite her impressive performance, the Triton

defense could not contain the Spartans attack force at any point in the game — giving up a six-goal third quarter — while the Triton offense could only score twice, as San Jose State took a demanding 16-9 lead into the last period, swimming away with a final 17-11 victory.

"We still need to fix some things and improve for the future," junior goalkeeper Markayla Quane said. "We have more conference games coming up so we need to get better for those."

The Tritons face off against conference rival Loyola Marymount University tonight at Canyonview Pool at 6 p.m. With a victory, the Tritons could shake up the conference standings and build up heavy steam heading into the playoffs on April 25.

"We're ranked fourth in our conference and they're ranked second, so we'll have to play hard to beat them," Sanders said. "It all comes down to who wants it more."

Readers can contact Tyler Nelson at [tnelson@ucsd.edu](mailto:tnelson@ucsd.edu).

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The freshman allowed just two runs against University of Hawaii-Hilo in the Tournament of Champions Bronze Bracket title game, earning her fifth victory.



## CLASSIC, IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD

The second-ever World Baseball Classic came to a conclusion on March 23, and for most Americans, the event elicited as much excitement as an Utsav Gupta campaign speech (more exciting than paint drying, less exciting than “Tyler Perry’s House of Payne” marathon). The finals of the event, taking place at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, featured the defending champion Team Japan facing the Korean squad. For many living in the nation where the finals were taking place, the WBC had come to an end right after Team USA’s elimination in the semifinals. Others probably gave up on the event in 2006, when Team USA was eliminated even earlier and thus leading some to say the entire thing didn’t matter.



### Cup O’ Joe

Joe Tevelowitz  
jtevelow@ucsd.edu

Sitting at the WBC finals, surrounded by true fans of the Japanese and Korean teams, it became crystal clear that even without Team USA, the classic did matter. It mattered to every single player on that field and to the fans that put all their faith and hope in to a team representing their heritage.

I’ve been to a lot of baseball games in my life. I spent two weeks after my freshman year driving through 11 different states and seeing games at seven different stadiums. I love baseball, and in that sense, I’m partially biased toward the WBC. Many who are able to tolerate a basketball or football game look at the intricacies of baseball and would prefer to watch the Hayden Christiansen film “Jumper” (warning: do not attempt to watch “Jumper”). Nonetheless, the atmosphere of the WBC rivaled any sporting atmosphere I have ever been a part of. The game itself was played so well that you got to see exactly why these two teams, and not the disjointed USA squad, made the finals. You could understand why they deserved a chance to be deemed the real World Champion. Seeing baseball played the way it really should be played, it was blatantly obvious that either of these teams, comprised mostly of non-MLB players, would be at the very least a playoff contender in the Major Leagues.

The palpable difference between the finals of this year’s WBC and other events I’ve attended — including the 2006 WBC semifinals and finals — was the intense and unshakable pride on each side of the aisle. Fans cared about their teams to the same degree that parents say they care about their children; specifically the child they actually like and not just the one they tolerate, lie to and then show their disdain for through crappy gift-giving (thanks for the birthday socks, mom and dad). Seeing people care so much and align themselves so completely with a team is the greatest reminder of the power and impact of sports.

Why are there 24-hour channels dedicated only to sports? Why do people propose marriage inside a stadium? Why are there so many children and pets named after athletes? Why are people able to connect so quickly over a team or a game?

Sports matter, in times of excitement and exhilaration, in times of loss and defeat, when they give you something to look forward to,

See JOE, page 11

## TRITONS TAKE THIRD STRAIGHT SERIES WIN

By Janani Sridharan  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BASEBALL** — The No. 6 Tritons nearly came back from a six-run deficit to sweep the Wildcats last weekend, but had to settle for one loss in the four-game set, ending their winning streak at 12 games but successfully taking their third straight series. UCSD will stay on the road against Grand Canyon University this weekend, attempting to take another four-game set.

After winning all eight games at home, the first-place Tritons traveled to Chico State April 3 to April 5. The first two games were all offense — UCSD won by scores of 19-8 and 10-8 — before the Tritons took the back end of Saturday’s doubleheader 5-3.

“You can’t take anything away from Chico’s pitchers — their pitching really wasn’t bad,” junior catcher Kellen Lee said. “We just had an offensive explosion and took advantage of any bad pitches they made.”

Sunday’s series finale saw the Tritons in a large hole early on. Holding on to a 2-1 lead, the Wildcats broke the game open in the bottom of the fifth with two outs. Against junior starting pitcher Kirby St. John, the Wildcats put runners on first and third with one out in the inning. Senior rightie Ryland MacFadyen came in as relief for St. John and promptly struck out the first Chico State batter he faced for the second out. Almost out of the inning, the Triton reliever walked the next batter, loading the bases.

Chico State then singled in two runs and the Wildcats put a runner



After blowing out Chico State 19-8 in the first of four contests, the Tritons and Wildcats played three tight ballgames, with UCSD posting a 3-1 series win.

back and never stop competing.” A wild pitch by MacFadyen added an unearned run for the Wildcats, giving them a 5-1 lead entering the sixth.

Junior outfielder Robert Sedin drove in a run for the Tritons in the top of the sixth, but the Wildcats scored three more runs off two UCSD relievers in the bottom half of the inning to extend their lead to 8-2. Even when they were down by six runs, the Tritons never felt like they were out of the game.

“Our offense has been doing a great job and they never give up,” MacFadyen said. “They always punch

back and never stop competing.”

UCSD fought back in the top of the seventh, taking advantage of two Chico State errors to load the bases with one out. A single from senior first baseman Matt Cantele and a sac fly from red-shirt junior Brandon Gregorich scored two runs for UCSD before senior outfielder Nick Burke’s two-run double capped the four-run inning.

UCSD was unable to make up the two-run deficit, however, succumbing to Chico State 8-6. Still, the Tritons came out of Chico State retaining their No. 6 ranking and pulling off another series win.

“Obviously it was too little too late,” Lee said of the attempted comeback in the final game. “But we fought and scratched back to make it 8-6. If we came out strong like we did in the other games, I think we would have won.”

With a 22-8 record (19-5 California Collegiate Athletic Association), the Tritons are in first place, three games ahead of Sonoma State University. UCSD continues its road trip against regional opponent Grand Canyon, with the first pitch tonight at 7 p.m.

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

## UCSD Breaks Even at Santa Clara Tourney



Over the last 10 games, the No. 20 Tritons were unable to put together a string wins, going 5-5 against a medley of ranked and unranked squads.

By Tyler Nelson  
STAFF WRITER

**WATER POLO** — It was another tough weekend, featuring fierce competition and arduous feats for the UCSD women’s water polo team. The Tritons played in the Santa Clara Invitational Tournament, where they faced off against the likes of No. 6 San Jose State and conference opponents Sonoma State, Colorado State and Santa Clara University during a two-day event. The Tritons experienced varied levels of success and defeat in the tournament and emerged with a 2-2 record, bringing their season record to 9-16. The Tritons dropped an early match to San Jose State 11-17, but defeated Sonoma State later that day 7-6. On Sunday, the Tritons defeated Colorado State 8-7, but fell prey to the host Santa Clara Broncos, 10-7.

In their most recent match, the Tritons dueled the Broncos in a tight

contest; neither team was capable of breaking free. The Tritons were down 2-1 after the first quarter and 5-4 at the half, but after a quick halftime pep talk the Tritons stormed back. The teams continued to battle vigorously for position through the third quarter, relying on outside shooting.

After scoring to take the lead at the end of the third, the Broncos converted two unanswered goals to break out of the fourth and the Tritons were unable to recover from the brief lapse in judgment to make up the deficit. The Tritons’ top two hole set defenders received majors nearing the end of the game, forcing them to be kicked out of the game. The Broncos won 10-7 to close the tournament for the Tritons in a tight game in which the Tritons yet again faltered.

“We lost our two main two-meter defenders and we had to make due from there,” head coach Larry Sanders said. “We really didn’t have great mid-

dle presence when our two defenders were kicked out.”

The Tritons did experience some success on Sunday in their encounter with the Colorado State Rams. In the matchup with their out-of-state conference opponent, the Tritons were tied 2-2 with the Rams at halftime, and the scoring was just getting started.

The Tritons allowed the first goal and fell behind 3-2, but were wary of their second-half falter in past performances and sought to curb those tendencies. Junior utility Stephanie Heinrich scored two unanswered goals to give the Tritons a 4-3 lead halfway through the third quarter, and freshman attacker Jessica Tran scored less than one minute later to give UCSD the largest lead of the game in this highly contested match. Colorado State fought back to tie the game with two immediate unanswered

## Unusual ‘Kick Assist’ Lands Tritons a Spot on SportsCenter

By Janani Sridharan  
SPORTS EDITOR

**MEN’S VOLLEYBALL** — The No. 10 Tritons were victim to a bizarre play in their four-game loss to No. 5 Stanford University last weekend, but at least they got some airtime out of it.

During the match, the Cardinal dug out what looked to be a Triton kill before Stanford defensive specialist Erik Shoji set up a Cardinal score with what ESPN’s SportsCenter called a “kick assist.”

Just like it sounds, Shoji kicked the ball up right before it hit the ground, allowing his teammate to send down a kill, causing the Stanford faithful in attendance at RIMAC Arena into a frenzy.

Sophomore middle blocker Calvin Ross, who was on the bench at the time of the play, wasn’t even sure what had occurred.

“All I knew was something really crazy happened because of the way the other team reacted, but I couldn’t really see it,” he said.

The play took the No. 2 spot on SportsCenter’s April 7 top 10 plays of the day, garnering attention from ESPN for an NCAA sport that generally goes unnoticed. More impressively, it beat out all but one play from Major League Baseball’s opening day.

UCSD goes up against No. 3 Cal State Northridge on April 10 at 7 p.m. in RIMAC Arena.

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

See WATER POLO, page 11