

A.S. COUNCIL ENDORSEMENTS



STAY INFORMED WITH THE A.S. COUNCIL ELECTIONS — READ THE UCSD GUARDIAN EDITORIAL BOARD'S ENDORSEMENTS AND SEE IF OUR PICKS ALIGN WITH YOUR VIEWS AND VALUES.

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"AS STUDENTS, WE HAVE A CHOICE TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY RATHER THAN BE STRANGERS PASSING THROUGH AN INSTITUTION."

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A.S. ELECTIONS



A.S. Council presidential candidates debated for students' votes last Friday, April 7 at PC Plaza. From left to right: Lesly Figueroa (Students Determined), Dennis Yeh (independent), Tara Vahdani (THRIVE) and Gus Guerrero (independent). Photo used with permission from Hrishikesh Barokar.

A.S. ELECTIONS

Voting Begins in Campus Elections

Results will be announced on Friday at 5:30 p.m. at Round Table Pizza.

BY **LAUREN HOLT**
NEWS EDITOR

Voting for the A.S. and college council elections began today on TritonLink and will last through Friday. The majority of the candidates running in the A.S. election belong to either the Students Determined or THRIVE slates, with a handful of independents in the races as well.

The Students Determined slate, which describes itself as a coalition of progressive students, is running on a platform of addressing issues such as food and housing insecurity, access and retention, transparency and campus planning, among other things. Running alongside a number of candidates for senatorial positions, the slate's executive team is comprised of Lesly Figueroa for president and Refilwe Gqajela for vice president of external affairs, although the pair will be listed on the ballot as independents after an error was made during the filing process. Figueroa told the UCSD Guardian that Students Determined intends to create a student-centered institution with a focus on empowerment and advocacy.

Running under the slogan "You got here, now thrive here," THRIVE is running as a group of equity-minded, progressive leaders aiming to reform leadership on campus to be a "thoughtful, equitable and collaborative process." The slate plans to establish institutions that will allow progress to be made on the issues they address beyond their own terms. THRIVE is fielding candidates for most positions, with Tara Vahdani for president, Matthew Arrollado for vice president of campus affairs and Adan Chavez for vice president of external affairs.

Vahdani explained to the UCSD Guardian that the slate aims to challenge its senators to propose initiatives where if they came back to campus in several years, they would be able to see that their ideas actually affected students. Vahdani noted that during the campaign process, they are pushing to interact with students because they want their campaign to reflect how the candidates will behave as elected officials.

Three independent candidates will also be running for A.S. president — Aaron Dalton Burgess, Dennis Yeh and Gus Guerrero.

Guerrero, who has served in the past as Muir College Council president, is running on a platform of unifying the campus, improving transportation, creating a centralized institutions for wellness entities like The Zone and CARE and improving A.S. Council's visibility.

Guerrero stated to the Guardian that although independents have a harder time being elected, he

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SUN GOD 2017

ASCE Partially Releases Sun God Lineup

BY **LAUREN HOLT** NEWS EDITOR

ScHoolboy Q will be headlining Sun God Festival 2017, A.S. Concerts and Events announced online Monday afternoon. The lineup will also include Bad Suns and Manila Killa, among other artists.

ScHoolboy Q is a rapper from South Central Los Angeles. Influenced by artists like Jay-Z, 50 Cent and 2Pac, ScHoolboy Q has been nominated for multiple Grammys, including Best Rap Album in 2015 for "Oxymoron" and in 2017 for "Blank Face LP." Among his most popular songs are "Collard Greens" and "Studio."

A four-man rock band largely from L.A., Bad Suns are inspired by 1970s and 1980s post-punk. The group has released two albums — "Language & Perspective" and "Disappear Here" — along with "Transpose EP." One of its most popular singles is "Cardiac Arrest," which it released without expecting recognition. Two years after their formation, Bad Suns opened for The 1975 in 2014, and in 2015, the group performed at Coachella.

Manila Killa, who self-describes his genre

as "variety," is a solo artist initially from the Philippines but is now based out of Washington D.C. Among his most well-known works are his remix of Tegan & Sara's "Walking With A Ghost" and his original "All That's Left." According to his Twitter, the 22-year-old aspires to be "as extra as Jay Gatsby."

Associated Vice President of ASCE Michelle Luong explained to the UCSD Guardian in November that ASCE selects artists for its lineups based on how they will fit into the show as a whole.

"You're building a lineup, as opposed to booking one thing," Luong said. "You have to think of how that lineup will come together, the genres you're using and also the size of the audience."

Luong also noted that the lineup is dependent on a number of other factors, like artists' availability and cost.

ASCE received \$730,000 for Sun God in the 2016-17 A.S. Budget, along with a \$20,000

See **SUN GOD**, page 3

UNIVERSITY CENTERS

Outback Adventures Surf Shop to Close Permanently

University Centers will take control of the space after the shop closes its doors by end of May.

BY **JOSH LEFLER**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego Outback Adventures Surf Shop announced last week that it would be shutting down this quarter. The shop has been a campus fixture since 2009.

According to shop manager Isaac Brandle, the decision was made because profits were not sufficient enough to keep the store open.

Brandle assured that the closure will not affect the other programs offered by Outback Adventures.

"The retail space is closing indefinitely; [however,] the other Outback offerings will not be affected," Brandle said. "That includes rentals, trips, the climbing gym and our other programs."

The Surf Shop is managed by UCSD Recreation and Outback Adventures. With the shop's closure, University Centers will take control of the space the shop occupies and determine its use going forward.

The University Center Advisory Board's Associated Students representative Evan Jan told the UCSD Guardian that UCAB is already floating around ideas for replacements.

"UCAB has convened an ad-hoc committee to explore options for the Outback Surf Shop space," Jan said. "At this

point, there is no set concept for the space, and ideas have ranged from food sales to relaxation areas for students."

Some replacement ideas that have been proposed by UCAB include a mental health space for students similar to The Zone, a new bar, a retail vendor such as Triton Outfitters, or a storage or office space.

According to UCAB Chair Luke Wang, the option to keep the Surf Shop is not off the table.

"If there is a strong desire to keep Outback Surf Shop, then maybe we can communicate with the owner," Wang told the UCSD Guardian.

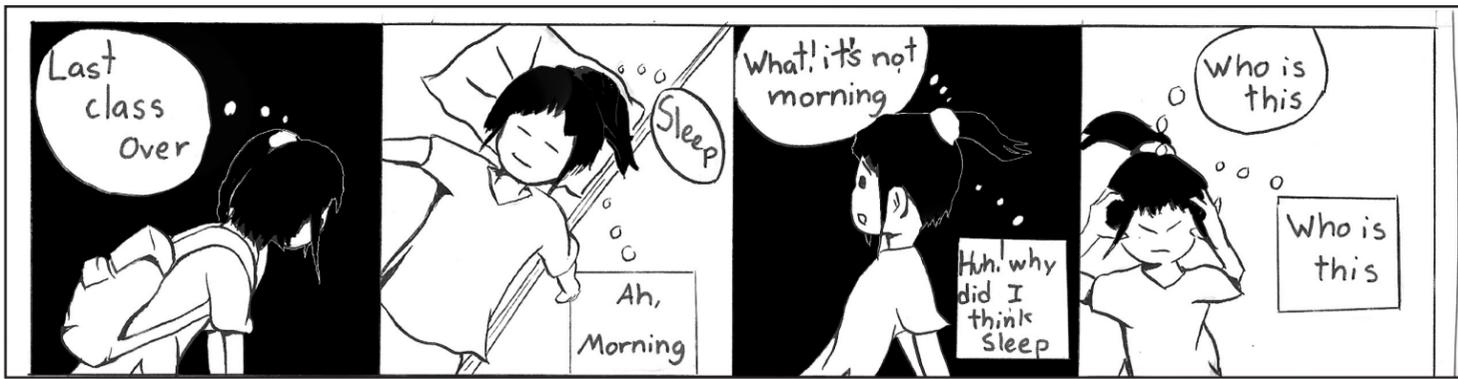
If the Surf Shop were to remain on campus, administrative oversight would be transferred from UCSD Recreation to University Centers.

The decision to keep the Surf Shop will be discussed at the UCAB meeting this week.

According to Brandle, the Surf Shop will be officially removed from the campus on May 31, but the last day that it will be open to students will depend on how quickly their remaining inventory is sold. There is currently a clearance sale on all items.

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SPIRT PARADING By Michi Sora



CAMPUS

UC San Diego Hosts Annual Triton Day for Perspective Students

BY REBECCA CHONG
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

UC San Diego held its annual Triton Day last Saturday for newly admitted students to preview the campus along with their prospective colleges.

The day consisted of various events ranging from campus tours, college overview sessions and booths, allowing students to submit their Statements of Intent to Register.

The atmosphere of UCSD for some new students is a complete switch from their normal routines, as is the case of incoming Eleanor Roosevelt College freshmen Lorena Gonzalez,

who stayed on campus for two nights before Triton Day with a current ERC student.

"The 180-degree turn from my life in the Bay Area holds me back," Gonzalez told the UCSD Guardian. "It is not easy to go from a graduating class of 123 and the physical support of parents 24/7 to a class of thousands and parents hundreds of miles away."

To help with the transition from high school to college, the college overview sessions went over the First Year Experience program, a one-quarter class offered in the fall throughout the six colleges with the intent of making students aware of campus resources so that they can

utilize them throughout their first year. In addition to new students' concerns, parents wonder what campus life will entail for their children.

"As a parent, of course there will be worries," Gonzalez's father said. "We worry whether she will eat or sleep enough, whether she will overload herself with too much work. We worry that if something goes wrong we will not be able to get to her in time to help her."

To help settle concerns, parents will be offered the opportunity to attend orientations specifically for them during the time that their child will be attending their own. Family orientations will focus around topics

ranging from financial aid to how to deal with the transitional period.

Despite worries, Gonzalez's father expressed pride in his daughter's accomplishments.

"It is a very happy moment for the family," Mr. Gonzalez stated. She is the first to go to college, and we see it as all of our hard work finally paying off. However, there is still the pain of seeing our first child and only daughter leaving our home."

Transfer Triton Day will be held on May 6 and will consist of events similar to this past weekend's Triton Day.

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IN BRIEF

WRITTEN BY
ROSINA GARCIA // CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Back to the Drawing Board, as Big West Athletics Conference Denies UC San Diego D-I Membership

The Big West Athletics Conference denied membership to UC San Diego, Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs Juan Gonzalez and Intercollegiate Athletics Director Earl Edwards said in an email announcement. Gonzalez and Edwards emphasized their commitment to the students and faculty's desire to move to Division-I.

"As a University, we will continue dialogue to better understand and address the current issues surrounding UC San Diego's potential membership in the Big West Conference," they said in the announcement.

For UC San Diego to secure Division-I membership, seven of the nine schools in the conference needed to vote "yes," which did not happen. The schools, which include four UC schools, four Cal State schools and University of Hawaii at Manoa, the most

recent member, were represented by their respective chancellors or presidents. In May 2016, 6,137 out of the 8,828 voting students indicated that they wanted the university to move to Division-I. In the 2016 Fall Quarter, 736 faculty members casted a vote, with 457 of them voting in favor of the move. If UCSD is not accepted to a conference by 2018, the student vote will be invalid, and the process will have to start over.

"The Big West Board of Directors (composed of the conference member institutions' presidents and chancellors) have decided not to pursue membership expansion at this time," Big West Conference Commissioner Dennis Farrell told the UCSD Guardian. "The Board is comfortable with the current alignment of membership and this decision should not reflect negatively in any way UC San Diego's qualifications or Division-I potential."

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Dance Companies Will Also Be Included in This Year's Festivities

► **SUN GOD**, from page 1

contingency allocation. However, much of that funding is not spent on booking artists but rather on other costs like security and the performance itself.

The other artists, who will be performing on the North Stage, include female singer-songwriter

Mark Johns, alternative solo artist Mild High Club and dance companies KINJAZ, 220 Second to None and Choreo Cookies. Two mystery artists have yet to be announced.

According to Luong, the decision to incorporate dance companies into the festival "was driven by student input collected from our survey data."

In addition to musical performances, the festival will also feature carnival rides, food, promotional booths and art displays.

Free to all UC San Diego undergraduates, the festival will be held on RIMAC Field on April 29.

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Voter Turnout Must Surpass 20 Percent for Results to be Official

► **ELECTIONS**, from page 1

is running because he believes that there should be more than two candidates and he wants to destigmatize student government.

Yeh, who has no student government experience at UCSD,

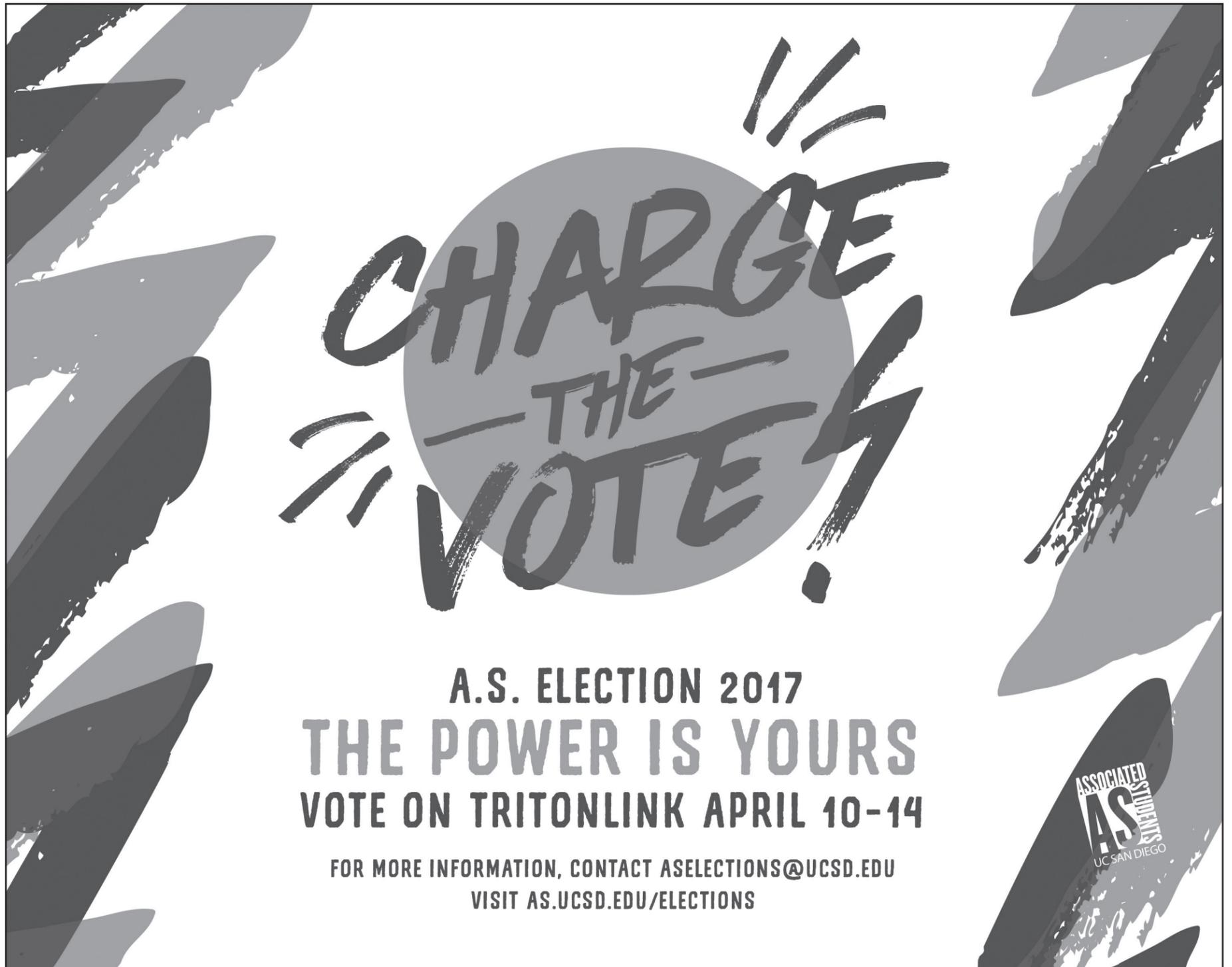
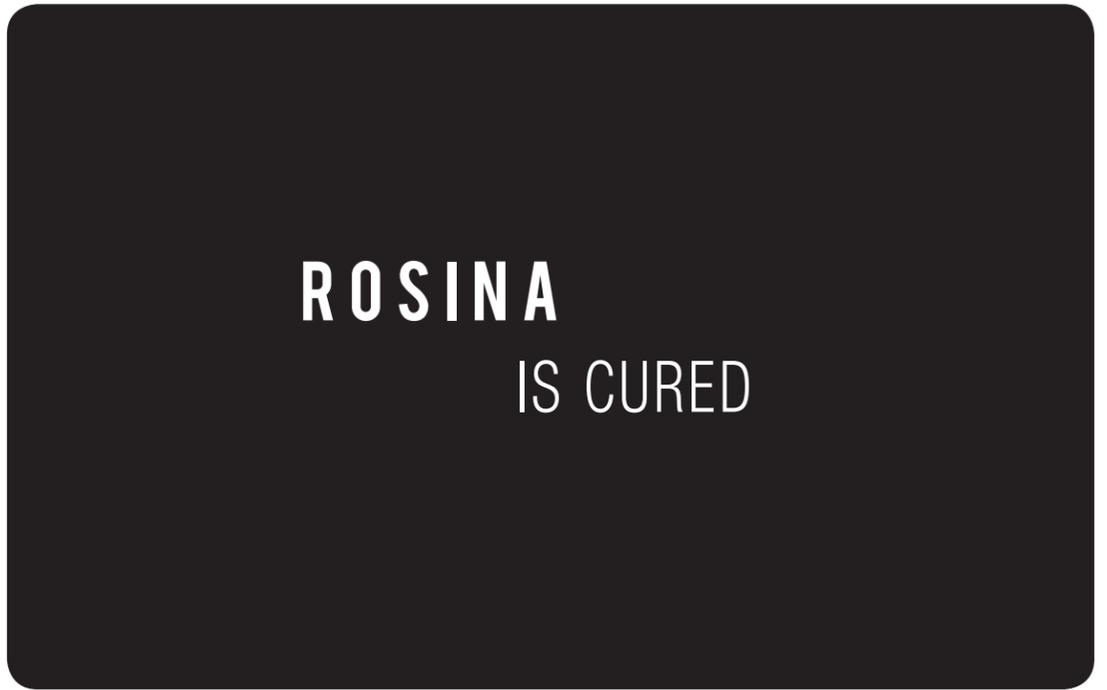
admitted to the Guardian that he initially ran just to "stick it to the man," but he is now committed to representing the average student, as one of his main stances is that A.S. Council overrepresents certain groups and always consists of the same people.

The election results will be

announced on Friday at Round Table Pizza at 5:30 p.m. The voter turnout rate must be 20 percent or better in order for the results to be official.

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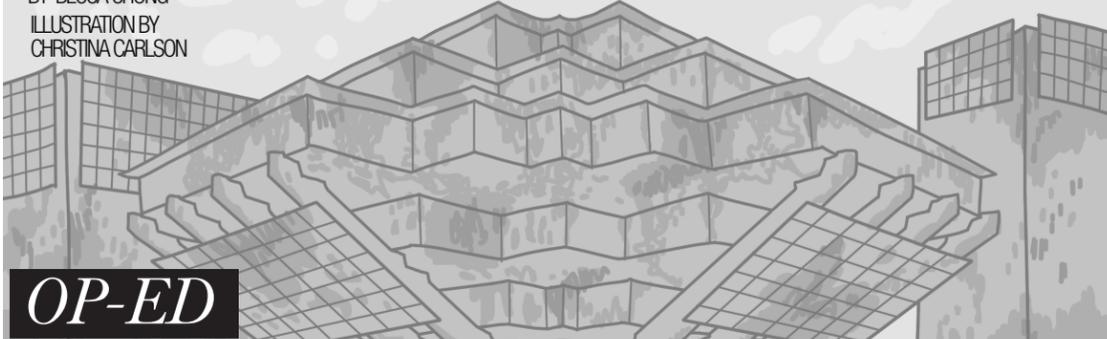


OPINION

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Community Choice Energy Key Player In Local Climate Change Policy

BY BECCA CHONG
 ILLUSTRATION BY
 CHRISTINA CARLSON



OP-ED

Deep in the flood of disturbing reports, policy changes and sardonic commentary flowing from Washington D.C., the Trump administration has been recklessly undoing the environmental policy work of the Obama administration.

Trump's commitment to "stopping the war on coal," for one, reversed the Obama-era moratorium on the federal coal program that provided new coal leases. His free-market, deregulation stance means a review on the EPA's Clean Water Rule which protects streams and wetlands from pollution and degradation. Further, he has denounced the whole of climate change policy by rescinding Obama's climate action plan from 2013.

As frustrating as this has been, there is an opportunity here for students and faculty alike to create strong, community-based climate change policy by supporting Community Choice Energy.

Community Choice Energy, sometimes referred to as community choice aggregation, is a non-profit alternative to the corporate monopoly of San Diego Gas & Electric. SDG&E is an investor-

owned utility, which means that the average person has no say over the source of their energy. SDG&E works through contracting to smaller, local energy providers such as Palomar Energy Center and the Encina Power Station.

CCE aims to create a non-profit energy provider run by the local city government that contracts out local,

"As students, we have a choice to become involved with our local community rather than be strangers passing through an institution."

clean energy providers. Its goal is twofold: increase the percentage of clean energy provided to consumers based on their wants and needs and invest in local businesses rather than outsourcing to large corporations.

The city of San Diego is conducting a feasibility study that is key to accomplishing its goals, projected to publish preliminary

results in the summer of 2017. The study will examine energy providers by their costs to consumers and their carbon footprints.

Programs like Community Choice Energy already exist in counties across California, and many other local governments are in considering a restructuring of their power. In Oakland and Berkeley, similar models of clean energy providers are being pushed for. Monterey Bay Community Power, however, has already conducted and presented the results of a feasibility study from May 2016 that shows that the CCE model would be viable under a range of market conditions and has the potential to reduce carbon emissions greatly depending on the type of plan chosen.

CCE has been heavily opposed and lobbied against by SDG&E because it presents a threat to SDG&E's energy monopoly. In a Voice of San Diego breakdown, author Ry Rivard explains how the process of buying power for its customers, regardless of type, is often done through contracts that project 20 years into the future.

▶ **SEE ENERGY**, page 5

There Goes A Gayborhood

CHRISTOPHER ROBERTSON//
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hillcrest, otherwise known as San Diego's "gayborhood" much like Los Angeles' West Hollywood, has served as a local bastion for gay community and activism for decades. Unique for the peaceful juxtaposition of its frenetic nighttime go-go boys and its cozy elderly population, Hillcrest has always strived to honor its original moniker "the gay-nineties." This illustrious history of flamboyancy once situated San Diego as one of the top five cities in LGBT population, according to UCLA.

Hillcrest's history as a nexus of queers, however, now stands in the face of a study which relegates San Diego's prestigious top five seat to 32nd in terms of LGBT population. This appears to be a part of the growing trend across the United States showing the decline of gayborhoods. Researchers have pointed to the gentrification of these areas as the cause for this decline. And its effects are starting to reverberate.

In many ways, Hillcrest followed the same progression that many gayborhoods follow in their transformations into gay havens. During its time as an underpopulated and lower-income area, gay people flocked to Hillcrest seeking affordable rent and amicable treatment. They soon began to dig their roots; "definitely, the bars came first" followed by LGBT-owned clubs and clothing stores and overpriced coffee. Gay people, enticed by the lively, accepting, and - most importantly - cheap scene quickly followed suit. Then in time, Hillcrest as a lively hub of gay life was born.

But gay people were not the only ones attracted to the area by these factors. As its reputation as an original niche grew, the gay residents unknowingly invited what researcher Petra Doan called "the exploitation of gay capital." The culture created and maintained by gay people interested their straight

counterparts who figured they might as well ingratiate themselves into the existing community.

While the interest and influx of straight people into the area increased demand and raised property values, these gains are made on the backs of the gay residents. The gay population saw themselves and their business forced out by large hikes in rent.

Some researchers explain away these concerns by claiming that gay people are reaping what they sowed in revitalizing low-income areas. This is to say that producing wealth there pulled the rug out from under later LGBT migrants. This ignores obvious coordination between city planners and corporate interest to displace gay locally-owned institutions.

The most egregious example of this occurred in 2015. City planners were developing The Uptown Plan, which decided future regulations on a number of areas including Hillcrest. A lobbyist for a realty company incorporated 100 pages of changes which gave them the right to build with "unlimited height and density, and to bulldoze nine square blocks" of Hillcrest's main thoroughfare. At the same time, the city opposed naming the area as a historic gay district, which would have interfered with these construction plans.

When corporate greed comes with the cost of a community, that community loses its voice. Raunchy clubs and dirty underwear shops aside, Hillcrest is a locus of gay activism. Its community members, in coordination with the local LGBT Resource Center, do more than fill a desperate need for resources from HIV testing to temporary housing. They also serve as the vanguard for gay rights contentions.

This ability to congregate safely creates the real power and value of a community. There is strength in numbers. The problem arises when this community is taken for granted. In Hillcrest, like plenty of other gayborhoods, commercial interest exploits the community until it no longer exists. However, on UCSD campus, it is LGBT students who often take advantage of the existing community by reaping the rewards of earlier advancements without seeking to pull them further. Given that LGBT students are not fighting corporations like their counterparts in Hillcrest, the entity hindering a lack of a community is the lack of campus-wide coalition-building itself.

When looking at LGBT and gender-inclusive housing, and the LGBT Resource Center, students should applaud our queer predecessors for a job well done. These resources have improved the quality of life for LGBT students, but there will always be more work to do. On college campuses, LGBT students are two to three times more likely to drop out, and 56% of those students cite a lack of belonging as their reason for leaving, according to Stonewall Organization. Those that stay experience higher rates of assault - and the highest rates of sexual harassment - than any other group. Harassment is especially common for transgender students, and queer students of color.

No one is asking for every queer within a five-mile radius to take up a sword and fight for our rights and safety. But when UCSD provides a number of resources for LGBT students, it's silly not to take advantage of those fully. The funding, housing, and advising issues which stifle many LGBT neighborhoods are not the issue on campus. Here, the resources are waiting for students from our universities many campuses to unite and take them.

QUICK-TAKES

IS THERE MORE REASON TO BE HOPEFUL OR WEARY OF WHAT WILL COME WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS?

With Technological Advancement Comes Easier Methods to Exploit

Despite all the promises of technological innovation, the proliferation of automated machines will harm financial prospects for working people in the following decades. According to Digital Trends, robots are likely to replace around five million jobs by 2020. Beyond the threat of job destruction, MIT researchers have found that the effect of creating one robot for every thousand workers is a decrease in wages by about 0.25-0.5 percent. As robots are continually engineered to be more efficient and productive than humans, their work is valued at lower costs and is preferred over human labor.

But this change doesn't only affect blue-collar and administrative work; with the advent of artificial intelligence and machine learning, automated machines have already begun to substantially impact skilled professions, such as surgery and accounting. Additionally, reliance on technology allows corporations to find loopholes in providing worker benefits. Uber and Lyft, for instance - businesses that utilize apps in providing services - categorize their drivers as independent contractors rather than employees to avoid extra fees, leaving workers without proper coverage and protection. This trend of prioritizing profits at the expense

of uncompensated employees - one so prescient in these apps - will likely be worsened as technological advancement integrates technology with employment.

The expansion of automation brings heavy implications beyond the economic sphere. Although we are in the age of connectivity, the next decades will inevitably witness people physically withdrawing from reality by immersing themselves in virtual worlds, sometimes with great consequences. Virtual reality will allow those dissatisfied with their lives to not only escape into more ideal digital worlds, but ultimately prefer virtual fantasy to real life. This will consequently hinder physical connection and intimacy in human relationships. As an extreme example of technological innovation being detrimental to human interaction, a Japanese virtual reality game allowing users to sexually assault women characters was released last summer. The future of the digital age may distort the authenticity and moral standards surrounding human connection, and desensitize users from the true weight of their actions, rendering them lost and physically detached in virtual worlds.

— EMILY ZHAO
 STAFF WRITER

Technology Will Invent New Methods of Labor, not Destroy Them

At its core, technology is a beautiful and wonderful tool of humanity that has the potential to elevate standards of living to previously unimagined levels. Yet, despite this incredible potential for growth, many have come to see technology and automation of labor as malevolent job-destroyers intent on dismantling the livelihoods of millions of Americans who rely on their unskilled labor to earn a living.

The truth, however, is far more nuanced. Although automation will indeed reduce the labor needs of some professions, it will also open up entirely new job industries for workers to enter. According to the Economist, labor costs related to weaving and textile production during the 19th century dropped 98 percent after improvements in automation. Yet, this did not destroy weavers' livelihoods since they simply migrated from directly producing the cloth to managing the machines. Furthermore, the price of cloth dropped substantially, hugely increasing demand and, as a result, increasing total employment by over four times the original amount from 1830 to 1900. Automation, therefore, does not destroy labor but rather changes

it and forces workers to adapt to a new job role.

The same situation is unfolding in the modern day. Automated improvements in the transportation industry (which is expected to see massive changes in employment) will result in drivers moving toward maintaining the self-driving trucks. Grocery store cashiers will migrate to overseeing large sections of self-checkouts rather than their own individual lane. Chefs will become waiters or managers (which still require a personal touch). All of these improvements will result in lower prices and a higher standard of living.

Furthermore, the increased automation of labor opens us up to explore the creative aspects of humanity. Similar to how specialization of labor helped allow early tribes to become powerful civilizations and create incredible works of art, the reduced demand on routine labor will allow humanity to focus on deeper, more important questions in both STEM and humanities. We will undoubtedly see an explosion of higher learning, deeper research and great works of art that will define the post-Information Era of humanity.

— NATHAN WALKER
 EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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WORLDFRONT WINDOW By David Juarez



► **ENERGY** from page 4

Should SDG&E experience a reduction in purchasing, it could have an issue of excess supply. Another incentive for SDG&E to oppose CCE is the government incentive to use rooftop solar, which would ultimately lead to decreased demand for its product, something that has certainly been a concern for the company long before the push for CCE.

This movement for CCE has largely been driven by local organizations like the Sierra Club and San Diego's 350.org chapter. Proponents of the energy alternative say that CCE is the single biggest thing that the city can do to reach its Climate Action Plan goals of

fostering a greener economy, one of them being a target to reduce carbon emissions to 50 percent of their 2010 levels by the year 2035.

What matters now is contributing support to local action. In times when the energy surrounding environmental justice is so negative, it is motivating to look at our own campus as an example of how nonprofit, independent energy is economically and environmentally viable — 88 percent of the campus is powered by electricity from our local grid.

As students, we have a choice to become involved with our local community rather than be strangers passing through an institution. Right now, there is a chance to make your voice heard: Our representative, Barbara Bry, is not opposed to CCE but

has not made any strong stances on it.

UC San Diego is a huge proportion of her district and therefore her constituents — simple acts like signing this petition, making a phone call to her office or even joining organizing efforts with the Sierra Club and Student Sustainability Collective are different but effective ways to get involved. Community choice energy is an opportunity to bring a community together that fights for clean power, but inspires the kind of positive, passionate energy needed to make change at the local level.

If you are interested in learning more about CCE, contact Bryant Jew at bjew@ucsd.edu or the writer, Rebecca Chong, at rchong@ucsd.edu.

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UC San Diego

U-Pass information, schedules, maps and more: u-pass.ucsd.edu

A SIT DOWN WITH JASON MATKIN

by Alicia Lepler // A&E Associate Editor

At the intersection of business and music, Jason Matkin charts a new course in collegiate folk.

Going professional in the music industry requires more than a few investments upfront: cash for studio recordings and equipment, cash for travel, and time to play and perform. It's a difficult balancing act, especially when you're a full-time student at UC San Diego. Jason Matkin, business major and singer-songwriter straddles the line between these antithetical obligations with the hope of succeeding in both. The UCSD Guardian sat down with Jason to discuss the highs and lows of being a student musician.

Well aware of those hurdles, Matkin wryly reflected, "The industry is really hard ... But if I could choose one career to do for the rest of my life, it would be music." He's wanted to be a musician well before coming to UCSD, and his first album, "Forget the Dark," stands as testament to that desire.

A mix of mountain folk and pop, it's a one-man guitar-and-voice collection and the culmination of years of work.

"I started when I was in high school," Matkin noted. "There's some songs that are very old. For example, 'Parkside' is the first one I ever wrote."

When asked to discuss the connecting thread between business and his overarching musical aspirations, Matkin told the Guardian, "I figured international business would be more applicable to music. Being a musician is essentially being self-employed, and you spend a lot of money. Recording, traveling, you know, getting where you need to go. On instruments, repairs, strings."

Nonetheless, Matkin's choice of major has borne fruit. "I make money playing at shows, restaurants and corporate events. With the knowledge I've acquired over these last two quarters, I've been able to convert it into a legitimate business." It's a slow-going process, but his profile has grown over the last two years, and he's started work on a follow-up to 2015's "Forget the Dark."

With recent singles like "The Storm" and "Underwater," Jason has laid the foundations for a new album, planning to record during the early weeks of this spring quarter. His work has veered closer to an earthy, down-home style in recent years, accented by a personal enthusiasm for hiking and backpacking.

Primary creative periods accompany times spent in Alaska at his uncle's house. Upon a customary visit last August, Matkin found himself reinvigorated and ready to work again. "I went through a long period of no writing ... It's hard to be in such a picturesque location and not feel inspired. The first three days I was there, I wrote five songs. I played shows there ... It was amazing how instantaneous it was when I got there — the writer's block was just gone."

Matkin also touched on more pragmatic concerns. He was candid with the Guardian about the difficulty of receiving exposure.

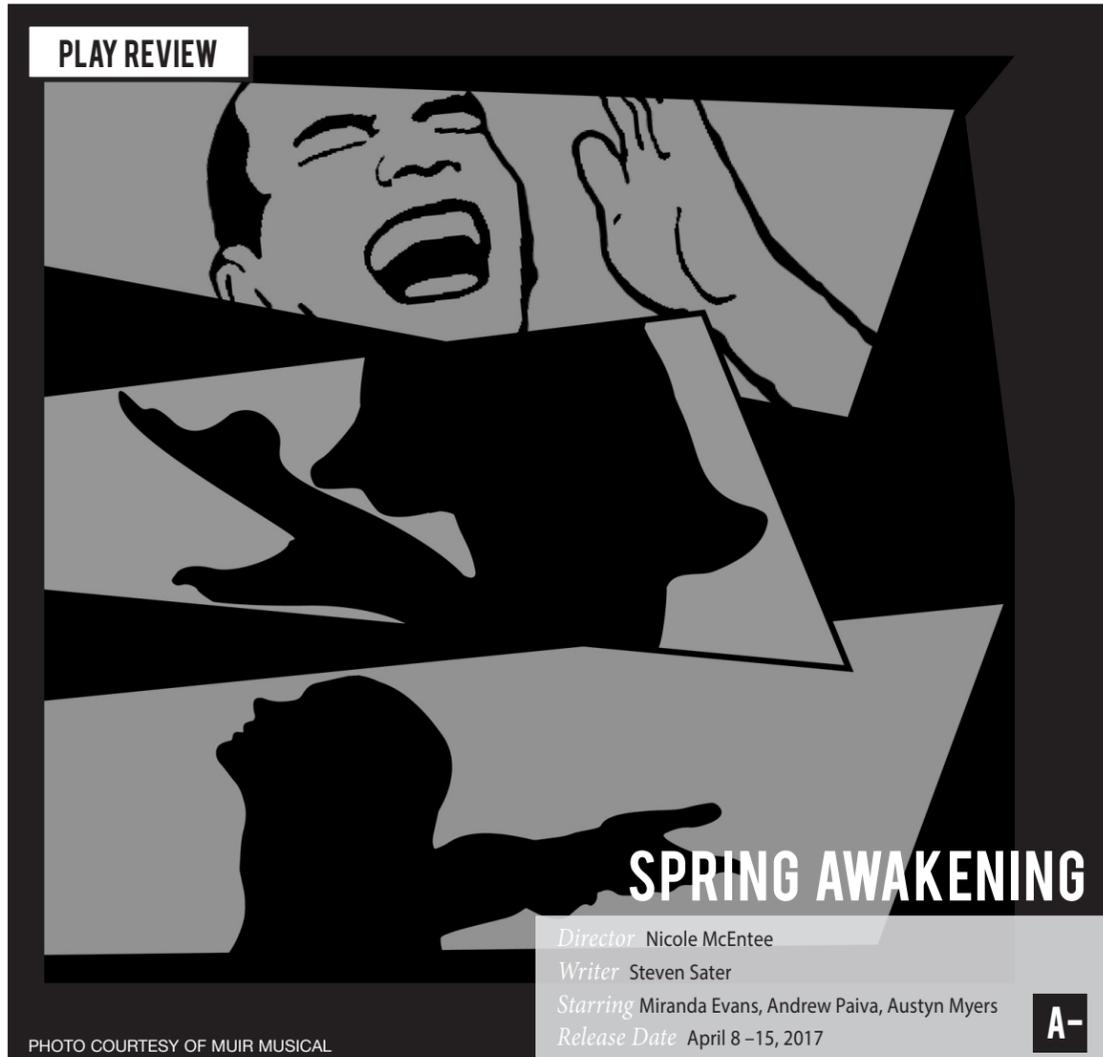
"You can go about it just off promotion, promotion, promotion ... Eventually, you might create a fanbase and a record label might sign you. Or it could just be dumb luck."

He's taken a philosophical stance toward the music industry rat-races, however. "The music itself is what I'm in this for. It's not fame, necessarily. To me, success is being able to do what I love."



IMAGE COURTESY OF JASON MATKIN

PLAY REVIEW



Director Nicole McEntee
 Writer Steven Sater
 Starring Miranda Evans, Andrew Paiva, Austyn Myers
 Release Date April 8–15, 2017

A-

“Spring Awakening” is in full bloom at the Mandeville Auditorium, courtesy of our own Muir Musical.

The premise might seem patently absurd: 19th-century German teens get embroiled in a salad-toss of sex, latin discourse, wet dreams, abuse and atheism. Well, that’s “Spring Awakening” for you. Adapted from

a 100-year-old German play and packed off to Broadway in the ‘90s, Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater’s brainchild is a weird, wicked beast.

Muir Musical has put its own spin on the production, making extensive use of “shadows” that

accompany the protagonists and ventriloquize song through dance. It’s an interesting proposition, in the same line as Deaf West Theatre’s incorporation of ASL into performances. The choreography is occasionally haphazard,

especially during big numbers, but communicates the students’ emotions effectively. Thankfully, “Spring Awakening” lends itself well to such tangible displays; between the subject matter and the soliloquies, the audience benefits from some guidance.

The stage is sparser than that of 2016’s “In the Heights,” a given considering Muir Musical had access to the national touring set. Costuming keeps fairly close to the original Broadway production and is effective in communicating the students’ youth; they dress in school clothes and wear short pants, and the girls have their hair in pigtails. The adults are overwhelmingly swathed in blacks and grays, befitting their status as taskmasters.

We open with the innocent Wendla Bergmann (Miranda Evans) asking her mother about the birds and bees. Naturally, accounting for time and setting, Frau Bergmann (Angelina Shea Harris) is scandalized beyond words. Where does a baby come from? Sadly, the stork story doesn’t hold water with Wendla anymore.

The exchange, fraught with unspoken parental anxiety, is more than characteristic of the story that unfolds. Schoolboy Melchior Gabor (Andrew Paiva) struggles with the unforgiving discipline and censorship of adults, seeking out information on sex that we thankfully get today in Planned Parenthood packets. Melchy has to make do with a few musty textbooks on human anatomy. He and the boys lead a few ribald choruses, celebrating nightly masturbation. It’s more than a little silly.

Moritz Stiefel (Austyn Myers) is haunted by more than women’s legs, however — he’s all but failing

his classes, and exams are around the corner. Nonetheless, those legs override his need to study, and Moritz entreats Melchior for a detailed journal on sex. Melchior, buddy that he is, acquiesces and includes drawings!

Meanwhile, Melchior grapples with his own devils: He doesn’t believe, as the girls are wont to swoon, “in anything. Not even God!” As such, Melchior wants nothing more than to cast off the dated self-righteousness of his elders, espousing free love and morality. Wendla is doubly conflicted, as she discovers one of her friends, Martha Bessell (Lea Magro), is regularly beaten by her father.

These tumultuous desires and fears condense into an unbridled conflagration of love and violence. Moritz and Wendla, wracked with guilt and doubt, careen toward disaster. The adults are vicious arbiters of the law — Headmaster Knochenbruch (Christopher Thomas) is a man utterly without pity. Ultimately, “Spring Awakening” is more a tragedy than a drama, with attempts to leaven the plot left to a traditional Broadway ending and reprise.

In addition, the usual opening-night issues were minimal, with only a mic malfunction and intermittent overlap between the orchestra and singers. Neither detracted from the performances, all of which were excellent and well-executed. No off-notes or mistakes, and, as far as could be seen, no forgotten lyrics. Muir Musical’s “Spring Awakening” pops, and it’s a fun, wild ride.

— ALICIALEPLER
 A&E Associate Editor

CALVIN HARRIS: FREE FROM THE SHACKLES OF MEDIOCRITY

We don’t expect much from our DJs except for a humble jockeying of the discs, but Calvin Harris aspires to become something more as a nascent auteur.

So far, 2017 has been a fascinating year composed of the rote and irregular. Frank Ocean has returned and is releasing music semi-regularly, but Playboi Carti remains steadfast at depriving his remaining fans. Drake proved himself as capable at British English as he is at Canadian English but still yearns to speak in unadulterated patois while circling a heated pool. Kendrick Lamar is still too busy trying to prove he’s bona-fide woke to make a decent track, but at least someone else has now become concerned with making great music — Calvin Harris.

Harris, the life-sized DJ Ken doll who’s produced mall classics like “Feel So Close” and “This Is What You Came For,” has been lurking at the edges of pop excellence for years. The pieces have long been there. He had hooks and extravagant features but still lacked substance (or something similar to it). He made songs for the summer but never *the* song of the summer. His songs were destined to walk through department store purgatory for years instead of our precious personalized playlists. But for whatever reason, after his breakup with Grammy award-

winning snake Taylor Swift, he put “it” together. We may not know what “it” is or how he did “it,” but the results are undeniable. “Slide” and “Heatstroke” are anthems to youth, humidity and the undeniable pleasure of pop. Heartbreak Harris also vowed to never release an album again, instead opting to release music in pop forward singles that make sense of the zeitgeist and mold it into a four-minute bop.

Unconcerned with the typical conventions of the music besides making money, capitalist Harris has broken loose from the mindset afflicting artists everywhere. Albums, which he called “time-consuming” and “limiting,” are no longer the main concern — singles are. It makes sense for a man whose music has become ubiquitous after years on pop radio but who has barely made a lasting impression outside of the Billboard charts. Nobody’s looking to buy an 18-track odyssey through Harris’ maitai-battered psyche, but a brief trip into the sands of his id? Sign us up.

Harris must be an enchantress. Ocean, who once called radio a soulless conveyor belt of music, is now being streamed to Gap

stores nationwide and couldn’t be better. No longer must we linger in a society where people cede to the empty hooks of Selena Gomez. Now, people can instead sink into the honeyed croons of Ocean while searching for form-fitting non-iron khakis. The world is a better place for this. We may still be ignoring the environmental and economic ravages that neoliberalism has brought upon our planet, but at least we’ve got one hell of a soundtrack on the way down.

Operating off an uncanny understanding of market-driven data that looks like cultural intuition (or vice versa), Harris makes us question the authenticity of his two most recent singles. Were these made with heart and soul or nothing but commercial ambition? The ‘80s-inflected stylings of his new tracks and meme-friendly features would suggest not, but Harris elevated the art of elevator bangers past its current limits and into the realm of undeniable, appetite-sating hits. There’s an



alchemy operating at perfect balance in Harris laboratories. There’s no way he could have predicted Offset would have shown up Quavo by rapping about Ricky Ricardo, or that Young Thug was again going to prove himself as the best rapper under 30 or that Ocean wasn’t just a myth. But Harris, now curator extraordinaire, did it.

The bounce imbued in both singles must have found its origin somewhere deep within our own circadian rhythms, releasing an

unmissable groove that few others have been able to tap into. Bruno Mars and Carly Rae Jepsen, who have long shared a timeshare there, would be remiss not to welcome Harris into the fold.

— SAM VELAZQUEZ
 A&E Editor

FEATURES

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UCSD GUARDIAN 2017

Every year the UCSD Guardian Editorial Board interviews A.S. Council candidates for president, vice president of campus and external affairs and the campuswide senators. These endorsements do not reflect individual editorial board members' voting preferences. Presidential candidate Aaron Dalton Burgess and campuswide senator candidate Julia Prinzi did not respond to our request for an interview.

THRIVE photos courtesy of Akanksha Kevalramani and Students Determined photos courtesy of Dellanira Alcauter and David Liao.



We are not accustomed to a tight presidential campaign anymore here at UCSD, but this year there are four candidates standing tall on the debate stage, vying for the right to be our next student body president. Though no one is a bad candidate, Lesly Figueroa stood out to us the most. She is currently the Associate Vice President of Environmental Justice Affairs and the Triton Food Pantry student manager, among other roles, and is running on a platform of creating a student-centered institution with her progressive colleagues. Figueroa is not just a candidate that throws around big words and does not follow up on them. She

has shown in the past, working with University Centers and at the Food Pantry, that she's the right candidate for the job. An urban studies and planning major, she's well aware of the issues facing UCSD as a large community, from food affordability to housing and transportation. She has tangible plans to address those issues, like the rerouting of shuttles or advocating for off-campus, university-owned housing. Her platform is a breath of fresh air, focusing on issues that students face daily and providing practical, long-term solutions to those issues. There is nothing fluffy or phony about Figueroa or her candidacy. In her debate, her passion was apparent when discussing students' basic needs. We appreciate that she had succinct ideas. With presidents only serving for one year, she recognizes her limitations and has set out clear, non-farfetched goals for accomplishing them in her short tenure if she is elected. Despite the talented candidates in this year's field, Figueroa stands out with her spirit and her ideas and as a leader will undoubtedly make a responsible and effective A.S. president.

A.S. PRESIDENT

LESLY FIGUEROA, *STUDENTS DETERMINED*

Though a year ago Matthew Arrollado would have laughed at the idea of running for Vice President Campus Affairs, his sincerity and excitement about his goals for this position are no joke. Currently serving as an A.S. Council senator for Eleanor Roosevelt College, he has also held other positions in student government, including membership on the Well-Being Cluster Student Advisory Board and an undergraduate representative for UC SHIP. These experiences, among others, show that he has an informed perspective of student issues.

Arrollado also has experience being criticized as a student leader. Recently, Student Council of ERC, which he is a part of, received flack for its seemingly exorbitant spending on itself. Matthew, however, handled it in stride, holding extra office hours and actively reaching out to people on social media to explain SCERC's perspective. He intends to increase A.S. Council's transparency and visibility and, since he's already doing this with SCERC, we believe that he will actually make this happen.

His slate is running on the pretense of developing long-term goals for the university through an equity-minded lens. His goals for transportation and representing students' needs reflect this. He says that he will use the transportation survey, which was sent out to students last quarter, to better understand students' parking and transportation needs. Additionally, he intends to increase support for transfer students through a central resource center and to have more programming directed at transfers.

Matthew's experience and candor made us believe that students actually can thrive here.



VICE PRESIDENT CAMPUS AFFAIRS

MATTHEW ARROLLADO, *THRIVE*

Refilwe Gqajela's passion for UC San Diego has been demonstrated numerous times through her commitment to social activism and community outreach, not just in her continued work through the Black Student Union and Black Resource Center, but also through her internship and experience at the Student Sustainability Collective. This experience will prove invaluable as UCSD and A.S. must answer tough questions this year regarding UCSD's possible status as a sanctuary college amid dwindling federal support. In addition, Gqajela recognizes the importance of student outreach and challenges the idea of student apathy on a campus where many students are unaware of

the issues. Her self-described mission is to build student coalitions around these topics and encourage students to make their voices heard through the appropriate channels so that they may engage with the community both inside and outside of UCSD. Her expertise, however, expands beyond the campus boundaries. Both in her community at home and here in San Diego, Gqajela has built a reputation around strong community engagement, as exemplified by her internship for U.S. Congressperson Scott Peters. This passion has driven her to strongly question A.S.'s complicit role in many of the injustices around the world, including the Dakota Access Pipeline, which she supports divesting from. These experiences, combined with realistic and concrete ideas for student outreach, make her a strong choice for A.S. VP of External Affairs.



VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REFILWE GQAJELA, *STUDENTS DETERMINED*

A.S. ENDORSEMENTS

With many candidates running for a campuswide senator position and only five slots, it's difficult to determine who is most qualified. Snehal "Sne" Lochan's experience and clear ideas, however, made her a viable candidate for this position. We especially appreciate her concrete ideas about increasing A.S. Council transparency and visibility. She believes that there shouldn't be a barrier between the students and the Council and hopes to combat this by creating practical avenues for students to get in touch with their representatives. For example, she wants to improve the A.S. Council website and create an anonymous online outlet for students to voice their concerns and feedback.

Additionally, Sne prioritizes mental health, a longstanding student concern. Sne notices that there is a stigma surrounding Counseling and Psychological Services and Campus Assault Resources and Education services and hopes to make these spaces more visible. She wants A.S. Council to host fundraisers to promote these

spaces and raise money to provide short-term assistance. She envisions a speaker-type series to destigmatize mental health and hopes that professors will be part of this. She also wants professors to be more vocal about CAPS in their classes. She noted that some professors mention CAPS in their syllabus but do not take the time to follow up or mention this later on in the class. Sne's clear goals about transparency and mental health show us that she has the right mindset for campuswide senator.



CAMPUSWIDE SENATOR
SNEHAL LOCHAN, *STUDENTS DETERMINED*

With their focus on institutionalizing progressive practices and unmistakable keenness to do so, Miguel Angel Tapia is a candidate with strong ideals and genuine understanding of their role in A.S. Council.

Bringing community voices to A.S. is at the forefront of their campaign, and Tapia has outlined specific issues currently persisting in this realm, such as the historic disenfranchisement of the voices of students of color. They also discussed small-scale solutions, including collaborating with SAC organizations to give them a greater say in A.S., and large-scale solutions, including using their greater access to connections and opportunities to put pressure

on the administration. Tapia's ideas span a wide range of important issues, from sanctuary campus policy, to divestment from DAPL, to voter registration, to overnight programs, proving their nuanced understanding of campus issues and smart look at where A.S. could make change. Perhaps most importantly, Tapia is highly qualified in service. Their first year at UCSD, Tapia was the chairperson of Education and Awareness for UConsent, working to destigmatize conversations of sexual assault and awareness, as well as a member of Cultural House in Muir College, where they sprung conversations about proper yet appropriate vocabulary with respect to LGBTQ identity, positionality and accessibility. All around, Tapia's repertoire reads as varied yet focused, which will prove meaningful in their advocacy for community engagement, institutionalization of policy and representation of student voices in A.S. Council.



CAMPUSWIDE SENATOR
MIGUEL ANGEL TAPIA, *STUDENTS DETERMINED*

A major contributor to the Co-ops, Mohamed Al Elew brings to the table a mix of much-needed experience, willingness and passion from a campuswide senator. He is a second-year computer engineering major, a member of the UCSD College Democrats and a much-improved version of the kid who was in student government in third grade. Al Elew has risen this past year in the shadow of campuswide senator Rachel Adams, herself a member of the Co-ops, and is dedicated to representing people frequenting those spaces. Like her, he is running on a platform that includes fighting for student-oriented spaces, like The Che Cafe or art spaces, and he is willing to be the bridge between those and the UCSD administration. But he doesn't just want to represent those students, as he also possesses broader interests including but not limited to being a student of the Jacobs School of Engineering. He is critical of the issues facing A.S. Council and promises to operate in consensus and compromise. To him, the public — in this case

the student body — should have more access to senators, and one of his ideas involves advocating for a press secretary to A.S. Council. For Al Elew, A.S. Council cannot continue to take sudden and unilateral decisions, like the defunding of student media. Al Elew is a candidate ready to work to build a student dialogue and to use his position in A.S. Council to serve and advocate for the student body, making him a shoo-in as a campuswide senator for a council that desperately needs to represent more of the student body.



CAMPUSWIDE SENATOR
MOHAMED AL ELEW, *THRIVE*

Monica Valdez is a qualified candidate with an impressive history in serving and representing students. But one of the most promising things about her candidacy is this: She wants to be held accountable. Though accountability is a word thrown around so much that it seems to lose meaning, it's believable coming from a candidate whose goals center around finding out what students want and need rather than deciding for them.

She says that when students feel like they can, they will. This is the thread that weaves her plans together and has a place in addressing retention rates for underrepresented students.

A commuter student, an out-of-state student and a first-generation American and college student, a major

part of her platform is ensuring that students feel they have a home at UC San Diego. For commuter students, it's converting unused campus spaces to study and nap areas. For everyone, it's adding ease and security to the process of securing housing. More broadly, her plan to utilize existing resources by making them more visible is feasible and necessary. Speaking of the Inter-Tribal Resource Center, she pointed out in our interview that even she, a Native American and Latina student, wasn't aware some campus centers until recently because its existence is not publicized.

Her passion for student government shows as she talks about her plans, whether they are collaborating with the future president on housing issues or finding ways to make students feel at home at the massive campus that is UCSD. We are confident as an editorial board that she will honor her desire to be held accountable and work to make UCSD a home to students.



CAMPUSWIDE SENATOR
MONICA VALDEZ, *THRIVE*

Although he's only a second year, Kian Falah has already made a mark in A.S. Council this past year, both as the chief-of-staff of the Office of College Affairs and the A.S. Fellowship Director, a professional development initiative aimed at new students interested in student government. He has also been active with UCSD Circle K and done community service, all of which led him to his interest for the campus-wide senator position. Kian wants to have a lasting impact on campus, one that can withstand the years and his graduation. Two of his goals are to create an alliance between student organizations and A.S. Council, as well as to hold quarterly townhalls for campuswide senators to get them out of their chambers and in front of their constituents. This is on par with his down-to-earth attitude and makes him one of the most approachable candidates the UCSD Guardian has interviewed. He is also confident in his abilities to empower students through the fellowship program. Like many other candidates,

Falah highlighted the lack of transparency of A.S. Council and the need for an updated website, something he will push for in his term. Finally, he will advocate for students to be exposed to the flourish of organizations and centers that the campus has to offer, even those who don't necessarily fit them. He is a passionate candidate whose attention to detail and continuous commitment is likely to take A.S. Council by storm. All in all, Falah is an experienced, hard-working and dedicated candidate who is sure to continue to make an impact in A.S. Council the upcoming year.



CAMPUSWIDE SENATOR

KIAN FALAH, *THRIVE*

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MUIR OUT SPOKEN SPEAKS OUT LOUD

by Brittney Lu // Lifestyle Co-Editor

Some work with parametric lines and planes, some with pages and paragraphs; both are capable of curating unique art forms that speak in multiple dimensions. For Muir College sophomore Henri Etel Skinner, the intersection of diverse community, contrasting academia, personal experience and inherent creativity drives her passion to create spaces where words can fall on a page from any author who wants to tell a story. In the midst of winter quarter blues, Skinner shares how it was through written words and creative thinking that helped her not only understand herself better, but explain that part of her identity to others too. And this past fall, she helped co-create Muir Outspoken, a gathering atop of Tioga Hall where writers of all skill levels and of all backgrounds congregate to compose.

"I'm so glad this space exists," Skinner said. "It has not only provided a place for students to stop thinking about school [through] writing, but to get over the fear of not writing well ... to stretch writing abilities, [and] to take the reality of our thoughts and lives — sometimes heartbreaking and sometimes silly — and putting it into words." At an institution where students can operate on a cycle of learning, memorizing, retaining and disposing, Muir Outspoken is a space to take better, and perhaps a more holistic, ownership of what is learned both in and out of the lecture.

Since its origin fall quarter, Muir Outspoken has already seen its fair share of up-and-coming creative writers. In the process of developing more creative writers, Muir Outspoken has also cultivated a community where "people are [beginning] to understand each other through creative thoughts," where students are more than "classes, jobs or an answer to a homework problem," says Skinner. In this unique community, and perhaps divine space that stimulates a search for identity, group processing and cognitive creativity helps this band of scribes express themselves in ways that go beyond what is seen on resumes or quantified through GPAs.

In this space for creative writers and thinkers, artistic movers and shakers, Skinner hopes that each person will begin to retrospectively realize their individually-gifted "ability to think creatively." For her, "creativity does not [solely] mean you can paint something well, write a sonnet within five minutes, or create an entire backstory for a meme economy presentation" — all of which have been byproducts of Muir Outspoken. Rather, Skinner believes that it is instead the ability to introspectively reflect and "tell a story no one else would be able to tell," from whatever perspective one uniquely brings to the writing table. She concludes her own story with Muir Outspoken by inviting even more to join her tribe of troubadours, no matter how much writing experience one may have, or how "creative" one may perceive themselves. (Normalcy in creative thought is presumably only a consequence of social constructs, no? But I digress.) So she asks, "Does physiology leave you wondering about some wild biological scenario? Do you unashamedly want to work on math because you love the way numbers fall into place? Do you love the beauty of consistency in physics?" Because in the end, "that is all creativity."

Her active pursuit to challenge and redefine what creativity looks like, coupled with her crusade for a community that is all-inclusive, yet heightens the individual experience, is iconically Henri Skinner — she lives through stanzas, perceives through poetry and sees a world where all are welcome to come and color it in. And through Muir Outspoken, this is exactly the sort of space where you are invited to do the same. So pick up a pencil and a few loose-leaf sheets and check out Muir Outspoken to hear some stories as you share your own.



photo courtesy of Henri Etel Skinner



photo courtesy of Henri Etel Skinner



photo courtesy of Henri Etel Skinner

THE LOFT: GROWING GROUNDS OF CREATIVITY

by Brittney Lu // Lifestyle Co-Editor



photo courtesy of The Loft

It's not often we find spaces at UC San Diego conducive to creating opportunities to engage creatively or to express oneself in nonacademic ways. The emphasis here is primarily STEM (a beautiful necessity) and UCSD is first and foremost known to be a research institute. But to be frank, the architectural layout — and perhaps more so, barrier — prevents student congregation for public expression of thought and instead constitutes a loose and isolating network of quasi-amphitheater-like spaces (but more on that another time, another day).

So, in having structured spaces like The Loft, students are able to witness and be witness to soul-speaking, soul-baring moments of spoken word, music, poetry and everything else in between. Located on the second floor of Price Center, across from the Cross Cultural Center, this space is home to concerts, spoken word and visual art. Some noteworthy features at The Loft include Art Power, an event that hosts performances of local and global artists and a gallery that is installed into the walled interior. Quarterly opportunities can also arise, like Color and Chill, where students can tap into their artistic potential. But it's in events like Blabbermouth that really help give voice to the student. On the first day of every month, Blabbermouth hosts student performances of poetic prose or original songs. In 10-minute segments, students from any major, any college and any experience are able to storytell in whatever medium that amplifies their voice best. And in an institute where it can be relatively easy to fall into the crowd of 400 in a chemistry lecture, an intimate space like this one can help humanize and revitalize.

Known to be the "social crossroads of emerging art and pop culture," The Loft speaks through its performances and design. It's meant to be simultaneously "absorptive and collective" while capturing the "dynamism" of voyeurship. Run by and for students, The Loft is the ultimate dichotomy of coming to learn and be learned about.

ENTANGLEMENTS: RAE ARMANTROUT FINDS THE POETRY IN PHYSICS

by Annika Olives // Lifestyle Co-Editor

Rae Armantrout is a versatile poet.

Armantrout was born in 1947 on a California naval base. She attended UC Berkeley and was part of the first generation of Language poets, an avant garde group that brought poetry to the postmodernist sphere. In 2010, she won the Pulitzer Prize with “Versed,” a book consisting of poems mainly relating to Armantrout’s battle with cancer.

The words she chooses in her work appear to look simple, but her ideas are profound. She is well-known within a field where not many are.

“Entanglements,” recently published, was inspired by Armantrout’s burgeoning interest in science. The title has two meanings: One is based on the idea that particles can become so entangled that there is virtually no space between them; the second is about Armantrout’s entanglement with physics itself.

Armantrout is currently a professor emerita at UC San Diego within the literature department. Join her on April 13 in the Atkinson Hall Auditorium as she reads poems from “Entanglements,” discusses the process behind her work and describes how she was able to combine science with the written word.

HOW TO LIVE YOUR LIFE BY AN ESYS MAJOR: SCIENCE AND SCRIBING

by Nadia Link // Staff Writer

THWACK! Cindy shot up, instantly scanning her pitch-black surroundings. The room was too dark to see anything but she knew she wasn’t alone ... She tried to focus on lowering her heart rate when suddenly ... Did I get your attention? (I hope so, because I put way too much thought into that introduction ...)

Assuming that I did pique your interest, I’m going to have to pull a “bait and switch” because this column is unfortunately not about a harrowing tale of a late-night break-in but about how to get the attention of readers and to keep it when you’re discussing less-than-entertaining material such as scientific breakthroughs and environmental issues. That’s right my friends. This shall be another informative piece involving the environment and sustainability. But continue coming back, for maybe someday I shall reward your patience with, I don’t know, a haiku?

Anyway, chances are unless you’re a science major, breakthroughs in climate change research and the environmental issues themselves are hard to follow, understand the relevance of and apply to normal-life routines. For the most part, the science itself is explained in a very convoluted and complicated way, so communication is key if a writer or researcher wants to get the word out on their work and the issues involved. I’m going to get a little personal here, but while I was always interested in science, I was never quite as good at the data and research part as I was at communicating through writing and video. For that reason, I have put a lot of effort in trying to engage people and help them better understand the full impact of environmental and sustainability issues in their lives.

My favorite technique — literally just translate the science into its practical applications or real world effects. Yeah it’s a bummer that sea levels are rising, but many people often don’t see the urgency and the need for change until you mention how there are small island countries that are literally not going to exist in a matter of years. Mentioning the real-world impact gives relevance to the problems.

That however, is where you hit another problem in communicating the topic of sustainability: the fact that some of the problems seem too far progressed for any one individual to have any impact.

Complacency is one of the most significant hurdles to overcome when handling environmental issues. It is absolutely disheartening to hear about temperature rise and species extinction rates. But the best way to overcome the challenge is to always present a possible solution. The United States’ dependence on gasoline for transportation seems too far along to change, but when you learn of a replacement fuel that is more or less ready to go now, like algae biofuel, prospects seem much more positive. Keep mentioning the solutions whenever you mention the problem and before long, the solution becomes more and more obvious to the point where it can build traction in the public eye and someday overcome the status quo.

The last thing I want to mention is the actual vernacular. I purposely used a fancy word in place of vocabulary because it made me seem (i.e. feel) smarter which in many ways undermined my point. When writing pieces that are intended for public audiences, trying to sound smart can be off-putting and even condescending. Superhero movies aren’t popular because of their complex storylines. They’re popular because they’re interesting and easy to follow. The same should be said about informative pieces on the climate. They should be written with enthusiasm and an overall sense of positivity. If you feel good writing it, then the reader most likely will feel good reading it.

To quote a character from the popular game “Overwatch,” “our world is worth fighting for.” As a campus full of scientists, it’s important to remember that it will require a group effort not just from our fellow scientifically-inclined brethren but everyone else as well. How we communicate our breakthroughs and discoveries can often be just as crucial in solving the world’s problems as the breakthroughs themselves.

STUDENT POETS BREAK THE SILENCE

by Annika Olives // Lifestyle Co-Editor

Thurgood Marshall College sophomore Maria Omelchenko found her knack for poetry in elementary school.

“I think back in the fourth grade, I don’t know if you guys had this, but we had a student-of-the-month thing, and everyone got a student of the month award, and mine was like, ‘Oh, you’re a really good writer,’” Omelchenko said. “So I kind of just started to dabble with writing and dabble with poetry.”

In high school, she discovered her love for spoken word. “When my friends started a club, I started going to that club, and then I kind of fell in love with [spoken word] from there,” Omelchenko said. “Just the emotion, the feeling, the power that you can actually hear people read words instead of just reading it on paper: It’s just a different feeling.”

So, when Omelchenko arrived at UC San Diego, she set out to join a spoken word club but quickly realized there were none.

“When I would go to my high school [spoken word] club, it was kind of like a getaway from everything else that was going on in life ... it really brought a lot of people together, through the word, through how people express themselves, so when I came to college I was looking for a club like that, but I couldn’t find one,” Omelchenko said. “I couldn’t even find a poetry club, even, so I kind of decided to take matters into my own hands because I feel like I know a lot of people who do write, not even just spoken word but poetry in general, and I wanted to bring that to this campus because I was quite shocked that we didn’t have something like that, and we definitely need to promote the arts at this university.”

Thus, Omelchenko took to Facebook and found fellow poetry-lover and Muir College sophomore Leonardo Amador. They, along with a few other principal members, joined forces to create Break the Silence, UCSD’s first and only spoken word club.

Many young adults are drawn to poetry, specifically slam poetry, because the words give them power or allow a form of expression.

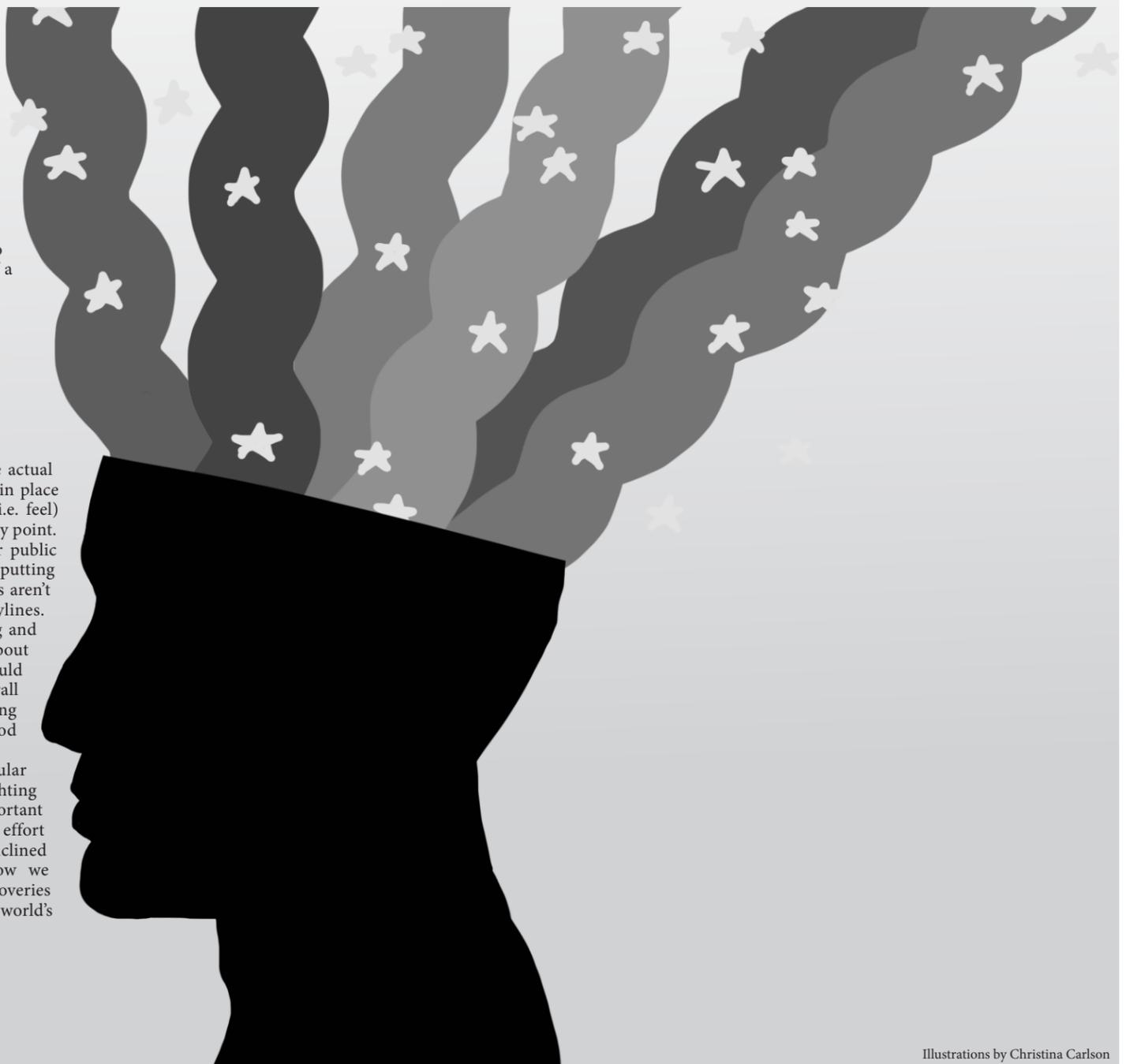
“I like the raw emotion that comes attached to [slam poetry]. A lot of slam is very personal, people writing about stuff that they struggle with, their inner demons,” Amador said.

“It’s a good way to cope, I feel, because a lot of the time when it comes to spoken word and when it comes to poetry in general, not often do you hear people read or perform poetry that’s necessarily happy,” Omelchenko said. “A lot of the time writing comes from very dark places in our hearts, so I feel like it’s a good way to release that energy because, definitely, when I sit down and write I’m in a certain state of mind.”

Through Break the Silence, Omelchenko hopes to establish a place on campus for both poets and nonpoets to share those emotions openly and freely. “My main purpose of the club, and this is pretty much said at every meeting, [is that] it’s a safe space,” she said. “So, whatever’s said in the club shouldn’t be publicly mentioned, no one should be discussed, and it should really be a safe space with no judgment for everyone to read what they want to read, even if it’s a haiku, even if it’s a short story, even if that’s not even poetry but they just want to go ahead and read a five-minute story, that’s fine too.”

Amador agrees. “I know one of our big goals is to make it a place that people come out and be who they want to be, be vulnerable and be able to tell people what they’re thinking or what they’re feeling,” he said.

Break the Silence meets every other Wednesday at 7 p.m. Its next meeting is on April 19 in Conference Room 300 in the Student Center. Visit its Facebook page for more information



2017 **THIS WEEK** AT UC SAN DIEGO
 APR 10 - APR 16

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MUIR MUSICAL ENSEMBLE & AS PRESENT:
SPRING AWAKENING
 APRIL 8 - 15

APRIL 13-15 • 8pm
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 MANDEVILLE AUDITORIUM • ARTPOWER

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GAVIN TUREK
 Monday, Apr. 10
 Doors: 8pm • Show: 9pm
 The Loft
 \$5 Students • \$10 GA

SPRING FEST
 Tuesday, Apr. 11
 Doors: 8pm • Show: 8:30pm
 The Loft • FREE

BOMB SQUAD & CHUGBOAT
 Thursday, Apr. 14
 Doors: 8pm • Show: 9pm
 The Loft
 FREE for Students • \$10 GA

theloft.ucsd.edu

MON 4.10

10am SIGEP SPRING RECRUITMENT
 MULTIPLE DATES
 MON, APR 10, 2017 10:00PM - 11:55PM
 TUE, APR 11, 2017 6:00PM - 9:00PM
 WED, APR 12, 2017 6:00PM - 9:00PM
 THU, APR 13, 2017 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Check out our Facebook event page to stay current with all the week's events, and updates throughout the week! More information about the fraternity can be found at ucsdSIGEP.com If you have any questions, you can contact: Vice President of Recruitment: Lucas Borowski (619) 253-3773
 Rush Chairman: Alex Gilges (585) 354-2324
 Contact: acann@ucsd.edu 916-705-2223.
 Website: <https://www.facebook.com/events/655991487925993/>

TUE 4.11

3pm UNIVERSITY CENTERS PRESENTS: CRAFTHELLA - THE HUMP @ THE STUDENT CENTER

FESTIVAL SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!!! Get ready for all the upcoming festivals and concerts this spring with some FREE DIY crafts to get you ready and looking cute for festival season! We will be having be FREE DIY chokers, tie-dye shirts, and flower crowns!!!! The event will be hosted at the Hump which is right next to Hi-Thai in the Student Center! We will be giving out FREE gear and art supplies from 3-5PM. This is a FREE student event but just remember to bring your Student ID with you! Contact: cenmarketing@ucsd.edu.
 Website: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1405512656139206/>

WED 4.12

10am TRITON SPRING CAREER FAIR - PRICE CENTER BALLROOM EAST AND WEST

Meet face-to-face with top employers seeking to hire you! Now's your chance to make valuable contacts, learn inside information (the stuff you can't always find online), and leave behind a personal impression that employers will remember! Follow these steps to make the most of your Career Fair experience -- whether you are ready for a full-time position, an internship or simply searching for information on employers and your target industry. Contact: stu-cloi@mail.ucsd.edu Website: <http://career.ucsd.edu/>

11am BODY COMPOSITION -THE ZONE

Walk in for your free analysis which includes: body weight, percentage body fat, total body water, and blood pressure. One free assessment per quarter is available to registered UCSD students. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

Upcoming at 

CRAFTCHELLA
 Tuesday, Apr. 11
 Event: 3pm-5pm
 The Hump @ Student Center
 FREE

ROUGUE ONE PRESENTED BY COLLEGES AGAINST CANCER
 Thursday, Apr. 13
 Doors: 7pm • PC Theater
 FREE (Donations Welcomed)

ROUND TABLE FRIDAYS
 Friday, Apr. 14
 Event: 1pm-4pm
 Round Table Patio
 Price Center West • FREE

universitycenters.ucsd.edu

THU 4.13

10am MEDITATION - THE ZONE

A practice to help increase focus and concentration, reduce stress and gain a sense of well-being. Whether or not you have ever meditated, you may enjoy this sampling of techniques as they guide you to the blissful silence behind thoughts. Seated, standing, lying down and moving techniques may be covered. Suitable for all levels of experience. All classes with Vou Athens. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

1pm UC SAN DIEGO /WSGR ENTREPRENEURSHIP SERIES: FORMING A COMPANY I - ROTH AUDITORIUM, SANFORD CONSORTIUM FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

San Diego Research Affairs & The Office of Innovation and Commercialization is partnering with Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati (WSGR), a premier law firm in corporate and intellectual property matters, to bring an eighteen-month Entrepreneurship Seminar series to UC San Diego and the Mesa. This monthly series is focused on educating innovators and entrepreneurs on the various aspects of technology commercialization, company formation and funding. In addition to staff and students, the Office of Research Affairs welcomes all community members, including other research institutions, to participate in this free seminar series. Please use the links below to reserve your space for one or all of the seminars. 1:00pm - 5:00pm: Introduction/Overview in the auditorium. 5:00pm - 6:00pm: Reception on the terrace. Contact: invent@ucsd.edu

4pm INTER-SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL MIXER - SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

The Inter-Sustainability Council is a student organization at UCSD whose goal is to bring together all of the student sustainability orgs to foster an environment of growth and productivity so we may be the sustainability resource for students on campus. We will be hosting our spring quarter mixer on Thursday, April 13 from 4-6PM in the Sustainability Resource Center and all students as well as any interested faculty and staff are welcome to come! The event is informal and is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn more about what ISC does and the role we play in providing access to resources to students about sustainability at UCSD. Food and refreshments will be provided! Contact: k7scott@ucsd.edu Website: <http://iscucsd.wixsite.com/main>

5pm THE MASK YOU LIVE IN - COMUNIDAD LARGE, CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER

What mask do you put on every day? Join us for a screening and discussion of Jennifer Siebel Newsom's documentary "The Mask You Live In", which depicts the issues men face when growing up and trying to fit into what America's definition of a man is. Contact: gmiramon@ucsd.edu

FRI 4.14

12pm FRIDAY INTERNATIONAL CAFE - GREAT HALL

Korean Food! Friday International Cafe is a weekly lunch hosted by the International Center featuring a different country every week, where students, faculty, and staff can learn about the culture as well as enjoy a representative cuisine of the featured country. Invite your friends for a fun lunch and a plate full of delicious cuisines for \$5 a plate!

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1:30pm THERAPY FLUFFIES - THE ZONE

Come de-stress and play with and pet therapy dogs at The Zone! Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu

6pm UC SAN DIEGO BASEBALL VS. CAL POLY POMONA - TRITON BALLPARK

Come out and support your UC San Diego Tritons as they face off against Cal Poly Pomona's Baseball team! Contact: tritonfrontdesk@ucsd.edu

6pm ENTANGLEMENTS: RAE ARMANTROUT & THE POETRY OF PHYSICS - ATKINSON HALL AUDITORIUM

One of the favorite subjects of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Rae Armantrout (Professor Emerita, UCSD) is physics--from the big ideas of cosmology to the infinitesimally small wonders of the quantum world. To celebrate the publication of Entanglements, a chapbook selection of her science-minded poems, Brian Keating (Astrophysics, UCSD) and the Clarke Center are hosting an evening with Rae Armantrout, who will read selections and discuss the creative process behind her work. Keating, along with Brandon Som (Creative Writing, UCSD) and Amelia Glaser (Literature, UCSD), will join her in a conversation about how these poems mix the personal with the scientific and speculative, the process of interdisciplinary creativity, and what her poetic engagement with physics can teach those working in the physical sciences.

SAT 4.15

9:30am 5TH ANNUAL CIGARETTE BUTT CLEAN UP - THE ZONE

Please join us at UCSD's 5th Annual Cigarette Butt Clean-up! Support UCSD's smoke-free campus by cleaning up the cigarette litter found on our campus with fellow members of the UCSD community! The first 100 registrants that attend the event will receive a free "Sun God Says..." T-Shirt, and everyone will receive complimentary snacks and water. **All materials (gloves and bags to put the cigarette butts in) will be provided. Contact: sltan@ucsd.edu Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/5th-annual-cigarette-butt-clean-up-uc-san-diego-tickets-33255837104>

11am UC SAN DIEGO WOMEN'S TENNIS VS. CAL STATE LA - NORTHVIEW TENNIS COURTS

Come out and support your UC San Diego Tritons as they compete against Cal State LA's Women's Tennis team! Contact: tritonfrontdesk@ucsd.edu

THE GUARDIAN CLASSIFIEDS

Guardian Classifieds are FREE for the UC San Diego community.
www.ucsdguardian.org/classifieds

BIKES

Opus Legato Bicycle - \$300. A great touring bicycle. Solid build with accessories including helmet, bicycle pump, front and rear lights, panniers and lock. Listing ID: 247469521 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Beach Cruiser Bikes - \$175. Roommate and I are moving cross country and can't take the bikes. Bought them in September. In attractive condition. Kept inside when not in use. One is sea foam green and one is grey-blue. Both with floral cup holders and wicker baskets. Listing ID: 245794248 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Mountain Bike - \$350. Great bike. Has lights. Fast and clean. Ready for a new owner. Listing ID: 244614666 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

ELECTRONICS

Like New Logitech Wireless Keyboard - \$14.99. Used very few times. Mint condition. Comes with original box and Logitech

unify USB receiver. Listing ID: 247469595 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Playstation 3 with 5 Games - \$75. Selling my used Playstation. With Call of Duty World at War, Skate 3, UFC 3, Mafia 2 and Call of Duty Ghost. Comes with three controllers. Listing ID: 247469593 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Polaroid Camera - \$70. Selling my Polaroid camera. Been used three times. Does not come with batteries or film. Listing ID: 247469590 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

FURNITURE

Hydraulic Bar Stool Set - \$80. Matching pair of air actuated bar stools in exceptional condition. Listing ID: 247469632 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Black Cabinet - \$295. Black cabinet with glass doors. Perfect for television. Like new. Listing ID: 247469629 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information

Brown Leather Recliner - \$150. Exceptional condition. Real leather. Very comfortable. You pick up. Listing ID: 247469616 at ucsdguardian.org/classifieds for more information



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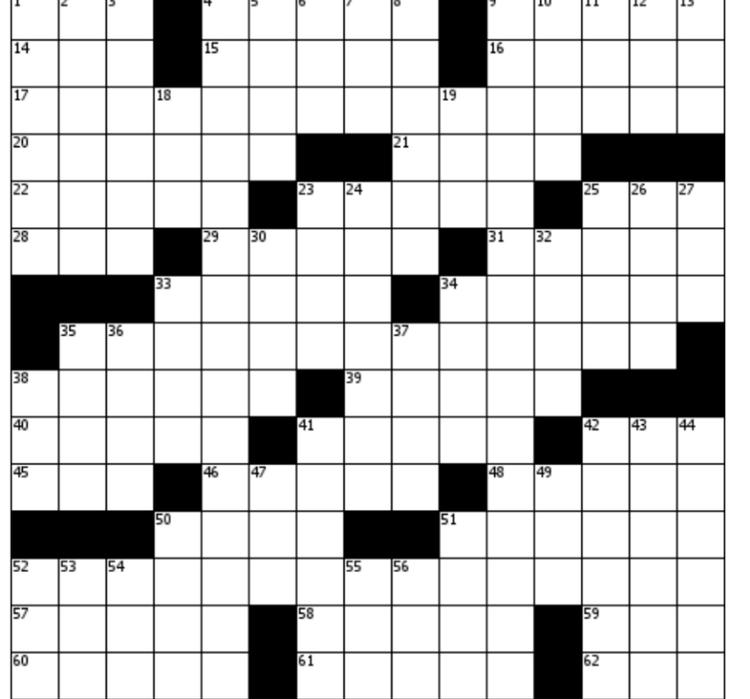
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crossword



- Across
- "Bells Are Ringing" actor Eddie
 - Applications with blanks, e.g.
 - Support
 - Swear words?
 - Covent Garden event
 - High-tech surgical tool
 - Three options for 35-Across
 - Played city after city
 - A social grace
 - Tosses the horsehide
 - Part of a pirate ship
 - Follow a Vail trail
 - Cruiser at 1,350 mph
 - What some hoods cop
 - Having all one's marbles
 - Makes hermetic
 - Flowery attractions
 - Gain an early advantage
 - Hedy of Hollywood
 - Antipathetical
 - Show biz awards since 1949
 - Rampal's instrument
 - Kubrick's computer
 - Leaves for a party?
 - Couric's "Today" partner
 - Avignon's river
 - Look after
 - Crop up
 - Four options for 35-Across
 - Fabulous fellow
 - Makes, as money
 - Roth --- (investment choice)
 - Irritable
 - Word with shirt or shop
 - Kind of care
- Down
- Liquor purchases
 - Detestable
 - Ice cream alternative
 - Three options for 35-Across
 - Newspaper's essay forum
 - Exercise unit
 - CAT scan relative
 - December hirees
 - Three options for 35-Across
 - Enthralled
 - Venomous snake
 - Lincoln center?
 - Make muffins
 - Net destination
 - Garbage collector?
 - Soccer sensation
 - French explorer of the Mississippi
 - Stitch souvenir
 - Bagpiper's attire
 - Age verifiers
 - Lionized actor?
 - Jazz home
 - Linger
 - High sch. exam
 - Safari sighting
 - Jane Austen title
 - Sullen
 - Authorize
 - Falsifies a bit
 - Exceedingly bad
 - Kind of rabbit or goat
 - Room to maneuver
 - Director Lee
 - Nameless woman
 - Hambletonian event
 - European erupter
 - Mare's morsel
 - Collar shape
 - Part of a dollar sign
 - Hem's partner
 - Rock deposit

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COLOR ME...

APRIL 11 NATIONAL PET DAY

SOFTBALL

UCSD Splits Weekend Series Against No. 1 Humboldt State

Despite a close final matchup, the Tritons held on to tie the series 2-2.

BY RICHARDLU
STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego softball team participated in the Tournament of Champions last week and finished with a 4-2 tournament record. The team played two games Sunday, one against Concordia University (8-4) and Simon Fraser University (5-4). UCSD results at the tournament pushed its overall record to 19-17.

Riding the success of its tournament results, UCSD went on to face top-ranked Humboldt State University in a four-game series the following Friday and Saturday. On Friday, the Tritons took the first game (4-2) and lost the second (2-3). The next day, they fell to the Lumberjacks 4-6 in the first game and managed to squeeze out a victory in the second game (3-2).

UCSD improved to a 21-19 record and 12-16 California Collegiate Athletic Association

record.

The second game against Humboldt State was a nail-biter. Humboldt State scored a runs in the first and second innings, and UCSD managed to find a run in the second inning, bringing the game to 2-1. Neither team managed to score a run until the fifth inning, when juniors left-fielder Kendall Baker and catcher Lauren Sanders scored runs to bring the game to 3-2.

Humboldt State had a chance to win the game in the seventh inning, when it had all three bases loaded. However, the Tritons were able to close out the game to split the series 2-2.

UCSD faces off in a series against Chico State on Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16. The first game for Friday starts at 1 p.m., and the first for Saturday starts at 11 a.m.

READERS CAN CONTACT
RICHARDLU.RILO14@UCSD.EDU

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Tritons Dominate Hawaii-Hilo at Home, Fall Flat Against Point Loma on the Road

UCSD won all nine matches against Hawaii-Hilo but went 3-6 against Point Loma.

BY RICHARDLU
STAFF WRITER

The UC San Diego women's tennis team faced off against the University of Hawaii-Hilo last Monday and Point Loma Nazarene University the following Thursday. The Tritons swept Hawaii-Hilo (9-0) but fell to Point Loma (6-3) to finish the week with a 15-4 record for the season.

Vs. Hawaii-Hilo

UCSD dominated Hawaii-Hilo, easily securing victories at all three doubles positions. Junior Britta Mosser and senior Shannon Theisen claimed an 8-2 victory at the one spot. Sophomore Ashley Chao and

freshman Becky Chou grabbed themselves an 8-0 bagel at the two. At the three spot, the sophomore tandem of Madison Hale and Alexandra Weil were able to secure an 8-2 win over the Vulcans.

The Tritons' singles results were reflective of the dominance they had over the Vulcans. Out of the 12 singles sets played, the Tritons had seven bagels. The closest games were at the one and two spot (6-2, 6-1 and 6-0, 6-4 respectively).

Vs. Point Loma

The Tritons were unable to overcome the Sea Lions on Thursday, falling to Point Loma 6-3. The Sea Lions took two out of the three doubles games — 8-5 at the one and

8-3 at the three. The lone doubles team to win for the Tritons was the Chao-Chou duo, who claimed an 8-3 victory at the two spot.

Mosser defeated junior Nikki Newell (6-3, 7-6) at the one singles spot. The other singles victory for the Tritons was at the six spot, where Triton freshman Valeria Corral defeated Sea Lion freshman Ellie Gamble (4-6, 6-1, 6-4).

The Tritons look to finish off the season strong and will travel north to face Azusa Pacific University on April 12 at 3 p.m.

READERS CAN CONTACT
RICHARDLU.RILO14@UCSD.EDU



PHOTO COURTESY OF UCSD ATHLETICS

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UPCOMING
UCSD
GAMES

M. Volleyball	4/12	7 PM	AT California Baptist
Baseball	4/13	6 PM	VS Cal Poly Pomona
Softball	4/14	1 PM	AT Chico State
Baseball	4/14	6 PM	VS Cal Poly Pomona
W. Tennis	4/15	11 AM	VS Cal State LA

National Student Athlete Day

UC San Diego honored 12 of its student-athletes this past Wednesday, April 5 in honor of National Student Athlete Day. The National Consortium for Academic and Sports established National Student Athlete Day in 1987. When recognizing UCSD student-athletes, Director of Athletics Earl Edwards and Senior Associate Athletic Director Ken Grosse noted that UCSD athletes' average GPA is often higher than the schoolwide average. The accomplishments of these students on and off the field/court/track/pool contribute to the high-caliber university that UCSD is.

Jaimie Bryan

Women's Swimming & Diving
College: Muir

Major/Year: physiology and neuroscience, senior
GPA: 3.68

Accolades: Four-year NCAA Championship qualifier, 100 and 200 breaststroke All-American

Cameron McElfresh

Men's Soccer
College: Revelle

Major/Year: nanoengineering, senior
GPA: 3.56

Accolades: First team All-American goalkeeper, CCAA Defensive Player of the Year

Mateusz Kucz

Men's Golf

College: Earl Warren

Major/Year: economics, junior
GPA: 3.71

Accolades: Two-time CCAA All-Academic, helped UCSD earn Johnson Shootout tournament title

Kendall Baker

Softball

College: Thurgood Marshall

Major/Year: human development, junior
GPA: 3.85

Accolades: Second team All-CCAA second baseman (sophomore year),

Eric Tseng

Men's Tennis

College: Eleanor Roosevelt

Major/Year: cognitive science, junior
GPA: 3.84

Accolades: Three-time Intercollegiate Tennis Association Scholar-Athlete, has always been either No. 1 or No. 2 singles player

Justin Zhang

Men's Tennis

College: Muir

Major/Year: human biology, junior
GPA: 3.90

Accolades: No. 3 singles player, CoSIDA Academic All-District 8 First Team

Haley Anderson

Women's Basketball

College: Marshall

Major/Year: human development, senior
GPA: 3.66

Accolades: Helped lead team to 2017 CCAA regular season championship, three-time CCAA All-Academic

Alec Flowers

Men's Volleyball

College: Marshall

Major/Year: economics, senior
GPA: 3.61

Accolades: 2016 MPSF All-Academic, Triton Athletics Council member

Kristin Semancsin

Women's Cross Country/Track & Field

College: Revelle

Major/Year: chemical engineering, junior
GPA: 3.79

Accolades: UCSD's second finisher at the 2017 CCAA Championships, CCAA and USTFCCA All-Academic

Lauren Boyer

Women's Water Polo

College: Sixth

Major/Year: literature/writing, senior
GPA: 3.60

Accolades: 2016 Second Team All-WWPA, 177 career goals

Malek Bashti

Men's Soccer

College: Muir

Major/Year: microbiology, junior
GPA: 3.77

Accolades: All-CCAA honorable mention, CCAA All-Academic

Lauren Iannetta

Women's Rowing

College: Roosevelt

Major/Year: history, senior
GPA: 3.43

Accolades: Second varsity eight boat gold medalist at the 2016 WIRA Championships, bronze medalist in 2015



PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT FLANDERS/UCSD ATHLETICS

Back row, left to right: Haley Anderson, Cameron McElfresh, Malek Bashti, Earl Edwards, Alec Flowers, Mateusz Kucz, Eric Tseng

Front row, left to right: Lauren Iannetta, Kendall Baker, Lauren Boyer, Kristin Semancsin, Justin Zhang

Not pictured because she's a true student-athlete and had to go to class: Jaimie Bryan