

# THE GUARDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

www.ucsdguardian.org THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2006 The Student Voice Since 1967

## AGENCY RENEWS ALZHEIMER'S FUNDING

Pioneering campus study on the disease receives \$52 million in grants from National Institutes of Health.

By Christina Homer  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last month, the National Institutes of Health announced that it would give \$52 million to UCSD's Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study to conduct clinical trials testing possible treatments for the disease.

According to a university press release, the money will be used over the next six years and is the third renewal of a cooperative agreement between the National Institute on Aging, a subdivision of the NIH, and ADCS, which coordinates the efforts of about 70 different participating research sites.

The past three grants for this nationwide coalition total \$92 million.

"This funding will be used to sup-

[STUDY, page 2]

## Students Promote Green Agenda

CalPIRG and other student organizations are actively participating in initiatives to combat global warming.

By Candice Wu  
STAFF WRITER

This year, the California Public Interest Research Group and other campus organizations are focusing their energy — literally — on the Campus Climate Challenge through efforts to decrease global warming emissions and address environmental issues at UCSD.

Over the next few weeks, Green Campus, a student organization in its third year at UCSD, is coordinating various events to raise student awareness of on-campus energy usage. An

[GREEN, page 3]

## Week-Long Koala Sit-In Continues



Above: Eleanor Roosevelt College senior and Koala Editor in Chief David Gregory handcuffed himself to a couch in the Student Center Media Lounge to protest the newspaper's impending eviction from its offices. Below: John Muir College alumnus Michael Nitzani distributes the Koala newspaper to students in Earl Warren College.

By Matthew McArdle  
NEWS EDITOR

Members of UCSD's controversial satirical student newspaper the *Koala* have staged a round-the-clock sit-in since Oct. 26 to protest the university's decision to evict the organization from its Student Center office following allegations of possession of illegal drug paraphernalia and alcohol.

The *Koala* members were ordered by interim University Centers Director Paul Terzino to vacate the premises of their Media Lounge office space by Oct. 25 because the locks would be changed at 8 a.m. the following day, according to *Koala* Editor in Chief David Gregory, an Eleanor Roosevelt College senior.

However, the locks were never changed. Instead, the door to the *Koala*'s office was removed "sometime during the night" of Oct. 26, Gregory said, although he said he did not know who was responsible for the removal.

"I don't see how our not having a door would benefit us," Gregory said.

At least one member has been present in the Media Lounge since the sit-in began. Gregory has handcuffed himself to the lounge's couch multiple times since last week. In addition, students delivered a petition protesting the eviction in the form of John Muir College alumnus and former *Koala* member Michael Nitzani's half-naked, signed body to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Watson later that day.

Watson stated in an e-mail that he listened to the protestors briefly before walking away.

"As long as the protest does not violate the law, campus regulations or the student conduct code, I have no

opinion on it," he stated. "Individuals have a constitutional right to express their views."

Although Nitzani, known to colleagues as "Dirty Mike," was lying on top of a door at the time of the petition's delivery, the door was not from the *Koala* office, according to Gregory. However, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Life Gary R. Ratcliff stated in an e-mail that Student Center personnel told him while the protestors were marching to the Chancellor's Complex that the door to the office was missing.

The protests come in the wake of a discovery of prohibited items in the organization's office in June after Commuter Student Services Manager Deborah Gordon passed by the office and noticed a marijuana bong and bottles of liquor in plain sight. Gordon called university police, who confiscated the items.

"I used a narcotics test kit to test a small piece of a dried green leafy substance from the bowl area of the bong," UCSD police officer Christine Greer stated in the official police report. "The substance tested positive for marijuana."

According to the University Centers Web site, any discovery of alcohol or illegal drugs automatically results in an organization losing its space assignment. Organizations are entitled to appeal an eviction, although Terzino said that this eviction is the first to occur "in a long time."

Ratcliff stated that *Koala* members have until Nov. 6 to submit their appeal in writing, including all evidence the members believe warrant the appeal, and that he would review an appeal and have a response by Nov. 9.



"My decision will be final," he stated.

Before *Koala* members submit any appeal request to Ratcliff, Gregory said, they will investigate other options, including taking the issue to "Ratcliff's bosses" or the UCSD Judicial Board.

"[Ratcliff] is kidding himself if he thinks [the review] is going to be satisfactory," Gregory said. "We want our fucking office back, and we want the alleged [marijuana] residue back."

Though no hearing has been set and some appeal options are available, the University Centers Advisory Board has already selected other student organizations to take the *Koala*'s space in the Media Lounge.

In an e-mail obtained by the *Guardian*, UCAB Vice Chair Soheyl Tahsildoost offered the space to UCSD's Mock Trial organization due to an "unexpected vacancy" in the Media Lounge. No other organization

that shares an office in the lounge is being evicted.

According to Terzino, the *Koala*'s eviction is for this academic year only, and the newspaper would be allowed to apply for office space again next year. The *Koala*'s funding, which amounts to approximately \$5,100, will not be affected, and members will still be allowed to access computers in the Media Lounge.

The *Koala*, which has been a registered UCSD organization for 25 years, has had a historically rocky relationship with the university because of its controversial satirical content.

Gregory said that "certain factions" of the administration are biased against the group because of the newspaper's content.

"The administration has railroaded us," he said.

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

HIATUS

### Not Quite 'Looney Tunes'

Spike and Mike break out the best of the immature amateur for their festival of animation.

page 8



SPORTS

### Early Wake-Up Call

Men's and women's dive team slip up, losing their first meet of the season to the University of Utah.

page 16



INSIDE

New Business.....	3
Editorials.....	4
Letters to the Editor.....	5
Album Reviews.....	9
Druthers.....	10
Crossword.....	13

WEATHER

	
Nov. 2 H 70 L 56	Nov. 3 H 69 L 55
	
Nov. 4 H 72 L 55	Nov. 5 H 75 L 56

SHORTY



BY NANDINI DATTA

CURRENTS

The Sunny Side of Ultraviolet Light

Researchers from UCSD's Moores Cancer Center have found an apparent relationship between exposure to sunlight, namely ultraviolet B radiation, and reduced incidence of ovarian cancer.

The study used worldwide data through a new tool called GLOBOCAN, which is a database of cancer incidence in 175 countries.

When scientists plotted the occurrence of cancer in these countries according to latitude, they produced a parabolic curve, with lower incidences of cancer lying closer to the equator.

UVB is known to trigger the photosynthesis of vitamin D3 in the human body. This form of vitamin D has been widely thought to reduce the risk of cancer, and this most recent study is one more step toward determining if this vitamin could be a resource for prevention.

Further research in this area is needed before making health recommendations.

Drug Designing Continues to Accelerate

Researchers at the San Diego Supercomputer Center, University of Washington and IBM have collaborated to create the largest protein-structure prediction ever made. Even more

impressively, they did it in record time — less than three hours.

The groundbreaking simulation was done for the Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction competition, a contest among scientists to predict complex protein structures in order to design effective drugs. This three-dimensional model was dependent upon University of Washington professor David Baker's Rosetta Code.

This representation relied on more than 40,000 central processing units of IBM's Blue Gene Watson Supercomputer, a system that was installed at the San Diego Supercomputer Center.

Initially, Baker's code had to be run in sequence, broken into smaller, more manageable amounts of data; however, the center's supercomputing resources could run the code simultaneously, providing for a dramatically faster process.

The team was able to predict about 120,000 structures, greatly increasing the probability of finding the lowest energy conformation, and the high-speed process allowed more time to analyze those predictions before submission.

Most noteworthy is the amount of time the process took, according to SDSC computational scientist Ross Walker.

"All this was done within a day, with the calculation taking less than three hours," he stated in a press release. "Run in serial, or on small clusters, as has been done heretofore, the process took many, many weeks."

Wwcdguardian.org | WEB EXCLUSIVES

New Ed. Dept. Rule Allows Splitting Classes by Gender

The U.S. Department of Education announced a new policy that will take effect on Nov. 24 that makes it easier for schools to form single-sex classrooms.

Misconceptions About Indoor Tanning Prove Harmful

The American Academy of Dermatology is starting a new campaign aimed at females that focuses on the risks associated with indoor tanning booths.

Money Could Provide More Treatment Options For Patients

STUDY, from page 1 port clinical drug trials and the development of new methods of collecting data for future primary prevention trials," Shiley-Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Director Leon Thal stated in an e-mail.

Douglas R. Galasko, a physician working with the ADRC who studies proteins in blood and cerebrospinal fluid as a way to help diagnose Alzheimer's and follow treatment effects, stated that one study supported by the funding assesses new methods for elderly individuals that will allow physicians to collect data without the need for clinic visits.

"The aim is to be able to conduct prevention studies more efficiently," Galasko stated in an e-mail.

In addition, the funding will be used to test several new treatment possibilities. Researchers will test whether docosahexaenoic acid, an ingredient in fish oil, slows the progression of the disease. Another study will try to remove or neutralize a protein thought to cause brain damage symptomatic of Alzheimer's by intravenously administering immunoglobulins, a mixture of antibodies that bind to the harmful protein. A third study will assess

[STUDY, page 7]

THE UCSD GUARDIAN staff list including Editor in Chief Heather Welles, Managing Editors Andrew Nguyen and Charles Nguyen, Copy Editors Hadley Mendoza and Neda Oreizi, News Editor Matthew McArdle, Associate News Editors Matthew I. Heureux and Serena Reiner, Opinion Editor Nathan Miklos, Associate Opinion Editor Natasha Naraghi, Sports Editor Daniel Leininger, Associate Sports Editor Nicky Buchanan, Focus Editor Hanna Camp, Associate Focus Editor Matthew Leavitt, Hiatus Editor Simone Wilson, Associate Hiatus Editor Jia Gu, Photo Editor Arash Keshmirian, Design Editor Richard Choi, Art Editor Jennifer Hsu, Editorial Assistant Petr Feytser, Page Layout Michelle Lee, Natasha Naraghi, Wendy Shiu, Simone Wilson, Michael Wu, Kathleen Yip, Copy Readers Nini Bui, Thalia Hwang, Susan Kim, Will Linton, Karen Wolman, General Manager Anna Gandolfi, Advertising Manager Michael Foulks, Advertising Art Director Mike Martinez, Network Administrator Jimmy Kan, Webmaster Josh Rose, Student Advertising Manager Tiffany Noyon, Business Assistants Daniel K. Teja Buchin, Advertisement Design and Layout George Chen, Laura Park, Distribution Tessa Buchino, Leo Ko, Gary Porter. Contact information for the UCSD Guardian is provided at the bottom.

A.S. Constitution Redraft Debate Not Much of a Debate

In anticipation of the A.S. Council's vote to adopt a new constitution, councilmembers initiated back-and-forth talks on several key issues, with two former senators even voicing their opinions of the redraft during multiple public input periods.

Former John Muir College Senator Adam Grant showed support during one of three periods.

"I like the new constitution as a whole; the one problem is the senatorial body," Grant said. "Adding senators is the wrong way to go. If anything, we should be reducing them."

Commissioner of Enterprise Operations Sydney Goldberg and University Centers Advisory Board Chair Conor O'Rourke presented plans and goals for the Price Center expansion, set to be completed in January 2008, with the support of Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Life Gary R. Ratcliff.

Thurgood Marshall College Junior Senator Kyle Samia spoke about his involvement in an effort to lower parking fees for UCSD service workers.

Next, Student Affirmative Action Committee Representative LaCandice McCray asked A.S. President Harry Khanna if there would be any student participation in selecting the new vice chancellor of student affairs.

"The answer is yes, but students will make up 25 percent of the input," Khanna said. "It only makes sense to have a student majority when searching for a vice chancellor of student affairs."

The debate about the new consti-

tution commenced when Earl Warren College Junior Senator Daniel Palay brought to light whether the redraft would "give officers too much power in contrast with the senators."

"Our principle is that anyone elected should vote," Khanna said in defense of the redraft.

Samia also showed support for the new constitution.

"If you have problems with the nuances of [the new constitution] then that shouldn't stop you from voting on it as a whole," Samia said. "Please have faith in the amendment process."

Some councilmembers expressed worry that student apathy could impede the redraft process.

"I talked to a lot of students about the constitution and they don't care, which shows a need for change," said Thurgood Marshall College Senior Senator Adam Gardner.

Khanna commented on the change of officer and senator positions.

"Having an all-campus senate will allow us to address the most important issues at large," Khanna said.

A roll call vote was initiated, set to end Friday at 4 p.m., allowing councilmembers to further contemplate the constitution and absent members to place a vote.

During the meeting, Khanna obtained 17 of the 18 votes needed to get council approval.

If the redraft is approved, the vote will then go to college councils, four-sixths of which have to ratify the constitution in order for it to be finalized.

New Business Petr Feytser



p.feytser.jr@gmail.com

Colleges Compete in Conservation Contest

GREEN, from page 1 energy-saving competition began last week between Revelle College, John Muir College and Sixth College, where meters placed in participating dorms record energy consumption by on-campus students for 29 days until Nov. 22. The organization also set up a "Don't Be Spooked by Phantom Loads" booth at the Muir College Halloween Carnival to demonstrate to students the hidden energy draws of appliances.

Together with the statewide organization Alliance to Save Energy, over 1,100 compact fluorescent light bulbs were distributed to on-campus students last month in an effort to replace less-efficient incandescent bulbs currently used by Housing and Dining Services. The CFLs, which cost about \$2 more per bulb and last about 10 times longer, cut over 75,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions and saved H&DS over \$4,000 in energy expenditures this year alone, according to CalPIRG data.

Along with the phantom load booth and energy saving competition, Green Campus is in the process of creating a freshman seminar on energy sustainability for winter quarter.

"Hopefully that will take off and become a recurring freshman seminar or even expand to a full four-unit class that's possibly a [general education requirement] for at least one of the colleges," Ward said.

In the future, even if Green Campus is no longer around, this seminar would continue to educate students on how they can help lower energy costs and sustain a cleaner environment for future generations, according to Ward. Last month, the UC Sustainability

[GREEN, page 7]

UPCOMING EVENTS



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## EDITORIALS

## Administration Needs to Tread Softly With Koala

Yet another media circus has arrived on campus and, not surprisingly, the ill-reputed *Koala* is in the middle of it. Even with countless sets of eyes focused on UCSD — news crews flocked this week to the *Koala*'s sit-in protest for juicy sound bites and off-color quotes — administrators seem to be forgetting that just last year, the university fumbled the Student-Run Television scandal, drawing national media attention with its reactionary shutdown.

Now, with its target set on the *Koala* after a cloudy drug and alcohol bust in the paper's office, the administration risks alienating students once again.

Before an official appeal has been submitted or any other final resolution has come in the case, university officials are wasting no time moving in on the *Koala*'s office space. The vice chair of the University Centers Advisory Board, Sohey Tahsildoost, has already offered "unexpected[ly] vacated" space in the Student Center Media Lounge (the location of the *Koala* office) to other

student organizations in a Nov. 1 e-mail obtained by the *Guardian*. This is a risky move for the university — the *Koala*'s status as a traditionally controversial organization makes administrators more susceptible to charges of stifling freedom of speech and taking advantage of the situation to harshly punish an administratively unpopular organization.

The university may have a right and perhaps even an obligation to evict the *Koala*, but such a determination needs

to be made after a thorough, fair deliberation in which the paper's staff has an opportunity to defend itself and all dimensions of the case are fully discussed. Any preemptive action administrators take to reassign the *Koala*'s office or condemn members of the paper's staff before that point will only reflect badly on the university's sense of fairness and legitimacy.

## OFFICE SPACE

Administrators need to make sure that the *Koala* eviction is handled fairly.

## UC Can't Afford More University House Delays

On some things, it seems, the University of California just can't win. Trying to make a livable structure out of University House, which has historically served as the chancellor's residence, is one of them.

The 55-year-old University House has been a thorn in the university's side since 2004, when inspections revealed that the house has problems with erosion and drainage, and is also in violation of seismic codes. The building was declared unlivable in the summer of 2004, and after several attempts to raise enough money to revamp or rebuild the house, the university announced it would try to sell

the property in April 2005. But after coming under fire from nearby residents, the university never put the house on the market. The most recent plan is to demolish the house and construct a new one. But at a public hearing last week, private firm PBS&J released a report that found the project could affect wildlife living along the bluff adjacent to

the property. The house also appeared to meet criteria making it a protect "historically significant" building, the report stated. To top it off, a representative of the Kumayaay American Indian nation stressed the importance of protecting burial sites on the property. Meanwhile, UCSD is spending \$6,500 per month to put

Chancellor Marye Anne Fox up in a La Jolla home until University House is made livable again — to say nothing of the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been spent on planning. This board does not begrudge the Chancellor a first-class residence, which also serves as an important site for fundraising and entertaining guests. But we've spent too much time and money already. The university needs to pick the best plan for the site, and finish it.

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## A DROP FROM THE INKWELL

By Priscilla Lazaro



## Fighting Crime With Reactionary Laws an Ineffective American Pastime

America's knee-jerk legislators rush to miracle solutions, but the public ends up with just a facade.

By Melody Gail  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

October began with blood on the ground. In late September, a gunman killed himself and one of the hostages he had taken at a Colorado high school. Days later, a Wisconsin teen brought a shotgun and a .22-caliber pistol to his high school and killed the school's principal. Shortly afterward on Oct. 3, a man barricaded himself in a Pennsylvania school with an arsenal of weapons, eventually killing five girls and himself.

Only two days later, a Wisconsin state legislator proposed that the state offer firearms and training for its teachers, setting off a national debate — and rightly so. While such reactionary measures may make us feel safer, they typically do very little to warrant these feelings. "Like overweight people looking for a fat-burning pill," *Miami Herald* columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. wrote of the legislation, "we want magic solutions that require no investment of time, tears or tolerance."

The Wisconsin bill is by no means the first knee-jerk bill to make it into a state legislature. Fueled by public outrage at the rape and murder of 8-year-old Megan Nicole Kanka by her neighbor Jesse Timmendaques — a previously convicted sex offender — federal legislators quickly passed Megan's Law in 1996 to help states track sex criminals. And when 12-year-old Polly Klass was kidnapped and murdered by a released inmate, California passed its "three strikes" law, designed to keep repeat criminals off the street. But unfortunately, neither law has achieved what it set out to accomplish.

Megan's Law stipulates that everyone has the right to know if a convicted sex offender moves into the neighborhood. It requires that states develop a procedure for notifying the public when a person convicted of certain crimes is released near their homes. In California, a

public database lists convicted sex offenders so that anyone can identify and locate them.

But the law has been heavily criticized by police officers, prosecutors and victims' rights advocates, who say that the law is not harsh enough and gives people a false sense of security. Parental knowledge of the number and location of convicted sex offenders in an area does not prevent those offenders from committing another crime. More importantly, the overwhelming majority of sexually assaulted minors were victimized by a family member or acquaintance, according to Bureau of Justice statistics. The database isn't really effective then, because it cannot prevent the vast majority of sex crimes from happening.

Laws that are created in light of one or a few specific tragic cases can lead to legislation that fails to address large and complex issues."

Furthermore, the database includes those who have been convicted of consensual crimes — such as public nudity, streaking, skinny-dipping, public urination, mooning, sodomy and adultery — in addition to sexual predators. In addition to creating the false impression that children are safer, Megan's Law also wrongly shames some who don't necessarily fit into the "dangerous sex offender" category. Most importantly, the law does very little to ensure that sex offenders will never commit crimes again.

Similarly, California's three strikes law only gives the illusion that crime rates — and more specifically the repetition of criminal behavior — are actually falling. The three strikes law in California followed one year after a similar bill was passed in Washington state after the murder of Diane Ballaslot, who was killed by a convicted rapist released from prison. After Klass'

murder, California wrote its own version, which proposed a term of life imprisonment without possibility of parole for persons convicted for the third time of certain specific violent or serious felonies. The measure passed with an overwhelming 72-percent majority, and by 2004, 26 states and the federal government had laws that satisfy the general criteria for designation as "three strikes" statutes.

But the laws have little effect on public safety. In 1999, George Washington University researcher James Austin examined the effectiveness of the law in his article "The Impact of 'Three Strikes' and 'You're Out,'" and concluded that after examining California counties that used different applications of the law, he found similar pre- and post-reform crime rates regardless of the county's policy of prosecuting strike cases.

"Failure ... to either deter or incapacitate the high rate offender is limited to an inability to target high-risk offenders or to impose or create the perception of imposition of the law in a swift and equitable manner," Austin wrote.

Because three strikes laws apply to such a small proportion of the criminal population, they cannot be credited for reducing crime and repeat offender rates. In California, crime was going down before the law took effect, and has continued to decline at the same rate. And three strikes laws have problems of their own: often the third and final offense is relatively minor compared to the first two, but the offender nonetheless ends up in the slammer for life.

While Megan's Law and the three strikes statutes may have made us feel better in the heat of the moment after appalling crimes, neither has accomplished its initial goals. And in the wake of the horrific instances of gun violence in schools across the country, we must tread carefully before rushing to pass reactionary laws that do little to address the root causes of the problem.

Legislation drafted in the light of one or a few specific tragic cases often fails to solve the large and complex underlying issues — and lulls us into complacency with the feeling that we've accomplished something. We deserve better from our lawmakers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Proposition 87 a Must for California Economy

Dear Editor,

We need Proposition 87. As fossil fuels burn, they cause global warming that threatens our coastal cities, preventable diseases like asthma and America's debt to China to pile up as we borrow more to buy oil.

Proposition 87 will cost voters nothing, yet it will ensure cleaner, cheaper, healthier fuel for us all. The stone age didn't end because they ran out of stones; the oil age won't end because we run out of oil.

On Nov. 7, the future of our economy, our health and our environment rests in the hands of California voters. Vote to empower yourself. You can make a difference. Don't be fooled by the empty talk of oil company ads. Support Proposition 87! For more information, go to <http://www.yes87.com>.

— Gavin Hudson  
Research Assistant on  
Climate Change

## Pick-A-Prof Services Free of Charge

Dear Editor,

An article published in the *Guardian* on Oct. 23 quoted campus administrators as stating that Pick-A-Prof charges a fee for its academic services, when in fact all of its tools are available free,

without any cost to the students or faculty on campus.

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— Karen Bragg  
Director of University Relations  
Pick-A-Prof

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## 'Better' Bacon, Yet Another Pig-Headed Idea for Lazy Americana

Americans are ridiculous. The National Swine Resource and Research Center announced earlier this year that they have cloned pigs with a modified gene that causes them to create omega-3 fatty acids — which are found in fish and nuts, and are healthier for human consumption than other fats — in the place of



Stealing the Shoes  
Hadley Mendoza  
[hsmendoza@ucsd.edu](mailto:hsmendoza@ucsd.edu)

some omega-6 fatty acids. That's right, thanks to thousands of dollars and years of research and scientific development, heart-healthy bacon and pork chops are on the way.

But ... have we really reached a point where we'll mess with another mammal's genetic structure rather than moderate our fat intake?

Some of the country's top researchers are now spending tremendous amounts of time and money — all in the name of gluttony. All that effort, just so Americans don't have to adjust their diets to be healthy. We have reached a point of such laziness

and indulgence that we're willing to go to overwhelming extremes in order to avoid making small changes to our daily routines. That is ridiculous.

Take, for example, the new and slightly more fuel-efficient Hummer H3. Once upon a time, some clever entrepreneur took a combat vehi-

Everywhere you turn there is an advertisement for some miracle diet pill — just swallow this little baby and you'll lose weight...."

cle, painted it yellow, marketed it to high-maintenance 20- to 30-somethings and thus the original Hummer was born. This testosterone-mobile sold pretty well, since Americans love shiny new toys; but as it turns out, tanks aren't the most fuel-efficient vehicles. So General Motors made a slightly more efficient model to entice the "environmentally friendly" demographic,

pushing the bar up from about 11 miles per gallon with the original Hummer to the H3's whopping 16 miles per gallon.

If financial and environmental costs are the concern, I have the solution: Don't buy a Hummer. It's not as if the war zone of American suburbia demands a vehicle that can plow through three feet of water without drowning the engine. Carpooling, public transportation and good old-fashioned walking shoes are all vastly more cost- and fuel-efficient than driving what is meant to be a military vehicle. Instead of spending thousands on a new and improved armored car, what people really need to do is grab \$1.75 from the coin jar and catch the next bus — or what the hell, walk.

What about those weight-loss pills that supposedly stop your body from absorbing fats? Ignore for a moment the fact that hardly anything seen on an infomercial actually works, and consider: Rather than dishing out three easy payments of \$19.99, why don't we all just put down the chocolates? Everywhere you turn there is an advertisement for some miracle pill — just swallow this little baby and you'll lose weight without chang-

[SHOES, page 6]

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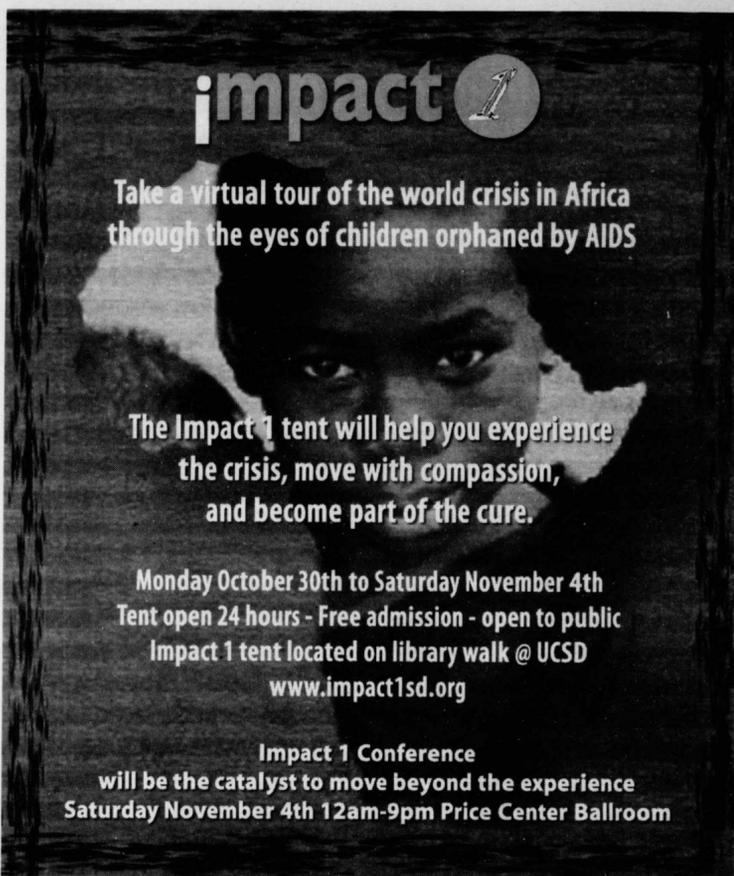
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Impact 1 Conference will be the catalyst to move beyond the experience  
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## Trying to Lose Weight? Forget the Diet Pills, Try Moderation

► **SHOES**, from page 5  
ing your lifestyle one bit!

In America, if you want to lose weight you can banish carbs from your life and still eat 10 pounds of beef a day. Or eat only South Beach diet-approved foods. Or consume only melon, malted milk balls and Slurpees. Why not stick with a balanced diet of foods you like — and just eat less of them? You'd please your taste buds and get the right nutrients at the same time. After all,

no one's fooled by that *Hearty Lean Cuisine* bullshit.

If you really want to lose weight, just go jogging a couple times a week and eat 200 or so fewer calories a day. Sure, it takes a little effort and discipline — but it's definitely healthier and more effective. Americans are too lazy to make changes such as these to their daily schedule. It's more convenient to pour countless hours and dollars into the possible invention of an easy fix.

But this magical cure-all — much to the surprise of most Americans — doesn't exist, and often times the easiest fix still takes effort or, at the very least, some restraint. We need to put an end to this nationwide lethargy that has overcome us and take some initiative, and while we're at it, chill out on the candy and shiny toys. Rather than exhausting resources and time to create a magic diet pill, an armored car that gets

16 miles to the gallon instead of 11 or healthy pigs, all people need to do is make better choices and stop being lazy.

For instance, take a refreshing walk into a world away from American sloth: The other day I was out to dinner with two friends and we decided to catch a movie. As we left the restaurant, one friend began walking toward his car, ready to go to the theater. I was right behind him, ready to habitually drive wherever I needed

**“We need to put an end to this nationwide sloth that has overcome us and take some initiative, and while we're at it, chill out on the candy and shiny toys.”**

to go. Then the other friend said something that hadn't even crossed my mind: “No man, let's just walk, it's right across the way.” Gee, what a novel idea. Am I really so god-damn lazy that I can't walk a few yards? That is ridiculous.

So we walked to the theater. And you know what? It wasn't that hard at all. I didn't have to exert any tremendous amount of energy, and my friend saved a few pennies on gas. Like that child's song, we just had to put one foot in front of the other. Simple.

I guess what I'm trying to say is: Bacon just isn't an everyday food. So take a break from that daily sausage-bacon-egg McMuffin and grab some fucking nuts instead of altering an animal's genetic code.

Readers can invite Hadley to go *cruisin'* in their *Hummers* at [hsmendoza@ucsd.edu](mailto:hsmendoza@ucsd.edu).



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## UCSD Nation's Third-Highest Funded Alzheimer's Program

► **STUDY**, from page 2

whether low doses of lithium, a drug used for the treatment of depression, will positively alter pathways implicated in Alzheimer's disease damage.

“If positive, this will lead to further attempts to use lithium or novel drugs that act via these pathways, to try to slow the progression of dementia,” Galasko stated.

According to Thal, the work has already begun.

“We are already working on setting up our first two studies,” Thal stated. “Subject enrollment will begin in January 2007 for our first clinical drug trial.”

Galasko stated that researchers are currently developing new instruments and testing methods in preparation for the full study.

Currently, the ADCS has about 1,000 subjects in trials nationwide, including about 30 at UCSD. Thal anticipates enrolling about 40 to 50 more subjects for future trials. Most of the studies are conducted on an outpatient basis.

UCSD receives the third-highest

amount of funding from the NIH in the country, getting money for more than 600 active clinical research projects.

“The methods and instruments developed by the ADCS have become the standard for use in clinical trials throughout the world,” Galasko stated.

The goal of the ADCS is to find more effective treatments and eventually a cure for the disease.

“Leon Thal is known worldwide for Alzheimer's research and UCSD is very fortunate to have him on campus,” said Debra Kain, director of Health Sciences Research Communications.

“Over 20 years ago [Alzheimer's] posed a tremendous research challenge and opportunity,” Galasko stated. “Although we have made considerable progress in research, much remains to be done, particularly in bringing effective new treatments into the clinic that are able to slow the progression of disease.”

Readers can contact Christina Homer at [chomer@ucsd.edu](mailto:chomer@ucsd.edu).

## Campus Dining and Housing Services Switching Bulbs

► **GREEN**, from page 3

Steering Committee agreed to direct UC campuses toward a climate-neutral environment, according to a CalPIRG press release. Next month, UC President Robert C. Dynes will decide on the proposal, which awaits action by the UC Board of Regents in January.

In 2003, the UC system adopted the Green Building/Renewable Energy policy, an action that committed the UC campuses to use Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards when building new campus structures and to utilize 20 percent renewable energy by 2017.

However, the state legislature's passage last month of AB 32, which puts a statewide cap on greenhouse gas emissions and sets a goal to reduce emissions to 1990 standards, displays the need for the UC system to follow the additional footsteps carved by the state government and set an example for colleges around the nation, according to CalPIRG Campus Relations Coordinator Alana Hitchcock.

“We're working to get the university invested in the idea so the administration can come up with its own plan [to use renewable energy],” CalPIRG campus organizer Megan Severson said.

“We can throw out as many ideas as possible ... but the administration first has to agree that this is important.”

Although the initial costs of transitioning to alternative energy are usually more expensive than current methods, the long-term payoffs will be substantially rewarding — with increasing demands for renewable energy such as solar power, the costs of production is decreasing, Hitchcock said.

In participation with the Campus Climate Challenge, CalPIRG's long-term goal is to guide the UC campuses to going climate neutral by 2050. Over 300 college campuses in the United States and Canada currently participate in the challenge, and an estimated 1,000 will take part by 2008, according to Hitchcock.

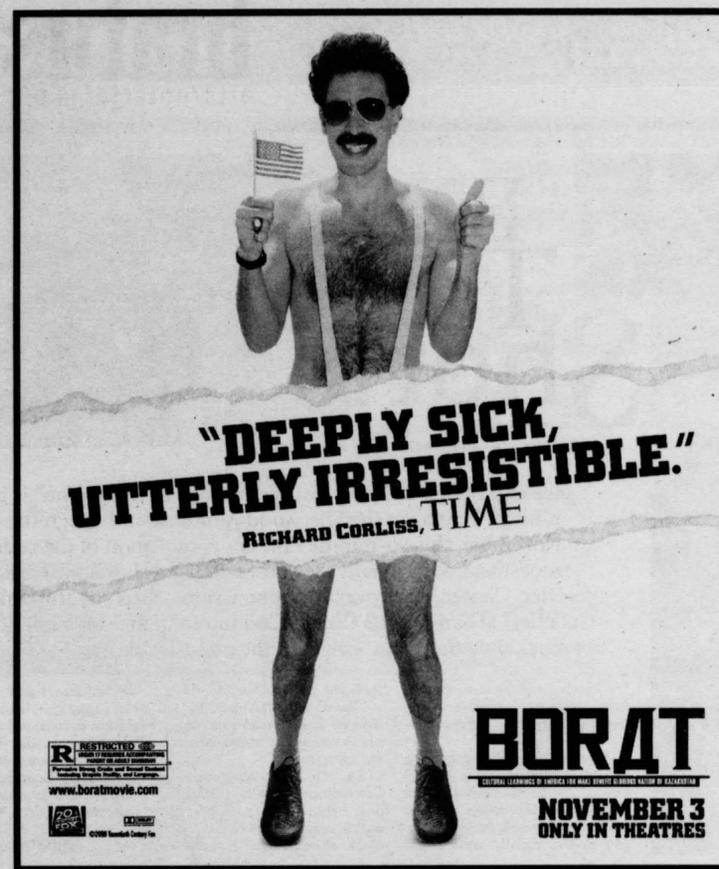
“We want to raise student awareness about their own impact — it's hard to change habits, but we need students to think about energy saving so that when the time really comes to go climate neutral, the transition will be easier,” Hitchcock said. “The administration already has this goal. But they want to see that the students want it and that they're committed to it.”

Readers can contact Candice Wu at [candiewu@yahoo.com](mailto:candiewu@yahoo.com).

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The University of California, San Diego (UCSD) proposes to adopt a **Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)** for the Structural and Materials Engineering (S+ME) Building project. The project would be built on an approximately 4-acre site located in the West Campus, at the southwest corner of the intersection of Voigt Drive and Matthews Lane. The proposed project would consist of construction of a new 184,000 gross square foot (gsf) building that would provide Structural Engineering Workshop space, offices for S+ME and Visual Arts laboratories. The S+ME Building is designed as a four-story building with a partial basement. The building is envisioned as two blocks; the west block housing the S+ME Laboratories and Visual Arts Studios, and the east block providing space for Engineering offices, assembly and support, and Visual Arts assembly, exhibition and computers. The new building would house approximately 60 new and existing faculty and approximately 200 new and existing graduate students. In addition, the project includes two primary pedestrian routes through the site, which would connect to a future Light Rail Transit (LRT) station, conceptually planned off-site to the southeast. Lyman Lane located to the south of the project site, would be realigned and become a major pedestrian route called Lyman Walk which would be an extension of the existing Lyman Walk located to the west.

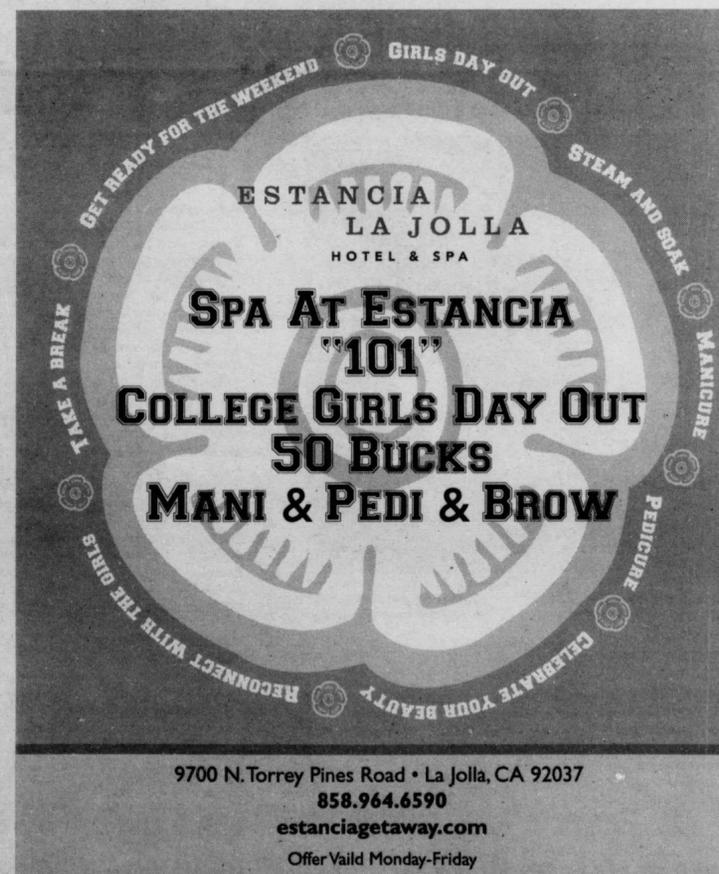
Based on an Initial Study (IS) prepared for the project, it has been determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment that cannot be mitigated. Therefore, an MND will be issued. Copies of the tiered IS/MND may be viewed at [http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/pub\\_notice.html](http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/pub_notice.html) or by contacting the UCSD Physical Planning Office at (858) 534-6515. The public review period for the tiered IS/MND will extend through December 1st, 2006. Any comments regarding the project or the IS/MND should be directed to the UCSD Physical Planning Office.



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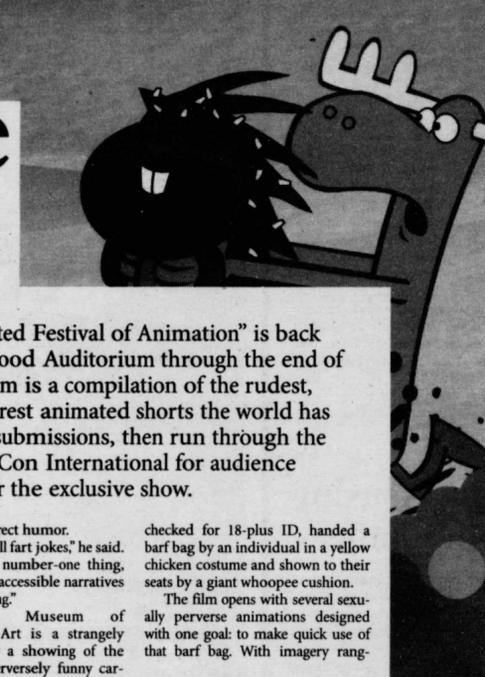
## THE BEST SONGS IN HIATUS THIS WEEK

### boss ditties

- Albert Hammond, Jr.**
  - "Cartoon Music for Superheroes"
  - "Everyone Gets a Star"
- The Walkmen**
  - "Loop de Loop"
  - "Many Rivers to Cross"
- Lloyd Banks**
  - "You Know the Deal"
  - "Iceman"

# Big Time Shorts

By Joshua Christensen  
STAFF WRITER



ike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation" is back in town. Playing at the Sherwood Auditorium through the end of November, this 90-minute film is a compilation of the rudest, crudest and occasionally cleverest animated shorts the world has to offer. Chosen from over 700 submissions, then run through the "Gauntlet" at San Diego's Comic-Con International for audience approval, only the best survive for the exclusive show.

"This is not a collection of artsy-fartsy animations," producer Craig "Spike" Decker said. "We are catering to the college crowd." Born as a time-killer while living in a place "straight out of Animal House" with his buddy Mike Gribble, the festival indeed provides adequately depraved, boobie-loving, gore-soaked, racially skewed and politically incorrect humor. "But it's not all fart jokes," he said. "Humor is the number-one thing, and that means accessible narratives and expert timing." La Jolla's Museum of Contemporary Art is a strangely prim venue for a showing of the world's most perversely funny cartoons, where audience members are

checked for 18-plus ID, handed a barf bag by an individual in a yellow chicken costume and shown to their seats by a giant whoopee cushion. The film opens with several sexually perverse animations designed with one goal: to make quick use of that barf bag. With imagery ranging from a little burnt-out Joan Jett or Christina thinks she's some resurrected soul sister (her songs even have the crackle of old-time recording to prove it). No one takes such celebrity fodder seriously — let the pretty girls have their fun, right? Recently, though, Angelina Jolie and Scarlett Johansson, toppers of virtually every hot list in America (and the former probably every remote African village), have decided that being the most desirable pair of tits with any sort of talent in the business isn't enough for their intellectually starved souls. Jolie has requested, to instant approval of course, the role of Dagny Taggart in a 2008-slotted Lion's Gate adaptation of Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged." If you haven't had the cultishly brilliant experience of reading said novel, feel free to move on to the bit about Johansson. If you have, surely you reel with the same utter disgust I feel in even beginning to consider Jolie's pooked-out smirk imitating her interpretation of determined genius. Number one, Taggart is not supposed to be hot, gangly, busty or chronically annoying, all of which the socially ambitious snob is. Looks aside, Taggart stands for something Jolie does not — I'm not sure if Mrs. Adopt-Everything-That-Breathes realizes her railroad-running heroine was mostly against helping people. The image of Jolie snobbishly and ignorantly identifying with such a superior mind is enough to make me lose my lunch. All right, since I'm starting to sound like a Rand-crazed victim of objective philosophy, I'll move on — but not before mentioning that Brad Pitt wishes to play John Galt. Enough said. So here Johansson saunters in, rubbing her raspy musical salts into literary wounds by selecting the songwriting closest to my heart as inspiration for her spring 2007 album *Scarlett Sings Tom Waits*. It's certainly a safer choice than revealing her own attempts at writing, as she'd surely fall victim to the harshest stabs of hottie-hating from holed-up Internet critics, but dear God, why Tom? I suppose the predictably offbeat choice does line up well with all other aspects of her public image: mature girl-next-door, mussed sheets, coffee-and-cigarette newspaper browsing, Billie Holiday fine-wine schmoozing and other such introspective bullshit. But on "Summertime," a track Johansson contributed to a celebrities-do-classics compilation, she lost a little of the smoky coal that sexes up her lines onscreen. This isn't a good sign, considering she's covering the meatiest scratch of a voice this side of the Grim Reaper. There are times and places for such indulgences — say, the shower — and I only wish theirs weren't so unavoidably public. From celebrities designed to provide entertainment, though, these acts of oblivious foolery do fulfill such duties.

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## The Stars Who Stole My Favorite Things

imitation is usually weakly defended as a form of flattery, but when the power to recreate falls into the wrong hands — and wrong they usually are, when famous enough to be instantly granted any pre-created work of genius to muddily fondle — the need for credentials beyond "because I can" becomes hopelessly evident.

### Straighter Than Narrow

SIMONE ELECTRA WILSON  
swilson@ucsd.edu

I don't care if Britney wants to do a little burnt-out Joan Jett or Christina thinks she's some resurrected soul sister (her songs even have the crackle of old-time recording to prove it). No one takes such celebrity fodder seriously — let the pretty girls have their fun, right?

## Bring Your Ballot Box for Too-Timely 'Babel'

o it's true: Hollywood is a shallow, money-grubbing cesspool of executives, looking for the hottest item to fetch top dollar. Take "Babel," for example, which could have been a riveting assay into the complex folds of human communication; instead, the film's lopsided cast lacks any raw power, turning out a ballot-box stumper, drugged groggy with political buzz and muted commentary on today's hot headlines. Following "Amores Perros" and his hailed stint with Sean Penn, Naomi Watts and Benicio Del Toro in "21 Grams," Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, along with creative partner Guillermo Arriaga, returns to his directing niche: heavy plot, heavy drugs, heavy nudity and a whole heap of looming death. While "Babel" will inevitably draw comparisons to its predecessors' spiced storylines, Inarritu's latest has gone global — this time spanning four countries and languages.

## It's Sexy Time! Borat Strips America Nude

Unlike the flock of social satirists who hover like vultures over the rotting beast of American pop culture, British-born Sacha Baron Cohen of HBO's "Da Ali G Show" fame refuses to maintain a safe distance from his prey. His first full-length film, a hybrid of Michael Moore politics and Tom Green gross-outs, prefers instead to jump right into the lion's den and wrestle the lion — naked, whenever possible — to reveal such dark corners of the American psyche as anti-Semitism and the objectification of women. The film's ability to hold a mirror up to the world and reveal prejudices through our own lips (with some prodding) will no doubt earn Cohen deserved global fame and widespread condemnation. Kazakhstani TV personality Borat Sagdiyev (Cohen) and his esteemed producer Azamat Bagatov leave small-village life behind to make a film about America for the education of their native people. After arriving in New York, the project — "For make benefit the glorious nation of Kazakhstan" — is quickly diverted when Sagdiyev comes across an episode of "Baywatch." He instantly falls in love with Pamela Anderson's character and convinces his producer to trek across the United States to California, where his new and unsuspecting betrothed waits. But the plot is a distant second to this mockumentary's efforts to dredge the country of its slimiest sentiments. No more threatening than Bambi with an accent, Sagdiyev is outgoing, sincere and uninhibited to a fault; Cohen uses this innocent guise like an expert sniper training on the heart of racism and misogyny in America. "What gun is best for kill a Jew?" he naively asks the middle-aged attendant of a Midwestern gun store, who without blinking responds, "Well, I'd say a 9 mm." In pursuit of "making

[BABEL, page 10]

## recordings

**Albert Hammond, Jr.**  
• Yours to Keep  
ROUGH TRADE  
★★★

Albert Hammond Jr., better known as the Stroke with big hair, has decided to go solo. It was never quite clear what he did for the Strokes, considering Nick Valensi played the solos and Julian Casablancas wrote the songs, so *Yours to Keep* seemed an opportune chance for Hammond to reveal his own musical voice; unfortunately, too many years with the band reveal a songwriter struggling to find his own identity.

Phase one: blissful ignorance. The CD's shiny and colorful packaging is ripped open to reveal tiny keyboards and *Pet Sounds* harmonies on first track "Cartoon Music for Superheroes." The song's dreamlike quality is pleasantly unique, holding the promise of a diverse album.

As "Superheroes" fades into second track "In Transit," though, sparse drums are replaced with the signature bang of Strokes drum-

mer Fabrizio Moretti, toy keyboards evaporate into stock guitar and Hammond starts screaming about freefalling like Casablancas doing Tom Petty. If there is one classic rocker worth despising, it would have to be Petty — Hammond's recycling of one of his most overused lyrics shakes off any leftover bliss and introduces phase two: bitter disillusionment.

The rest of the album follows suit, using a variety of post-punk beats and riffs that sound, well, like the Strokes. All this would be somewhat forgiven if *Yours to Keep* were Casablancas' solo record, but coming from the rhythm guitar player, it's disappointing that his writing style draws so heavily from the band from which he is making a break.

— Jesse Kivel  
STAFF WRITER

**The Walkmen**  
• "Pussy Cats" Starring the Walkmen  
RECORD COLLECTION  
★★★★

*Pussy Cats* Starring the Walkmen is a song-for-song replica of an album released in 1974 by Harry Nilsson. It's enjoyable enough — the music is upbeat, jaunty even — with all horns and pianos and raucous drums. And Hamilton Leithauser's scratchy Dylanesque drawl is a great match for later-life Nilsson's. But that's the exact point of contention: It's all been done before. So why put time and money — they'll be pulling the material for their upcoming tour off of this album as well — into a seemingly redundant endeavor?

Is it a joke? A simple tribute? Or does music have some intrinsic value that is re-established with every new recording or jam session or concert, even if there is no innovation involved?

Other artistic fields get away with it — some painters dedicate their lives to copying what they see in front of them as precisely as possible, and what's photography if not the seizing of a moment that has already been experienced to later share with others? Are musicians held to a different standard? Perhaps we can forgive the Walkmen and just appreciate, maybe for the first time, the creativity of a man who died over a decade ago and its precise replication.

— Jessie Godfrey  
STAFF WRITER

**Lloyd Banks**  
• Rotten Apple  
G-UNIT RECORDS  
★★★

In his second solo effort, G-Unit affiliate Lloyd Banks captures the rotten aspects of life in the Big Apple, summed up by track "NY NY" — "We grimy, we dirty/ We New York, New York." Banks' lyrical content fits the mold of typical East Coast gangster rap, glorifying guns, money, cars and women on dark beats that utilize minor-key piano riffs and synthesized samples straight out of a retro horror movie.

Unlike his other work, on which Banks kept the listener interested with witty punch lines like, "Touchin' my doorbell's the only way I put a ring on your finger," *Apple* is concentrated with over-the-top rhymes that don't back themselves up. In "Gilmores," he raps, "Just a whole

lot of anger/ Mind of a leader/ Drama of a gang-banger." Unlike the greats of his genre, Banks fails to paint the picture behind his topics or provide detailed narratives for such drama.

Despite an overall lackluster effort, the album does contain some tracks worthy of mention, such as the feel-good, Musiq Soulchild-assisted "Addicted," a formulaic party anthem with 50 Cent on the hook. Another standout, "Iceman," features fellow G-Unit member Young Buck and Southern rap icons Scarface and 8Ball.

Lloyd Banks performs at 4th & B on Nov. 6.

— Parham Nabatia  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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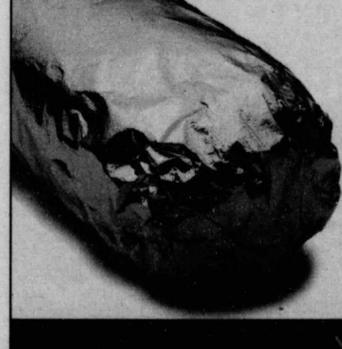
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## Regina Spektor

Nov. 5 / 8 P.M. / CANES / \$12.50

Matching the solo female prowess of oddball performers Fiona Apple and Cat Power, Regina Spektor adds a little Russian-American warble and jig to the girl-with-her-piano/guitar formula, with a squeaky accent piercing the flow for eerie exoticism not unlike Björk.

The simple angst and minimal keys of Spektor's first two albums, with hard-edged, Russian-bitch cover art, gave way to disappointingly glossy overproduction on Spektor's latest, *Begin to Hope*. The bare stage at Canes and a couple shots of in-her-blood vodka will hopefully peel the most recent work from within its smooth shell to set free a rough-edged songbird. (SW)

HIATUS PICKS THE WEEK'S BEST BETS

## From the Vaults: Recent Acquisitions

MOASO LA JOLLA '06

Resign yourself to an early morning bus ride through South African apartheid, acquaint yourself with Larry Summer's documentation of adult films in the San Fernando Valley and explore the surreal yet eloquent black-and-white portraits of Roger Ballen and Melanie Smith's aerial abstractions of Mexico City. "From the Vaults: Recent Acquisition," the newest photographic and paper acquisitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, covers a range of contemporary and emerging artists who explore issues and politics through the visible skin. (JG)

## exit strategy

THIS WEEK'S ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

### THE KNEEHIGHS

Porter's Pub  
Nov. 3, 12 p.m.  
FREE

### "THE LOVE OF THE NIGHTINGALE" BY TIMBERLAKE WERTENBAKER

Mandell Weiss Forum  
Nov. 4, 2 p.m.  
\$10

### ROMA NIGHTS: JOSH DAMIGO

Espresso Roma  
Nov. 6, 8 p.m.  
FREE

### "MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND"

Price Center Theater  
Nov. 7, 6 p.m. & 9 p.m.  
\$3

### "THE EYES OF BABYLON"

Price Center Theater  
Nov. 3, 6 p.m.  
FREE

### MAKE BELIEVE, FUNK & WAGNALL, ECSTATIC SUNSHINE & TSK TSK

Porter's Pub  
Nov. 6, 9 p.m.  
\$5

### "WHEN THE LEVEES BROKE" ACT 1 & 2

Women's Center  
Nov. 6, 6 p.m.  
FREE

### "ARNA'S CHILDREN"

Center Hall  
Nov. 8, 7 p.m.  
FREE

### DEATH THREAT, COLIN OF ARABIA, PC DEATHSQUAD & LIVING HELL

One Cafe  
Nov. 3, 7 p.m.  
\$5

### MINUS THE BEAR

Porter's Pub  
Nov. 6, 7:20 p.m.  
FREE

### "MONTY PYTHON AND THE LIFE OF BRIAN"

One Cafe  
Nov. 6, 7 p.m.  
FREE

### POETRY SLAMM FEATURING VIET MAI

Porter's Pub  
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# Politics Drag Down Clever 'Babel'

► **BABEL**, from page 8

In Mexico, a native nanny innocently tries to cross the border with two children while their parents (Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett) are scrambling to survive Blanchett's freak gunshot wound in Morocco. There, police are hunting down the "terrorists" who fired the shot: a couple of unknowing boys playing with a gun. These two episodes alone carry the meatiest of the Nov. 7 slate: illegal immigration and American foreign policy. Inarritu's critique of each makes for nice sound bites, but with an over-aged and exhaustingly familiar Pitt leading the cast, how meaningful can this commentary be?

Inarritu's films, an outlandish tour of "What's the Worst That Can Happen?" episodes, need a firm docket of actors to drive its extravagance. In "21 Grams," Penn sold himself as a heart transplantee who rails his donor's widow; Pitt lacks the balls to even kick a Brit's ass for suggesting he ditch his dying wife. In "21 Grams," Watts was incendiary as a substance-abusing widow who enlists her dead husband's organ recipient to kill an ex-con; throughout the film, Blanchett is always bitter, moaning from pain or making out with Pitt while she's peeing.

Yes, "Babel" is at times that absurd, and the Blanchett-Pitt combo is too weak to carry such excessiveness. But leading man and woman aside, there is salvation.

The film's third storyline features a deaf Japanese girl grappling with her disability in the tough face of J-pop teen life. The constant voyeurism and peep shots accompanying her story again edge on brazen, but the gravity of the character's handicap — physically creating the woman-without-a-voice motif — makes this plot string oddly endearing. Gael Garcia Bernal's drunken goiter and scene-stealing lines give the immigration issue a tender, human side. But again, the commentary on today's news — this time the inhumanity of border relations — becomes overt, especially with an overacting Clifton Collins Jr., who is apparently still sad he starred with Cuba Gooding Jr. in the face-flop "Dirty."

Inarritu's newcomers to acting are, ironically, the big-name film's redemption. And in a decade when the CNN prattle is human cloning, flying cars and the gender of Lindsay Lohan's sixth baby, "Babel" will lose its hollow timeliness and display its solid core: a rare, harsh and thrilling interplay of culture, society and language.

# 'Borat' Plays Dumb for Mock-Doc Expose

► **BORAT**, from page 8

With Anderson's character, the pair visit high society dinners, women's rights groups, a gay pride parade and even get an interview with "a genuine chocolate face" — Washington, D.C. Mayor Allan Keyes.

Re-creating a bit from his TV show in which he refuses to be booted off a baseball field, Cohen takes the scene this time to a Texas rodeo. Before singing the Kazakhstani national anthem to the tune of the "Star Spangled Banner," he declares to the crowd of rowdy cowboys and their southern misses that the Kazakhstani people support their "war of terror," met with wild applause. Then, unflinching, he decrees: "May George Bush drink the blood of every man, woman and child in Iraq!" To this, the audience cheers even louder. But when the song begins, and they hear their beloved

anthem subjected to out-of-tune gloating like "The glorious nation of Kazakhstan is best country in world! All other countries suck," the crowd turns murderous, and, according to press releases, nearly forms a lynch mob that Cohen and his crew barely escape alive.

Cohen heroically stays true to his cause and never breaks character, even during repeated conflicts with local police, FBI and Secret Service agents who can't help but wonder what this strange man, supposedly from Kazakhstan, and his seven-strong crew of miscreants are up to. They even earn themselves several arrests and a spot on the FBI's exclusive terrorist watch list. But the product delivers, soaked in layer upon layer of vicious toilet humor, lucid improvisation and scathing satire, acting as much a mirror to Cohen's extreme subjects as it is to his audience.

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## From Boob Slaps to Game Homages, Festival Runs Animation Gamut

▶ **SHORTS**, from page 8

ing from interspecies pornography to anally propelled flaming gerbils, it almost succeeds. (Rest assured, PETA members, the gerbil survives.)

The first half of the show — before a much-needed intermission — is extremely crude and lackluster. Some of the shorts are barely a minute long, with amateur drawings and unexceptionally basic humor; for example, one such clip poorly depicts a naked and presumably dead blonde, slapping her oversized breasts and gleefully watching as they wobble with gelatin sound effects. Roll credits. A few exceptions include the horrific yet perfectly rendered "Fools' Gold" and the choppy hysteric of "Cox and Combe's Washington," music video propaganda for America's first action hero, George Washington.

The second half is much more refined. Heavier dialogue, scores with crashing baselines and gripping, surreal images let the originality latent in these amateur animators shine. "Pirate Baby's Cabana Battle Street Fight 2006," a five-minute black-and-white side-scrolling action game reminiscent of "Double Dragon" and "Street Fighter," will be a gory lull for those unfamiliar with this style of two-dimensional gaming but a work of the highest art to anyone who has played such a game. Among the pop culture allies summoned by the game's Japanese-looking fighters are a beleaguered Christopher Walken and Walter from "The Big Lebowski," who shouts "You're entering a world of pain!" as he blasts apart thousands of baddies with his 9 mm pistol. Roll credits.

Another memorable clip called "How to Cope with Death" features sublime animation of a serpentine Death creeping eerily close to an old woman in her rocking chair. When he pulls back to take a mighty swing at her with his scythe, Granny springs into action, and the battle rages around the room in a marvelous display that Decker called "one of the most beautifully rendered [hand-drawn] films ever made." The old woman buries Death beneath her flaming television, the wild music fades as she slowly retrieves a fire extinguisher and puts out the flame, then adjusts her underwear before exiting. Roll credits.

"Sick and Twisted" has been selling out since its debut 25 years ago, and Decker has high hopes for the future of his life's pursuit — like seeing his chosen cartoons televised or distributed through new systems like podcasts and HDTV.

"I've programmed all my life, and am still forced to watch immature stuff like MTV's 'Daria,'" he said. "The bar is set so low you can step over it."

He hopes that the extraordinary talent of these ambitious kids from across the globe can draw the audience they deserve.

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**The Broken Wings**  
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This 1962 film by director Yousef Malouf describes the unhappy love affair between the young Lebanese poet and artist Khalil Gibran and his first love, Selma Karamy.

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IMAGE: Roberto Matta, *Issue* (detail), oil on canvas, 1943. Collection of Thomas R. Monahan, Chicago.

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## PERSONALS

**Guardian Movie Trivia:** Ryan was first to email Adman the correct answer, which was V for Vendetta (never seen it) and now he tosses you Tritons the world's softest softball. Be the first to email [mfoulks@ucsd.edu](mailto:mfoulks@ucsd.edu) and correctly name that flick and you too can become Lord o Trivia for week 8. If you care to share the quote that you would've chosen, Adman approves. Here goes, "Now, a clever man would put the poison into his own goblet, because he would know that only a great fool would reach for what he was given. I am not a great fool, so I can clearly not choose the wine in front of you. But you must have known I was not a great fool, you would have counted on it, so I can clearly not choose the wine in front of me." (11/2)

Sorry to hear about the pumpkin who committed suicide by jumping off the roof of Urey Hall. Didn't anyone hear his cry for help? (11/02)

Bookstore Halloween Costume Contest, redux: props to the girl in the Sun God costume and the Toy Story ensemble; a long shower with Lysol to "Kiss and groups!" (11/2)

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Mondays & Thursdays

## Chargers' Merriman Failed Test and Fans Couldn't Care Less

► **MERRIMAN**, from page 16  
He also said that he apologizes for letting his teammates down at a critical point in the season when the Chargers are looking to find their rhythm.

Despite the dark cloud surrounding him, when Merriman was allowed to take the field this past weekend against the St. Louis Rams due to his now-non-existent appeal of the suspension, he received an uproar of an applause, and there were thousands of Merriman jerseys decorating the faithful San Diego crowd.

"To see all those '56' jerseys out there, you couldn't ask for anything more than that," Merriman told the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. "Walking into the stadium and people telling me how much of a role model I still am, that's what I look at my job to be."

Reading this, it is clear that I

am not the only Chargers fan who holds nothing against Merriman for trying to find an advantage in a game where just an extra half-step can guarantee you success. I am

upset that I will not be able to watch Merriman play for over a month, and the Chargers defense may struggle because of the absence of its best defensive player. But you can bet that this weekend, even though Merriman is not playing, I will still proudly display his jersey as I watch his teammates do battle against the Cleveland Browns.

I can only hope that when Merriman comes back, he will be just as effective as when he left.

And if he's not, I'm sure that there is someone else on the Chargers who can give him the number of another good chemist in the area.

**"I am not the only Chargers fan who holds nothing against Merriman for trying to find an advantage ..."**

## Young Talent Set to Replace Departed All-Americans

► **LACROSSE**, from page 16  
compete with the top teams."

The play of the underclassmen will be extremely important, as the Tritons must replace three All-Americans from last year: Nick Dean, Brandon Hays and Morgan Silldorff. Fortunately, UCSD will return senior attacker Chris McCall, who was an All-American Honorable Mention.

The Tritons will get a chance to play against the top teams in the country when they travel to Colorado over spring break to play in one of the toughest tournaments

of the year.

"We will be playing Colorado State University, who is ranked No. 1 and Colorado University, who is ranked No. 2 [in the nation]," Carter said. "It will be a good test to see if our new slow and deliberate style can be effective against the very best in the nation."

The Tritons will look to perfect their new system through the fall months, which will feature additional scrimmages and fall practices. The UCSD lacrosse team will begin its regular season in the beginning of February.

## Holman Makes NCAA Championship Cut

► **SWIM**, from page 16  
ship meet, that will reward the team more than at a dual meet. And at the beginning of the year you want to be a better championship team than a dual meet team."

The highlight of the day came when freshman Karla Holman became the first UCSD swimmer to automatically qualify for the NCAA championships in the 200 butterfly, with a time of 2:06.86.

"She dropped six seconds off her personal best time, which is an

outstanding accomplishment for the first dual meet of the year," senior Andrea Lippin said.

Lippin timed a third-place finish with a 10:35.61 in the 1,000-yard freestyle.

"I think we did a great job getting up and cheering behind the blocks, uniting as a team," Lippin said. "Even though Utah swam faster, we had some great personal swims."

The Tritons are back in action on Nov. 4 at UC Santa Barbara. The meet is set to start at 10 a.m.

## Women's Club Soccer Loses in Davis

Tritons' chances for national tournament berth dashed after a pair of losses at regional tournament.

By Joo Yoon  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past weekend, the UCSD women's club soccer team was one of 11 teams to travel north to UC Davis to participate in the National Intramural-Recreation Sports Association regional tournament.

The Tritons made it out of their bracket with a tie and a win over Stanford University. UCSD tied the Cardinal 2-2 in the first game but came roaring back in the second, blowing the Cardinal out 5-1. With the dominant win, the Tritons advanced to the quarterfinals but fell short against the host team, UC Davis, 2-0.

The Aggies wasted no time in getting on the board, scoring both of their goals in the first 15 minutes of the game.

To make matters worse, Triton sophomore defender Tia Baker was kicked in the mouth during a scramble for the ball and left the game.

Despite being down a player for the remaining 75 minutes, the Tritons prevented UC Davis from scoring. However, UCSD was forced to play defensively, and the team

was held scoreless. Junior co-captain defender Caitlin Schauer attributed the disappointing loss in part to losing Baker so early in the contest.

"We had beat UC Davis before, but we only had 10 players playing this game," Schauer said. "I'm sure we could have beaten them if we had the whole team."

Junior co-captain forward Nicki Theobald was proud of her team's effort despite the mounting fatigue

players from the A team could not afford to go up to UC Davis because of classes and midterms, and the team did not even have adequate practice time before the tournament.

Schauer further explained the Tritons' problems, citing inexperience as a limiting factor.

"We took eight players from the A team and three players from the B team," Schauer said. "We did not have [someone who usually plays] goalies either. Most teams practice for months before the regionals but we just had three weeks and one tournament to prepare."

According to Theobald, the team started to really click and get together as the tournament progressed. "All 11 players played amazing," Theobald said. "They all played great."

This season has been very frustrating for the team because many schools have been unable to field teams. After the majority of the teams disbanded, the league was subsequently shut down, which prevented the Tritons from being able to defend their league title.

Although they won't be headed to the NIRSAs nationals this year, the Tritons will be going to tournaments and matches against other Southern California colleges.

The Tritons' next games are at UC Irvine on Nov. 4-5, and they will also travel to UCLA in the winter for several games.

**"I'm sure we could have beaten [UC Davis] if we had the whole team."**

— Caitlin Schauer, Junior Co-Captain

from playing so many games.

"I thought the team did great without subs," Theobald said. "It was a good bonding experience between the girls who went."

Unfortunately, because the Tritons finished fifth in the tournament, they were not able to qualify for the NIRSAs nationals.

It was amazing that UCSD made it to the quarterfinals considering its shortage of players. Many of the

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WOMAN'S TENNIS	INNA AGABABIAN (UCI)..... DEF. .... MARSHA MALINOW (UCSD).....	6-0, 6-1
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2006 UC IRVINE FALL INVITATIONAL	HEIDI KALOI (UCI)..... DEF. .... CHRISTY KNUDSEN (UCSD).....	6-0, 6-1
	ALI BOROWICZ (UCI)..... DEF. .... POOJA DESAI (UCSD).....	6-0, 6-1
OCTOBER 27-29 DAY 3 RESULTS	JESSICA BROADFOOT (UCI) ... DEF. .... CHRISTY KNUDSEN (UCSD).....	6-0, 6-1
	LIEGE VIEIRA (UCI)..... DEF. .... TESSA TRAN (UCSD).....	7-6, 6-2
	ALI LEGULIS (UCSD)..... DEF. .... KATIE BARTH (UCI).....	1-6, 6-3, (10-6)

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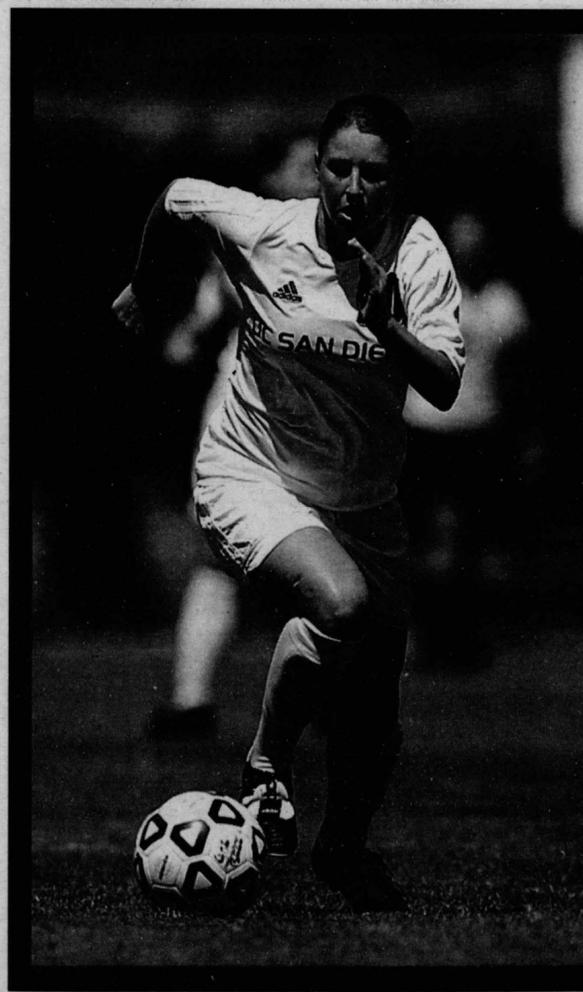
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