



HIATUS

## Time to see 'The Hours'

Nicole Kidman successfully portrays a struggling Virginia Woolf in the highly dramatic film by Stephen Daldry. **page 9**

A.S. Council at a Glance	2
Opinion	4
Letters to the Editor	6
Thursday Coupons	11
Hiatus Calendar	13
Classifieds	16

### SPORTS

## Retreat en passant

Triton fencing lose to Columbia, NYU and St. Johns in home dual duel. **page 20**



# THE UCSD GUARDIAN

UC SAN DIEGO

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003

VOLUME 108, ISSUE 4

## Davis proposes UC fee hike Cal Grants, students with aid 'covered'

By **EVAN McLAUGHLIN**  
News Editor

Faced with a shortfall of \$34.6 billion dollars, Gov. Gray Davis unveiled his 2003-04 budget proposal on Jan. 10, which includes an additional increase to student fees at the University of California.

According to the new proposal, resident undergraduates at the University of California will pay an additional \$795 per year in student fees, while resident graduate student fees will increase by \$855.

The proposed increase, if added to the mid-year increase of \$135 per quarter approved by the UC Board of Regents in December 2002, would raise fees for undergraduate residents to \$4,629 per year. Before the \$135-per-quarter increase, which will be

effective spring 2003, student fees had not been raised since 1994.

One-third of the increase will be funneled directly to financial aid, UC spokesperson Brad Hayward said. The Board of Regents instituted the policy of returning one-third of all fee increases to financial aid in the early 1990s, when California suffered another economic downturn. Hayward said the money allocated to financial aid should allow students from all financial backgrounds to attend the university in light of the fee hikes.

"It's obviously very important for the university to remain accessible to lower-income students," Hayward said. "Between the increased financial aid offered by UC and the governor's proposal to increase funding to Cal-Grants,

students getting financial aid grants should essentially be covered."

According to the university, Davis' new budget proposal furthers the University of California's funding shortfall to almost \$1 billion, where over \$500 billion has been slashed from funding and another \$400 million-plus in state-university partnership funding of staff and faculty pay increases has been forgone since 2001-02. Budget analysts for the University of California say the fee increase will net an extra \$179 million this year and next, covering less than 19 percent of the university's total budget shortfall.

Other departments affected by Davis' most recent round of cuts include a \$36.5 million reduction

See **INCREASE**, Page 3

## New bioengineering building completed



Sierra Fisk/Guardian

**New EBU:** The 109,000 square-foot Powell-Focht Bioengineering Hall was the first privately funded building on the UCSD campus, coming at a cost of \$37 million.

## Powell-Focht to serve undergrads, grads, research

By **GAELE FAURE**  
Associate News Editor

Powell-Focht Bioengineering Hall, the newest building addition to the Jacobs School of Engineering, opened its doors to students and faculty at the start of winter quarter. While minor construction is still taking place inside the new Powell-Focht building, lab research has started and faculty and staff have moved into the five-story

building adjacent to Bioengineering Building 1 in Earl Warren College.

The building, constructed in response to the rapidly growing engineering student enrollment, caters to both undergraduate and graduate students as well as to research faculty.

"It's like moving into a new house: It just takes a bit of adjust-

See **EBU**, Page 3

## Critics reject trolley Line to UCSD in question

By **THOMAS NEELEY**  
Associate News Editor

One year after the Metropolitan Transit Development Board began a study to bring the San Diego Trolley to UCSD and Westfield University Towne Center, critics both in San Diego City Council and at UCSD are looking toward alternative transportation systems.

The Mid-Coast Transit First study, which started in January 2002, is looking at ways to develop and promote public transit use, such as buses and light rail, in the area between Old Town and Carmel Valley — an area that includes UCSD and University City.

For Christine Rychel, senior transportation manager with MTDB and project manager for the study, the largest issue at stake in San Diego is providing people with a transportation alternative that is viable enough to lure people out of their cars.

"It's a tough nut to crack," Rychel said. "People in Southern California — and it's been known for a long time —

See **TROLLEY**, Page 8

## Students for Justice posters torn down Flyers removed, defaced; UJS 'disgusted' by incident

By **LAUREN RAU**  
Staff Writer

Students for Justice has alleged that flyers promoting its week of events about Palestinian-Israeli conflict awareness were torn down or vandalized within 24 hours of being posted.

"Over half of our flyers were torn down," said Students for Justice President Fawad Shaiq. "There were others left next to them that I had seen when putting up ours the night before. Most of the flyers that were vandalized were in the Price Center along the handicap walkway. About 20 to 30 were vandalized."

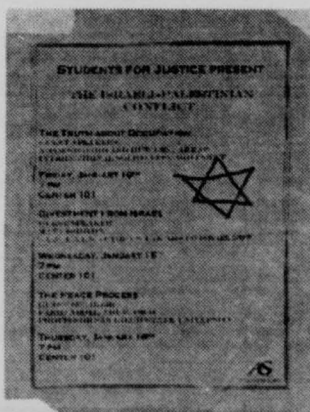
According to Shaiq, more than 1,700 flyers were posted on Jan. 5, Jan. 6 and Jan. 13.

Most of the vandalized flyers were marked with the Star of David, a Jewish symbol. Some flyers that were lined up together had only a line drawn through them with a black marker, according to Shaiq.

According to event volunteer Murat Yildiz, there has been speculation as to whom the culprits might be, but there are no definite suspects.

"Nobody saw someone personally take it down," Yildiz said. "You can't blame someone, but it doesn't take a genius to figure out who is doing it."

In response to the hate incidents, Union of Jewish Students Vice President Elana Segal was



Courtesy of Students for Justice

**Torn down:** About 20 to 30 Students for Justice posters were vandalized.

"disgusted" by the disrespect shown toward Students for Justice's efforts.

See **FLYERS**, Page 8

## A.S. Council to revise Constitution, bylaws

By **CLAYTON WORFOLK**  
Senior Staff Writer

The A.S. Council unanimously passed legislation to create an A.S. Constitution and Bylaw Revisions Committee on Jan. 8. The committee will be asked to "evaluate the current structure of the A.S. Constitution and bylaws [and]

determine what changes are necessary and beneficial to the Council."

According to its charter, submitted by A.S. Council President Jenn Brown, the committee may also "discuss any additional changes to the governing documents that may benefit the UCSD population as a whole."

"The campus is growing tremendously," Brown said. "We want to make sure that A.S. is doing everything it can to be structured to represent the student body the best."

Specifically, the committee will compare current A.S. Council practices with the text of its governing documents, namely the A.S. Constitution, which defines the membership, policies and powers of the A.S. Council, and its bylaws that supplement the

See **BYLAWS**, Page 8

### WEATHER

<b>Jan. 16</b>	<b>Jan. 17</b>
H 75 L 50	H 77 L 46
<b>Jan. 18</b>	<b>Jan. 19</b>
H 71 L 47	H 71 L 47

### SPOKEN

"Everyone on this campus has a right to protected free speech."

— **Elana Segal**,  
Union of Jewish Students Vice President

### SURF REPORT

<b>Jan. 16</b>
wind: NE to E
wind waves: 1 to 3 ft
swell: NW 4 to 7 ft
<b>Jan. 17</b>
wind: NE
wind waves: 2 ft. or less
swell: NW 5 to 8 ft.

**BRIEFLY**

**Conjoined twins, now separated, return home**

After a landmark 23-hour separation surgery, formerly conjoined twins Maria de Jesus and Maria Teresa Quije Alvarez left UCLA's Mattel Children's Hospital Jan. 13 after a seven-month stay to return to Guatemala with their parents.

Because UCLA provided the site and \$2 million cost of the twins' care, Cris Embleton, co-founder of Healing the Children, the nonprofit group that brought the twins to UCLA Medical Center, presented two checks to the hospital.

The first check was a gift of \$450,000 from an anonymous donor. The second check was for \$20,652 in individual donations from people around the world wishing to contribute to the 17-month-old sisters' medical expenses.

A seven-person UCLA medical team will accompany the twins on their flight back to Guatemala. In addition to Dr. Jorge Lazareff, the lead neurosurgeon for the twins' medical team, four nurses, a pediatrician and a physical therapist will spend several days in Guatemala. The local hospital requested the UCLA team's presence to assure a smooth medical transition for the twins' caregivers.

UCLA physicians remain optimistic that Maria Teresa and Maria de Jesus will fully recover from their surgery, which took place on Aug. 6, 2002, to lead normal lives.

**New approach helps find water pollution causes**

An innovative approach for beachside communities to pinpoint the causes of water pollution has been provided by a UC Irvine-led study.

The study reveals that it's possible to identify and track the specific sources of water pollution by combining bacteria sampling with genetic testing. The research team used this technique while studying the causes of beach pollution in Avalon, Catalina Island — a popular tourist destination for swimming and recreational boating. By combining these methods, the researchers found that decaying sewage pipes in the downtown area adjacent to Avalon Bay had been leaking human waste into the shoreline water.

As a result of this research, Avalon officials siphoned the city's sewer lines to seal the leaks and are currently investigating connecting pipes from private businesses and homes for further leakage. Their work has already decreased bacteria levels along the shoreline by more than 50 percent, and beach closures declined from 31 in 2001 to 15 in 2002.

**UCSF scientists closer to male infertility gene**

By using a human gene to correct a defect in infertile flies that prevented them from creating sperm, UC San Francisco scientists have advanced the effort to identify the genes involved in human male infertility and may provide a possible target for a male contraceptive.

In their study of the fly, the researchers focused on a gene named *boule* that regulates meiosis, a key step in the creation of sperm and egg in all animals, including humans. In the male fly, loss of the gene leads to meiotic arrest, and hence infertility. When the scientists inserted a normal copy of the gene into the flies, meiosis resumed; more notably, however, when they inserted the human form of *boule*, into the meiosis-defective flies, development of the fly sperm also resumed.

The new finding strongly suggests that the human *boule* gene regulates meiosis in human sperm development. This is significant because about 30 percent of infertile men have meiotic arrest during sperm development.

The UCSF study will be published in the Jan. 15 issue of *Human Molecular Genetics*.

**Book by prof. links math to good conversation**

A new book, titled "777 Mathematical Conversation Starters," by John de Pillis, emeritus professor of mathematics at University of California at Riverside, shows that there are few degrees of separation between mathematics and topics that provoke interesting conversations.

The topics presented in the book include the value of fame, why language matters, the anatomy of thought, how we know what we know, how the Pythagorean theorem (with very little physics) shows that Einstein was correct about time dilation and distance contraction, as well as how mathematics produces intuition-defying examples.

The crossover book presents material that is of interest to a curious reader who may or may not have advanced mathematical training. There is material for those who choose to explore special relativity at an elementary level, while those who wish to delve more deeply are provided with detailed equations and explanations.

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**ETCETERA ...**



**A.S. COUNCIL AT A GLANCE**

A.S. Council Meeting #17  
 Jan. 15

**Public Input**

Eleanor Roosevelt College Junior Senator Cassie Pataky announced her resignation from the A.S. Council. ERC Freshman Senator Max Harrington, ERC Sophomore Senator Desiree Jabson and ERC Senior Senator Wendy Ho praised Pataky and presented her with gifts.

Thurgood Marshall College Chair Kevin Kelly announced the resignation of Marshall Freshman Senator Caitlin Colman.

**Items of Immediate Consideration**

The A.S. Council unanimously approved the appointment of Sonya Gera to the Task Force on Undergraduate Education at a Research University.

**Reports**

**A.S. President Jenn Brown**  
 Brown reported that all student affairs departments face a 5 percent cut in their operation budget due to state cuts in UC funding. Brown also announced that the UCSD Athletics Department will take a \$200,000 hit under the state budget plan.

**Vice President External Stephen Klass**  
 Klass was absent from the A.S. Council meeting, but sent a report announcing that he was lobbying for lower fees at a UC Regents meeting. Klass reported that UCSD students face a \$1,200 fee increase next year.

**Commissioner of Athletics Robin Shelton**  
 Shelton reported that the Triton Tide Campus Invasion Tour dates have been slightly modified. Under the revised schedule, the tour will reach Thurgood Marshall College on Jan. 17, Sixth College on Jan. 24, Revelle College on Jan. 31, Earl Warren College on Feb. 7, and ERC on Feb. 21. The all-campus event will take place on March 1.

**ERC Freshman Senator Max Harrington**  
 Harrington announced that he would like the A.S. Task Force on Voting Systems to begin meeting next week. Harrington also announced that he is thinking about propos-

ing an A.S. task force to explore the issue of living wages at UCSD.

**University Centers Advisory Board Chair James Lynch**

Lynch reported that the University Centers Expansion Task Force has received the raw data from its student survey. According to Lynch, the task force received a total of 3,314 responses to its internet and telephone poll. Lynch announced that the task force should present its final report and recommendations to the A.S. Council by the first or second week of February. Lynch also noted that there will most likely be a fee referendum for University Center expansion in the future.

**Revelle College Council Chair Alex Schafgans**

Schafgans announced that the Revelle College Council is going ahead with a fee referendum. If passed, the referendum would increase fees for Revelle students by \$4.

**Old Business**

**Item E**  
 Amended and passed 8-6-4  
 The A.S. Council appointed Tom Chapman to the Transportation Policy Committee. Item E originally proposed the appointment of Marshall College Sophomore Senator Jeff Le to the committee, but the item was amended to replace Le with Chapman after Hsu stated that he had meant to withdraw the item from the agenda. Hsu said that the A.S. Internal Committee had actually recommended that the appointment go to Chapman rather than Le. The vote to amend the item resulted in a 6-6 tie with six council members abstaining. However, Hsu broke the tie in favor of amendment.

**Item F**  
 Passed by consensus  
 The A.S. Council appointed current A.S. Commissioner of Athletics Robin Shelton to A.S. election manager.

**Item T**  
 Passed by consensus  
 The A.S. Council approved the A.S. All Campus Transfer Association Charter. The charter sets forth guidelines for the A.S. All Campus Transfer Association, which will "serve as an umbrella organization for each of the individual college transfer student associations."

— Compiled by Clayton Worfolk  
 Senior Staff Writer

**Increase: Hike to give UC \$179 million this year**

continued from page 1  
 to administration and libraries, a \$33.3 million reduction to educational outreach programs and \$28.8 million across-the-board cut to research. Student services, or programs funded by campus-specific registration fees, would be cut by \$19 million in 2003-04 across the UC system, although the reductions will be allocated to campuses which will decide locally how to make their cuts.

The governor, looking for ways to replenish California's shortfall, introduced several other sources of state revenue, including a 1-cent hike on sales tax, doubling the cigarette tax levied to about \$2 a pack and raising income taxes to 11 percent for California's wealthiest citizens.

The California state sales tax is currently 6 percent, although most counties tack on more to the tax to fund local programs and services. The 1-cent increase was proposed by Davis to aid county and local governments by \$4.5 billion in funding for some of the new responsibilities — such as long-term health care, mental health services and child abuse prevention — they would take on under the proposal. Sales tax is currently 7.75 percent in San Diego County.

California households making between \$260,000 and \$520,000, as well as single payers making between \$130,000 and \$260,000, currently pay 10 percent in state income tax, but would pay 11 percent if Davis' proposal were enacted.

Cigarettes are currently taxed 87 cents per pack, and Davis' proposal would raise the levy to \$2 per pack. A similar cigarette tax increase to \$3 per pack was pro-

posed by Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson (D-Los Angeles) in summer 2002 to solve the 2002-03 budget crisis, but failed to pass. Hillary McLean, a spokesperson for Davis, says that "the shortfall has been caused by a variety of problems," citing the national economic slowdown while emphasizing that the "dot-com crash" of Silicon Valley high tech companies has slowed California's problems further than most states.

While Davis has argued that cuts alone are not enough to close the increasing budget gap, Republicans accuse the governor of overspending during a time of sluggish economic growth.

"For four years, [Democrats] have enacted an unprecedented spending spree with taxpayer dollars," said assemblyman John Campbell (R-Irvine) in a Jan. 15 statement. "This is precisely the reason California is facing a record multibillion-dollar deficit."

In light of the deficit causing fees to be raised, UC President Richard C. Atkinson hopes access to the university's education will not suffer during the turbulent economic times, and that quality is maintained despite budget cuts.

"A fee increase is always difficult," said Atkinson in a Jan. 10 statement. "At the same time ... it acknowledges the need for a balanced package of solutions if we are to preserve access and quality in the student instruction program, which is our highest priority."

The Board of Regents met on Jan. 15 for a regular meeting. Hayward said that he doesn't expect the Regents to vote on a fee increase until the board meets in May.

**EBU: Next buildings to be finished in 2004**

continued from page 1  
 ment," said Bioengineering Undergraduate Student Affairs Assistant Marisol Nierva-Magnano. "But it's absolutely beautiful and our students love it."

Construction of the building started in the summer of 2002; the effort was entirely privately funded. "It's important to notice that this building is the first fully privately funded building on the UCSD campus," said Interim Dean of the Jacobs School of Engineering Frieder Siebel.

The 109,000-square-foot building cost about \$37 million. Donations were made primarily from the Whitaker Foundation, the Powell Foundation and the Von Liebig Foundation.

Two more engineering buildings are currently being constructed adjacent to the current buildings; both the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology and the Computer Science and Engineering Building are slated for completion in 2004.

A number of laboratory rooms in Powell-Focht's basement floor are still empty, but are scheduled for shell build-out in May 2004. This, according to Director of Capital Planning Brian Gregory, happened because the use of these labs had not yet been determined when the building was designed in 1999.

According to Gregory, the new building and the two buildings to come are helping ease crowding. A number of faculty members from Engineering Building Unit 1 will relocate to the other buildings, making room for hiring new faculty.

The physical growth of the Jacobs School of Engineering comes as a response to its growth

in both popularity and demand. Because applications are on the rise UC system-wide, the school plans to increase enrollment to about 20 percent of UCSD students, according to Siebel. Current enrollment numbers are at 4,200 undergraduate and 925 graduate students, but are expected to grow to 4,380 and 1,250 by 2006, respectively. In 2002, the school received 5,200 graduate applications. The school has nearly doubled in size in the past two years and was recently ranked

“It's important to notice that this building is the first fully privately funded building on the UCSD campus.”

— Frieder Siebel, Interim Dean of Jacobs School of Engineering

14th in the nation among engineering schools by U.S. News and World Report. This ranks the school below UC Berkeley, which ranks second, but above any other University of California, including UCLA, which ranks 21st. According to Siebel, the school will be the biggest school of engineering on UC campuses upon completion.

According to Jacobs School of Engineering Director of Communications Denine Hagen, the increase in student applications grows not only from an increase in students' interest in a quickly rising reputation, but also from an increase in companies' demand for

**AND THE WINNERS ARE...**

**Rubio's FRESH MEXICAN GRILL \$5 GIFT CERTIFICATES**

Mohammad Fatayerji  
 Allie Umoff  
 Tessa Barnhardt  
 Jen Lara  
 Brandon Braga  
 Rosie Kar  
 Tiffany Emch  
 Jesse Hill  
 Diana Crespo  
 David Amaya  
 Farrah Yilmaz  
 Anna Chan  
 Kevin Early  
 Angala Afleros  
 LeighAnn Rorex  
 Hannah Cheng  
 Drew Washburn  
 Kristin Beaudoin  
 Megan Wemmer  
 Jessie Lee  
 Lynne Brinkman  
 Ruth Chen  
 David J Shoemaker  
 Liang Jin  
 Sara Wisner  
 Andrew Fo  
 Jennifer Zhu

**EVERY FRIDAY @ 4pm**  
 Start your weekend off with some friendly competition! Come to the Price Center Gameroom for weekly tournaments in billiards and board games.

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

1/10	9-Ball Billiards	PC Gameroom
1/17	Backgammon	SB/LA Room
1/24	Ping Pong	PC Gameroom
1/31	Ladies' 9 Ball/ Dominoes	PC Gameroom Irvine Room
2/7	9-Ball Billiards	PC Gameroom
2/14	Chess	Berkeley Room
2/21	8-Ball Billiards	PC Gameroom
2/28	Ping Pong	PC Gameroom
3/7	9-Ball Billiards	PC Gameroom

**CASH PRIZES!!! • \$5 Entry Fee**

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
 to the winners of the A.S. University Centers Expansion Task Force online & phone survey!

**AS UCSD University Centers**  
 A Department of Student Affairs

UNIVERSITY CENTERS  
 A Department of Student Affairs

Price money is distributed according to percentage of the total entry fee.

## EDITORIAL

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### Runoff voting system would improve UCSD

At the Jan. 8 meeting of the A.S. Council, the council voted 14-1 to create an ad hoc committee to review current voting procedures for A.S. elections while exploring other methods that could possibly improve the elections process.

One type of voting system that has been discussed by councilmembers is the implementation of an instant runoff system. In an election conducted with the instant runoff system, voters rank the candidates in order of preference. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast in his favor, he or she wins the election. If a majority is not reached initially, the least-voted-for candidate is eliminated from contention and his or her voters have their votes changed to the candidate who is preferred next. This process is repeated until one candidate garners 50 percent of the popular vote.

The instant runoff voting system allows voters to cast their choice for an ideal candidate while being assured that their vote will count when it matters most. A national campaign to implement instant runoff has been led by the Green Party — an organization that has drawn fire from Democratic loyalists who feel that the party has weakened the American left by tapping into the liberal voter pool, thereby weakening their overall chance at electing a liberal candidate. Greens contend that if there had been an instant runoff intact during the 2000 presidential election, Ralph Nader would not have been blamed for former Vice President Al Gore's loss of Florida's crucial electoral votes.

Critics of the system cite that converting to the new format would be too costly and too confusing. At the campus level, converting to instant runoff would only require an alteration in computer code considering all A.S. elections are conducted via StudentLink. The instant runoff system is no more confusing than choosing another ice cream flavor upon learning that the store is out of rocky road.

The Guardian believes that a candidate should only be elected if he or she is preferred by the majority of the voters, and that the A.S. Council has taken a progressive step toward ensuring that future elections are conducted efficiently by initiating such a study.

### PROPS & FLOPS

**Moneymaker:** Props to UCSD for taking the initiative in searching for donations despite budget cuts...

**Budget blooper:** But despite donations, student organizations will still suffer. Bake safe, anyone?



Eugene Gauran/Guardian

### Bush dividend tax cut bears bad tidings

#### Tax relief riddled with perks for the wealthy

By EVAN McLAUGHLIN  
Senior Staff Writer

Haven't we seen this god-awful movie before?

Our story is usually set in the west somewhere, when a cowboy runs for president, vows to bolster the economy by cutting taxes for the rich folks who voted for him so that they will, in return, spend the billions they receive back on American goods and services, trickling down — no — flooding down to the middle and working classes faster than a pistol draw in a Texas duel.

Unfortunately for Americans, during the last movie, the cowboy wanted to spend an unprecedented amount of money during "peacetime" (although that term is debatable) on weapons and defense to scare off the Soviets while holding true to maintaining tax cuts to the wealthy. The money didn't trickle down, either; it oozed more slowly than a chunk of molasses on a cold day. By the end of his term, taxes for the upper class had been decreased from 70 to 28 percent, and the federal deficit had skyrocketed from \$1 trillion to \$3.5 trillion.

You can't have your guns and butter, as the story goes — there's just not enough to go around. While Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld spouted off on Christmas Eve that the United States could win handily in both Iraq and North Korea, saying that "we are capable of winning decisively in one and swiftly defeating in the case of the other..." Let there be no doubt about it," George Jr. and friends were back at the ranch putting the finishing touches on an economic package where taxes on stock dividends would be eliminated. According to Bush, the plan, which the White House conceded will cost over \$600 billion over the next decade, "provides tax relief to the working citizens. It is a plan that is a very fair plan."

So why is it so fair? Do working- and middle-class people really have



NATIONAL

“Do working and middle-class people really have that much money tied up in stocks that they are going to save oodles of money on this plan?”

that much money tied up in stocks that they are going to save oodles of money on this plan? Bush officials estimate that a family of four in a \$42,000 household will save \$1,083 annually.

But is the dividend tax cut going to be the overriding factor in the thousand-plus dollars they are saving? By virtue of being a family of four, there are two children, each worth an extra \$400 in the new plan.

So how much of the remaining \$283 that Bush promises will the typical family actually save because of the dividend cut?

The median American household's net worth is about \$47,000 (inflation adjusted from a 1995 figure), of which only 8.4 percent is wrapped up in

stocks and mutual funds, according to a report titled *Household Net Worth and Asset Ownership* (2001). According to the report, the typical American household owns \$3,950 in stocks and mutual funds.

The corporate stocks comprising the Dow Jones Industrial Average pay dividend returns ranging from nothing to 4.9 percent. The median dividend returns come from the Bank of America and 3M, which, as of Jan. 7, both paid out an even 2 percent in dividends from the amount invested. For that typical American household with a net worth of \$47,000, that's an annual average return of \$79.

So how much of that \$79 is taxed today? According to Stuart Ritter, a certified financial planner at T. Rowe Price securities, stock dividends are currently taxed at the same rate as one's income. For the married couple bringing home \$42,000 annually, the tax rate is 15 percent.

So that American family of four with a 15 percent tax rate and the median net worth of \$47,000 will be saving a whopping (drum roll, please) \$11.85.

Eleven eighty-five? Many people can't buy a 12-pack of their favorite beer for that much money!

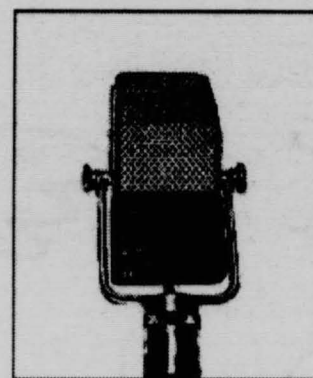
So why the gripe if a middle-class American family of four is still saving over \$1,000 annually? The gripe doesn't stem from the money necessarily as it does from the means of the product.

The overwhelming bulk of the savings will be passed out to the top 1 percent of income earners, who have historically owned between 40 and 70 percent of the nation's household wealth. They are people who have a much more vested interest in the market because stock dividends and capital gains make up a much larger chunk of their income. The corporate dividend tax relief will only put significantly more money into the pockets of the wealthy, a group that has also historically reinvested the dividend returns.

See TAXES, Page 6

## Conventional courtesy lost today Politeness increasingly uncommon

By EVELYN HSIEH  
Staff Writer



### COMMENTARY

have a way of briskly pushing themselves into the rows without apology. The early students attach themselves to the edges so as to bolt as fast as they can after the last word is spoken.

A worse crime is kicking and putting feet on chairs. It is not a hard concept: If a person is sitting in a seat, they will not appreciate their backs being barged. Nor will they appreciate seeing chipped pedicures protruding out of dirty flip-flops three inches from his or her face. In addition, many students use lecture time as social hour. I, too, am often guilty of whispering to my neighbors instead of jotting down notes.

The worst offense, however, has to be totally disregarding the professor. Students pack up as early as half an hour before the end of class as soon as they hear the words "next" or "later." As

soon as a couple of students pack up their papers, the whole class sees it as cue to join the symphony of rustling, bustling and hustling.

A sadder example often occurs during 10th week. Last time I checked, it was customary to applaud after the last lecture. Not only do some whole classes bypass acknowledging the professor through applause, but they also walk out while the professor is still talking. I, too, want to sample the sweet sunshine before finals week, but can't it wait? Even the most monotone-voiced, mundane-disposed professors deserve some sort of recognition.

Other crimes include blowing smoke in people's faces and walking painstakingly slow down or up the Price Center stairs. If I want carcinogens floating into my facial orifices, I'll suck a car exhaust pipe, thank you very much.

Road rage is another classic example of complete paucity of courtesy. It'd be surprising to find anyone who has not experienced or conveyed that sense of automobile-driven contempt. Getting cut off, tailed or honked at can aggravate even the most placid of temperaments. Once this bomb has detonated, the manners book is thrown out the window.

Road rage channels a smorgasbord of typical symptoms of rudeness — cursing, gestures and even physical aggression.

See COURTESY, Page 6

## Collection of random objects gives life worth

stop that!



Bertrand Fan

One thing I've always particularly enjoyed is owning a lot of crap. I refer not to the literal meaning of the word — I leave that hobby to one of my roommates — but to the metaphorical meaning that I believe is deeper and more complex, like people who use Macs with "Free Tibet" stickers on them.

To give you a good example, in the living room we have a 6-foot-long crayon, cardboard cut-outs of Boba Fett and Natalie Portman, a magnetic dartboard, a hamster that sings "I'm Too Sexy For My Shirt," a chandelier made of plastic bowling pins, a mobile advertising Air's Moon Safari, a glass head with a broken Coca-Cola bottle light underneath it, a postmodern wind-up toy, and a talking Halloween bowl that I bought at Rite-Aid for 75 percent off. And that's just the stuff my girlfriend lets me keep in there, although the Natalie Portman cut-out is sort of an ongoing debate. On the patio, I have patriotic rope lights, an informative display on how a car's brake system works, a set of golf clubs, an inflatable Monopoly set, an inflatable Mr. Pibb display, and many, many improperly and illegally used Priority Mail boxes filled to the brim with crap that just gets transported every time I move.

The only thing I enjoy more

than owning and buying crap is the impression that I'm getting a good deal when I'm buying crap. That's why, recently, I've been going to swap meets. There's one at Sports Arena every Saturday and Sunday near the wonderful strip club Les Girls, which I highly recommend because it is complete with pews so it's similar to a really dark funeral ceremony with naked chicks.

Anyways, the swap meet is quite large. There are two kinds of booths available: personal crap and retail crap. I try to avoid the retail crap tables; if I wanted a good price on cutlery and mini RC cars, I'd watch the Home Shopping Network. No, I much prefer to wade through piles and piles of crap that people once thought was a good idea to buy and no longer want. I tend to be drawn to old video games, CDs, retro stuff that has become funny with age, and rather large things I don't need. My most recent trip resulted in a VHS copy of "Beverly Hills Cop," a bumper sticker that says "Smuggling — it's not just a job, it's an adventure," a Pee-Wee Herman folder, and a book titled "You can Trust Communists ... to be Communists." I haggled with a lady over "Spy Hunter" for the old eight-bit Nintendo. She wanted \$5 for it, I said \$3, she said \$4, I said \$3, she said, "No." I shrugged and pulled the whole walking away bit, but she didn't bite. Perhaps now would be a good time for a lecture on haggling.

Many people are curious about when it is appropriate to haggle. At

See STOP, Page 7

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# Taxes: Upper class to benefit from Bush's new budget

continued from page 4

Even more important, according to economists, is how the recent tax package has presented itself as a stepping stone toward radical tax reform. If the elimination of the dividend tax is carried out, the burden of the federal government's revenue will become increasingly dependent on wage taxes. Talk is also being kicked around by pundits that Bush may propose a national sales or consumption tax in the future, designed to compensate further reductions. While billed as an economic stimulus, many are calling it economic reform.

"This ... has nothing to do with creating jobs or fixing the economy in 2003," Lawrence Mishel, president of the Economic Policy Institute, told the *Chicago Tribune*. "This is a move to eliminate taxes on capital and tax-only wages."

Economists on both the left and right have charged the new plan as a way for Dubya to pave the way toward future pro-corporate objectives taken straight out of Uncle Ronnie's book, such as slashing corporate taxes and possibly eliminating all capital gains taxes.

At this point, the burden will

have been shifted to the income tax, which is also prospected to become flatter. A flatter tax rate would relieve top wage earners and place more responsibility on the lower-wage earners to make up the revenue through their taxes.

The timing of a package like this is all too untimely, experts say. Professor Ross Starr of the UCSD Economics Department contends that the national economy will already be on the rebound by 2004, when the plan would kick in. Starr also stated that the plan would have negative long-term effects, such as increased inflation rates, a lower financial strength for the federal government and jeopardized social security benefits. A short-term stimulus like this, Starr said, would have been better implemented in 2001, when the economy initially took a turn for the worse.

Hopefully this cowboy movie will end a bit differently from the last one, where the townspeople stand up to their president and collectively shout "baloney!" — sending the cowboy president riding into the sunset to try again later, this time with a plan that will actually help out the middle-class Americans as advertised.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## SUV article points to important issue

**Editor:**  
Cal-PIRG congratulates contributing writer Maya Linson on her Jan. 9 commentary about the dangers, both physical and environmental, of sport utility vehicles. As a result of individuals like Ms. Linson, who are willing to voice their disgust, automakers are developing cleaner and more economical vehicles, as reported in the Jan. 6 online edition of the *Los Angeles Times*.

General Motors Corp. recently announced plans to begin producing as many as 1 million gas-electric hybrid vehicles, including versions of gas-guzzling trucks and sport utilities. Toyota Motor Corp., Honda Motor Co. and Daimler Chrysler also have plans to begin selling hybrid versions of their

popular SUVs.  
So let your voice be heard. Denounce the proliferation of SUVs on our campus and in our community and country. Consumer demand determines product development; demand nothing less than a safe ride and a healthy environment. Automakers are listening.

— Lauren Yamane,  
Intern for Sustainable Communities,  
Cal-PIRG

## Criticism of UCSA is ill-informed, unjustified

**Editor:**  
As your UCSD representatives to the UC Student Association, we read with great interest Ed Wu's report (Jan. 9 issue of the *Guardian*) regarding UCSA. UCSA is a coalition of UC student governments dedicated to

educating, organizing and advocating for students at the UC Office of the President, Board of Regents and at the state legislative level. One of the primary functions of UCSA is to ensure that a high quality UC education remains accessible to all students. Our action agenda for this year includes empowering youth to vote (remember all those voter registration booths around campus last quarter?) and organizing against tuition increases. Because of UCSA's campaign efforts in this regard in the past, the Regents have not raised student fees since 1994.

In his article, Ed expressed that he was concerned about providing stipends to the chair and vice chair of UCSA, especially given UCSA's 2002-03 budget deficit of \$600.

See **LETTERS**, Page 7



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

The UCSD *Guardian*  
Opinion Editor  
9500 Gilman Dr. 0316  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0316  
e-mail: [letters@ucsdguardian.org](mailto:letters@ucsdguardian.org)

# Courtesy: Manners more than saying 'please'

continued from page 5

Cutting in line, gratuitously swearing loudly and interrupting conversations are also unfortunately common.

Kindness and courtesy look to be somewhat rare, if irrelevant, in the push-shove, fast-paced lifestyle of the 21st century. I suppose nowadays, many think that if a male opens a door for a female, he is being a sexist pig who assumes girls cannot do it for themselves. It's too bad this tainted cynicism is so rampant; after all, what's wrong with just trying to be polite?

When it comes down to it, courtesy is just a matter of treating others the way one would like to be treated. As childish as that sounds, increasingly self-centered adults continue to forget this well-known virtue.

Politeness goes past mere "pleases" and "thank-yous," if even that. Beyond the dinner table, treating others and even surroundings (a sidewalk lined with candy wrappers and cigarette butts is sadly all too common) with respect is not as prevalent as it should be. Even just staying quiet during a film is a practice of courtesy. For the more ambitious, opening a door or offering a hand with groceries is a greatly appreciated gesture.

Although sometimes manners are associated with unnecessary rigidity and repression in today's world, common courtesy does not have to be an extraordinary practice. To simply recognize that others are affected by an individual's actions is to reduce lack of courtesy consciousness.

Daily life could be much more enjoyable if people actually cared and paid attention to how they acted. The preservation of this principle would be a better testament to how far our civilization has gone. Technology is wonderful, yes, but a human touch cannot be replaced by any advances, inventions or discoveries. Courtesy, as old-fashioned as it seems, is in fact timeless.

# Stop: Hagglng an essential part of swap meets

continued from page 5

a swap meet, it is *always* appropriate to haggle. I love haggling. I'm not very good at it, but I have some fun with it. The general rule of thumb is: Start at half of what you want to pay for something because chances are you'll ultimately end up at that number. I don't really follow that rule. First, if it isn't marked, I ask them the price. Then I form a shocked expression on my face, carefully place the item down, and then start walking toward the next booth. Almost always, they'll drop their price. Then I'll subtract just a little bit more from that to make it worth my while, and buy it. This doesn't always work.

Some people think their stuff is such hot shit that they're doing you a favor by selling it to you. I was talking to this guy with a huge swastika flag behind his booth about his R2-D2 cup. He was convinced that it was worth, at the very least, \$15. I offered him \$2 for it, and he got a tad insulted. People tend to assign weird factors like nostalgia and how much they paid for it, which they try to apply toward the sale. If you piss these people off, they won't sell anything to you at any cost. I avoid buying from these people just out of principle, just like they refuse to sell to me out of principle.

On my last trip, I got separated from the person that drove me there, which is a dangerous spot to be in. I walked around for a good hour and decided to bite the bullet and visit the snack bar. Whoever invented the snack bar back in the day sure was an asshole. I imagine the conversation went like this:  
Marketing Guy #1: Airports, ski resorts, shopping malls, theme parks, fairs, conventions, concerts, sporting events and mini-bars in hotel rooms! What do all these have in common?

Marketing Guy #2: They're all multi-syllable words!  
Marketing Guy #3: They all have vowels in them!  
Marketing Guy #4: Dude, you're getting a Dell!  
Marketing Guy #1: They are all places that people either are happy to be in, or have to be in. And we can charge whatever the hell we want!  
Marketing Guy #2: Whoa.  
Marketing Guy #3: Hot damn.  
Marketing Guy #4: Dude.  
Marketing Guy #1: I propose that we just take everything and add what I like to call the "super-lucky bonus surcharge" at these places.

“I avoid buying from these people just out of principle, just like they refuse to sell me out of principle.”

Every in favor say, "Aye!"  
Marketing Guy #2: Aye.  
Marketing Guy #3: I?  
Marketing Guy #4: Eye?  
I paid something like \$4 for some fries, but was so pissed about getting financially raped that I refused to get the Coke. Thirty minutes later, I was thirsty. Really thirsty. Crawling-in-the-Sahara-desert thirsty. Some old lady offered me a Coke from her cooler for \$0.75. "That's funny, you don't look like a vending machine," I thought. I refused out of principle, and no less than 100 feet later, some guy propositions me, "Hey buddy? Want a nice free drink? All you got to do is watch part of 'Bad Boys 2' and tell us what you think."  
I figured, what the hell. Why not? So then this lady pulls me in

back and interrogates me. Asks me questions like if I've seen "Men in Black II" and how I feel about Martin Lawrence. It was the first time in my life anybody had ever asked me how I felt about Martin Lawrence. Then we watched the preview, and she said, "What do you remember from that?"  
"Umm ... there were explosions and stuff."  
"Here, watch it again."  
Before I could refuse, she had already started it again. I made a mental note to remember something, just to stop the thing from repeating itself.

"Well, what do you remember?"  
"Uhhh ... I remember this tree, and then it said, 'produced by Jerry Bruckheimer,' and explosions and stuff. It was a lot like every movie produced by Jerry Bruckheimer."  
"What would you say the movie was about?"  
"You know, I really couldn't tell you."

She proceeded with a long list of questions while I tried to explain to her that there was no way in hell I was going to see this movie, no matter what the preview was, unless it was a preview for a different movie, like "The Bare Wench Project 3." After the interrogation was over, she told me I could go to the cooler and pick out a drink.  
I open the cooler, and I'll be damned if it wasn't all Simply Soda, which is halfway between Triametic and liquid shit. I'm not going to lie, I drank it, but let this be a lesson for you. There are free cheeseburgers at Cheetahs at lunchtime.

People read the *Guardian* variously for the news, the opinions, the movie reviews, the sports section or the crossword. This columnist (reachable at [bertrand@fan.net](mailto:bertrand@fan.net)) writes for the last group.

# Letters: Stipends are a necessity for fairness

continued from page 6

The UCSA Board has long talked about providing a stipend to the chair and vice chair because these positions require a tremendous amount of dedication to the organization and long working hours. The chair manages not only the full-time executive director, but also sets meeting agendas, coordinates UCSA committee chairs and speaks with reporters about UCSA objectives whenever they call. The chair is also often out of town attending several meetings, including Regents meetings, UCOP meetings, state legislative meetings and other organization meetings that involve our allies. The Board's rationale behind offering the stipend was to increase the number of candidates who are able to run for the chair and vice chair positions.

Without a stipend, many students would not have the "luxury" of running for these positions. Instead, highly qualified students might have to choose paid employment to make ends meet. It is not feasible that a student take four classes, dedicate an additional 20-30 hours per week as UCSA's chair, and then work a paying job. Additionally, the move to offer stipends is not unprecedented; several student associations offer stipends (\$1,200 per month at some Universities of California) to their officers. Still other associations, such as the U.S. Student Association, require that their officers to take a year off from academic work because of the

long hours involved. Out of these considerations and more, the Board unanimously approved a monthly \$350 stipend for the chair and \$250 stipend for the vice chair.

Finally, the state of California and the UC system are facing a tough year of budget cuts. For instance, in the governor's budget, proposed student fee increases are set at 29 percent for undergraduates, 32 percent for graduates and 35 percent for professional students. As such, UCSA wanted to ensure that the chair and vice chair could invest as much time as possible advocating against these proposed tuition increases, rather than be forced to take gainful employment during these tough economic times. The UCSA Web site (<http://www.ucsa.org>) is currently being given an overhaul, but will be up and running shortly. Students are welcome to contact their external affairs officers (who are also your campus representatives to UCSA) or attend a UCSA meeting. We would also like students to join the "No More Fee Increases" campaign. Contact your A.S. external affairs officer ([asvexternal@ucsd.edu](mailto:asvexternal@ucsd.edu)) or your Graduate Student Association external affairs officer ([bsflowe@psy.ucsd.edu](mailto:bsflowe@psy.ucsd.edu)) for more information.

— Heather Flowe,  
GSA VP External  
Steve Klass,  
A.S. VP External, UCSA Chair

[www.ucsdguardian.org](http://www.ucsdguardian.org)

Why persist in a necessary evil long after the necessity has ceased to exist?  
Why perpetuate a cycle of breeding-caging-killing?



Why teach medical student to be merciless?  
Why discourage compassion?  
Why extinguish empathy?

# Why kill dogs in first year pharmacology and physiology at UCSD School of Medicine?

Lethal vivisection of purpose-bred dogs is not necessary to teach pharmacology or physiology. These labs persist despite the fact that 95% of US medical schools kill no animals, let alone dogs, in pharmacology. And 82% kill no animals, let alone dogs, in physiology. They persist despite opposition from hundreds of San Diego physicians who signed a petition urging that they cease. They persist despite the fact that they are not necessary for research or surgery practice. They persist despite animal use guidelines urging replacement of lethal labs when alternatives are available. They persist because the UCSD Animal Subject Committee concludes that lethal dog vivisection labs involve "no animal welfare issues." Doctors against dog labs urge all MSIs who feel inclined towards compassion and mercy to opt out of these upcoming labs before the Feb. 1 Deadline. We also urge the UCSD Community to contact the Animal Subjects Committee at [iacuc@ucsd.edu](mailto:iacuc@ucsd.edu) and express opposition to continued dog labs. You can learn more about physician opposition to UCSD Dog Labs by visiting our website at [www.doctorsagainstdoglabs.com](http://www.doctorsagainstdoglabs.com).



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Have Mercy

Opt out of Dog Labs

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<p><b>Bowling for Columbine</b> (1:25), 4:10, 7:10, 9:55</p> <p><b>Chicago</b> (1:35), 4:20, 7:25, 10:05</p>	<p><b>Far From Heaven</b> (1:45), 4:30, 7:35, 10:15</p> <p><b>The Pianist</b> (1:55), 5:05, 8:15</p>
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## Flyers: Campus police have no suspects

*continued from page 1*  
"UJS] does not condone such behavior," Segal said. "Everyone on this campus has a right to protected free speech."

Bader El-Gheussein, a member of Students for Justice, reported the vandalism to Elizabeth Urtecho del Castillo of the Student Office of Human Relations. "We went and showed Elizabeth some of the posters that were vandalized," El-Gheussein said. "She gave us stickers to post next to the remaining posters with graffiti that said, 'This is a Hate Crime.'"

According to Urtecho del Castillo, she used the report filed by El-Gheussein to file another report with the UCSD campus police. At this point, since there are no suspects, there will be no fur-

ther action by her office or the police, Urtecho del Castillo said.

"It's so important to report hate-based incidents," Urtecho del Castillo said. "A hate incident is not a crime, but unreported incidents can escalate to a crime. This is the first phase — not liking someone. But if we don't stop it here, it could become a physical fight or attack."

Urtecho del Castillo also said that plain clothes-wearing campus security officers were placed at the Jan. 10 lecture, partially due to the incident. She said that undercover community service officers will be present at the other two meetings as well.

Nate Floyd of the UCSD Police Department confirmed the presence of officers at the Jan. 10 lecture, but said that this was not out

of the ordinary.

"We typically have undercover officers at events like this," Floyd said.

Shaiq was disappointed that the flyers were marked with graffiti, but acknowledged that the placement of the anti-hate crime stickers brought more attention and publicity to the lecture series.

"The point of these events is to create awareness of alternative viewpoints regarding this conflict and to educate the campus community in general," Shaiq said.

Yildiz said that the removal and marking of flyers was an insufficient solution.

"Both sides need to have an open dialogue to solve this problem," Yildiz said. "At the university level, you should really be able to do that."

## Trolley: Price, timing, access a problem

*continued from page 1*  
they really love their cars."

The study is based on principles of the Transit First program that was adopted in Oct. 2000 and re-emphasized by Mayor Dick Murphy in his State of the City address on Jan. 6. Transit First seeks to make public transportation both easier and more widely used by offering more routes, faster access, more coordination with different forms of transportation and simpler methods of payment.

"It is a planning project, and the intent is to come out at the end of the study with a plan that will identify what the projects are, where the routes are, where the stations are — in particular for the near term," Rychel said.

One of the challenges of the project is overlaying an efficient, low-cost mass transit system over the existing area.

"The area is a very difficult area to serve with transit," Rychel said. "We're very wide-spread. We have a lot of topography challenges here."

Already, however, some are skeptical about the initial findings for the 10.4-mile and \$700-million San Diego Trolley light rail proposal from Old Town to UCSD and UTC.

Critics of the light rail proposal advocate the use of a newer means of transportation called bus rapid transit, which would make use of special buses called "flex-trolleys" that run on existing streets with rubber tires but follow sensors embedded in the road. They are currently in use in European as well as some U.S. cities.

The San Diego Trolley averages about 84,000 riders a week during weekdays and 28.8 million riders annually. Rider estimates for part of the proposed Balboa Extension from Old Town north to Balboa Avenue are 6,400 boarding per day.

Construction is currently underway on the 5.9-mile Mission Valley East Extension line, which will run from Qualcomm Stadium to La Mesa, in part under San Diego State University's campus. It is scheduled to be finished in January 2004 at a cost of about \$500 million.

City councilmen Scott Peters

(Dist. 1) and Michael Zucchet (Dist. 2) believe that the 10.4-mile San Diego Trolley extension in their districts will cost too much and will not serve the areas that need traffic relief the most.

Peters, whose district includes La Jolla, UCSD, University City and Sorrento Valley, said that more creative solutions need to be explored, given the high cost of bringing light rail to his district.

"I just hate to see us burning up so much public money to cover so little ground," he said. "I think if we looked at some other technologies, we could get everything the mid-coast line promises."

Particularly, Peters said, while the trolley line would end at UTC, the bus rapid transit system could extend as far as Sorrento Mesa and Sorrento Valley to alleviate traffic.

An example of the flex-trolley, the Civic, was featured at UCSD

MTDB proposals to allow the trolley to penetrate the campus in the 1980s, has worked with the board to bring the trolley through the campus since the mid-1990s.

There are two proposed track alignments through UCSD, according to Milton Phegley, campus community planner at UCSD. The first allows for one station near Thornton Hospital on East Campus. The other allows for two stations, one north of Pepper Canyon and the other north of Thornton Hospital.

UCSD, however, is more in favor of the bus rapid transit system because of the need for transportation alternatives over the next couple of years. Phegley said that given UCSD's projected enrollment growth over the next 10 years, the 2012 finish-date timetable for the trolley extension is too late.

"We can't afford to have another study end with there not being a definitive conclusion and have something where it just causes the need for additional study," Phegley said. "In order to have something in place when it's really needed, the time to make those decisions is now."

In near-term goals, MTDB is preparing to finalize plans for a new bus route called the Super Loop, which will provide buses with priority through some lanes and traffic lights. The buses would circle through major thoroughways in north University City and UCSD. The proposed route would be made of 10 to 12 stations and run along Nobel Drive to Executive Drive and across East Campus via the proposed Gilman Drive extension and I-5 bridge.

Phegley said the university hopes the Super Loop, which he called a "super Cityshuttle," will further reduce the number of students who drive to campus.

However, Rychel said that she believes if the study follows the principles outlined by the Transit First strategy, the mid-coast corridor can have an effective transportation system.

"If you make this fast and convenient, it's a good alternative for people," she said.

The study will be completed by mid-2003.

on Oct. 14, 2002, as apart of an alternative transportation fair.

For Zucchet, whose coastline district runs from Mount Soledad south to downtown, the proposed light-rail system fails to address traffic issues faced by those who live on or near the coast.

Katie Keach, director of communications in Zucchet's office, said the councilman is not convinced light rail is the best alternative for the mid-coast corridor.

"It's a big corridor, but his concern is getting people out of beach areas, since that's where most back up occurs for his residents," she said. "Those might be addressed better with the bus rapid transit."

UCSD, which initially resisted

and cast a vote only in case of a tie. Voting members will be internally elected "within their respective group." All other members of the A.S. Council will be non-voting members of the committee.

The chair will arrange for the committee's meetings and collect "any information asked to be collected by the group."

A recording genius will also be elected internally to take minutes at meetings and start an official file containing all documents collected and reviewed by the committee.

The committee is required to submit a written report of their findings to the A.S. Council by seventh week of winter quarter.

# hiatus

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003

THE UCSD GUARDIAN



Stand up comedy comes to the Pub

see page 10



Movie review: 'A Guy Thing'

see page 11

### Inside

music critique	10
column	12
calendar	13
Book scan	15

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## Spend time with 'The Hours'

Powerful performances by talented females carry film

In the highly dramatic film "The Hours," director Stephen Daldry, successfully brings to life David Hare's screenplay based on the elaborate novel by Michael Cunningham. The story follows the intertwined lives of three women from three different time periods — a writer, a housewife and an editor — who are all experiencing similar breakdowns as their fears and yearnings cause them to question the meanings of their lives.

The film is primarily character-driven, focusing most of its attention on the inner turmoil of the lives of the three women and their response to it. In fact, each character's life is fully represented in a single day, in which each one engages in her usual daily routine and is simultaneously forced to deal with feelings of depression that are gnawing at her. Thus, it suffices to say that without strong performances by the three lead actresses, the movie would not work terribly well. Fortunately, the actresses completely delve into the complexity of their characters, creating three intricately different personas, each filled with conflicting realistic emotions and with a vitality that drives the whole film.

Leading the pack and serving

as a backbone for the film is the author Virginia Woolf, portrayed with vivacity by a completely unrecognizable Nicole Kidman. Her story takes place in Sussex, England, during the 1920s and ends with the final shot of her suicide in 1941. During the 1920s, the author struggled with her own insanity while trying to write the novel "Mrs. Dalloway," which would later become one of her most celebrated works. Kidman is dazzling as the strong, complicated Woolf, who fully realizes that she has a choice: either live a fuller life by feeding her creative talent at the expense of being pulled further into insanity, or lead a passive, uneventful, but longer life.

Kidman successfully embodies Woolf not just physically — although the prosthetic nose, gray, dull wig, and the deep, seemingly uncaring, but at the same time meaningful voice certainly add to the overall effect — but mentally and emotionally as well. When she is deeply gazing toward the camera in what seems to be part highly intellectual, stimulating thought and part descent into what can only be defined as madness, Kidman perfectly captures an introverted writer who is fully unable to handle the world outside of her novels.

In a strange sequence in which Woolf forces a passionate kiss upon her sister, Vanessa (Miranda Richardson, well-suited to the role of a mother who is stable and completely devoted to her three children), who comes for a visit from London, Kidman handles Woolf's confused emotions with care. She makes Woolf's gesture seem like a plea to be freed from the confines of the country home and from the insanity that causes her exclusion from London, where she creatively thrives but mentally disintegrates. Even in her relationship with her husband, Leonard (Stephen Dillane, solidly portraying a caring and devoted man who truly cares for his ailing wife), it is clear that she loves and respects him, but there is still a certain distance seemingly caused by her fragile mind.

Laura Brown (Julianne Moore) is a pregnant mother living in Los Angeles after World War II who in the process of reading the novel "Mrs. Dalloway" is inspired to drastically change her life. Moore brings humanity to Brown and provides an explanation for the character's selfish and unfair actions. From the outset, it is

See **HOURS** page 10

## Habib Koité brings the sound of West Africa to UCSD

Guitarist from Mali will reproduce fantastic sounds from his two latest albums

By **GAELE FAURE**  
Senior Staff Writer

he name Habib Koité might not elicit any glimmers of recognition in the eyes of the average UCSD student, but it would be a mistake to write off his upcoming tour date at Mandeville Auditorium on Jan. 17 as "just another world music show."

The Mali singer and his band play music that is more than "afropop," it's gentle yet energetic, refined yet widely appealing. Played with acoustic and electric guitars alongside traditional Mali instruments, meshing rich West African styles with blues,

rock and even Cuban music.

It's about a plurality of cultures; it's about racism, sexism, love, smoking, the Internet and the negative effects of two wives' beating on all of the husbands' children.

And if that's not enough, the music is beautiful enough that when Koité lapses back and forth between English, French and Bambara, the listener barely even notices.

While Koité is hailed today as a world music icon by the likes of Rolling Stone, success was long in the making. Growing up in a family with a long line of griots (a social class of musicians in Africa), of which his mother was one, Koité nevertheless was headed to become an engineer before his uncle persuaded him to pursue his musical gift at the National Institute of Arts in Bamako, Mali, where he studied classical Western styles of music.

Upon graduation, he was hired to teach at the school, meanwhile giving private guitar lessons and working nights playing bar shows with a cover band. After a few grueling years, his efforts with his own band, Bamada, earned him a reputation in France and a hit radio song, "Cigarette Abana (The Cigarette is Finished)," in West Africa in 1992. The song, about a boy who decides never to smoke after becoming sick when his friends pressure him to try a cigarette, seems too simple to be taken seriously, yet its earnestness and catchiness were successful in light-heartedly spreading his anti-smoking message.

The release of Koité's first album, "Musou Ko," soon followed, and success came with it. However, his meshing of styles on this debut

See **HABIB**, Page 14



Photo courtesy of <http://www.contraque.com>

Rock on: Habib Koité will be jamming at Mandeville Auditorium for a UEO show, on Jan. 7

By Anna Dylewska, Staff Writer

# The Ambassadors of Comedy return

Stand up comedians will appear at the Pub to make UCSD laugh

By **JESSICA KRUSKAMP**  
Senior Staff Writer

The Ambassadors of Comedy are en route after a stressed call from the nation of UCSD. The first few weeks of the quarter have created a veritable humorless wasteland, stretching from the former Warren Field to the Iron Curtain-like York Hall.

Scheduled to arrive on UCSD soil Jan. 17, the Ambassadors will convene in Porter's Pub at 8 p.m. in a free, sidesplitting program. This is the second year the Ambassadors of Comedy have traveled to UCSD as part of an international tour to spread the good comedic word.

These ambassadors are not your typical national representatives. They're hilarious, they're hip and they promise not to wear suits.

In fact, these ambassadors are the antithesis of the suit-wearing kind, and promise to put on one very funny, internationally flavored night.

If funds are low in the old savings account and, despite your wanton desires for Bangladesh humor, a jet-set trip to Bangladesh is put on the "yeah, right" list, worry not. Gerry "Mr. Bangladesh" Bednob comes directly to you.

After all, everyone has a motto. The Ambassador's motto is, "When you can't go on vacation, we bring the vacation to you."

The Ambassadors not only bring a vacation, but they perform amusing yet enlightening routines detailing the American experience from their perspective as non-

The look of comedians: The laughs start here



**Mr. Bangladesh**  
Gerry Bednob will make you smile until it hurts.



**Mr. Vietnam**  
You will become a fan of Dat Phan after this show.



**Mr. Jamaica**  
Jeff Hodge, he will be bringing you the jokes.

U.S. citizens.

A.S. Commissioner of Programming Gabe Grossman reminisced about last year's show.

"It's a really fun, funny night," he said. "One of Mr. Bangladesh's opening jokes was something along the lines of, 'I was born in Bangladesh. I'm lucky to have gotten out alive.'"

According to Grossman, the event won't be like your usual Friday nights, and will be an immersion into the world of quality stand-up comedy.

Veterans of the comedy circuit, the Ambassadors have impressive credentials.

Bednob regularly opens for Joan Rivers in Las Vegas, and has appeared in "Encino Man," "Doing Time On Planet Earth," "Wonder Years," "Mad About You," "Seinfeld," "The Joan Rivers Show," "The Arsenio Hall Show" and "Star Search."

Mr. Jamaica, aka Jeff Hodge, has devoted 12 years to his comedic calling. His credits

include "Crocodile Dundee in LA," "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," and in his spare time wrote for the "Keenan Ivory Wayans Show."

Dat Phan, aka Mr. Vietnam, is another ambassador with television credits that include performing on Comedy Central, being the 2002 spokesperson for Snapple and the winner of Southern California's Comedy Survivor Competition.

Other international ambassadors will round out the two-hour program, which mixes in lively multicultural dance and music serving as a buffer for the routines.

"It's a great program, and the comedians are great," Grossman said. "Everybody should come."

The show is expected to run two hours and is free and open to all UCSD students. Pub doors will open at 7 p.m. for those early birds who want front row seats to this showcase of global comedians.

# Hours: Philosophical plot will hold your attention

continued from page 9

obvious that Brown does not fully fit into her domestic position as homemaker and wife. Throughout her day — during which she tries to make a cake for her husband's birthday, considers ending her life and talks about motherhood with a friend — her discontentment and disconnection with what is going on around her is very apparent. With subtle facial movements, Moore ideally latches on to the character's longing, and her ultimate, desperate decision.

The most poignant sequences, and probably the most difficult for Moore (who has three children of her own), are the interactions between Brown and her son Richie (Jack Rovello).

The more Richie, who senses that there is something wrong with his mother, questions her love for him and tries to stay with her, the more she pushes him away while vocally trying to comfort him. These moments are quite disturbing, but at the same time brilliantly executed.

The third woman is Clarissa Vaughan (Meryl Streep), a modern version of Woolf's character, Mrs. Dalloway, who lives in New York in 2001. Vaughan is furiously working to prepare a party for her friend Richard (Ed Harris), a great and difficult poet who is dying of AIDS. Vaughan also struggles with finding meaning in her life while she goes to purchase flowers; shares an intimate and tense conversation with Richard and Richard's ex-boyfriend, Louis Waters (Jeff Daniels); and interacts with her live-in girlfriend, Sally Lester (Allison Janney), and her daughter, Julia (Claire Danes).

Through Vaughan, Streep is

able to create yet another varied character who is also questioning her life. During her long, strenuous day, the character suffers two over-the-top but understandable emotional breakdowns, which Streep displays with ease and makes completely fitting for the nervous, uptight persona she portrays.

Harris stands out with his performance as a destructive, hard-to-deal-with genius poet who is himself struggling with inner demons while the end of his life nears. The actor seems to have found a niche playing brilliant, difficult artists (he also got rave reviews as the struggling painter Jackson Pollock in "Pollock").

The connections between the three women are made clear in well-edited and flowing transition sequences, as well as during a marvelous revelatory sequence toward the end of the film when the characters somewhat come to terms with their yearnings.

Overall, the film is a fantastic enterprise that is worth seeing because of the interesting philosophical questions that it raises, the powerful and moving way in which the dramatic issues are probed and explored, and the amazing cast that bring such intelligence, complexity and depth to their characters that it is compelling to watch them undergo their inner struggles.

**The Hours**  
★★★★★  
Starring Nicole Kidman, Julianne Moore  
In theaters Jan. 17  
Rated PG-13

# If this is 'A Guy Thing,' then you can call me Suzy

The newest offering from Jason Lee is poor schlock

By **DAVID BYNUM**  
Senior Staff Writer

The aptly named "A Guy Thing" fails to commit, and it drinks straight from the carton on its way to boring its viewers. While the weight of the film rested on Jason Lee's shoulders, not even Arnold could have borne the weight of this ridiculously trite excursion in combining ideas from other bad films. From the "Dead Man on Campus" typecast maniac to Lee's character, nearly everything in this film had been done before, and done better. Even a number of Lee's fantasy sequence scenes felt like rip-offs from the NBC's "Scrubs."

"A Guy Thing" draws most of its comedy from the interesting differences between men and women. As a wedding date fast approaches, catastrophe ensues. Instead of making intelligent observations about the differences between the sexes, it takes steps backwards, repeating lines that everyone has heard from men before, such as "it's natural, we are hunters." Meanwhile, the womenfolk are basically unable to do anything but worry about the wedding amidst believing the barrage of stupid lies told to them by their significant others.

The real question that the film asks the viewer is: Who is hotter, Selma Blair or Julia Stiles? Viewers were given nearly two hours to ponder a question that most guys can answer in less than five seconds. The problem is that by the end of the film, it is diffi-



**Film REVIEW**

cult to feel anything but indifferent about the question due to the number of times that their characters cause dry heaving. In this classic battle between the reserved brunette and the buxom blonde, there are no winners — just losers and a lot of bad acting. The film earns its one and a half stars by delivering one line that got the entire audience laughing, which just happens to be the film's title. A background of semi-comedic supporting roles fails to white out the fact that there are no other redeeming qualities in this film. While the film fails to be romantic or funny, the fact that "A Guy Thing" was released during awards season makes this misdemeanor a felony. While it is difficult to imagine a time of year when this film could do well, the long list of excellent films in theatres right now makes it easy to make the statement: There is no reason to see this film.



**A Guy Thing**

Starring Jason Lee, Julia Stiles and Selma Blair  
In theaters Jan. 17  
Rated PG-13



Listen up: Becky (Julia Stiles) and Paul (Jason Lee) share a shocking moment together as they contemplate what to do about their wild and crazy budding relationship.

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# Music CRITIQUE

cal pan-genre.

Emo music, like most famous musical genres, is defined not so much by the sound of its music but by the attitude of its artists and audience.

After all, how many rock 'n' roll bands today sound like Chuck Berry or Little Richard? How many fans of rap music are willing to say that Puff Daddy sounds like Public Enemy? And seriously, just what exactly are Hootie and the Blowfish an alternative to?

So emo, the latest and most confusing musical genre, is defined, at least in my mind, by three things:

1. If you think that a band is emo, they're really not.

Pop Music Fan: "So, Jack's Broken Heart is pretty emo, eh?"

Emo Connoisseur: "Actually,

they're more like post-emo indie rock."

2. If you're emo, then you hate emo.

PMF: "Hey, you've got the ratty sweater, the greasy hair, the thick glasses, the Get-Up Kids patch on the backpack. You must be really into emo."

EC: "Ugh, no, I hate that term."

3. Of course, as the name suggests, there's the matter of the music being emotional.

PMF: "Man, that guy from Korn is so emotional. You might even say... he's emo?"

EC: "No, he's too angry."

PMF: "Okay, what about Dave Matthews Band? They have a lot of happy songs."

EC: "Happiness doesn't count."

So the answer is simple: Emo doesn't really even exist. It's the perfect underground music: Nobody knows what it is, and nobody will admit to liking it.

Why is it that we have to define everything in the world in terms of what it is like or not like? How is it

that we create conversation out of "You're from (name of town where someone is from)? Wow! Do you know (name of person that may be a mutual acquaintance)?"

Do I like emo music? I'm not sure what it is. But in a world where everything is defined by what it is like and not like, emo somehow derives some kind of meaning that most people do not fathom. After much thinking, I think I truly have a better grasp of what emo is all about.

Next, I just have to figure out these other genres: Metal, black metal, death metal, hair metal, nu-metal, new wave, progressive rock, acid rock, acid jazz, funk, punk-funk, hip-hop, rap, gangsta rap, east coast, west coast, dirty south, alternative rock, adult alternative, adult contemporary, contemporary blues, rhythm and blues, goth, hard-core, rap-core, metal-core, grind-core, pop, power-pop, jangle pop, space pop, grunge, post-grunge, industrial, ambient, trance, house, jungle.

Wait, what was I talking about?

# Emo: Trying to reach enlightenment and still not getting there

The complexities of the popular punk music movement Emo are explored to figure out what hell it's all about

By **ANDREW FU**  
Senior Staff Writer

I used to hate the term "emo." I pointed to all of this labeling and classification? Inside of rock we have punk, and inside of punk we have emo. Besides, what bands are really 'emo,' anyway?

Is Sunny Day Real Estate emo? Is At The Drive-In? Weezer?

Many bands that are sometimes considered "emo," such as Jimmy Eat World, have expressed a desire to not be branded with the ambiguous and sometimes derogatory term (yeah Jimmy, and opening for Blink-182 was a much better career-defining move, but we won't get into people's definitions of "punk rock" this time).

There have been many attempts to define the cultural construction known as emo music, and so far we've heard everything from loud guitars and screaming vocals to soft twinkly guitars and mellow singing. Indeed, the acoustic-based self-

depreciation of Dashboard Confessional seems to have little to do with the raging guitars and vocal chord-damaging anthems of Hot Water Music.

Some have even gone as far as to accommodate the differences between emotionally charged, punk-influenced music with several sub-genres: emo-core, hard-core emo, post-emo, screamo, etc.

Maybe our society is just too obsessed with placing everything into nice, neatly defined boxes, as if it would enhance our musical enjoyment to be able to name everything a certain artist sounds like.

It just doesn't make sense to say, "I like rock music," when Limp Bizkit can have more in common with Nelly (whiny rapping, annoying egotism) than many other "rock" bands.

Recently, however, I have reconciled myself with emo. It's somehow different from other genres in that it can include a wide variety of artists and somehow still be selective — a sort of musi-

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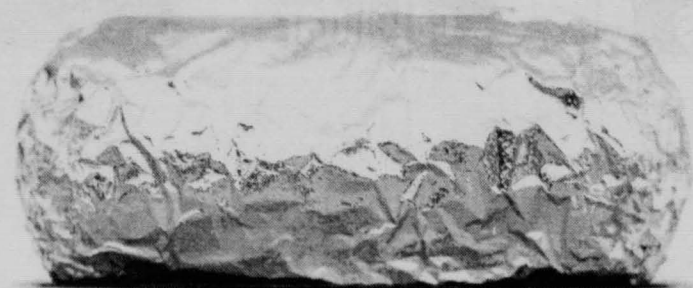
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Earth to the Grammys: Top 20 artists are not enough

don't pop my sheep



Dave Bynum

In keeping with the National Association of Recording Arts and Science's ongoing mission to "document and preserve the history of recorded sound," a full list of nominees was recently released for this year's Grammy awards. While the association is sure to achieve its goal, it is also sure to once again remind the citizens of the great nation of America just how stupid they really are. (Note: the association will also remind the citizens of Latin nations how stupid they really are via the Latin Grammy's, which will not be discussed in length here. Apparently, recording artists are either Latin or non-Latin).

I guess being a citizen of Southern California is a little different from being an American. When 2002 finally came to an end a few weeks ago, a list of the top-selling records was released and I, a loving patron of the musical arts, owned none of these records. After you see the list, you will realize that I am bragging. The best-selling albums of this year, in this order, belonged to: Eminem, Nelly, Avril Lavigne, Dixie Chicks, Eminem, Pink, Ashanti, Alan Jackson, Shania Twain, and finally, the beloved "O Brother Where Art Thou" soundtrack. Here is a notable fact for people with extremely short-term memories: Eminem is on the list twice.

Somehow, in 2002, Eminem turned from being the nation's biggest hate monger to being the nation's most misunderstood hate monger with a soft, chewy center, a hit movie and a grip of your cash. NARAS thought it would record this historical transformation with a number of Grammy nominations.

Not surprisingly, the association also rewarded Avril Lavigne's top-selling accomplishments with five Grammy nominations. That is one for every year since she hit puberty. In fact, every one of the top-selling artists received a nomination, except for the "O Brother Where Art Thou" soundtrack, which was not eligible because it was not released this year. The album received plenty of nominations last year, when it was the No. 9-selling album in the nation. I am a little shocked that this album was a top 10 seller two years straight. I guess all the old people who bought the album lost it and went out and bought it again. Worth noting is that the Shania Twain album that came in at No. 9 was released in mid-November — meaning 2.9 million copies in six weeks.

I would like to personally thank NARAS for awarding this year's best-selling artists with Grammy nominations and telling the American public what they already knew. Maybe it is just me, but there is something that seems very wrong with the parity between the best-selling album list and the Grammy nomination lists. We all know that Pink sold 3.1 million albums this year with her phonetically correct, but at the same time rebelliously spelled, "Missundaztood" (please don't overlook the double entendre that exists here, but not in the equally rebelliously spelled "sk8r boy" track from Avril Lavigne). Does the

See SHEEP, Page 15

MOST

UCSD Guys (91%)

only have sex when they are sure their partner is willing\*

\*Willing: consent without coercion, doubt or indecision

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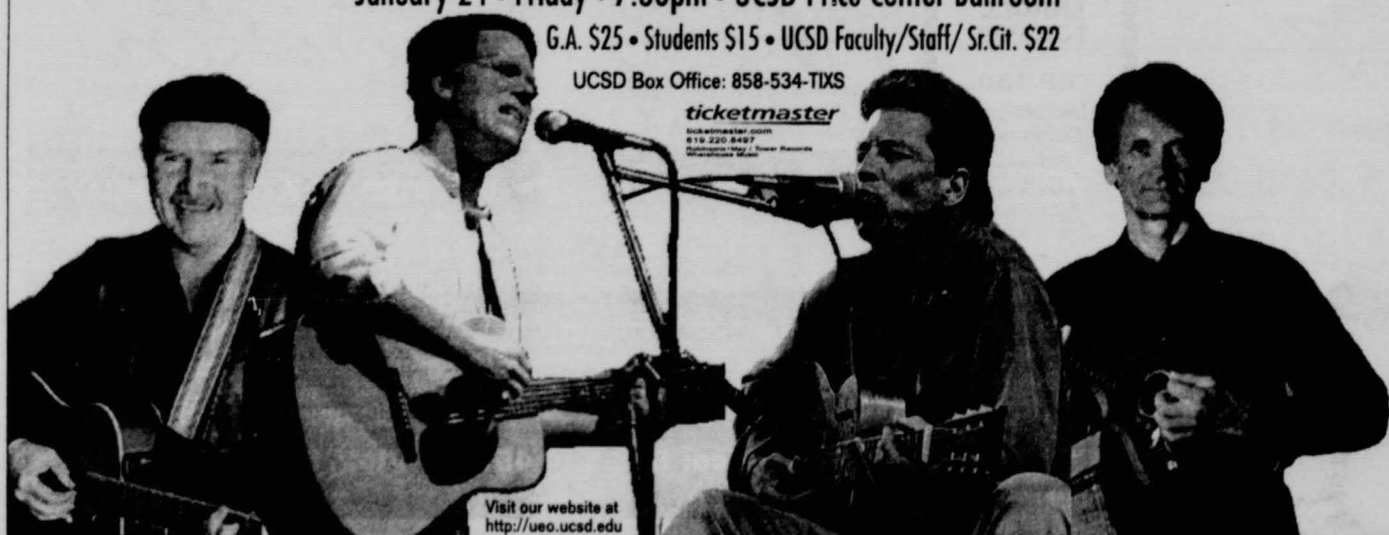
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16 thursday

Tired of shelling out a huge wad of cash to go to a Broadway show only to get bad seats or be disappointed? Well now it's pay-back time. The California Center for the Arts in Escondido brings "Forbidden Broadway" to theaters just like you. The show is a parody of not just one, but five Broadway hits: "The Producers," "Chicago," "The Full Monty," "Cabaret" and "Oklahoma!" This hilarious show will leave your sides smarting, but it will only be running until Feb. 2. Tickets start at \$28 — for more information call (800) 988-4253.

p.m. With \$20 and a pint of beer, you'll be ready for an evening of entertaining rap songs by the beach.

Poetry isn't just dead words lying in unread books; it can be pretty entertaining and competitive, too. Every month at Urban Grind in Hillcrest, there are two Poetry Slams where poets duke it out in two rounds while they read their original poetry. There is a three-minute maximum for each poem, and three to five judges will rate each reading. By the end of the evening, cash prizes are awarded to the first- and second-place winners. The event is free and open to all. Sign-ups start at 7 p.m. and the readings start at 7:30 p.m. For information call (619) 294-2920.

17 friday

Many of you may remember a group known as The Alcoholiks from days gone by, and you may be surprised that they are still around. Actually, they never left. Now known simply as The Licks, the hip-hop group is made up of E-Swift, J-Ro and Tash. Awaiting the release of their next album, "X.O.," in May, they will be playing at Canes Bar and Grill at 9

18 saturday

Big-band swing in your very own Indian casino. The Big Bad Voodoo Daddys, known especially for their appearance in the indie flick "Swingers," will perform at Viejas at 9 p.m. The impressive band will dish out their ever-delicious and upbeat songs, as well as melodies that will have you up

19 sunday

Opening up this weekend at the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla is an exhibit featuring the works of influential postwar abstract American artist Ellsworth Kelly. With an exciting use of vivid colors and clear shapes, her pieces can evoke strong emotion and deep contemplation. A contemporary of

21 tuesday

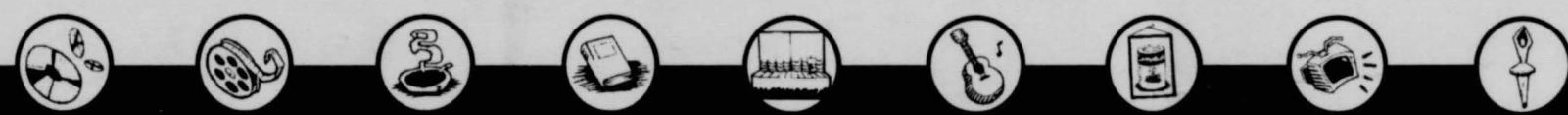
Well-known comic sweetheart Billy Crystal, who has been in such blockbuster hits as "When Harry Met Sally" and "Analyze This," will be performing at our very own La Jolla Playhouse tonight and tomorrow. Crystal, who has been a friend to the playhouse's artistic

director, Des McAnuff, for years, will be raising money for the New Play Development Program. Performing with Crystal will be comedian David Steinberg. Ticket packages for the show range from \$100 to \$1,000. The \$1,000 package includes stellar seats, a pre-show reception and a backstage pass for a post-show production. For information call (858) 550-1010 or visit http://www.lajolaplayhouse.com.

For those true music fans who want to show support for their favorite indie artist, Arie Hest will be playing at the lovely bohemian coffee house Twigg's Coffee & Tea in North Park. To check out the devilishly handsome young man with a killer smile, you'll have to be there at 8:30 p.m. Oh, and he plays the guitar and sings, too. Tickets are \$8 advanced sale and \$10 at the door.

Look to the Hiatus Calendar for events in and around UCSD.

All tickets can be purchased through Ticketmaster by calling (619) 220-8497 or by going to http://www.ticketmaster.com unless otherwise noted.



UCSD UNIVERSITY EVENTS OFFICE presents World Music from Mali Habib Koité & Bamada January 17 • Friday • 7:30pm Mandeville Auditorium G.A. \$20 • Students \$15 UCSD Faculty/Staff & Sr.Cit. \$18 UCSD Box Office 858-534-TIXS

ucsd theatre & dance The Three Sisters BY ANTON CHEKHOV • DIRECTED BY KYLE DONNELLY translated by Carol Rocamora at the Mandell Weiss Forum Studio on the campus of UCSD

CAN YOUR WORLD CHANGE THIS QUARTER? Each quarter UCSD students from every major enroll in PAL classes. 99% of students recommend the courses and the instructors.

# Habib: Albums indicate superb talent

continued from page 9  
carried more weight than is immediately obvious, for in Mali, each region — even each town — has its strict musical styles and guidelines, and his blending of cultures was criticized by more conservative musicians.

The fact that the track "Fatima," played in a style from Northern Mali, became a hit in Southern Mali was an impressive achievement, considering that the conflicting regions have shed blood in the past.

His two more recent efforts, "Ma Ya" and "Baro," released in 1998 and 2001, respectively, continued on in the same vein, with subtly beautiful acoustic guitar arrangements accompanying the tenor's exploration of a variety of societal issues, the most near to his heart being the need for youth to embrace modernity while retaining the various cultures of his country.

One of the songs on "Ma Ya," "Kumbin," expressly addresses this issue in English: "I love life but I fear a world too similar, I love life but fear imitation ... I like technology but fear for our forest, I like technology fax and internet ... I'd like to know if elsewhere this happens another



Photo courtesy of <http://www.contrejour.com>

**Soft music:** Koité's show at Mandeville Auditorium will satisfy all different musical interests and leave the listener satisfied.

way, I'd like to know if elsewhere others feel the same way."

The title track of "Baro" offers a different aspect of Koité's range; according to the album's liner notes, the lyrics, sung in Bambara, describe a simple Mali tradition.

However, the expert acoustic guitar-picking and heartfelt choruses propel it into a heart-wrenching tour de force.

If the wide press coverage of Koité's past U.S. tours is anything to go by, the artist and his talented band are above all a great live act, interacting with the crowd and playing an incredible range of instruments. Tickets are on sale through Ticketmaster and through the University Events Office: \$15 for students, \$20 for general admission.

# East Coast native Ari Hest to bring acoustic rock to Twiggs

Alternative singer, songwriter will perform at the small North Park stage Jan. 21

By **NEHA SINGH**  
Staff Writer

After a long, crazy weekend, what could be better than unwinding with a fabulous acoustic singer-songwriter at a local coffee shop? East-Coast native Ari Hest is coming to Twiggs on Jan. 21, and if the show is anything like his other ones, it will be amazing.

Music runs strong in Hest's family: His father is a college music professor and his mother is a professional singer. His father had him singing at the young age of 7, but it wasn't until the later days of high school that he began to use music as his refuge. He was inspired by bands like Pearl Jam and Smashing Pumpkins, along with artists like Dave Matthews and Jeff Buckley. These influences are evident in his own songs, and can be heard when he does covers at shows.

With a voice reminiscent of James Taylor and Peter Gabriel, Hest has gone from being a college student playing out his hobby for

other students to being a career musician. He recorded his first LP, "Incomplete," while in his sophomore year at NYU, and soon followed it up with his second album, "Come Home." After a lot of composing and touring, he released his latest album, "Story After Story."

Since fall of 2001, Hest has played more than 200 shows at clubs and campuses, and all this experience has given him a reputation as an outstanding live performer. With beautiful songs like "Caught Up In Your Love" and "Didn't Want to Say Goodbye," Hest has been picking up fans all over the country. His honest, easy voice and rare talent for good songwriting doesn't hurt him either.

Hest's enthusiasm for every show he plays is almost a guarantee for a good show on the 21st. With an adjoining Green Room, Twiggs also promises to be a good venue for his acoustic talent, sans the noise of people and espresso machines. But hey, if you're one of those rare people who can't stand the music, at least you can get decent cup of coffee.

# Bjork Scam: Icelander never scheduled

Pop icon falsely billed to play at The Flame; con artist steals show

By **JESSICA KRUSKAMP**  
Senior Staff Writer

Look up the word "hoax" in any dictionary and you will see pictures of the Loch Ness Monster, Bigfoot and our pixie-faced friend from the icy north, Bjork.

No, Bjork really is a singer from Iceland, but her name has been mixed up in what shall be henceforth called "The Great San Diego Bjork Hoax."

The Icelandic star was supposedly scheduled to play a small Hillcrest club, The Flame, on Jan. 15. Tickets were sold and fans were excited. A concert of such proportions — huge star meets tiny club — was a once-in-a-lifetime show.

The Flame's plans were snuffed out when Alex Conate, the man who was to bring Bjork to town, allegedly fled with \$16,000 in ticket sales, according to a *San Diego Union-Tribune* article.

Thus, the alleged Great San Diego Bjork Hoax.

According to reports, Conate (aliases include the urban "DJ Liquid Groove" and questionable "Keanu") approached local promoter Bryan Pollard and claimed he knew Bjork from producing the Icelandic version of her album, "Homogenic."

Though Pollard reportedly found no Icelandic version of "Homogenic" online or in record stores, he trusted Conate enough to let him stay at his home for a month and coordinate a concert. Pollard received e-mails from "Bjork" detailing her arrival for the show. The show sold out its \$40 tickets. Then Conate split. He allegedly



Anna MacMurdo/Guardian

**Lit up:** The Flame, in Hillcrest, is where many San Diegans were looking forward to a Bjork concert. The concert proved to be a scam.

ran right out of town with the cash in his pocket, and left Pollard, The Flame and Bjork fans up Scam River.

The clean hoax ensured that Conate got the money and was

untraceable. Conate insisted that tickets were sold on Pollard's Web site, severing any electronic links to himself.

Obviously, the Jan. 15 Bjork concert at The Flame was cancelled.

Jason Lee Julia Stiles Selma Blair

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# READUCSD

# Sheep: Taking a look at who ought to win some Grammys

continued from page 12  
American public really have to go through the motions of pretending that Pink is a brilliant artist worthy of an award? This is a person who sings other people's songs about not being Britney without understanding that she is something much worse, namely the media's knee-jerk reaction to Britney. I'm not sure if she realizes that she could never have existed if Britney hadn't existed first. Maybe we will all find out if she wins. During her acceptance speech, perhaps amidst thanking all of the people that wrote her songs, she can thank Britney for not being Pink.

What is NARAS anyway? Well, NARAS is comprised essentially of 18,000 self-interested producers, musicians and music industry moguls. These people make these nominations to try to sell more of these albums. There really isn't any money to be made in finding an under-appreciated artist and nominating them for an award. That is probably why you won't find a Best Punk Rock Album nomination category, but you will find a category for far-fetched. After all, of the top 10 selling artists, about one-third know how to play instruments. The big money seems to be in having a look and more importantly, you can't take a lion's share cut of their record sales and concert revenues. Why encourage children to be musicians when the good money is in being a recording artist?

NARAS is not only documenting the history of recorded sound, but also ensuring a sound future through brainwashing school children and promoting its own members.

on their face, and sing songs about either how they hate their mother or how to dump their skater boyfriend, which they probably didn't write.

I only wish it was that friendly and useful a message. NARAS has a much more sinister agenda; the in-class program actually teaches the children about "piracy" and copyright laws. There is actually a quiz that these kids take on <http://www.grammy.com> that asks, "What does it mean to file-swap?" They are educating the future generations of compact-disc purchasers about the evils of file-sharing. NARAS is stooping low with good reason; album sales are down 8.7 percent in 2002 from 2001. The biggest piece of evidence that the online file-sharing industry is affecting music sales is probably that the only genre of music that saw an increase in sales in 2002 was country, up 12.1 percent. Those cowboys still don't know how to use computers.

Maybe a better method of self-preservation for NARAS would be to inspire kids to learn to play a musical instrument. I know it seems far-fetched. After all, of the top 10 selling artists, about one-third know how to play instruments. The big money seems to be in having a look and more importantly, you can't take a lion's share cut of their record sales and concert revenues. Why encourage children to be musicians when the good money is in being a recording artist?

NARAS is not only documenting the history of recorded sound, but also ensuring a sound future through brainwashing school children and promoting its own members.

## Across

- One of the four beverage sizes at Earle's Place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ cooker, a popular item at OLE!
- \_\_\_\_\_ ho, ho
- Referee for a sporting event.
- \_\_\_\_\_ jerky, a popular snack item at OLE!
- Pick up a Valentine's Day \_\_\_\_\_ for your main squeeze.
- Actress \_\_\_\_\_ Thompson, star of "Caroline in the City" and "Back to the Future."
- Boba is a type of \_\_\_\_\_ with tapioca balls.
- A bow-shaped curve.
- Boiled soy beans you eat right out of the pods—loads of fun at Earle's Place!
- Alice in Wonderland \_\_\_\_\_ sets are now available at Earle's Place to play next time you drop by with friends for a Mocha.
- What Maria almost became before marrying Captain Von Trapp.
- Whether in the water or on the snow, this sport is not for those with weak knees.
- The first synthetic (and deadly) organic pesticide.
- United States \_\_\_\_\_ America.
- Milky \_\_\_\_\_, espresso, steamed milk, chocolate, caramel, and whipped cream.
- Cornell is a college in the \_\_\_\_\_ League.
- What you sleep in at night.

## Down

- A Grande Coffee with two espresso shots.
- A female student at a coeducational university.
- What you put in a drink to cool it down.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warren College, the location of Earle's Place, the hippest coffee house around.
- \_\_\_\_\_ lamp, a cool bedroom fixture of the 70's with unidentified globs of goo.
- James Bond movie: "On \_\_\_\_\_ Majesty's Secret Service."
- load \_\_\_\_\_, a tasty drink at Earle's Place: espresso, banana, honey & cream, blended with ice.
- One of the four beverage sizes at Earle's Place.
- Tic \_\_\_\_\_ Toe, a popular game to play with H's and O's.
- A word used to say that you're going to pass a test with flying colors.
- Largest coffee size at Earle's Place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ in Wonderland is on the chalk board at Earle's Place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Slide Kahlua mix with Irish Cream, Half & Half, and chocolate.
- Almond \_\_\_\_\_, a Cafe Mocha with almond and coconut syrups, and whipped cream.

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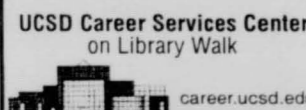
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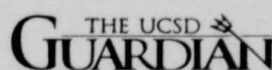
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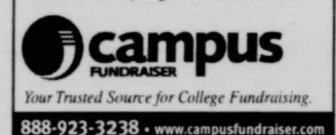
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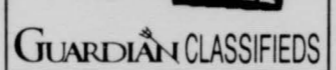
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The Guardian BLIND DATE is coming! Watch for details. (1/16)

NinePointFive Thesis: 8.5 The Koran/The Torah/The Bible creates people. People create The Koran/The Torah/The Bible. (1/16)

Re: the UC Berkeley geophysicists who devised the "Big Burp" theory about the moon's geologic history. You don't want to know what they found to cause high tides. (1/16)

To my PPG: I miss you two already. I better see you guys soon! Love you! -Buttercup (1/16)

Divya baby, your 21! You deserve a luscious beer and a smooth man to share it with. Bottoms up to you, you gorgeous dame.

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Describe your ideal partner \_\_\_\_\_

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Upcoming Sport Events

Men's basketball: The Tritons will play CSU San Bernardino on Jan. 17 and Cal Poly Pomona on Jan. 18 at RIMAC Arena.

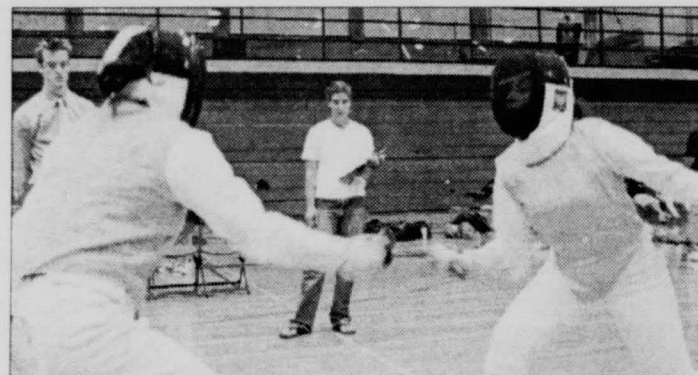
Women's basketball: UCSD will host CSU San Bernardino and Cal Poly Pomona on Jan. 17 and Jan. 18, respectively, at RIMAC Arena.

Swimming and diving: The Tritons host UC Davis at Canyonview Pool on Jan. 19 after the teams compete at UCLA on Jan. 18.

Men's volleyball: UCSD will play against Ohio State University on Jan. 18 at 1:00 p.m. and Jan. 19 at noon at RIMAC Arena.

Fencing: Lee hopes teams can sweep next dual meet

continued from page 20
One of those individuals was Runyan, who had some of the best results of the day, and he eventually plans on using his five years of fencing experience to its fullest.
'I would like to make the [National Collegiate Athletic Association] Championships,' Runyan said.
Although the team did not fare particularly well in the all-day competition against four teams of experienced and respected fencers, UCSD does have good expectations for the rest of the season.
On Feb. 8, the team will trek north to Santa Barbara to face USC, UCLA, UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara.
'We expect to sweep that one,' Lee said.
Despite the fact that the team is 'fighting an uphill battle,' according to Lee, the Tritons still look to deliver strong performances during the rest of the year, and the team has many prospects for success.



Guardian file photo
Up next: The UCSD men's and women's fencing teams hope to rebound from their disappointing losses on Jan. 15 in a meet in Santa Barbara on Feb. 8.

Crawford: UCSD guard holds big role on men's team

continued from page 20
Crawford's ultimate goal, however, is to improve the Triton athletic program.
'This school has lots of sports, but not enough fans,' he said.
Crawford's look to the future makes him the visionary of the team and the team leader. When asked about taking on a leadership role, Crawford said, 'I kind of assumed leadership since I got here. I just try to be vocal and lead by example by working harder.'
Crawford is an integral part of the Triton men's basketball team.
'We need Sean for his ability to shoot and his leadership skills, as well as his all-around game,' Lanthier said.
This weekend, Crawford will attempt to surpass his individual success with the hopes of extending the Triton winning streak to four games when UCSD hosts CSU San Bernardino and Cal Poly Pomona at RIMAC Arena on Jan. 17 and Jan. 18, respectively.
Though Crawford's individual statistics prove that his extra work has paid off, he said, 'I am playing for the win column. I am not in it for individual benefit. I have won my whole life and I believe winning is the way to bring the fan base back to UCSD.'



Courtesy of UCSD Athletics
Sean Crawford
UCSD men's basketball's guard

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CLUB SPORTS

MEN'S RUGBY

UCSD rugby kicked off its 2003 season with a victory over the visiting UCLA Bruins by a score of 51-15 on Jan. 11.
After an even first 20 minutes of play, the Tritons opened the scoring with prop Kris Bullard-Wolf and flanker Josh Mello feeding teammate Nick Polesky, who finished with the game's first try in the corner, on the wing to give UCSD a 5-0 lead. Only five minutes later, UCSD's Nick Serrato crashed through the UCLA defense to put the Tritons up 10-0. Following a penalty kick and a try by UCLA, Triton fullback Todd Glead darted through the Bruin defenders to score his first try of the day. The Polesky conversion ended the first half with UCSD leading 17-8.



Courtesy of UCSD Club Sports
Out of the pack: After holding onto a tight 17-8 halftime lead, UCSD men's rugby team blew open its first game of the season against UCLA for a 51-15 win.

SAILING

The UCSD sailing team recently competed in the annual Rose Bowl Regatta, which was hosted by the USC varsity sailing team. Sixty-eight (19 college and 49 high school) teams participated in the event at the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club in Long Beach, Calif. This regatta puts high school sailors in touch with collegiate teams from all around the nation, and many of the country's top-ranked college sailing teams compete to show the high schools just what their sailing program is all about.
UCSD head coach Douglas Turnbull gave a speech at the event's banquet, relating the values of a close-knit, student-run team to the graduating high school seniors that were present. A number of them expressed significant interest in coming to and sailing for UCSD.
On the racing side of things, UCSD placed respectably, considering that the Tritons were up against a field with more experienced and better-funded teams. Light air filling in midday and dying in the mid to late afternoon limited the regatta to five races in each division. While more wind for races would have been much appreciated by the sailors, UCSD was pleased with their performance.
UCSD's A Team, comprised of Sean Andersen and Heather Martinelli, finished in 12th place with a point total of 58, while the B Team of Chris Nilsen and Tori Pinto finished in 18th place and had a point total of 82 points. The two scores combined for a 15th-place finish, narrowly falling behind UC Berkeley, which the Tritons look to beat in the next regatta.

SKI & SNOWBOARD

The UCSD ski and snowboard team traveled to Mammoth Lakes, Calif., for its second competition of the year, facing a large field that included teams from UCLA, USC, UCSB, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CSU Long Beach, SDSU and USD on Jan. 11 and Jan. 12.
On Jan. 11, both skier and snowboarder are events in which four to six competitors race in each heat through bank turns, table-top jumps and sets of roller-style jumps. The first two racers in each heat advance to the next round, and following the many rounds of competition, only the top eight racers count in the league standings.
As of Jan. 14, Skier Cross and Border Cross results have not been released. However, skiers Crockett, Bourne and Sharbrough made it to the finals, as well as Triton snowboarder Biliana Veleva.

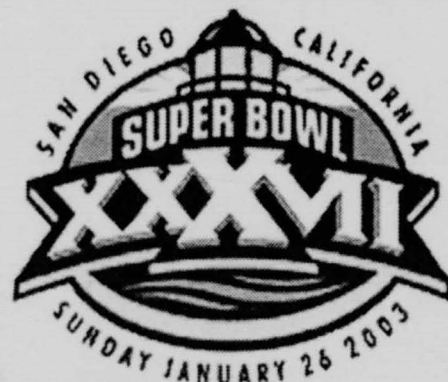


second place, followed by Biliana Veleva, who placed fifth; and Amanda Vlasveld, who took 13th place. Men's snowboarder Luke Mitchell placed seventh, followed by freshman Shane Hopkins in eighth and Evan Venaas in 16th.
For the Slalom race, Sharbrough and Collins placed second and ninth, respectively, for the Tritons. For the women, Bourne took first place, while Danielle Crockett finished just behind her in second. Stephanie Theisen placed 11th and Katie Wurden came in 13th.
Skier Cross and Boarder Cross are events in which four to six competitors race in each heat through bank turns, table-top jumps and sets of roller-style jumps. The first two racers in each heat advance to the next round, and following the many rounds of competition, only the top eight racers count in the league standings.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 18 Ice Hockey vs. UCLA at UTC Ice Chalet, 10:15 p.m.
Men's Rugby vs. UCSB at Warren Field, 1 p.m.
Jan. 20 Surfing Contest at Huntington Beach Pier
— Compiled by Anu Kumar Sports Editor

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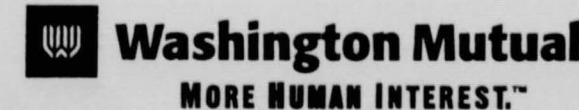
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## UCSD fencing hosts some fierce competition Tritons host Columbia, NYU, Stanford and St. Johns

By MICHAEL SCHOECK  
Staff writer

The Tritons faced stiff competition in their opening dual meet on Jan. 15 at the Main Gym when they hosted some of the best collegiate fencing teams in the nation, including NYU, Columbia University, Stanford and St. Johns University.

The UCSD men's fencing team performed strongly against sterling competitors, but the Tritons were still thrashed by St. Johns, Columbia, Stanford and NYU, with scores of 21-6, 24-3, 19-8 and 18-9, respectively.

Against St. Johns, UCSD was outscored 6-3 in both the sabre and foil events, and the Tritons were skunked 9-0 in epee as St. Johns took the match, 21-6.

UCSD did not perform any better against Columbia. The Tritons lost 7-2 in the sabre, 9-0 in the foil, and 8-1 in epee, and Columbia won 24-3 overall.

In the match against NYU, UCSD was outscored 5-4 in the sabre event, 8-1 in the foil, and 5-4 in epee in the Tritons 18-9 loss.

Against Stanford, UCSD took five of the nine sabre bouts, but the Tritons only won once in the foil and twice in the epee. The Cardinal won overall by the score of 19-8.

"We did our best and had decent results," said UCSD fencer Jeremy Runyan.

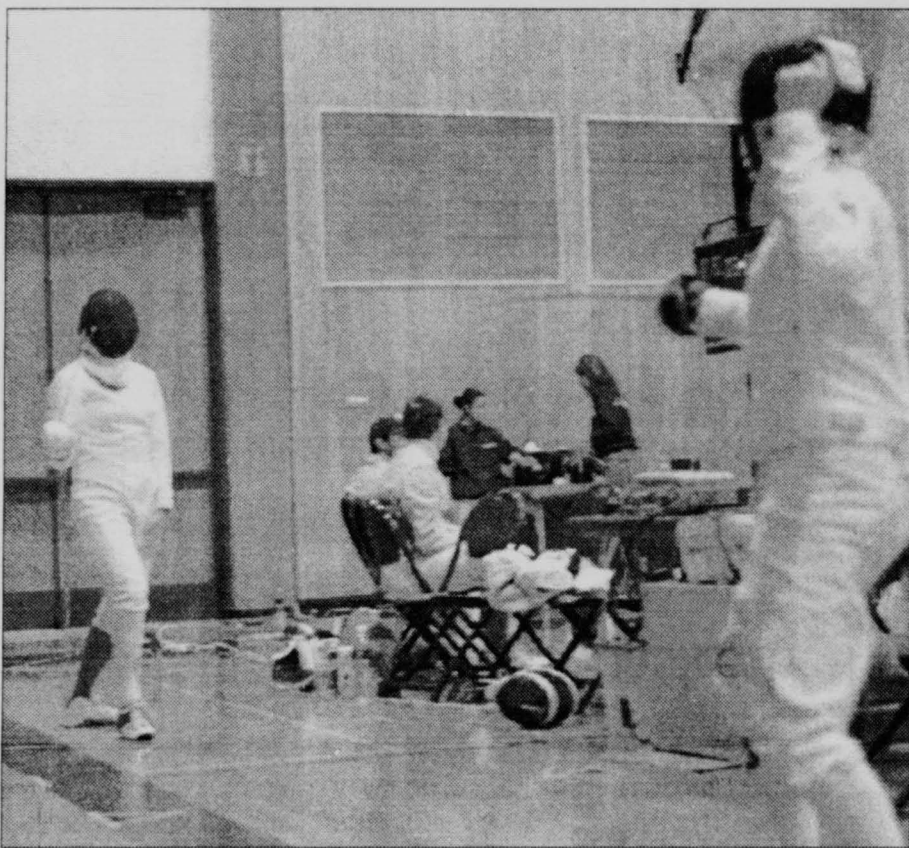
The women's fencing team's plans to dominate the competition on its home turf were also foiled when both the St. Johns and Columbia women's teams dashed their hopes in two 26-1 victories against the overmatched Tritons.

Although the women's squad did better in the duels against Stanford and NYU, UCSD still lost 17-10 and 19-8, respectively.

UCSD women's fencing had a rough time with St. Johns, failing to register a bout victory in either the sabre or the foil, and the Tritons were then outscored in the epee 8-1 as St. Johns cruised to a 26-1 win.

UCSD fell 26-1 against Columbia, with the lone point coming in the foil.

However, the Tritons made a better show-



Kathleen Yavom/Guardian

**Face off:** A UCSD fencer tries to score a bout victory for the Tritons during the team's dual meet on Jan. 15. Host UCSD lost all of its matches to NYU, Columbia University, Stanford and St. Johns at the Main Gym.

ing against Stanford. UCSD won four bouts in the sabre and three each in the foil and epee in the Cardinal's 17-10 victory.

In the match against NYU, the Tritons got four points in both the sabre and epee, but UCSD failed to win a single bout in the foil, which proved to be the deciding event in NYU's 19-8 win.

The tough meet was exacerbated by the fact that this season's Triton fencing teams lost sev-

eral of last year's starting fencers to graduation and academic problems, but several UCSD stars did emerge from the demanding opposition on Jan. 15.

"[It is] definitely a rebuilding year," said Triton head coach Stuart Lee. "Some individuals did well, and the team has a few fencers of national caliber."

See **FENCING**, Page 18

## Flag thrown before Super Bowl XXXVII even begins

pum's  
points



Anu Kumar

**B**everly Walker, a handicapped "sports fan," threw a yellow flag, but Super Bowl XXXVII is still on its way to Qualcomm Stadium.

Earlier this month, Walker attempted to delay the grand finale of the NFL season by saying that Qualcomm Stadium, which will host this season's Super Bowl on Jan. 26, failed to fully meet the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Walker, along with three other disabled people, brought a lawsuit to the city of San Diego, the Chargers and the Padres in 1997, and said that the venue is not completely accessible to handicapped people. Walker does not believe that changes have been made to the stadium, nor have the conditions of the settlement been met.

Although it may not be enough, over 100 handicapped parking spaces have been added to Qualcomm Stadium, bathrooms now conform with the Disabilities Act, and ramps, railings and elevators have been installed at this year's Super Bowl venue as well.

On Jan. 9, magistrate judge Leo Papas said that the city has tried to comply with the Disabilities Act, and that the game is on as was originally planned.

(Papas' call to stick to the game plan has been just one of a few good rulings that have come so far during the 2003 NFL play-off season. Enough people without a helmet and pads have shaken up the outcomes of close play-off games.)

However, Papas did issue a warning to the city, saying that it must keep working toward meeting the promises that it made earlier, and Walker did not completely miss with the hit that she was trying to make against the Super Bowl. The city will pay her attorney fees for failing to completely meet the promises of the settlement.

Anyone who tries to stop the big game from being traditionally played on the final Sunday of January will eventually end up dealing with the wrath of a large group of people (by the way, Osama is the reason why Super Bowl XXXVI was played in February last year). One is only left to guess about Walker, who regards herself as a sports fan, and what she would have had to deal with if a good call was not made on her intentions of trying to postpone or move the Super Bowl out of the Q.

So upon further review of the play, there was no penalty, and real football fans and Super Bowl XXXVII will not be penalized for Walker's cruel intentions.

The columnist welcomes any e-mails about his points at [adkumar@ucsd.edu](mailto:adkumar@ucsd.edu).

## Crawford's jumper leads UCSD men's basketball Tritons' prolific shooter tries to bring winning back

By AMBER MARTIN  
Staff Writer

Guard Sean Crawford showcased his individual ability when he scored a game-high 20 points on Jan. 10 and Jan. 11. Not only did he lead the basketball team in scoring, he also proved that he could hit the three when it was most needed.

On Jan. 10, against CSU Dominguez Hills, Crawford made a basket from behind the arc to tie the game, and then on the next possession scored another three to establish a Triton lead that would remain for the rest of the game.

Crawford, a native of Sebastopol, Calif., did not become UCSD's top scorer and three-point shooter overnight.

"I began playing pee-wee ball around the third grade," he said.

However, Crawford was not immediately drawn to basketball. In fact, as a multi-sport athlete, he also excelled in baseball. Eventually, he began to concentrate on basketball.

"It is extremely active and strenuous on my body, and unlike baseball, I didn't have to sit around," he said.

He began his college basketball career at Mira Costa Junior College and transferred to UCSD, where he red-shirted last year. Crawford enjoys the UCSD basketball program because it favors his game.

"It fits my style," he said. "I am a shooter and the coach gives me free reign of my shooting."

Crawford's desire and ability to shoot is obvious in this season's statistics. He has a total of 168 points, is 30-83 from behind the three-point line and averages 15.3 points per game.



Tyler Huff/Guardian

**At the top:** UCSD guard Sean Crawford leads the team in minutes per game (28.7) and points per game (15.3).

Triton head coach Greg Lanthier said, "He has made himself a tremendous three-point shooter and last weekend he showed what he was capable of."

Early on in his career, Crawford realized that he would have to master his shooting

because his height was his greatest barrier as a ball player.

"I am not a high riser, and being shorter made me have to adapt to shoot over players

See **CRAWFORD**, Page 18