

CAMPUS



## Students Protest Nudity Laws at Free the Nipple Event

BY BRUCE B. Y. LEE STAFF WRITER

UCSD students undressed in protest of public exposure laws and the sexualization of female nipples on Library Walk during the Free the Nipple event on Wednesday.

UCSD alumna and event organizer Anni Ma explained to the UCSD Guardian that the existing laws propagate injustice.

"When I saw a covered-up nipple that [protruded] out from [a woman's] shirt and people making fun of it, I felt that it was unfair that women [aren't] able to walk around without a bra and be comfortable," Ma said. "Then, I started to wonder why [I can't] walk around without a shirt when men can do that."

The event began with Ma announcing at the beginning of the event that she will "free" her breasts, after which both male and female participants removed their shirts.

Thurgood Marshall College junior Aubrey Oxley said to the Guardian that society has been coercing women to be afraid of exposing their bodies and there is no reason for women to be afraid of what is natural.

"[As] women, we shouldn't be uncomfortable with our bodies because these are the bodies that we have,

these are the bodies that we are born with," Oxley said. "There's no reason for us to feel afraid other than just that what society has made us feel. We've been socialized to be afraid."

Eleanor Roosevelt College freshman Annika Reno stated that, although participating in the event made her feel uncomfortable, it was a necessary act.

"It is uncomfortable for everyone, but it is something that needs to be done," Reno said. "I think that the fact that it isn't comfortable makes it even more compelling and revolutionary."

It was not until the 1930s that men in the United States were legally allowed to publicly expose their nipples. Now, women across the nation are campaigning for legalization of the public exposure of female nipples, declaring that it should be considered a right.

According to Oxley, the movement began during the 2014 Topless March in New York City. Oxley discussed how the event instigated a change in people's perceptions of female body parts.

"Men actually had to cover up their nipples, as well, but that law changed. If you look back into centuries, past women couldn't even show their

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SAN DIEGO

## SD Public Library Unveils Comic-Con Exhibit

Located in the library's Jacobs Common, the showcase will be open to the public in June.

BY SIMONYU CONTRIBUTING WRITER

San Diego Public Library and Comic-Con International recently announced the creation of a free public art exhibit called "The Art of Comic-Con" that promotes the awareness, creation and appreciation of comics. Located in Geisel Library's Joan and Irwin Jacobs Common, the exhibition will be open to visitors from June 20 to Aug. 30.

San Diego Public Library's Arts and Culture Exhibition Manager Kara West told the UCSD Guardian that the exhibit displays many works developed alongside the primary intent of Comic-Con.

"For the past 45 years, Comic-Con International has been bringing together passionate comics, movie and science fiction fans in San Diego," West said. "In the process of celebrating comics and related popular art forms, the organization has been creating a lot of great art along the way. The Art of Comic-Con showcases some of the finest examples of unique comic art produced for and assembled by the organization over the years."

The showcase will feature originals from a multitude of artists from Comic-Con International's archives, including Howard Chaykin, a comic artist that has worked with companies such as DC Comics and Marvel Comics, and Michael Cho, an illustrator of numerous genres.

Cho told the Guardian that the exhibit will allow viewers to appreciate and understand comic art in a more formal context.

"Like illustration or 'fine arts,' quality comic art deserves a place in exhibition," Cho said. "I'm hoping the viewers will be able to see the craftsmanship that goes into the creation of comic art. For other artists, art students or fans of illustration, it also provides a way to view great original art and see some of the 'process.'"

West told the Guardian that the art pieces were a diverse assembly representing many comic artists, with multitudes being crafted for specific

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SGF

## Report Shows Decrease in Crime at Sun God Festival

Administrators concentrated on educating students about responsible substance usage and effective bystander support.

BY ROSINA GARCIA COPY EDITOR

Last Thursday, May 14, the UCSD Police Department released the crime log for the 2015 Sun God Festival weekend, revealing fewer drug and alcohol-related incidents than last year.

Associate Vice President of A.S. Concerts and Events Seraphin Raya attributed these results to the new safety measures initiated by the Sun God Festival Health and Safety 3Task Force.

"These measures are put in place as health and safety measures," Raya told the UCSD Guardian. "As any other large festival, our aim is to ensure that we are doing our part in ensuring that illicit substances are not entering the festival."

Chancellor Khosla created the task force to address student behavior, campus policies pertinent to health and safety measures associated with the Sun God Festival. Drug-detection dogs, amnesty boxes for drugs and requiring residents to wear a wristband to indicate their place of residence were among the new policies implemented at this year's festival.

This year, university administrators focused on drug and alcohol education through the "Stay with Me" campaign. This campaign sought to inform students how to drink responsibly, to encourage students to look out for each other when partying and also to reveal the reality of "pure molly," which, as the campaign explained, is not always as pure as people think.

Training students how to take care of themselves in potentially harmful situations was key to the task force's strategy for the festival, according to Raya.

Furthermore, AVP of Student Advocacy Ryan Huyler said that the implementation of the beer garden at this year's festival was also a tactic created to curb excessive drinking prior to the festival.

"The beer garden was a great idea to limit the dangers of binge drinking," Huyler admitted to the Guardian. "I think it is much more pragmatic to tell students how to use drugs safely, including drinking, than it is to tell them not to do them and expect that."

In addition, the Office of Student Conduct sustained the Responsible Action Protocol this year in order to allow students to seek medical help for alcohol or drug-related incidents. RAP was created to remove the fear of being reprimanded for seeking help for alcohol consumption or drug misuse.

Students who used RAP were not subjected to the same student conduct process if they met certain requirements, as per the student conduct rules.

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### UNDERGRAD, UNDERGROUND



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### VERBATIM

"HAVING A MENTAL DISORDER IS NOT UNCOMMON, NOR IS IT SHAMEFUL, SO OUR TREATMENT SHOULDN'T BE EITHER..."



-Ayat Amin & Marcus Thuillier  
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## A COUPLE OF DERPS By Elyse Yang



### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Research Suggests Link Between PTSD and Accelerated Aging

Patients are sensitive to poor health conditions due to the increased production of premature senescence chemicals.

BY ANDREW CHAO  
STAFF WRITER

A new study by researchers at the UCSD School of Medicine and the VA San Diego Healthcare System implies that those who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder have a greater risk of accelerated aging.

In its study, the team looked at a wide range of age-related biological indicators and signs of early occurrence for diseases typically associated with old age.

"We reviewed a number of published papers on PTSD and aging," Dr. Dilip V. Jeste, senior author of the study and director of the Center on Healthy Aging and Senior Care at UCSD, said. "The review found multiple lines of evidence connecting PTSD with

age-related biological markers or health conditions."

According to Jeste, those afflicted with PTSD tended to have higher levels of chemicals associated with aging. As a result, PTSD sufferers are more susceptible to adverse health conditions, like dementia, heart disease and diabetes.

Moreover, the results of the study have wider implications in that they may change how doctors and medical researchers approach PTSD care and treatment in the future.

"The results suggest that PTSD is not merely a mental illness but [something that] also affects physical health," Jeste explained to the UCSD Guardian. "When working with veterans or others with PTSD, doctors and medical researchers need to be alert to the

physical systemic issues and make certain their patients' overall health is attended to and the individuals receive appropriate medical and psychological treatments."

Jeste also explained how different medical approaches are needed in treating PTSD in light of this new study.

"What the persons with PTSD need is not just psychological treatment but a combined medical-psychiatric approach," Jeste said. "We should not only focus on mental symptoms and flashbacks but make sure that the PTSD sufferers' physical health is also attended to properly."

However further research is still needed to figure out the underlying link between PTSD and accelerated aging.

"[Our research] shows an

association of PTSD with rapid aging but does not prove causation," Jeste said. "We plan to conduct prospective, longitudinal studies to determine if and how PTSD causes rapid aging."

Jeste also explained how his team will seek to learn what factors are associated with rapid aging, such as smoking, substance use, depression and poor healthcare.

"We will plan to follow people with and without PTSD over several years to see what changes occur in their age-associated biological markers and physical illnesses and also examine mortality rate," Jeste said.

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## Students Protested Topless for Two Hours Without Police Intervention

► **DEMONSTRATION**, from page 1

ankles because ankles were sexualized," Oxley said. "We live in a very misogynic society where women's bodies are hypersexualized, and this [movement] is the first step [away from that]."

Incoming UCSD Associated Students President Dominic Suvonnasupa told the Guardian that the event promotes gender equality

in society.

"I believe that men and women should have equal opportunity and equal rights. It might seem trivial to a lot of people, but why is it that there's inequality between guys and girls?" Suvonnasupa said. "Why can't they be topless when they want to?"

The event concluded without any arrests or legal consequences after two hours. Ma said she believed the event was a success.

"When you know you're right, it's not scary," Ma told the Guardian. "I want everyone to be comfortable with their bodies and to be comfortable enough to see other people being comfortable [with] their own bodies."

Additional reporting by Jacky To.

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## Raya: SGF Task Force Now Perceives Students as Adults, Not "Kids"

► **SGF**, from page 1

"The one thing that was a pleasant surprise was that people were checking themselves into Detox and that 10 percent of the people in detox were checked in using RAP," Raya said. "The end goal is to ensure that students are knowledgeable in how to take care of themselves and know what resources are available to get help in sticky situations."

When determining policies to

implement at this year's festival, as well as at future festivals, Raya claimed that students sitting on the task force asserted that students at UCSD are adults, and actions taken to ensure safety need to reflect this.

"The first couple of task force meetings during my term, a few members referred to students as 'kids,'" Raya admitted. "The students on the committee were quick to remind folks that we are adults and deserve to be treated as such. This

has resulted in this different stance. If Student Affairs continues to have real adult conversations with students, the mutual respect can result in great change and trust."

Overall, there were 66 students admitted to detox, nine sent to the hospital and five arrested for drug-related incidents during the weekend of the festival.

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## Featured Art Pieces Range from Initial Sketches to Final Cover Works

► **COMICS**, from page 1

occasions.

"Culled from the archives of Comic-Con International, the artwork included reflects an eclectic mix of characters and comics and provides unprecedented access to original art by over 60 comic artists," West said. "Much of the original work on display was produced for event publications. Approximately 20 works are cover art from Comic-Con, WonderCon and the Alternative Press Expo program guides and souvenir books."

However, West explained that the featured pieces consist of much more

than cover works and also include artists' preliminary sketches.

"Some of the gems of the show are the souvenir-book art, small sketches by comic masters that often mark events, anniversaries and tributes," West said. "In both, visitors will have a chance to learn about the history of Comic-Con, and in seeing the artist's hand in original works, they will also learn a great deal about the process of creating comic art over the last 45 years."

Muir College fifth-year Lawrence Chit commented on the underrepresentation of comic art and expressed interest toward the future

availability of a similar exhibit at Geisel Library.

"It would be interesting to have one at UCSD," Chit said in an interview with the Guardian. "There really hasn't been a place for comic book artists, from what I observe as an art student here, so that would be fairly interesting and inclusive. Comics are important, too."

Comic-Con International did not respond to the Guardian's inquiries about the possibility of a similar exhibition on campus.

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# OPINION

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## EDITORIALS

# Shifting Mindsets

*SGF15 incorporated a few marked improvements for drug safety through awareness-raising tactics, but reports of sexual assault indicate that considerable effort is still needed to create a festival free from danger.*



**S**un God Festival 2015 may already be a forlorn memory for most students heading into their finals. But with crime statistics from the festival released this week, it's important to take a closer look to see what went well during this year of radical changes for the event and what A.S. Concerts and Events can continue to improve on for future festivals. This year, the news is rather neatly broken into the good, the bad and the ugly.

Let's start with the good: The new measures put in place to bolster students' health and safety at the festival seem to have served their purpose. Overall, fewer students were sent to detox and to area hospitals than in the last several years, a good indicator that the overconsumption of drugs and alcohol generally went down. While stricter entry policies like pat-downs or drug dogs certainly had a hand in identifying illicit substances, the most credit for this increase to student health should probably be given to a general shift in the administrative attitude towards drugs and alcohol.

By running a beer garden and adopting policies to promote drug awareness and testing kits, the administration seems to have accepted that students regard the music festival as a day of unwinding (which, for

a good number of students, includes some kind of inebriation). This new mindset allowed for a better focus on more responsible drug and alcohol use, rather than on punitive measures and sweeping these problems under the proverbial rug.

Still, with 21 students reported to detox and many others sent to the hospital, there is definitely a way to go to achieve what ASCE's Seraphin Raya has called a shift in the culture of Sun God Festival. However, this year's policies were a good start, both promoting safety and encouraging students to make their own smart choices as adults, rather than as children sneaking alcohol and then overestimating their limits.

Next, the bad news, which is that the UCSD Office of Student Conduct admitted to using social media to catch and punish students who were buying and selling campus IDs. It's important to note that a representative explained that the office was investigating a single case of ID sales when they noticed a high number of offers on a student Buy/Sell page.

The representative furthermore denied that the department "actively monitors" social media for student conduct violations, but that raises the question — how exactly do they define "actively"? While the students who were attempting to solicit their IDs were clearly in violation of the conduct

See **SUN GOD**, page 7

# Let's Stop Judgment On Mental Illnesses

**ACROSS THE GLOBE**  
**MARCUS THUILLIER //**  
**AYAT AMIN**  
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**I**n honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, this week's column will delve into the state of global mental health. Sadly, mental health is not improving at the rate it should be for such a severe, widespread issue. In 2000, the World Health Organization published a report on the topic, and today's column is a deconstruction of that report.

First, it's important to note that mental disorders are universal, affecting 20 to 25 percent of people throughout all countries and societies. Poorer individuals have a higher prevalence of disorders, while simultaneously having less access to treatment and care. This is most apparent in countries recently traumatized from a political or natural disaster. Some examples include: Syria, Nepal and Sierra Leone. This results in a severe socioeconomic gap between countries, with the wealthier ones having more access to treatment.

In the report, the WHO outlines three scenarios for countries to improve on mental health care. The first deals with economically poor countries which have little to no resources. To close the gap, it is recommended that they train personnel, provide essential drugs and move the mentally ill out of prisons. The training of personnel allows for easy access to care for those with a mental health disorder. On the other hand, making psychotropic drugs available is often a first-line treatment that is especially effective when skilled professionals are not available. Moving the mentally ill out of prisons is also an important step toward decriminalizing mental disorders while providing care within the community.

The next scenario involves countries with modest levels of resources. To improve mental health, close custodial mental hospitals and instead integrate mental health care into general health care. Historically, insane asylums, now our mental hospitals, isolate patients and stigmatize disorders. Having a mental disorder is not uncommon, nor is it shameful, so our treatment shouldn't be either. That's why integrating mental health care into general care and phasing out mental hospitals is the way to go.

The third scenario applies to countries with high access to resources: Provide further improvements in the management of mental disorders within primary healthcare and create community care facilities that offer 100-percent coverage. With community involvement, treatment becomes more personalized to the individuals living within the local area and thus more effective.

Although this report was written in 2001, we still have a ways to improve. In 2012, suicide, which is strongly linked with depression, was the second leading cause of death globally among 15 to 29-year-old people. Schizophrenia currently affects more than 21 million people worldwide. Similarly, approximately 50 million people worldwide have epilepsy, making it one of the most common neurological diseases globally. These are just a few examples, but they demonstrate our point. Mental health is a global public health issue and should be treated as such. After all, as the WHO points out, there is no health without including mental health.

# Visible Nipples: Topless Women Are Still Not "Asking For It"

Yesterday on Library Walk, there were student demonstrations supporting the #Freethenipple campaign, led by graduate student Annie Ma, who was approached by police for exposing her breasts on Library Walk a few weeks ago. To avoid arrest, Ma carried a copy of the California Indecent Exposure laws, which specify public indecency as genitals being revealed for the purpose of sexually offending or gratifying oneself or others. Technically, bare female breasts are legal if they are not shown with sexual intent.

To demonstrate, students congregated on the grassy fields next to Library Walk. There was a line of men sitting attentively on the outskirts of the field, but it was rather anticlimactic when all the tops came off. Relaxed silence unfolded as most onlookers realized after a few minutes that when everyone's nipples of all shapes, sizes and colors are present ... it's not a big deal. It actually became quite normalized. Both genders wore glitter, floral designs, and messages written in colorful body paint splayed around their areolas. Messages painted across chests included, "Still not asking for it," and "They're just nipples." Some women wore feathered masks to protect their identities, while men often chose to duct tape "X" over their nipples in an ironic statement of reverse censorship.

In an interview with Balestra

Entertainment, Ma explained her motivation for going topless as an issue of gender equality. One officer apparently warned her that men will try to take advantage of topless women, to which Ma responded, "It should be my choice to do what I want to do." She acknowledged that modern society often creates a dangerous environment for women but argued that the mere appearance of female breasts should not be criminalized.

Breasts are generally portrayed as sex objects in the media, which ignores some of the more fundamental biological purposes for their existence. Ma referenced breastfeeding in the interview, complaining that since all people are nurtured and fed by these maternal body parts, people should learn to love and respect breasts and nipples. Ma also emphasized body shaming as one of the inspirations for #Freethenipple. In today's society, female breasts are stigmatized and hidden, presented mostly in distorted, hyper-sexualized outlets of the media.

Female nipples in particular are commonly viewed as more erotic than male nipples. However, this perspective is not very scientifically supportable, implying that it may be a culturally learned mentality. A study comparing the sensitivity within male and female breasts by JPRAS found that they both have a

similar number of nerve endings. In contrast, the nerve endings in female nipples are more widely spread out throughout the entire breast, whereas for men, the majority of nerves are closely concentrated in each nipple. While personal anecdotes from friends and the overall cultural perception of breasts may lead you to believe that men's nipples are less sensitive than women, that's not always true. This suggests that the sexualization of female breasts may actually just be a social construct.

Most people don't realize that it used to be illegal for men to bare their nipples until protests began in the early 1930s. According to gotopless.org, it wasn't until 1936 that men successfully lifted the topless ban in Westchester, New York. For the beginning of the #Freethenipple campaign, women started participating in topless demonstrations that were once again located in New York's streets. While this is clearly a contentious question, are visible nipples really such a radical idea for gender equality? In light of the demonstration, it is clear that some women are willing to fight for the right to go topless, whether that entails the freedom to breastfeed their children in a public park without being shamed or to simply tan at the beach without a bikini top.

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**CONFUSED MUSED** By Elyse Yang

**THE NUMBER OF THINGS**



**THAT THE ARTIST HAS UNDER CONTROL**

*Assault Prevention Demands More Concern Than Students' ID Sales*

► **SUN GOD**, from page 6

code, it seems particularly Orwellian that administrators have now set a precedent that they can stumble upon alleged violations on social media and pursue them without a formal complaint.

Surely there is a better use of the office's time and resources than cracking down on these irresponsible but arguably minor offenses. Furthermore, as most students were soliciting IDs to help their non-UCSD friends attend the festival, perhaps it's time to revisit the guest policy. With plenty of new regulations to keep drug and alcohol use in check, next year's Sun God Festival should consider allowing certain guests, particularly UCSD alumni, entry to help cut down on ID fraud without toeing the line of Big Brother.

Finally, the ugly side of Sun God Festival 2015, which is that one rape and one sexual assault were reported at the event so far. This statistic is about the same as in some previous years, with Raya stating that reducing access and consumption was successful in cutting drug and alcohol rates, but is much more difficult in regard to sexual assault.

To be fair to ASCE, Raya has a point, and sexual assault prevention is not solely on its shoulders, as universities and interest groups around the world struggle to stop sexual assault on college campuses. However, there are steps to take which could improve the culture of the Sun God Festival and hopefully prevent these crimes in future years.

One measure is to include sexual assault awareness in floatie training.

Just as students are taught to look for signs of substance abuse and alcohol poisoning, they could learn to spot the signs of sexual assault. Another step might be to create awareness campaigns in the weeks leading up to the event that delineate inappropriate physical behaviors at the festival, which have reportedly included harassment and unwanted contact, because apparently, it's not obvious enough.

While neither of these are surefire fixes, the issue of sexual assault is serious, persistent and begs more attention, certainly, than the sale of ID cards.

With one mostly successful festival under its belts, ASCE should feel confident in moving forward next year with improved policies that will allow it to host an even better and safer Sun God Festival 2016.

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# WEEKEND

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## Caught in the Act

The Underground New Play Festival shows at The Arthur Wagner Theater from May 29<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup>

The lights! The drama! The laughs! Undergraduate theater is alive and well at UCSD, and the Underground New Play Festival has been at the forefront of it for nearly a decade. This festival of five short plays is entirely staffed, produced and acted by undergraduates right here on campus. It's a chance for students from all majors and colleges to make in-depth, professional-level theater. We had the special chance this year to actually peek into the rehearsal rooms and observe firsthand how these artists and volunteers perform their craft. Here, you'll find plenty of the cool things we observed and learned from our visits. The UNPF performs the weekends of Weeks 9 and 10, and more information is available on the UCSD theater and dance website.

— Nathan Cook  
Staff Writer



### 5 MINUTES TO CURTAIN

Written by Kirstin Rower  
Directed by Kylie Holloway

Half an hour before the house opens! Yet the cast of "Polonius: A Song Unsung" is in a mess: much of the crew is missing or fighting over technological issues. ... How can it arrange everything and make sure the play will begin on time? "5 Minutes to Curtain" is a show that shifts between Shakespearean theater and modern theater. There is a play within a play, just like in Shakespeare's "Hamlet," which just so happens to be the story they are performing within "5 Minutes to Curtain." Funny, dynamic and performed with exaggerated and amusing body language, this is a play you wouldn't want to miss during this year's festival.

"For me, the best part of the play is the fight between the stage manager and the actors, which is acted in a way that is as ridiculous as possible," Anne Whitaker, who plays the hoped-to-be-star character Nina says. "Have no expectation for what you will see."

— Yidian Huang  
Staff Writer

### DIMMER SWITCHES

Written by Aaron Flores  
Directed by Tin Le



As the sun goes down and the night flies by, time is running out for a group of best friends to say any last words they may have to one another in the play, "Dimmer Switches." Written by graduating senior Aaron Flores, this play will return audiences to fond memories of youth and the struggles of growing up and apart.

"I think it's a piece that covers one of the classic dilemmas of love intermingling with friendship," Johnny Barry said, who plays Jaime, the smart but awkward friend who is the glue that binds the group together. "The decision to act on one's feelings for another is never clear and can be a very scary one. I think the play does a good job of illustrating that."

Each of the main characters has a very different personality, but audiences will be drawn in by the sense of comradery that even when tested still holds strong.

— Devon Munos  
Staff Writer

### THE MONSTER'S RETURN

Written by Aleksandra Konstantinovic  
Directed by Allison Win

It's a unique character who can be described as a cross between a fifth-grade bully and Rafiki from "The Lion King" — and "unique" is exactly what "The Monster's Return" offers. Twitch, with the personality of an emotionally intelligent, immature child, is the monster who lives in Jamie's closet. She flips the cliché of a scary monster on its head by turning into a type of therapist for Jamie as he returns to his childhood home for his estranged father's funeral. Though the play abounds with sensitivity, it's hard to take it too seriously — a feature the small cast, led by debut director Allison Win, revels in. Characters shoot snarky comments at each other (Twitch points out, meaningfully, that she has watched Jamie grow up), and Twitch has a little too much fun with a broom. Intertwined with the play's inherent humor, however, is a focus on character — a focus deepened and drawn more acutely by the crew members' clear commitment and understanding of their characters. "The Monster's Return," then, offers a smartly written play devoted to characters, humor and a surprisingly non-monstrous humanity.

— Jennifer Grundman  
Associate Copy Editor



### A SUNSET ON MARS

Written by Timothy Barnett  
Directed by Jenny Grober



The inevitability of death can leave you feeling helpless, as if you have no control over what happens to you. In "A Sunset on Mars," Thom, played by Josiah Glesener, becomes an astronaut floating above Earth to show how it feels for a man dying of cancer to be powerless as he watches life slip through his fingers. The cast gets into character by removing all distractions and experimenting with gestures, character interactions, emotions and movements while listening to "Astronaut" by Beach House.

"It's like the heartbeat of the play," Glesener said. "The melodies recall Thom's strange childhood, his obsession with the vastness of space and his crippling loneliness from the brain tumor taking over his life."

The play also explores themes of interpretation and the willingness to listen. The Swedish words sprinkled heavily throughout the play are meant to challenge the audience in the way they receive language and information, as well as connect to the author's Swedish roots. Ultimately, the team has come together to convincingly expand on a man's battle with cancer as he deals with the ideas of loss, disillusionment and perspective.

— Chrissy Dodd  
Contributing Writer



### AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT

Written by Audrey Sechrest  
Directed by Leilani Tuiletufuga

"As Luck Would Have It" peeks into the world after it starts to fall apart. A new zombie-esque disease has hit critical mass, and the government has implemented a quarantine. Bruce (Jordan Ferguson) is holed up in his store and wants as little to do with the disease as possible. However, when a stranger (Andrea Bensussen) looking for supplies enters unwelcomingly, Bruce must decide whether he can and should trust her.

Though audiences have grown accustomed to and often tired of formulaic zombie hits, such as "The Walking Dead" and "World War Z," director Leilani Tuiletufuga believes that the play is not your typical zombie-apocalypse story.

"At the core of this play, it's about humanity, it's about compassion and it's ultimately about forgiveness and trust," Tuiletufuga said.

Loaded with tense dialogue, poetic action sequences and a challenging ending, "As Luck Would Have It" serves as both an audience-pleaser and a thought-piece by shelving the zombie "drama" and delivering genuine human drama.

— Jacky To  
News Editorial Assistant



## FILM REVIEW



## MAD MAX

The best film of the year so far comes in the shell of a Hollywood blockbuster.

Directed by George Miller

Starring Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, Zoe Kravitz

Rated R

Release Date May 15



“Mad Max: Fury Road” is the result of restraint. Director and writer George Miller has quietly spent the last 20 years mostly working on family-friendly films (“Babe,” “Happy Feet”) after directing the original “Mad Max” trilogy starring Mel Gibson. Over that same time, the film industry transformed into the behemoth it is today, allocating bigger budgets and ensuring conformity to blockbusters. Hollywood’s increasingly safe industrial process blanches out

the qualities of a daring film because originality isn’t an acceptable variable — it’s a potential multi-million dollar mistake. “Fury Road” is 75-year-old Miller’s raging antithesis to this current state of blockbusters, proving that you can still bring passion and brilliance to the screen with a \$150-million budget behind you. A film of this scale is rarely as intimate and original. It is a breath of fresh air in what has become a creatively stagnant crop of blockbusters because it chooses not to restrain its own ambi-

tious vision.

Fugitive Max Rockatansky (Tom Hardy) aids the rogue Imperator Furiosa’s (Charlize Theron) harem rescue out of necessity in post-apocalyptic outback Australia while being chased by the combined barbaric troops of Gas Farm, Bullet Town and the War Boys. A majority of the film is the chase, with incredible stunts and a reliance on practical effects. The few breaks in action carry a quiet intensity to them, anchored with the reluctant partnership made between Furiosa and Max. This could have aptly been called “Mad Max: Furiosa” because of how Max, truly mad and haunted by the cries of those he couldn’t save, plays a secondary role to her mission. Hardy doesn’t say much as him, instead relying on harsh grunts and a fabulously expressive face to get his point across. In fact, this entire film

could work without sound because of the bombastic visuals, which lend a universality that’s lacking in most films.

“Fury Road” upends more than just the visual conventions of the typical blockbuster, like women actually having agency and as much depth as the bevy of male characters instead of being secondary concerns for the plot. Imperator Furiosa’s dedication and rationale are outright admirable and Theron steals the show with her performance. The color grading of the film doesn’t leave us in the drab gray and browns of the typical blockbuster, but instead greets us with the bright blue of the sky and the endless golden sea of sand. The action is frenetic with shots regularly lasting no more than seconds, but Miller’s masterful pacing somehow lets us keep track of everything as the wheels roll and the guns

are fired. The themes of environmentalism and capitalism are skillfully explored with the dynamics of the film’s universe, a far cry from the ham-fisted efforts of James Cameron’s patronizing “Avatar.” Violence abounds and it isn’t seen as a choice, but the cost of survival — a means to an end. There’s weight behind every bullet shot and every head torn, acknowledging the human death toll. Miller was able to shoot a film, a masterwork no less, that has the energy of a young director and the craftsmanship of a seasoned veteran within the confines of a creatively restrictive industry. “Fury Road” is the Ninety-Five Theses nailed to the drab door of Disney, a condemnation of the modern blockbuster that practices what it preaches.

— SAM VELAZQUEZ

## CONCERT REVIEW

THE WOMBATS  
AT HOUSE OF BLUES

Concert Date May 13

Other Acts Cheerleader, Life in Film

The Wombats bring energy and enthusiasm to “Glitterbug” tour.

On May 13, The Wombats livened downtown San Diego’s 5th Avenue with dynamic enthusiasm, left unpolished by flashy gimmicks or hollow statements. The British indie-pop group is a fan’s band, a talented trio that wins crowds over simply by loving what they do. Expectedly, The Wombats’ concert was in some ways a modest affair: The minimal stage setup might as well have been erected in one of the band member’s garages, and the Liverpool natives’ casual entrance suggested the start of an informal sing-along among friends. With only a keyboard, drum set and guitars, the trio managed to create a massive sound and an infectious energy fit to fill stadiums much larger than the House of Blues.

It’s no question that a great show involves several factors: impressive musicianship, a lively stage, engaging banter and an absorbed audience. The Wombats easily fulfilled each criterion, delivering an energetic performance enhanced by colorful lights and witty, unpretentious banter. The band dedicated songs to members of the audience, wished happy birthdays and thanked specific individuals who had come to each of their California shows. This added a distinctive personal touch, contributing to an enthusiastic environment that encouraged vital crowd participation.

After animated performances by talented indie-rock band Life in Film and alt-pop group Cheerleader, The Wombats calmly entered the stage, donning unglamorous T-shirts and tennis shoes, only complimented by tousled, unstyled hair — a fitting look for a band unwilling to sacrifice any onstage energy to restrictive attire. Their performance of the dynamic hit, “Your Body Is a Weapon,” explained the preference for comfort over costume: Exaggerated guitar strums, uninterrupted jumping and powerful vocals left the band sweaty

after just one song. But they didn’t slow down; no member showed any sign of well-warranted fatigue as the show progressed.

Throughout every song, guitarist, bassist and keyboardist Tord Overland Knudsen jumped back and forth across the stage, playing his guitar with a skill unhindered by his endearingly cheerful energy. At the end of “Little Miss Pipedream,” an older tune frontman Matthew Murphy dedicated to early fans, Knudsen reached out to the crowd, singing along with them as Murphy cried out the lyrics to an audience that seemed to know every word.

A mosh pit formed during the uplifting tune “Techno Fan” — an unusual scene for a performance by a band frequently categorized as tame indie-pop. But no energetic Wednesday night concert was ever complete without a rowdy audience, and the band’s infectious beats and animated performances of their poppy hits demanded nothing less than a lively crowd. The band’s long set list covered all of their hits, rewarding fans with new and old favorites that turned into massive sing-alongs and lively dance parties.

At the close of their two-song encore, The Wombats played “Let’s Dance to Joy Division,” a track that elicited a chant of “Everything is going wrong/ But we’re so happy,” an incredibly apt finish to an exhilarating performance that acted as a simple but powerful reminder that enthusiasm can make a difference between a great day — or show — and a mediocre one.

— KARLY NISSON  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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Written by  
Olga Golubkova  
// Senior Staff Writer

Design by  
Sherman Aline  
// Associate Design Editor

Illustrations by  
Sherman Aline  
& Olga Golubkova

Initially a part of traditional cultural expressions — an essential element of various countercultures of the last two centuries and now a rather mainstream type of body modification today — getting a piercing is something you might be currently considering. While more and more people are turning to professionals, not all are able to provide quality-piercing services. That's why, before you get any holes poked, it is essential to do your research to make sure the shop you've chosen is truly top-notch. But who are we kidding? Pestering a piercing shop with questions about the whole piercing process is a quite uncomfortable procedure that the majority of us would rather avoid. But there is another way! The UCSD Guardian is here to provide you with personal experiences about arguably one of the best piercing shops in San Diego — Enigma Professional Piercing Studio.

Located on a quiet street in Pacific Beach, one of the two studios looks like a hut surrounded by banana trees somewhere in a tropical forest. The interior is not much different from the exterior. The lobby smells like wood, the walls are decorated with pictures of tribal piercings and big window cases with intricate jewelry stand

around the perimeter of the room. Visitors read National Geographic magazines while waiting for their turn (lines here can actually be quite long, since Enigma works on a walk-in basis), adding to the feeling of being taken away to some exotic locale. When the wait is over, your piercer will take perfect care of you: explaining the procedure, giving directions and entertaining you with conversation in the most nervous moments.

When it comes to safety, Enigma does not hide anything from its clients. All information on sterilization methods is provided on the shop's website and, in fact, matches reality. The employees sterilize their equipment using a special autoclave machine that utilizes a combination of steam pressure and heat. This is an effective way to sterilize reusable piercing equipment, but just to make sure that every individual set of tools is exposed to the proper amount of heat, Enigma additionally uses temperature-sensitive integrating indicator stripes. After filling out all the paperwork, clients receive a stripe that they sign with their initials. Right before the piercing procedure, clients personally make sure that their indicator demonstrates that the tools were properly sterilized and are ready to be used.

Not only are the tools sterile but they are also simple. On many YouTube videos, piercers use special equipment, like clamps, that help direct the needle. However, Enigma piercers do not use anything but a piercing needle (after all, did you know that piercing guns were initially created to tag livestock?).

Like their tools, Enigma's jewelry is also safe. They are made of surgical stainless steel, used for prostheses and implants, meaning if this metal is safe enough to wear inside of our bodies, it can surely be used as piercing jewelry material. In addition, the salon doesn't use externally threaded jewelry, since it can easily damage pierced skin and complicate the healing process. Speaking of the healing process, Enigma piercers provide aftercare instructions and a little bag of sea salt needed to prepare a cleansing solution.



PHOTO BY MATTHIAS SCHEER / GUARDIAN



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I personally visited Enigma twice — once to get my ears pierced and, four months later, to get my septum done. Both procedures were totally painless for me, thanks to Evan, who was my piercer for both procedures. But since the piercing experience is different for every single person, here are opinions from other UCSD students who decided to put themselves into Enigma piercers' hands, as well:

"I went randomly with my roommate and her friend. They were getting their piercings, so I thought 'Why not pierce my cartilage?' We didn't wait at all because it was the evening. [The] healing process was also fine, though they didn't mention how to take out a piercing, which I guess is supposed to be intuitive, but I had no idea. A little on the expensive side but they seem to know what they're doing and it was a pleasant experience."

— Helen Lee  
UCSD '14 alumna

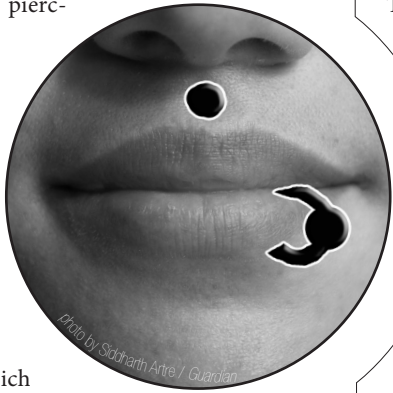


Photo by Siddharth Arora / Guardian

"I got my nose pierced at their Pacific Beach location about two months ago. The whole process was very clean; all of the tools the piercer used were sterile or came out of a new package. The woman who pierced my nose was a little opinionated, but she seemed to know a lot about piercing, though. She made a remark about the place I got my ears pierced, not knowing what they were talking about because you're never supposed to have to turn piercings (the people who pierced my ears told me to turn the piercings). Overall, it was a great experience. I haven't had any trouble with my piercing since. They gave me detailed instructions on care, and I would definitely go back if I need anything else done."

— Jessica Walters  
Thurgood Marshall College sophomore

"I first found out about Enigma through Yelp. The place had full stars and hundreds of reviews, so my friend and I decided to get our piercings done there. I wanted to pierce my cartilage for the third time around. I've had issues in the past with getting infections with my cartilage piercings so the area is pretty sensitive. My piercing was \$80, including the earring itself. Although it is definitely in the high-end price, it was definitely worth it. They consulted the position of the piercing, and throughout the entire process, they were very amiable and calming. Overall, I have nothing but good things to say about this place. If you get 80 bucks out of me for a piercing and leave me happy and satisfied, then this place must be a damn good place."

— Diana Wu  
Eleanor Roosevelt College junior

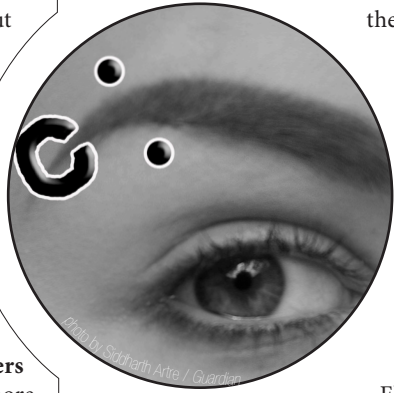


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## Baseball Ends Record-Breaking Season

► **BASEBALL**, from page 12

Shirley was 2-for-4, Larsen was 1-for-3 and Levy went 3-for-4 to lead the Tritons into the last day of the tournament.

"We talked yesterday about not being done, about wanting to play more baseball, and in this situation, you [have to] rely on your seniors," UCSD Head Coach Eric Newman said. "These two guys, [Kolodin and Levy], right here along with other guys, did a good job to lead us on to Monday."

Having survived two elimination games, UCSD advanced to the final day of competition, where the men would have to defeat both Cal Poly Pomona and Azusa Pacific again to reach the NCAA. The Tritons got the first part done but could not end their incredible run with a success.

Despite falling behind early after Azusa Pacific scored a run in the first inning, the Tritons never lost their composure. They retaliated in the bottom of the second, putting in two runs of their own from Lewis and Flatt. UCSD kept on building on their lead, scoring one run in the fifth, sixth and eighth innings. Up 5-1, UCSD saw Azusa Pacific try a comeback in the top of the ninth. The Cougars put up two runs, but left-handed pitcher Trevor Scott got a game-ending groundout to third base with one runner on second to end the game.

Junior right-handed pitcher Alon Leichman (7-2) went 5 2/3 innings and got the win. Shirley reached base in his first three plate appearances and went 2-for-3. Flatt was 2-for-3 as well.

UCSD thus advanced to the championship game, where CCAA foe Cal Poly Pomona defeated them 7-4 to end the Cinderella run.

The Tritons put up the first run of

the game when Shirley went home in the first inning. Pomona struck right back, in the bottom of the first, to level the score at one.

The Broncos then took the lead in the bottom of the second but immediately relinquished it when UCSD scored three runs in the top of the third. Mann, Sanchez and Larsen scored for the Tritons to put them in the lead, 4-3.

UCSD would not score again, however, and Cal Poly Pomona slowly took control of the game. The Broncos assumed the lead in the bottom of the fourth with two runs and scored two more runs in the seventh and eighth to get the win and the bid for the NCAAAs. UCSD ended its season on the bitter defeat and will not go to the NCAA championships.

However, UCSD also finishes the season with a league-best, program-record 465 strikeouts and a nation-leading 311 walks, a proof of the Triton bullpen consistency and effectiveness throughout the year.

Cruz, Larsen and Shirley were elected to the All-Tournament Team.

Eight seniors ended their UCSD career on this loss: right-handed pitcher Javier Carrillo Jr., catcher Brian Choi, Kolodin, Levy, Lewis, Mann, left-handed pitcher Chad Rieser and Scott. Triton ace Donatella might also be done with his collegiate career, as he has the potential to be drafted in the upcoming First-Year Major League Baseball Draft.

The roster will have an altered look next season with all these departures, especially in the bullpen, but will probably again play the first roles in the CCAA and remain a powerful contender for an NCAA championship bid.

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## M.ROWING

# Triton Men's Crew Ends Season Strong

UCSD runners-up in 2V8 and 3V8 races, Varsity 8 places fourth in Sacramento.

BY KATIE POTTS  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

The UCSD men's rowing team ended the season on a high note with two runner-up performances in the Western Sprints Championship on Lake Natoma in Sacramento this past weekend. The 2V8 and 3V8 squads snagged second-place finishes, while the Varsity-8 crew took fourth after battling the wind for much of its race.

"[As a coxswain], I have an immense amount of respect and admiration for the rowers because of the physical pain they put themselves through," sophomore 3V8 coxswain Isa Batki told the UCSD Guardian.

The Varsity-8 squad of senior coxswain Sean Dougherty, sophomore Alec Petty, sophomore Matt Thalken, freshman Sean Callaghan, junior John Buda, junior Scott Kennedy, sophomore CD Dowling, freshman Hank Wong and sophomore Tynan Rodger placed fourth in a close battle at the buoy line after fighting the wind for the first half of the race. Oklahoma City University won the race in 6 minutes

19.5 seconds, followed by Santa Clara University in 6:20.5. The Tritons were edged out by cross-town rival University of San Diego at the finish — the blue and gold finished in 6:24.9, just half a second behind the Toreros (6:24.4). Gonzaga University placed fifth at 6:26.3.

"The Varsity-8 boat got to race [this] lineup for the first time all season and raced one of the best second 1,000 [meters] I've ever seen," UCSD head coach Zach Johnson told the UCSD Athletics Department.

The 3V8 crew of Batki, sophomore Carson West, sophomore Ian Skelton, freshman Frank Chang, sophomore Blake Branine, senior Tyler Tomei, sophomore Andy Marshall, freshman Nick Baltar and sophomore Jon Baker took second in their race, coming in behind the University of San Diego. The Toreros finished in 6:31.9, followed by the Tritons (6:39.1) and Gonzaga University (6:45.5).

"This weekend was probably the toughest race the 3V8 has had all year," Batki told the Guardian. "It was windy, and there were a lot of opportunities for distractions. Even

though we came in second, [the rowers] put all their effort out on the line, and I knew by the time [we] crossed the finish line, they couldn't take another stroke. We executed our plan, pulled out a competitive sprint and hung on."

The 2V8 team of sophomore coxswain Drake Lem, freshman Michael Landheer, freshman Bryan Brennan, freshman Kevin Chang, freshman Gabriel Lane, junior Daniel Mahan, junior Anton Hedayat, freshman Jackson Lytle and freshman Sam Merrill-Palethorpe finished in 6:32.8, edging out the University of San Diego (6:33.9) at the line. Gonzaga won the race in 6:27.0. Oklahoma City came in fourth at 6:35.2, followed by Santa Clara (6:48.5).

"I couldn't be more proud of this team," Johnson said. "It's a great young team with an awesome future."

Men's and women's rowing, without NCAA postseason berths, now turn themselves toward next season, looking to build on this past season's achievements.

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## Tritons Look to Build on Qualifying Marks

► **TRACK AND FIELD**, from page 12

my jumping started to become more natural."

Tied for the sixth seed in the high jump, her 5-8 clearance also puts her on UCSD's all-time list, a remarkable feat.

"It is a huge honor to make it to [the] NCAAAs, as a well as a rewarding indicator of the hard work the team

and I have put in this season. I couldn't ask for a better group of people to train and succeed with," she said.

The five Tritons will compete at the NCAA Championships in Allendale starting today. The meet will continue onto Friday and will conclude on Saturday.

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## SPORTS

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Tritons  
Fall Short*Season ends with loss in final round of D-II West Regional.*

PHOTO BY EMILY TIPTON / UCSD GUARDIAN

No. 30 and fifth-seeded UCSD fell just short of an NCAA tournament berth when they lost to No. 13 Cal Poly Pomona in the West Region Playoffs Final on Monday afternoon. UCSD battled through three elimination games after losing in the opening round to Azusa Pacific University. The Tritons went on to win against Point Loma Nazarene University, Dixie State University and Azusa Pacific University before seeing the season terminated by their California Collegiate Athletic Association foe.

UCSD had started down the “road to Cary, North Carolina,” where the NCAA championships are held, when it fell to Azusa Pacific 17-11 in a very high-scoring game. The defeat put UCSD in the elimination bracket side of the double-elimination tournament.

Junior right-handed pitcher Justin Donatella (9-3) entered the game with just eight runs allowed total over the season. His fortune quickly changed, as Azusa Pacific put up a four-run inning in the bottom of the first.

UCSD quickly fell behind but reduced the gap to 5-2 in the top of the fourth when redshirt freshman outfielder Justin Flatt scored off of sophomore infielder Tyler Howsley’s single up the middle. That ray of hope was short-lived, as Azusa Pacific got a seven-run fifth and a five-run sixth to break the game open. Donatella even got replaced in the middle of the fifth inning. The Tritons put up seven unanswered runs in the seventh and eighth, but the game was already far out of reach.

Donatella increased his strike total to a league-leading 109 but allowed a season-high nine runs in 4 1/3 innings. Sophomore outfielder Brandon Shirley reached base in his first five plate appearances, while Howsley got a career-high four hits and three RBIs in the very offensive game.

UCSD moved on to the second day of competition, where it had to win to stay

in the competition. The Tritons did so when they edged city rival Point Loma 7-5.

The blue and gold got a 1-0 lead when junior infielder Troy Cruz scored in the second inning. They continued to pressure Point Loma, even extending their lead to 4-0 in the fourth, when freshman infielder Tyler Plantier, senior infielder Erik Lewis and senior catcher Brett Levy each scored. UCSD thought it had secured a win after the team put one more run on the board when sophomore outfielder Jack Larsen ran to home in the fifth.

Point Loma answered in the bottom of the seventh and eighth, putting up five unanswered runs to tie the game up, threatening to end the Tritons’ season. However, Cruz, the hero of the game, scored in the bottom of the eighth to put them back on top. Lewis put another run on the board to raise the score 7-5 and securing the UCSD victory.

Larsen went 3-for-4 and Cruz went 1-for-2, putting up two runs. Levy was 2-for-4, while Howsley got two RBIs to put his season total to 20.

“Offensively, I was just trying to ground out and try to get on base,” Cruz told the UCSD Athletics Department. “Defensively, on the mound, I tried to be aggressive. Late in the game with runners in scoring positions, I just stuck to my routine and just settled down there [to get the game-ending out].”

The strong effort led to UCSD facing Dixie State University on Saturday afternoon. The Tritons came through again with flying colors, shutting out the fourth seed 7-0.

Senior right-handed pitcher Dan Kolodin (5-1) led the Tritons in a great effort. The offense also delivered, led by two runs by Shirley and one by junior outfielder Gradeigh Sanchez, Flatt, senior first-baseman Michael Mann, Larsen and Plantier. Cruz then closed out the game, giving UCSD its program-record 13th shutout of the year, the third-most nationally in Division-II.

See **BASEBALL**, page 11

## TRACK &amp; FIELD

## Five Tritons Earn Trip to NCAA Championships in Michigan

Athletes will face off against top Division-II competition in javelin, triple jump, high jump and pole vault Thursday through Saturday.

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Javelin**ELLEXI SNOVER**  
Javelin**MATT BOWEN**  
Triple Jump**CHRISSI CARR**  
Pole Vault**SAVANNA FORRY**  
High JumpBY ROSINA GARCIA  
STAFF WRITER

This year, UCSD is sending five of its track and field athletes to the NCAA Division-II Championships held in Allendale, Michigan over the weekend. Veteran qualifier senior Nash Howe will compete in the javelin, senior Ellexi Snover also in the javelin, freshman Matt Bowen in the triple jump and sophomores Chrissi Carr and Savanna Forry in the pole vault and high jump, respectively.

Three-time qualifier Howe is no stranger to NCAA-level competition. First qualifying as a sophomore in 2013, he competed in the NCAA championship meet in the javelin and earned a respectable seventh-place finish with a throw of

214-11. In 2014, he improved his mark to 229-1/4 and placed sixth. Although Howe has not met this mark this year, his status as a two-time All-American and three-time California Collegiate Athletic Association champion, as well as being the fourth seed in this event, may just push him to a higher mark at the NCAAAs this year.

Unlike Howe, Snover has only been a competitor in the javelin for less than two years. Starting the season with a throw of 130-5/12, Snover quickly showed she was capable of qualifying for the event. Snover’s provisional qualifying mark of 143-5/12 feet earned her a spot in the NCAA championship meet, as the 17 seed. Competing as both a sprinter and a thrower has pushed Snover to her limits this season, but

she remains positive about the contest this weekend.

“The coaches have been amazing at teaching me the skills I needed to make it this far,” Snover told the UCSD Guardian. “I am very excited for the weekend. My goal [is] to PR because the latter part of my season [has] been rough, but the last couple of weeks, I have been focusing on my javelin technique. If I PR, it could be enough to [advance from the prelims to the finals], which is my ultimate goal for my first time to nationals.”

Seeded fourth in the triple jump, Bowen has proved that age does not matter when it comes to natural talent. Although he is only a freshman, Bowen easily proved that he has what it takes to compete at the national

level. His drive and enthusiasm just might propel him to break the school’s 51-3/4 record. Regardless of what happens this weekend, Bowen is just going to continually get better.

“This weekend, I want to break the school record, and if everything goes well, it can happen,” Bowen said. “Coach Darcy [Ahner] and I have been working on a lot of tiny technical details that [can] add a few inches to my jump, and if I can put them all to work this weekend, I’ll be finishing out the season with a strong PR. If I could hit 52 feet, that would be awesome, but I at least want to break our 51-3/4 school record.”

Pole vaulter Carr is also new to the the NCAA competition but, like her teammates, has undoubtedly proven that she deserves to be there.

As a freshman in 2014, she finished in eighth place in the CCAA championship meet, with a mark of 11-1 1/4. This year, she has improved upon that mark by nearly a foot. Seeded 16th in this event and only being a sophomore, Carr has nothing to lose.

Finally, placing fourth in the high jump in the CCAA Championships her freshman year and finishing in second this season, Forry has shown improvement and promise in her two years on the team. After a more relaxing season than her last one, Forry effortlessly high jumped her way to nationals.

“Jumping is really fun, and I was able to incorporate that excitement and energy into my meets,” Forry

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