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Thursday, February 2, 2012

Pierson doesn't win show, but he's still standing

Professor competes on TV game show "Who's Still Standing," a way to test academic knowledge

By Libby Jelinek

"Think on your feet or fall through the floor." That's the motto of the TV game show "Who's Still Standing?" in which contestants who answer one question wrong are dropped through a hole in the stage. USD Professor of Communication Studies Eric Pierson participated as a contestant on an episode of the show that aired Jan. 30. Students and fellow faculty gathered in Frank's Lounge to watch his debut.

During the show, two contestants face off for a chance to win up to \$1 million. The host, Ben Bailey of "Cash Cab," asks trivia questions, with a couple of letters of the answers showing to help the contestants. If a contestant answers incorrectly or runs out of time, he or she is dropped through the floor, and the fall is broken down comically into a slow motion reel for the country's amusement.

Dr. Pierson was the fifth contestant to challenge the main participant, an occupational therapist. He answered questions like, "A girl with a passion for fashion" is the catch phrase for what doll?" (Bratz) and, "Which Nobel Peace Prize winner was secretary of state under two presidents?" (Henry Kissinger). Although he put up the longest fight of the group, Pierson was stumped by the question, "What actor was the voice of Remy in Ratatouille?" (Patton Oswalt).

On the episode, Pierson donned a beret, a bright yellow shirt, a red ascot and a gray blazer complete with elbow pads, an outfit that he refuses to take too seriously.

"They dressed us up in costumes according to our profession, and I didn't stop them," Pierson said.

According to Professor of Communication Studies and Honors Program Director Roger Pace, Pierson's presence on the game show disproves the stereotype of professors as stodgy

academics. He believes this correction to be important in the midst of an professor's stressful academic life. Between classes, assignments and exams, said Pace, it is important for professors to kick back and have a little fun with learning every once in a while.

"Sometimes people think we take ourselves too seriously," Pace said. "I think we ought to play against that stereotype. Obviously not all of us are cut out for a game show, but I think we can all have fun."

"Who's Still Standing?" is not Pierson's first stint on a game show, either. He appeared on "Catch Phrase" in 1985 and "High Rollers" in 1987, winning a range of prizes from folding bikes and spray paint to \$35,000 in cash.

"I see my appearances on game shows as an opportunity to use my knowledge in a way other than just teaching in front of the classroom," Pierson said. "It's a good idea to understand that learning and knowledge can be fun and don't have to be stressful."

Rachel Meyers, freshman, believes that although the game shows are fun, Pierson is still able to use his experiences and his jovial attitude to keep his classroom entertaining as well.

"He is great. He keeps his lectures lighthearted and fun without being serious, and he really cares about what he is teaching. It made the course more interesting and helped a lot in understanding the material."

Christine Horsman, senior, who has taken multiple class with Pierson, appreciates Pierson's participation in the game shows, because it depicts the lively attitude of USD professors.

"It's nice to see professors engaging in all the different types of media, and it's cool to see him in a pop culture context. I feel like the professors at USD always have fun."



Anne Brady/The Vista

USD students and faculty watch Eric Pierson, professor of communication studies, compete on "Who's Still Standing."



Anne Brady/The Vista

Eric Pierson makes an introduction to his television appearance for the audience. Students and faculty gathered in Frank's Lounge on Jan. 30 to cheer for Pierson.

Christina Carner/The Vista

Feb. celebrates black history

Month celebrates diversity in past and present

By Hannah Holmquist and Nazin Sedehi

The month of February has been celebrated as Black History Month, a history which highlights the rights of black Americans, since 1976. This history includes widely-known figures that fought for equality in their respective ways.

"This one month allows each and everyone of us, no matter what one's skin tone, to give respect to inspirational figures such as Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Malcolm X," said Virgil Hart, junior and President of the Black Student Union. "It highlights a history that many people don't recognize on an everyday basis."

For first year doctoral student and President of the Black Graduate Student Association, Jessica Williams, BHM is a celebration of the contributions of black people to all aspects of society.

"We reflect on the contributions of black people to education, technology, the arts and politics," Williams said. We also reflect on the sacrifices made by black people for the betterment of not only other blacks but of everyone."

See HISTORY, Page 3

EVENTS!

CID presents:
SWEET CELEBRATIONS
Every Wednesday of February
12-2pm @UC Exhibit Hall

BGSA presents:
SPOKEN WORD POETRY SLAM
Tuesday, February 7
7:30pm @ Aromas

Sylvia Choi/The Vista

Joseph Colombo, religion professor, passes away

By Allison Schneider

The USD community mourned the loss of Joseph Colombo, professor in the theology and religious studies department, this winter break. Colombo passed away on Jan. 2.

Colombo earned his bachelor's degree from the Catholic University of America in 1976 and then earned both his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Chicago Divinity School in 1982 and 1986, respectively. He joined the USD Department of Theology and Religious Studies in 1984 and served as department chair from 1998-2004. According to theology and religious studies professor Lance Nelson, Colombo's influence in the department was vital.

"He was really one of the leading figures in the department," Nelson said, "not only in terms of his excellence in teaching and the hours he gave to advising his students, but in terms of thinking about the direction of the department and mentoring young faculty. It's a huge loss to the department in terms of an elder figure who really was a guiding light for us all."

Colombo actively served the LGBT community both at USD and throughout San Diego. He served as the chair of the board of directors at the San Diego LGBT Center from 1991-1995 and served as the advisor of PRIDE

on campus. He was the first openly gay chair of a theology and religious studies department at a Roman Catholic University in the United States.

"He was a pioneer here in that as an openly gay faculty member, he paved the way for every queer student, every queer faculty member, that we can be out at USD," theology and religious studies professor Evelyn Kirkley said. "He really was a great mentor, role model and friend."

Colombo was a dedicated professor and preceptor, beloved by students for his positive attitude and infectious enthusiasm. Beyond teaching mere facts, he inspired students to grow individually and spiritually.

"He encouraged us throughout the semester and to go to a quiet place and just ask ourselves if we like who we're becoming," sophomore Alison Bloom said. "Beyond the classroom, he encouraged us to become our own person and to like who we were."

Colombo is also fondly remembered by the community for his sense of humor, wit and lightheartedness.

"His laugh and his ties always made me smile," Bloom said. "They were so Colombo. He was a character."

A memorial will be held for Colombo on Feb. 10 from 3-5 p.m. in the French Parlor in Founders Hall. All members of the campus community are invited to come together as speakers share stories and memories in celebration of Colombo's life.

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New department for research

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Challenging films' gender bias

Female-driven comedies are creating new roles for women and breaking down stereotypes. PAGE 6

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MTV is looking for Toreros

Auditions will be held in the Degheri Alumni Center this Friday for the MTV show "Made." PAGE 9

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Baseball team to get new stadium

\$30 million is expected to be raised for the renovation of the new athletic facilities. PAGE 12



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NEWS

EDITORS

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Writing a column isn't all kicks and giggles



By Nazin Sedehi

As editors of the newspaper, we sort of dread having to write our columns. I don't exactly know how to explain this phenomenon but it's probably the last thing all of us do before we leave the office on Tuesday nights. It's the task that doesn't get the attention it probably deserves.

When we ask each other in The Vista office whether we're close to finishing our sections for the week, the responses are almost always, "I just have my column left," which implies either a lack of passion if said nonchalantly or horrible pain if said more dramatically.

One would think that because we most all absolutely adore writing and journalism or because we spend so much of our time editing other peoples' writing, that we would get a kick out of getting a whole space in the newspaper for ourselves every week.

Maybe I should stop speaking for other editors.

I, myself, have yet to find enjoyment in this being-given-a-blank-space-to-write-about-a-topic-of-our-choosing nonsense. It's not relaxing or therapeutic. In fact, the process is the complete opposite. It's vague, it's too broad and it's more difficult than it may sound.

Firstly, in the news section, we are responsible for covering stories that may be of some sort of significance to the USD community. These news stories occur regardless of our personal doings and all we are responsible for writing about them. Our own opinion is not only unnecessary, it's unwelcome. Read: they get deleted or are seriously reworded to shift the opinions to the people who have been quoted in the article. So it's strange for a writer and an editor who strives for objectivity to be told to write in the first person and to try to make it personal. It feels as if I am almost genetically wired to avoid writing these types of pieces.

Secondly, it's a little hard to find a topic of interest each week that hits you hard enough or amuses you enough to write a column about it. A lot of things are interesting in passing but after writing a paragraph or two it becomes apparent that the topic has been exhausted. Or, maybe, it's just you that has become exhausted. In fact, I have an assignment for the readers who have made it this far. Write a 600 word blurb about something, anything this week. Note: you could probably send these pieces in to the opinion section and get published.

But that kind of ruins it, right? It's no longer just about the writing process. It becomes this work that is shared with a group of people. People you don't even know end up reading it. They may even think they know you as a person because they have read your column. That's a tough standard anyway, right? It's nearly impossible to make yourself sound as charming and glamorous on paper as you pretend to be everyday in person.

Thirdly, it's the beginning of the semester. I am getting settled in to my classes, trying to refigure my weekly schedule for as many lunch dates as possible and keeping up with my class readings as best I can. My brain simply can't handle more than that right now. After this long break, I need to recharge before I have the strength needed to read articles on recent scientific studies and attempt to relate them to our lives as USD students. I literally just got my handwriting back yesterday, I don't want to rush things.

So, I promise that starting again next week, I will uphold the theme that Bernadette, the previous news editor who just graduated at the end of last semester, and I agreed upon in the beginning of the school year, back in August. I will continue writing about the "wacky" occurrences of the world. I will try and show you just how cool and weird they are. I may even be snarky enough to throw in a comment or two of my own. I know, it's getting a crazy. All I have to do now is wait for an inspiring topic to find its way to my typing hands.



USD students, staff and faculty pick up and pay for food in La Paloma, a popular dining destination on the west side of campus. Manager Ruth Niveau states that La Paloma has faced constant thefts since its opening.

Kenny Rosen/The Vista

Manager provides new perspective as stealing continues in La Paloma, students aren't ashamed

By David Downs

Campus eateries, as businesses, have always had to endure student thefts. The rate of these thefts has remained constant in La Paloma according to its manager, Ruth Niveau. Niveau stated that students give various excuses to workers when they are caught stealing.

"Students say that they pay so much to go here—it's too expensive—so they should get this food for free," Niveau said.

Another response that Glenn Niveau, Facilities, hears often is that their status as students exempts them from having to pay for their own food.

"The famous line that we all here is, 'I go here,'" Glenn Niveau said.

While Ruth Niveau understands student frustration with overall college costs she does not believe that La Paloma's prices specifically are high enough to merit theft of any kind. She claims that the prices in the popular campus eatery are kept at

average market value.

"If you went down the hill you would see that I compare the prices [at La Paloma] with other things," Niveau said. "I don't just make up the prices."

There are students at USD, however, that disagree with R. Niveau's opinion. Senior Chris Hanneke believes that the prices at La Paloma are unrealistic and constitute a form of theft themselves.

"By charging \$6 for a small cup of mac n' cheese, La Paloma is stealing from students every single day," Hanneke said.

An anonymous USD student argues that while the prices are high, the quality of the food also does not merit those prices that the eatery demands.

"If it wasn't so expensive I wouldn't have to steal," Anonymous said. "Especially since the food is so par-quality."

According to Niveau, stealing is more prominent than students imagine. She said that students will make the milkshakes on the machine

new to campus this year and then leave without paying, or they will pay for their sandwiches first without mentioning that they asked for extra meat or avocado on their orders.

On CampusPull.com, a website that serves as a forum for communication between clubs and organizations on college campuses, had a post on its website in October that stated, "Agree with this statement if you've ever stolen of paloma and your proud of it."

"I think there are some people, like me, who, at first, couldn't believe that students would steal," Niveau said. "I didn't, until I saw it. I was flabbergasted. Students put food in their backpacks, they eat while they're waiting. If you don't want to wait, order Webfood. One day I sat out and I saw a loss of \$150 in sales from people walking out."

Beyond the issue of financial gains and losses, she believes that students who steal are simply disrespecting the fact that the employees of La Paloma are too often forgotten about when items are stolen

from the establishment.

"I understand that students are frustrated but it's wrong to think that they are deserving of it," Niveau said. "Workers get upset when they work hard and people are just stealing, it's insulting to them. Workers get meals too. This is a business."

Niveau further explained the need for on-campus diners to make a profit. Though the eateries receive funding from the university, they are in turn, responsible for making an equal amount in profits.

"All auxiliaries have to generate money to survive," Niveau said. "We are responsible for generating revenue to cover our costs."

According to its manager, La Paloma is looking for ways to solve the problem of stealing by altering the campus dining location to accommodate more students or the by changing way that food is purchased there.

"I talked to my bosses about redesigning [the layout] of La Paloma or having students pay first, but none of that has happened yet," Niveau said.

New position wants undergrads to research

By Rachel Weingart

Research at USD is an opportunity for students who wish to get involved or delve further into their specific areas of interest. Previously, students became aware of and involved in research by speaking with professors that were conducting research.

However, the role of research and its mode of involvement have changed this year with the implementation of a new position, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research. Filling this new position is Sarah Kriz, who was previously a professor at the University of Washington.

"A challenge for many students is determining and understanding what research exists within one's own major," Kriz said.

As the new director, she will help connect interested students to research professors. She will also help faculty integrate their research into their classes in an effort to get students interested and involved. She wishes to enrich students' undergraduate studies and encourage collaboration across disciplines.

"I was interested in chemistry before I began participating in research, but I hadn't declared my major," sophomore Aileen Park said. "I was looking into biology, math and physics. It was the interaction with other professors and students and all of the experiments I was able to perform that allowed me to realize that I wanted to study this particular branch of science."

In this new position, Kriz said that she hopes to open students' eyes to the immense opportunities in research by serving as a resource for all studies and interests on campus. She also stressed that many courses may include research components. A list of these research-intensive courses is in the Office of Undergraduate Research.

"I think it's great that this position has been developed," sophomore political science major Ernesto Reyes



Sarah Kriz, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, helps students find appropriate research opportunities from her office in Maher Hall.

Christina Carner/The Vista

said. "USD needs a whole department dedicated to research. It'd be nice to see what research opportunities arise for non-science majors, since students in these fields are limited in their opportunities for research. A science professor needs to have students working in his or her lab to keep the lab running, whereas a political science professor can carry out his or her research single-handedly."

According to students involved in research, it has been an integral part their undergraduate experience.

"Having research as a requirement for the biochemistry major has made a world of difference in applying

to graduate school," senior Urszula Milewicz said. "I was always intimidated by the concept of doing research with faculty, but I realized how much I enjoyed it as soon as I got involved. I wish I would have gotten involved sooner. I think Kriz is exactly what USD needs to encourage early involvement in undergraduate research."

Park acknowledges that research is a substantial commitment, but that it is academically satisfying as well.

"At first, research seems like a daunting, frustrating and long task. But these qualities are, ultimately, what make it rewarding," Park said. "The

experience is invaluable. It's definitely been one of my best experiences at USD."

The Office of Undergraduate Research is located in Maher 264B. The Student Undergraduate Research Experience application deadline is Feb. 10. Students who wish to present their research with the USD community at Creative Collaborations should submit their abstracts by Feb. 24. at www.sandiego.edu/creative. Information about undergraduate research, various opportunities and upcoming events can be found online at <http://www.sandiego.edu/uresearch>.

Centers, clubs on campus hosting Black History Month events

HISTORY, continued from Front Page

A common misconception, according to Carlton Floyd, professor and Director of the Center for Inclusion and Diversity, is that BHM is a time for celebration for only black people.

He further stated that the civil rights movement did not just concern black people. Instead, it affected people from all walks of life and contributed to the women's suffrage and Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender movements.

"Black history is everyone's history," Floyd said. "Black history is the social troupe for the disenfranchised. The celebration of this month is important if we want a vibrant, large, educational campus, a campus that we need to have here. We need to have inclusion as opposed to exclusion."

Floyd stated that the purpose of this month is about connection and responsibility. Just because someone looks a certain way does not mean that this month is irrelevant to his or her life.

"This is a month of acceptance of people who need a place to go and are suffering under burdens of existence," Floyd said. "This month is also about recognizing the way we connect to each other and respect one another."

BHM has a more personal significance for Hart. She believes that she would not be attending USD if the critical civil rights events had not taken place when they did.

"BHM to me is the celebration of my

people's triumph in fighting for equality for all," Hart said. "This month makes me humble because I am blessed to be at a university like this, an opportunity that would not have been available to me just a short time ago."

Jeff Bush, sophomore and Vice President of BSU, believes that the themes from BHM can be applied to the differences in individuals today.

"U S D should take this month as a chance to show that no matter the color of your skin, the culture to which you belong to, the

way you walk, the way you talk, or even the way that you eat your cereal in the morning, that we truly are created equal and that we should never try and judge a person off of stereotypes," Bush said.

There are events taking place on campus this month in celebration of black history. The CID is hosting Sweet Celebrations every Wednesday this month from 12-2 p.m. in the UC Exhibit Hall. BGSA is hosting a spoken word poetry slam on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Aromas.

"Black history did not start with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. nor does it end with President Barack Obama," Williams said. "Black history is vast and beautiful and I hope that the USD community is open to learning more about the culture than what is portrayed via popular culture trends and mass media."

"Black history is everyone's history."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

January 20 - January 29

January 20, 2012

Location: UNIVERSITY CENTER

At 11:16 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person removed an employee's secured headset from a locker room on Jan. 19 between 11:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

January 21, 2012

Location: 1301 GOSHEN STREET

At 7:45 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a motor vehicle theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person stole a student's motorcycle between Jan. 20 at 8:00 p.m. and Jan. 21 at 12:00 a.m.

January 21, 2012

Location: WEST PARKING STRUCTURE

At 5:39 p.m. Public Safety responded to a fire alarm. Upon investigation, the fire alarm had activated in error. There was no sign of smoke or fire in the area and no damage occurred.

January 22, 2012

Location: FOUNDERS HALL

At 7:36 p.m. Public Safety responded to a fire alarm. Upon investigation, the fire alarm had activated in error. There was no sign of smoke or fire in the area and no damage occurred.

January 23, 2012

Location: MISSIONS PARKING STRUCTURE

At 6:35 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a motor vehicle theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person stole an employee's automobile on Jan. 23 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

January 24, 2012

Location: STUDENT LIFE PAVILION

At 10:13 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person removed a student's unsecured iPhone on Jan. 24 between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

January 24, 2012

Location: MAHER HALL

At 5:15 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person removed a student's secured bicycle from the third floor bike rack between Dec. 21 and Jan. 23.

January 25, 2012

Location: MISSIONS A

At 11:54 a.m. Resident Assistants cited one student for a liquor law violation.

January 25, 2012

Location: CAMINO HALL

At 7:24 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of possible marijuana use. Upon investigation, two students were cited for possession of marijuana and three other students were cited for being in the presence of marijuana. Room on Nov. 10 between 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

January 28, 2012

Location: MANCHESTER HALL

At 7:39 p.m. Public Safety responded to a fire alarm. Upon investigation, the fire alarm activated due to burnt food. There was no sign of fire in the area and no damage occurred.

January 29, 2012

Location: ALCALA PARK WY @ MAIN KIOSK

At 2:02 a.m. Public Safety observed an individual that appeared to be intoxicated. Upon investigation, four students were determined to be intoxicated and unable to care for themselves. Three of these students were transported to detox while the fourth student fled from the scene. He was later identified and additionally charged with failure to comply with a USD official. A fifth individual was identified as a visitor and he was escorted off campus by a family member.

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BUSINESS

EDITOR

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*(Anna)stly:
We are all
players*



By Anna von Bertrab

Welcome 2012 and hello February. Where did the time go? Spring semester is off to a running start, and there is calm before midterms and spring break to enjoy the sunny San Diego weather. It is a time to ponder where we are going in our college careers amidst spring break planning and our hopeful eyes setting on summer.

But who really is going to stop and ponder during a busy semester? We would much rather take action. In taking action, usually, we take on certain roles to fulfill life's requirements. In "As You Like It," Shakespeare wrote, "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players." Playing with language to create the roles and personalities of characters, Shakespeare sets the stage for his controlled theatrical productions. However, there is no set script for our lives. Wouldn't it be easier to have someone tell you what to do? Like a dictatorship, but isn't that what society's norms have created for us?

The norms in the United States center around the American Dream consisting of independence, individuality, autonomy and achievements. Residing in the states prescribes these norms through our environment. The script for our lives has a rough outline and direction. We simply participate. Having entrances and exits as students from one semester to another is like turning a page of a book. Setting goals, either academic, monetary or romantic and reaching each individual goal gives a sense of satisfaction. For instance, studying for an exam and getting an A, landing a lucrative job upon graduation and being self-sufficient and finding the supposed love of your life. To achieve these particular goals, roles are played: the student, the worker and the lover. Adapting ourselves and doing what needs to be done in every given situation is a logical step in the right direction. Thus, going back to Shakespeare's quote, we take on certain roles to play out our part to succeed, and the set path works. But this is all kind of boring. Where is the fun and growth? Reinventing oneself and taking on various character evolutions are where the fun is at.

Companies are constantly reinventing themselves, pioneering new products that will contribute to greater revenue and growth. Through innovation, startups compete with existing companies. Examples from the past decade are the creation of Google, Netflix and Skype. Now ask yourself, why wasn't Google created by Microsoft? Netflix by Blockbuster? Skype by AT&T? The simple explanation is that many companies become too focused on executing today's business model and forget that business models are perishable. Success today does not guarantee success tomorrow.

The business example applies to our life and the stage set for us. If we focus on one particular aspect at this moment, there is a 50/50 chance that it will become irrelevant in the future. Managing the present, selectively forgetting the past and creating a future are three essential steps from which any individual and company can benefit. No, things will not always go as designed, yet it is wise to have a certain backup plan.

Getting caught up in the whirlwind of the present moment is a risky option. If you are a risky person, then all the better. It isn't foolproof though. Marcus Aurelius said, "We live but for a moment; our being is in perpetual flux." Not to be an intellectual elitist, but Emperor Marcus Aurelius, modernly recognized as the emperor in the movie "Gladiator," asserts a particular point in his oxymoron even if it appears as garb.

Is it better to take the Aurelian approach and live for the moment? Or is it best to constantly reinvent your character on the stage of life? Of course, doing both is optimal but difficult. Let's face it: we are all players on this stage in life, and living in an individualistic society, many will play to get what they want, when they want. Even Shakespeare says that we are all players. Perhaps the quote is out of context and cliché, but nevertheless, dear Wills has some wise implications that last today, even if it means that we are all players in this life.



Billy McCabe/The Vista

Internships preparing for a brighter future

USD graduate, Angela Garcia, shares her experience

By Angela Garcia
Class of '11

As a recent USD graduate, I know how difficult it can be to enter the workforce. While on my journey to jumpstart my career, I applied for an internship with Senator Joel Anderson. Working in the Senator's office is a great way to gain experience, not only in the political field, but in a professional environment. I enjoy being an intern at Senator Anderson's office because every day offers something different. Interns can do anything from helping constituents resolve issues with state agencies to drafting legislative letters and op-eds on behalf of the Senator to presenting certificates of recognition to outstanding members of the community.

There are also many opportuni-

ties outside of the office. Interns are encouraged to attend various events in the community and often reach out to businesses and constituents and let them know Senator Anderson is here to help. Even students who lack political knowledge are encouraged to apply because working in a legislative office provides interns with hands on experience of how the legislative process works.

Haley Schmid, a recent USD graduate who earned a Master's of Science in Real Estate, felt that the internship was one of the most influential experiences she has encountered. "The networking opportunities associated with this internship are unlike any other I have come across. As an intern, I was able to take part in community certificate presentations, work firsthand on important legislation, and attend lectures from fellow profes-

sionals in the industry." Not only does the internship provide useful tools within the office, but the interns are given opportunities to utilize those tools outside of the office.

Similar to Haley's experience, one thing that I find most valuable about my experience as an intern is the opportunities we are able to create for ourselves to network, become more knowledgeable, and showcase our talents. The directors put a lot of faith in the interns and encourage us to propose new projects, go after what interests us, and market our strengths to stand out.

Another benefit, unique to the internship is the weekly newsletter which leads interns to job openings in several fields. The fact that the staff provide interns with these resources proves that they care about our success and are investing in our futures

just as we are investing time toward this internship. Not only will an internship with Senator Anderson's office add impressive work experience to a resume, it will provide interns with the tools needed to succeed in any career.

Interns are able to network and meet potential employers at various events, build communication skills through constituent correspondence and presentations, and develop skills that are expected in professional working environments.

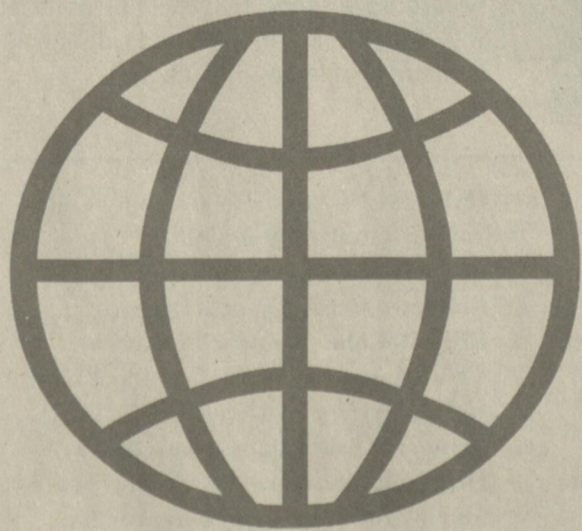
Upon successful completion of the internship, interns can earn a Senate Certificate of Recognition and a letter of recommendation. More importantly, interns will gain valuable experience and build lasting connections with impressive individuals who are career-minded and responsible citizens.

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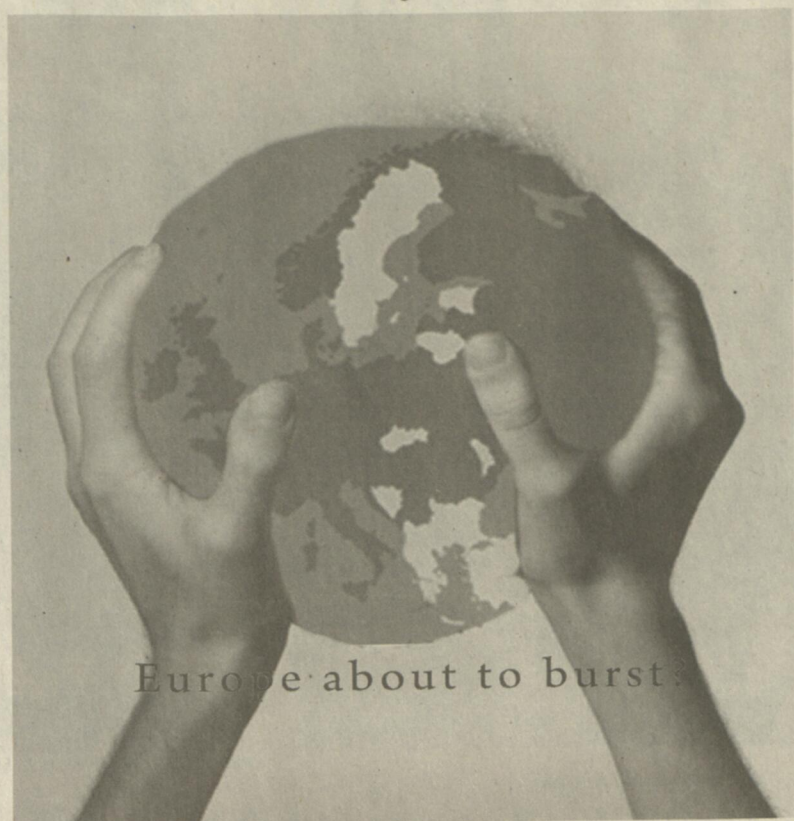
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European debt crisis bursting at the seams

A call for drastic reforms to sew the continent back together.



Billy McCabe/The Vista

By Kasha Patel

Europe spends more on public pensions than any other region in the world not because it has the oldest population, rather because of its easier and earlier eligibility for pensions.

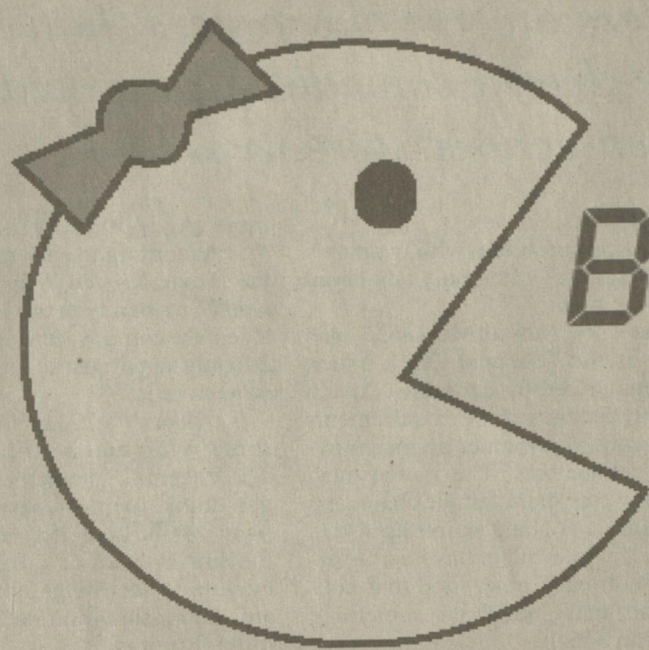
According to an article in *The Economist*, the European economic model is centered on social policies which "combine high living standards with high standards of social welfare." This system has worked well for them in the past, bringing about a better health care system which has allowed their population to live longer. But, it has also come with a cost, it requires the government to increase spending on prolonged pensions and extended life care. This surge in spending on the elderly has caused an increase in European governments' debts.

With this comes the productivity gap. Since Europeans usually work less than Americans while spending more on their social protection, the debt continually increases at a rapid rate. On top of working fewer hours in the day while taking longer vacations, Europeans tend to retire earlier, even as they live longer. By 2007, the French could expect to draw

pensions for 15 years longer than they did in 1965, predicts the article in *The Economist*.

Early retirement means longer pensions, and longer pensions mean more government spending which further increases the debt. By the year 2060, over one-third of Europeans will be over the age of 65, states a World Bank report released in January of 2012. The boom in the elderly population is one of Europe's main concerns because with more people in their golden years comes more government spending on pensions and less people in the work force.

Although the immediate future may not look promising, it will take time and patience to reverse this downward spiral of debt. Making changes to Europe's economic model requires taking on several difficult decisions which will not only affect the financial aspects of their policies but their structural aspects as well. Even if Europeans were to increase their productivity, by reducing unemployment and bringing more women into the workforce, they will have to work for many more years than they have been in the past to see even the slightest bit of progress, states *The Economist*.



B-U-S-I-N-E-S-S
B-I-T-E-S

1. Starbucks to open in India this fall.

In Sept. 2012 Starbucks will open its first store in Mumbai and hopes to open over 50 stores around the country by the end of the year.

2. Spanish bank's profit tumbles.

Banco Santander said on Tuesday that its net profit plummeted 98 percent from €2.10 billion to €47 million due to its losses in its Spanish real estate holdings.

3. Fighting intensifies in Syria.

Free Syrian Army rebels claim to have made a tactical withdrawal and vow to mount guerrilla-style operations to resist forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad.

4. Yemen's 33 year president departs the country.

Ali Abdullah Saleh ended his presidency on Jan. 22, 2012 bringing a temporary close to a violent power struggle in Yemen.

5. Girl Scouts begin new ad campaign not just about the cookies.

In observance of its 100-year anniversary, "To Get Her There" is the new slogan for the Girls Scouts of the USA promoting social change and shifting gears from the simple consumption of Thin Mints and Samoas.

6. Mattel Inc. net jumps 14 percent.

A strong demand abroad for its girl products such as Barbie and American Girl had aided in the growth of the U.S. company.

7. Nokia to cut 4,100 jobs.

Nokia Siemens said on Tuesday that it will cut up to 2,900 jobs in Germany and 1,200 jobs in Finland by the end of the year as part of the company's restructuring plan.

8. Mexico's phone industry overcharges users.

Billionaire Carlos Slim, leader of the Mexican phone industry controlling 72 companies in the country, overcharged customers \$13.4 billion a year from 2005-2009 hurting the nation's economy.

9. FDA approves drug for an advanced skin cancer.

On Monday the Food and Drug Administration gave approval for the drug, Erivedge, made by Genetech that treats basal cell carcinoma.

10. The U.S. budget deficit will shrink this year to \$1.1 trillion.

The Congressional Budget Office reported that the deficit will be down from \$1.3 trillion of last year to \$1.1 trillion this year due to strengthening tax revenue and a slowdown in spending.

OPINION

EDITORS

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Snow season falls short this winter



By Lauren Vujovich

As students come back to school, USD once again obtains its old liveliness. Suddenly, the barren hallways are filled with talk about winter break, and friends are happy to see familiar faces after their time apart. Classes are once again in session, and busy schedules arise.

Many have returned to San Diego from cold, wet and seemingly miserable weather. However, one cannot help but notice that San Diego has welcomed us all back with unseasonably warm weather.

Girls and boys alike are seen supporting the shorts and flip flop weather as friends make plans to hit up Mission Beach and escape their winter whiteness that has been haunting them.

This past year and continuing into the New Year, there has been some weird weather across California.

During last semester, San Diego experienced a good amount of rain; however, it seemed to be that the amount of rain here was almost the same as in Northern California, which usually receives more rain.

While it may still have been cold, or at least cold to us California kids, the lack of rain this winter led to a lack of snow for skiers and snowboarders alike. The bare slopes in Lake Tahoe, for example, were a letdown.

At most, a light dusting of snow was hitting popular travel destinations, such as Squaw Valley, which is usually seen covered in snow throughout the winter season.

This winter, however, was not even comparable to past seasons. The Sierra Nevada Mountain range in Northern California only had a few inches of snow this year, compared to last year in which it was reported to have more than two feet of snow.

Man-made snow was produced at many ski lodges in hopes of attracting customers, but many snow-dwellers found it to be less than satisfactory.

The snow was hard and run down. Skiers and snowboarders could ultimately only get a few runs in before the resorts had to place more man-made snow on the ground. As a result, many just stopped going to the mountains altogether.

Now, when we look around San Diego, it is clear to see that that we are experiencing beautiful, warm temperatures as the weather is into the high 70s and a chance of it even peeking into the 80s later this week.

It appears that here at the beach, many students are not complaining about the lack of rain and snow that has been falling across the country and are making the most of the warm weather.

Most students were more than happy to leave the cold temperatures that they were experiencing while at home. Since there was barely any snow, many students had to find other activities to keep themselves busy during the cold weather, which can make time drag on.

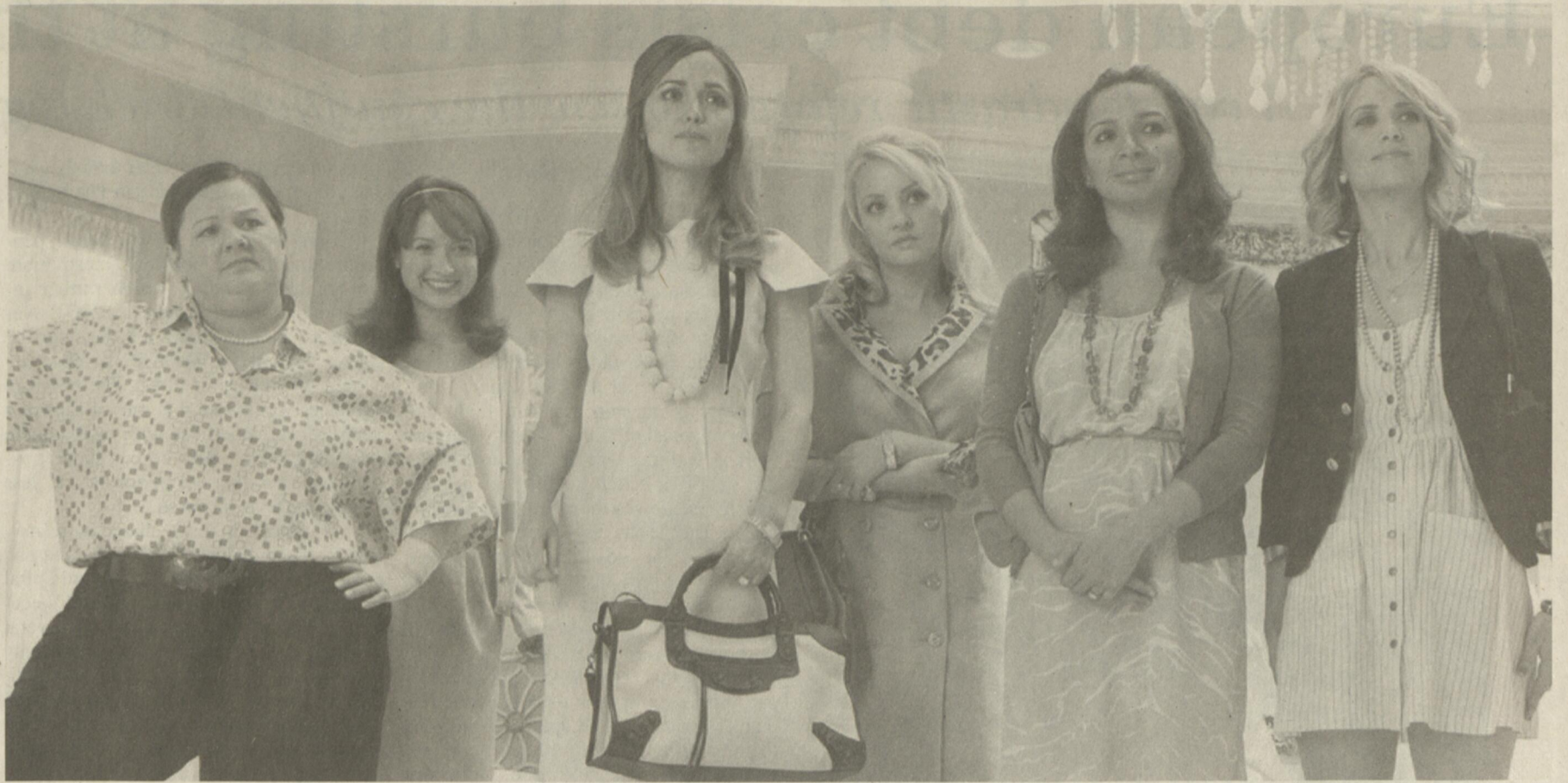
Yet, here in San Diego there are more than enough warm weather activities that students are indulging in, whether it is tennis, surfing, skateboarding, you name it.

I must admit that I too am enjoying the nice weather that San Diego has welcomed us back with, as it confirms the reasons for attending a beach school.

However, when looking at the bigger picture, I cannot help but be concerned and upset with the lack of the seasonal weather that has been happening.

One can only hope that the nice weather stays and California doesn't once again experience a late winter, which has happened in years past.

Yet for now, we should just enjoy the warm weather while we have it. You can always hit the slopes next year.



The comedy "Bridesmaids" is nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress.

Photo Courtesy of Nedimeler_01/Flickr CC

"Bridesmaids" success gives women hope for new roles

Female comedians are offered fewer and less diverse characters than their male counterparts. However, new female-driven comedies are providing opportunities and breaking down gender stereotypes.

By Katelyn Montero

This year the Oscars will be more than an evening of red carpets, celebrities and deciding who wore it best. This year the Oscars will also be a platform for cultural change. The Supreme Court recognized women's right to vote in 1920, and now, almost a century later, the Oscars are recognizing women's right to be funny.

The movie industry is one that continually pushes boundaries of social norms and stereotypes, but roles for women in comedy are about as different as Nicholas Sparks' novels: just because there are a lot of them doesn't mean that they're all that different.

Look at almost any actress who plays the lead in comedies: Sandra Bullock, Jennifer Aniston, Katherine Heigl. Somewhere in their careers they have all played the workaholic who finally realizes that love is more important than a job.

Lack of diversity is not the only obstacle that holds women back from having just as good of roles as men. As Tad Friend said in the New Yorker, "Being funny is the first criterion for

comic actors, and somewhere down the line for comic actresses." Two of the major criteria ahead of being funny are being pretty and being likable. In comedy, likability is perhaps the most challenging quality for actresses to overcome.

Men in comedies can be lazy, unambitious, vulgar and rude, and they don't have to apologize for it. If a female character has a flaw, the movie will be about them learning to change it. The perfectionist learns to loosen up, the nerdy girl gets a makeover, and the girl who has given up on guys learns to love again.

The main characters in movies like "Pineapple Express" and "The Hangover" can sleep around, drink too much and break the law. The same freedoms do not exist in roles for women. This is especially true in romantic comedies, where most roles for women feature characters that are pretty, driven, successful and smart.

Roles for women in comedy are not only restricted to the quest to make the characters seem likable, but also because there simply aren't very many of them. In 2007, USC published a study that found that out of the 100 top-grossing movies, women only accounted for 29.9 percent of all

speaking parts.

Another problem with women's roles is that they often only talk about one thing: men.

The "Mo Movie Measure," also known as the "Bechdel Test," which was popularized by cartoonist Alison Bechdel, features three requirements for determining whether or not a movie has gender bias. The movie must contain two or more female characters with names, at some point those two or more females must have a conversation with each other, and that conversation must be about something other than a man.

A surprising amount of movies fail this test, and they come from every genre. One movie that passes the test with flying colors is the comedy "Bridesmaids," which recently received an Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay. This past summer, "Bridesmaids" generated more revenue than "Sex and the City" and became the top-grossing female comedy in movie history.

"I had always hoped there was this neglected audience out there hoping someone would make movies for them," producer of Bridesmaids Judd Apatow said in an interview with MTV. "Hopefully this will lead to a lot

more movies starring funny women."

According to co-writer and star of the movie Kristen Wiig, Bridesmaids wasn't written with the intent of being a female comedy. It was written as a comedy, and it just so happens to have women in it.

"Yeah, it's 2011. Women do that stuff," Wiig said in an interview with The Phoenix. "Women swear. Women get drunk. Women pass out in their own vomit. And it's not like we're the first women to do it. We should be able to see things how they really are. And it shouldn't be this huge new thing. But it is."

"Bridesmaids" certainly isn't the first female-driven comedy, nor is it the first time that women have been raunchy or vulgar in a movie. However, it is the first time that a raunchy female-driven comedy has been so well received by audiences, critics and, now, the Oscars.

Also recognized by the Oscars committee is Melissa McCarthy, who is nominated for Best Supporting Actress. In "Bridesmaids," McCarthy's character is rough, blunt, unladylike and unapologetic. She didn't get nominated because she was likable or charming. She got nominated because she made people laugh.

The return of the Tea Party

By Trevor Carlsen

The 2010 midterm elections proved to be a huge victory for Republicans, as they turned the tides in the House of Representatives and picked up seats in the Senate.

Engized by a disdain for Washington and encouraged by a return to liberty, the Republican base mobilized and incumbent liberal Democrats, as well as pseudo-conservative Republicans, saw themselves challenged and in most cases, defeated on election day.

The movement originated from individuals showing up at town hall meetings and speaking out against the Affordable Healthcare Act, more commonly known as Obamacare.

Constituents wanted their representatives to know that they didn't approve of Congress and the President shoving legislation down their throats. Congress didn't listen and the Tea Party was born.

The liberal media did all they could to derail the grassroots movement. Everyday Americans were written off as racist bigots in hopes of discrediting their message, which because of Obamacare was anti-liberal.

After it became apparent that smearing the movement wouldn't be effective in tearing it down, critics began denouncing its durability by referring to it as "Astroturf" rather than grassroots. But the Tea Party held strong and rejuvenated the conservative revolution.

Now that we are more than a full year removed from the midterm elections it seems as if the movement, like the critics said, has died out. And as far

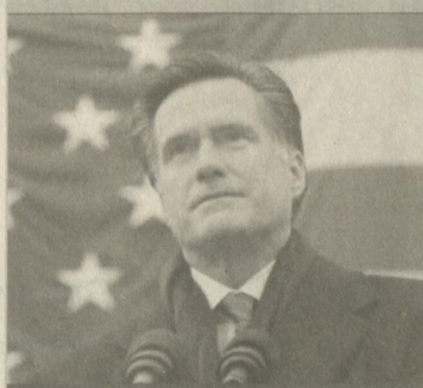


Photo Courtesy of Contra Costa Times/Flickr CC
GOP candidate Mitt Romney is the front-runner in the nomination.



Photo Courtesy of Seekthe1/Flickr CC
GOP candidate Rick Santorum has wholly accepted the privatization of Medicare.

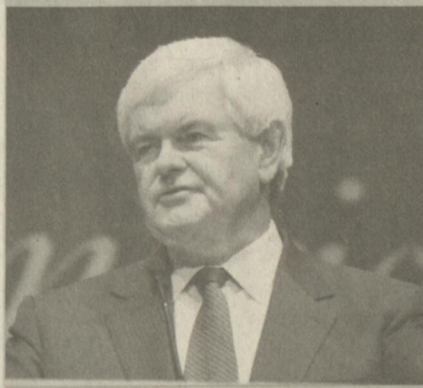


Photo Courtesy of Don Irvine Photos/Flickr CC
GOP candidate Newt Gingrich has attached himself with the Tea Party.

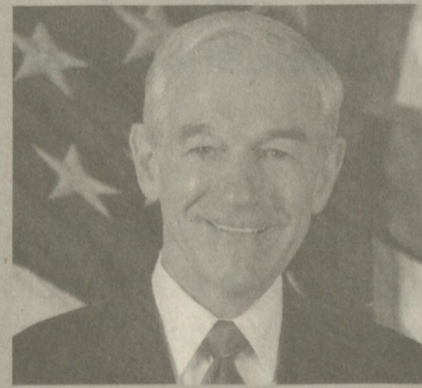


Photo Courtesy of AsianMedia/Flickr CC
GOP candidate Ron Paul is seen as the renegade candidate for the GOP.

as the media is concerned, it has.

There have been mentions of the Tea Party with regard to the GOP primary but we haven't seen the massive rallying and mobilization that we did during the 2010 election... yet.

Something that many of the talking heads on television forget is that the Tea Party is a grassroots movement comprised of everyday Ameri-

cans who have jobs and families to look after. It isn't Occupy Wall Street where its comprised members can devote months on end to sitting in a park. These enthusiastic activists showed up to campaign for candidates that shared their ideals and would get America back on track, and then they went home and got back to taking care of their other responsibilities.

Now that the GOP primary is in full swing we will start to see a reemergence of the movement that shook Washington. Earlier in the primary, Tea Party activists had a multitude of candidates that fit the bill of the grassroots movement. Now, for one reason or another, the field has been trimmed and there are only four candidates remaining. As the candidates try frantically to define themselves, there has quickly formed a sharp divide between the conservative base and the establishment.

Ask any of the major network broadcasters or the political elites and they'll tell you that Mitt Romney is the clear favorite for the nominee. The reason being, he is the establishment. In the coming days of this primary election, we will see a further divide between the establishment of the Republican Party and the conservative grassroots of the Tea Party.

With Romney as the prescribed frontrunner and in the pocket of the establishment, Tea Party activists still need to decide on their candidate, the anti-Romney.

The top choice, led by his strong debate performances, seems to be Newt Gingrich, but Rick Santorum, as the solid three-tiered conservative remaining in the race, stands a strong chance to win them over in the end. Even Ron Paul stands to garnish some support from the resurgent force.

It is uncertain which candidate the Tea Party will ultimately back against the establishment in the primary, but we can be sure that whomever wins the GOP nominee, the Tea Party will be at full force ready to back them against the incumbent Obama for the general election.

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To the Editor,

The Associated Students' Committee on Inclusion and Diversity commends the President's Cabinet for voting in favor of adding both gender identity and gender expression as protected categories for students and other community members at USD. We would like to share with the members of our community definitions to increase understanding and awareness of these changes in our Equal Opportunity Policy and the Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment. These revisions affirm the University's commitment to creating and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community.

USD implemented these policy changes before the protection of gender expression became California State law on January 1st, 2012. In addition, pregnancy and marital status are being added to the student policies (previously they were listed only in employee policies).

What is the difference between, gender identity and a gender expression? Here are the definitions:

- i. Gender identity - refers to a person's internal sense of being male, female, or something else.
- ii. Gender Expression - refers to the way a person communicates gender identity to others through behavior, clothing, hairstyles, voice, or body characteristics.
- iii. Transgender - is the umbrella term for persons whose gender identity, gender expression, or behavior does not conform to that typically associated with the sex to which they were assigned at birth. "Trans" is sometimes used as shorthand for "transgender." While transgender is generally a good term to use, not everyone whose appearance or behavior is gender-nonconforming will identify as a transgender person. The ways that transgender people are talked about in popular culture, academia and science are constantly changing, particularly as individuals' awareness, knowledge, and openness about transgender people and their experiences grow.

The Inclusion and Diversity Committee celebrates this progressive accomplishment that the President's Cabinet has amended for its constituents. Please join us in acknowledging this dynamic and up to date development that we hope will create a more tolerant and inclusive community.

-Chuck Cook, Associated Students Speaker of the Senate

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Vista strongly encourages letters to the editor from students, faculty, staff, administration and the community.

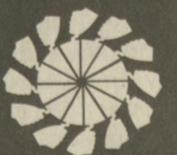
Correspondence should be sent to twilson@usdvista.com with the subject line "Letter to the Editor."

Submissions should be limited to 500 words and must include verifiable contact information. Letter content is subject to editing for clarity and style.

The Vista does not publish anonymous letters, those addressed to a third party or letters in poor taste.

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ARTS & CULTURE

EDITOR

Haley Earl-Lynn
hellynn@usdvista.com

"Architects in Peace" Exhibit



By Haley Earl-Lynn

The Institute of Peace and Justice here at USD looks to foster peace, cultivate justice and create a safer world. This lofty goal is slowly worked toward through education, research, peacemaking activities and academic programs. Throughout its 12 years of existence, the IPJ has seen a variety of well-known peace makers and artists.

An exhibit titled "Architects of Peace" is on display in the IPJ Fine Art Gallery. This exhibit runs from now until April 30. The exhibit has a collection of portraits of international voices for peace. The artist Michael Collopy has been a professional photographer for over 30 years. He will be in San Diego for a few days and plans to visit his exhibit on campus at the IPJ.

With 30 years of photography experience, Michael Collopy successfully portrays the peace makers USD strives to support and emulate. This was not always Collopy's plan, though. He was born to artistic parents, and his artistic ability led him into the professional world of photography. After finishing up with school in the 1980s, he found it difficult to find a creative job in design or art. Collopy happened upon an Ansel Adams exhibit in Northern California. He was inspired by Adams' talent and decided to track Adams down. Collopy met with him to discuss photography, art and inspiration. Adams inspired Collopy to pursue professional photography.

Collopy compares the 1980s' job market to today's market, in terms of opportunities for creative outlets.

"When I graduated, I found it difficult to find something creative to do," Collopy said. "I found an interesting opportunity in photographing entertainment stars. My first big connection was with Frank Sinatra." Sinatra utilized Collopy's talents for several projects and introduced him to other big stars. Collopy was able to make a living photographing celebrities, but he found a deeper calling in documenting peace makers.

Collopy was first introduced to a well-known peace maker as a child. His parents were friends and supporters of Robert and Ethel Kennedy. Collopy got to see Robert speak, and he knew then that he wanted to impact people peacefully the way Kennedy had.

Collopy has dedicated his artistic talent to photographing peacemakers. For 33 years he has photographed Nobel Peace Laureates. He has worked with many well-known peacemakers in their prime, including Mother Theresa, Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela. Collopy's exhibit here at USD is a representation of some key peace makers in today's society. Collopy's documentation of His Holiness the Dalai Lama is on display in the exhibit in anticipation of His Holiness' visit to USD this coming April.

Anne Birkel, the Executive Assistant at the IPJ, is very pleased to have Collopy's work on campus.

"The IPJ first got a glimpse of Michael Collopy's photography several years ago and we have been working to bring an exhibit here focused on peacebuilders - young and old, of all ethnicities, races, religions and nationalities," Birkel said. Given that USD is now an Ashoka Changemaker campus, Birkel believes that this exhibit serves for students as an example of the impact one individual can have on the global community.

Several of the peacemakers included in "Architects of Peace" have spoken at USD as part of either the Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series or the Social Issues Conference. The exhibit features health advocate Paul Farmer, Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi and former Irish President Mary Robinson.

There are several photos in the exhibit featuring His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who will be speaking at USD in April. Birkel is thrilled about the IPJ schedule for this spring semester which not only brings another distinguished peace maker to campus, but also an artistic representation of peace in Collopy's exhibit.

"Students may not realize how lucky they are to have these kinds of global changemakers brought to their campus, both as speakers and as subjects of this remarkable collection of portraits," Birkel said.

Student, faculty and staff tickets for His Holiness the Dalai Lama go on sale at the JCP box office at 10 a.m. on Feb. 20.



Photos Courtesy of Sundance Institute

Four must-see films from Sundance

Sundance Film Festival provides both laughs and lessons

By Colleen Dunn

Sundance is the largest independent film festival in the United States. It has enough of a draw to bring thousands of people and hundreds of celebrities to snowy Utah in the middle of winter. Whether or not you consider yourself an indie film buff, these two weeks of screenings, meetings and deals (sometimes in the millions) set the tone for American cinema in the coming year.

Films like "Saw," "Garden State," "The Blair Witch Project" and "Super Troopers" got their start at Sundance, and last year 45 festival films were purchased for distribution. It's too early to say exactly how many Sundance flicks will make it all the way to San Diego, but many have been purchased with the hope of distribution, and some have a scheduled distribution date already.

USD students have a unique opportunity to attend the festival and earn three upper division communication studies units over intercession. This year nearly 30 students made their way out to Park City, Utah with communication

studies professors Roger Pace and Eric Pierson. The program is available each intercession.

Here is a breakdown of four must-see films from the festival which will soon be available in theaters around the country.

"Wish You Were Here": When four Australian tourists go on holiday in Cambodia and one goes missing, the other three are forced to return home to Australia and try and figure out how to carry on with their lives. They deal with feelings of guilt and confusion. Besides being a gripping and deliciously shocking story, the cinematographer's use of focus is both artistic and purposeful, which keeps the film interesting and engaging. In addition, the film is well-acted with attractive, new stars. The cast is unlikely to remain unknown for much longer in the U.S. once "Wish You Were Here" makes it to domestic theaters this fall. This film is directed by Kieran Darcy-Smith and stars Joel Edgerton and Felicity Price.

"Liberal Arts": This light-hearted, laugh-out-loud comedy was written and directed by Josh Radnor. He stars

in the film alongside Elizabeth Olsen, Mary-Kate and Ashley's kid sister who is quite the Sundance darling. Olsen starred in the 2011 Sundance success "Martha Marcy May Marlene," which just recently graced box offices. "How I Met Your Mother" fans will recognize Josh Radnor who is known for his role as Ted Mosby on the sitcom, and he is every bit this character.

While this role is new, the personality is familiar. Radnor portrays a 35-year-old man who falls for a 19-year-old college student, Olsen, on a visit to his alma mater. The film takes awhile to get to its inevitable lesson, but the dialogue is witty, and viewers won't mind the smooth ride.

"Ethel": If you're a newcomer to the history of the Kennedy family, Ethel is a good place to start. Both heartwarming and surprisingly humorous, Rory Kennedy, Bobby and Ethel Kennedy's 11th daughter and John F. Kennedy's niece, leaves out the mythical and salacious aspects of her family legacy and focuses instead on one woman, her mother Ethel.

The wife of Bobby Kennedy is often overlooked beside memories

of JFK and Jackie O., but it was Ethel's heart and unique, entertaining parenting style that made the Kennedys America's royal family in the first place. She is really a lady with spunk. Fair warning: this is a documentary, but if you see only one this year, it will entertain and inform you.

"Robot and Frank": Megastars Liv Tyler and James Marsden pale in comparison to the subtly brilliant performance of legend Frank Langella in a film both sweet and hilarious, "Robot and Frank." If the name Frank Langella doesn't ring a bell in your young ears, envision Dracula. Frank's character, also named Frank, is getting old and losing his memory, but this isn't a story about memory loss. It's a story about an unlikely friendship.

When Frank's son becomes frustrated with his father, he invests in a caretaking robot to help Frank. A bittersweet tale unfolds that is both hopeful and poignant. The honesty both in the acting and in the plot of this film makes its purchase at the festival unsurprising but well-deserved. Susan Sarandon and Peter Sarsgaard round out the stellar cast in "Robot and Frank," directed by Jake Schreier.

Catching up with the rock band MUTEMATH

By Tom Roth

USD Radio's Tom Roth recently spoke with Paul Meany, front man of New Orleans rock group MUTEMATH, to discuss the band's most recent album, upcoming tour, and what drummer Darren King carries around in his little black bag.

Tom Roth: In March 2008, you told The Orange County Register that your goal for MUTEMATH's second album, Armistice, was to "embarrass" the first record. Did you accomplish that goal?

Paul Meany: The jury is out on that. I'm not sure we did. I think the second record is certainly as good as the first record but, yeah, we didn't blow it outta the water. We tried though. We had to tell ourselves we were. I do think they are two great records though.

TR: If we could go back to an earlier MUTEMATH song, what were the circumstances under which you wrote "OK"?

PM: I think at the time, I was just trying to find a new beginning. I think me and Darren had just started writing songs together and experimenting and that was certainly one of the first songs we had put together. I think a lot of the songs on the EP were about recovering from losses and trying to cope with falling on your face and getting back up which is certainly where I was at that point.

TR: MUTEMATH has been fortunate enough to enjoy exposure

through a variety of popular outlets including television and movies, notably the "Twilight" and "Transformers" series as well as spots on Discovery Channel and ESPN. How has this been for the band?

PM: I will say the Twilight one was certainly the most surprising. I don't think anyone was sure what was gonna happen with a song on the first Twilight soundtrack. First of all, it paid for our third record so we've been thankful for that. We probably wouldn't have gotten to another record without having that. But yeah, what a phenomenon that became.

TR: From the opening of Odd Soul, it's apparent this record is different than MUTEMATH's previous releases. How did this new sound develop?

PM: From a culmination of a few things. First of all, I think losing our previous guitarist was one factor so it's kind of strange that it became a more guitar-led or guitar-heavy type of record. To some degree it makes sense because the guitar became a new instrument for the record. We went ahead and did the record as a three-piece and had a lot of fun with picking up a guitar... all of us did. Roy certainly did most of it. I think also, partly in our mind, was to make a record that was very stage-ready which we had never done in the past. That wasn't something we were thinking about. I think we kind of evaluated what we thought we did well as a band and what we didn't.... Our show is pretty high-dynamic and just a couple slow songs so we wanted a record that had that same ratio and

kinda fell suit into that. I certainly feel like this record, Odd Soul, is our most cohesive - certainly, our most high-spirited - record and I really enjoy it. I think it'll certainly stand the test of time and with this record, I would probably lay claim to embarrassing the previous two. I think it's our best one.

TR: Were the sounds on Odd Soul in any way influenced by the music of MUTEMATH's hometown, New Orleans?

PM: Absolutely. I think that's always been an influence to our band. We certainly just let ourselves go there more on this record. We indulged a bit more on that. You have to remember our band started out as an electronic experiment. It was just Darren and me and a lot of the music was "built" in samplers and drum machines. It started there and kinda ended there in a way too even when we record the instruments.

But over time, and you can probably see the evolution from each record, it just kinda has become a little more organic. The formula hasn't changed too much. Song ideas for us still start in samplers and drum machines. It's usually how we get ideas off the ground. How we develop those is a little more informed by what we do in our show; what we've started to find we naturally do live anyway.

TR: Which tracks on Odd Soul are you especially proud of and which are you most excited to share with fans?

PM: Certainly "Prytania" is the top for all of us. We love that track. I

love "Cavalries". I think "Cavalries" is probably one of the most exciting songs we've ever done. "In No Time" is certainly a special song for this band... "All Or Nothing"... "Blood Pressure" and "Allies" are the two songs we started with when we were writing new material. Once we got those two songs, we kinda built the rest of the record on that. So those were pretty pivotal tracks as well.

TR: Your shows are notable for the on-stage energy. How do you keep that up while on tour?

PM: I don't really know. I could probably make up some non-sensical answer that'd probably be more interesting but the truth is, we just get on stage, we just play, and react. That's it.

TR: Armed with a new set of songs and a new guitarist, what have the differences been between the Odd Soul Tour and MUTEMATH's previous tours?

PM: Just the songs. I think Todd (the new guitarist) has fit in very well. He's a great musician. He's very talented, so he just kinda learned the music, and stepped right in and has been covering it all. We've been playing mainly new music and it's just been really fun to rebuild chemistry with the band and the new songs and enjoy the new sparks that are happening around the music right now.

MUTEMATH has an upcoming San Diego show at 4th & B on February 3rd. Tickets are available on TicketMaster.

Travel smart in South America

By Kristiana Lehn

"Abrir los ojos es perderse un poco," reads a scrawled note on the wall of a bookstore cafe in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The phrase, meaning "to open your eyes is to lose yourself a little," perfectly describes the experience of anyone traveling in South America.

If you want validation of this fact, just ask any of the many USD students who studied or travelled in South America during intersession. They will probably tell you that their experience at times pushed them to the edge of their comfort zone and in the end opened them up to a different culture, a bigger world. This world, which we have always known about but have never been fully aware of from the comfort of our homes, is full of wonder.

There are people to meet, so different from ourselves yet still possessing innate similarities that make it easy to find connections anywhere in the world. There are wonderful foods -- dozens of fruits that the US does not import, Argentine steak, Peruvian Alpaca, empanadas -- My mouth waters at the memory.

There is also an incredible amount of beauty to be found. For this, look to the natural wonders such as the exotic trees, majestic mountains, and mind-boggling waterfalls. Beauty is not limited to nature but can also be found in the architecture, art museums, street concerts, jazz bars, zoos, markets and public parks just waiting to be discovered. With wonders like this, it is hard not to let go a little bit to become more a part of this world. If USD wants to raise global citizens, South American travel should continue to be encouraged.

In order to have the best, most eye-opening experiences possible while traveling, it is recommended that all travelers keep in mind a few pieces of well-tested advice:

-Stay in hostels. If you do your research, hostels can be the perfect way to sleep comfortably in South America on a budget. Hostelbookers.com or Hostelworld.com are great resources. It is possible to see user reviews and ratings on everything from fun level to cleanliness to staff helpfulness. Hostels are categorized by area, rating, price, and more. Essentially, you can find the perfect fit for you before you even enter a city. If you are a little more willing to fly by the seat of your pants, you can always ask the locals for recommendations on where to stay in their city.



Buenos Aires

Photo Courtesy of Kelli Davis

Why would you want to stay in a hostel instead of the more luxurious and private hotel? Besides being cheaper in most, if not all, cases, hostels are a great place to meet friends. You might find someone cooking in the kitchen that would be willing to make dinner with you the next night, or perhaps you'll meet a new travel companion while waiting in line to use the computer. Bigger hostels known for a more exciting atmosphere tend to be great for meeting fellow travelers, whereas the small hostel model often lends itself to meeting more locals or befriending a hostel's owners.

-Don't forget your first aid kit. You never know when you'll stumble over a curb coming out of a club at 6 a.m. or when the water might drastically disagree with your digestive system. Navigating a foreign medical system can be difficult, so as a traveler it is nice to be prepared to handle minor medical issues independently. If all else fails, many pharmacists are able to help get the right medicine without a doctor's visit.

-Most importantly, keep an open mind. You never know who you might

meet or what you might eat if you are willing to give a new experience a chance. If you follow the "I'll try anything once" rule, you might find your new favorite food, or you might taste something gross. Is that a risk you're willing to take? If you're friendly and genuine with the people sitting across from you at the breakfast table at your hostel, you might get offered a position at their non-profit organization building schools in Nicaragua, or you might just have a pleasant breakfast. If you are respectful and interested in the cultures of the places you visit, you might learn new words and ideas, make transnational human connections or at least be a good example of Americans abroad.

If you're feeling inspired to explore the Spanish-speaking world straight away, check out the Outdoor Adventures trip to Costa Rica this Spring Break. It will be a trip full of unforgettable adventures and one of a kind exploration. If you're looking for a longer trip, head over to the Study Abroad office where they will happily help you plan a semester, summer or intersession of learning and exploring in South America.

Get a Life Makeover, Courtesy of MTV

Auditions for "Made" to be held at USD

By Haley Earl-Lynn

It's not everyday that USD students get an opportunity to have their lives totally made over. This Friday Feb. 3, MTV is giving Toreros an opportunity to audition for the life makeover show "Made". While Toreros have graced TV shows like "Wipe Out" and "Who's Still Standing?", "Made" is new territory.

"Made" is considered a "self-improvement reality television series", according to MTV. In the past, teens on the show have had the opportunity to be "made" into singers, dancers, wake boarders, and boxers. The teens are provided with a one-on-one coach and forced to face their fears in the hope of learning something new and uncomfortable.

The television series has won three Emmys over its 11 seasons on MTV, but is looking to expand in this new season.

They ask, "What do you dream about? What if someone could help make your dreams come true? Would you start your own business? Sing your way to Nashville? Land a dream internship? Start a nonprofit community garden?"

MTV's most recent and well known venture in San Diego was "Real

World". The show's cast took over a Point Loma home. While "Real World" is known for raunchy characters and crude behavior, "Made" is looking for deserving students with aspirations.

Sophomore John McCallie is looking forward to the audition. He has been a fan of the show since high school:

"I would love to be on the show! I am going to tell them I would like to be made into a comedian. I feel like I am funny in real life, but I can't imagine getting up in front of an audience and telling jokes. I have stage fright."

When asked if he was worried about a stint on the show ruining his reputation, McCallie answered, "I'm not worried at all. It seems like 'Made' gives teens a new skill set, not a bad reputation."

McCallie may have just the right perspective on the show. Past participants have walked away with a new life experience. On shows such a "Real World" there are allegations of rape and explicit abuse of drugs and alcohol.

Toreros have an opportunity to fulfill a dream if they are cast for "Made".

Auditions will be held in the Alumni Center this Friday from 2 to 6pm. Interested students should sign up on the second floor in the SLP.



02.02

Colbie Caillat
@ Pala Casino
Spa Resort

Eleanor Friedberger
@ Casbah

02.03

Lisa Loeb
@ Anthology

MUTEMATH
@ 4th & B

02.07

Dr Dog with Purling Hiss
@ Belly Up
Tavern

The Wanted
@ House of
Blues

02.08

Estelle
@ Anthology

Saint Motel
@ Casbah

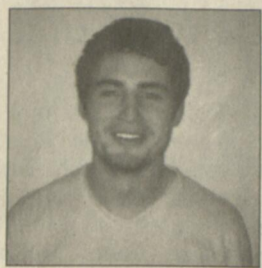
02.09

Bob Marley Tribute Show
@ Belly Up
Tavern

D.R.U.G.S
@ House of
Blues

SPORTS

EDITORS

Mark Pelka
mpelka@usdvista.comPhil Morelli
pmorelli@usdvista.comMy new
life as a
civilian

By Phil Morelli

Last semester I was a football player for USD. The NCAA has specific rules that state you can only play four seasons of college football. So unless your name is JT Rogan, four seasons is all you get. After those, you either try your luck at the NFL or quit playing all together, cold turkey. Football is the only sport you can't play for the rest of your life. (And I mean tackle football, not the wannabe intramural flag football kind every Tuesday night on Manchester). So when your time is up, your time is up. It's a reality every athlete goes through at some point in their career and it sucks.

Now two months into my retirement, I get to experience what most non-athletes get to do everyday. I get to live the life of a normal civilian student. And so far it's been pretty unfulfilling. The days of blinding hard work and importance have now ceased to exist; instead, my days are now comprised of dull and paralyzing normalcy. Instead of waking up at 5 a.m. for a puke-filled lift and run session at the hands of Coach Stephane Rochet, now I wake up at 9 a.m. and I don't leave my bed until coffee is made. Then maybe I'll sit around for a few hours, play video games, blast The White Stripes to piss off my neighbors (who deserve it), then eat lunch. By then it may be time for class, which as an upperclassman is always after 2 p.m. and never on a Friday, or else people would take pity on me (God forbid you have class on Friday right? Can you even be allowed in a sorority or fraternity if you have class on Friday? It's social suicide). Then, after class I'll go to the JCP gym for a workout. However, I always end up leaving soon after entering. I look really out of place doing any lift other than bicep curls or bench press, which is the exercise of choice by every guy in the place. After leaving the gym I usually pick up a burrito from JV's. I would have gone to the SLP but I only have \$10. By the time I get home its maybe 8 p.m. and I have about an hour to get myself together because it's a Thursday night and I'm obviously going to the Sandbar.

Everything about this schedule is trash. I was always told I was "missing out" on all the fun because of my football schedule. Having meetings, lift sessions and practice for a combined six hours a day is a drag to some people, but if my current schedule is the "fun" I've been missing out on, then I am glad to have missed it over the past four years.

What people don't realize about athletes is that our schedule defines us. And believe it or not, it's a point of pride for us to be up earlier than everyone, grinding, lifting, doing something with our lives. Being an athlete is by no means easy, most of the time it's downright awful actually. I often hated it because I had no free time. My life was consumed by my sport. But it was worth it for me to hear someone in the back of class complaining about their 9 a.m. course on a Friday. Little did they know I woke up at 6 a.m. to get my ass kicked in a crossfit workout.

Student athletes are the hardest working students on campus. The good ones - not the athletes who always show up late to every day, provide little to class discourse and party on the night before a game - earn all conference in academics and athletics. These are the men and women that can dunk or nutmeg you while earning a 4.0 GPA, all before you get out of bed. I guarantee you no one works harder than those like Al Rilwan Adeyemi or Stephanie Ochs or many other USD athletes. I know this because most students spend their time complaining about class, not working out and binge drinking their life away.

I may be done with football, but my life of sport doesn't have to end now. I've already begun to realize that once you're an athlete, you're always an athlete. Whether you played in high school or in college, or maybe you didn't play at all but you've always been a fan, sports will always be in your blood. For those who could care less about sports, those who are civilians that have yet to be given the gift of athletics, its not too late to do something about it. Catch a Torero game, race or match on the weekend instead of a day-keg in South Mission Beach. Tryout for a team. Play intramurals. Join Crossfit USD. Support your school. Don't be a civilian, Be a Torero Athlete.



Senior Stephanie Ochs earned West Coast Conference player of the year honors in her final season with USD which concluded in November. Ochs was then drafted No. 3 overall in the WPS draft on Jan. 13.

WPS cancellation leaves
Ochs' future in limbo

By Chris Hanneke

When the USD women's soccer team lost its Sweet 16 matchup against Long Beach State on Nov. 20, it meant one of the greatest careers in the history of the program would come to an end as Stephanie Ochs had played her final game with the Toreros.

While it was the end of an era for Ochs at USD, it wasn't the end of her soccer-playing career. On Jan. 13, Ochs was selected third overall in the Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) draft by the Boston Breakers.

"I am really excited," Ochs told USD Athletics. "This was unexpected to get drafted this high. I was really shocked, and at the same time I am just really excited for the opportunity."

Boston's coach, Lisa Cole, surprised the soccer world by selecting Ochs so high in the draft.

"I know it was a surprise for people but I kind of went with my gut," Cole told The Equalizer. "I think Stephanie Ochs' best soccer is still ahead of her. She has great athleticism. I really like [her] because I know she wants this."

Yet, Cole's optimism and Ochs excitement were turned upside down on Jan. 30 when it was announced that the WPS would be suspending operations indefinitely as a result of a legal dispute among owners with rebellious league owner Dan Borislow. The league was to have five teams, Boston, Atlanta, Philadelphia, New York/New Jersey and Western New York, but the five owners all agreed to cancel the season in response to the dispute.

According to an e-mail to the players obtained by National Soccer Wire, league officials "currently plan to

maintain league and team front offices in hopes of resolving outstanding litigation and holding a 2013 season, but details are still evolving."

Ochs would have been in quite impressive company as the league was set to feature many of the stars from the United States Women's National Team, such as Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year Abby Wambach, goalkeeper Hope Solo and up-and-coming star forward Alex Morgan.

The USWNT was scheduled to compete in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London regardless of the situation with the WPS, but hopes among league owners were that the Olympics would provide a terrific opportunity to publicize the new league.

The cancellation of the league will allow players like Wambach and Solo, who were planning on skipping the WPS season regardless, a better chance to rest and prepare for the Olympics. But for players like Ochs who are currently not on the national team, the cancellation means alternative means will have to be found if they want to continue playing soccer.

Still, if the league can settle its differences, the three-year break before the next World Cup may be the perfect time for a professional women's soccer league to try and find its footing, especially if the USWNT is able to use the Olympics to build on the momentum created by last summer's World Cup that made players like Wambach and Solo household names.

Ochs' accomplishment of being a high draft choice is far from being a lost cause, but her playing career is forced to take a premature rest on the sidelines while the WPS tries to resolve its differences.

Sports Shorts

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- The Toreros are currently 15-5 and have a conference record of 6-2.
- The 15-5 start is the second-best start in program history, trailing only the 2006-07 team that finished 21-9, a program record.
- The Toreros are currently in third place in the West Coast Conference just behind No. 20 Gonzaga and No. 23 BYU.
- The Toreros are led by senior guard Morgan Woodrow who had a strong January, averaging 14.0 points per game and also grabbing 6.6 rebounds per game.
- Senior point guard Dominique Conners is playing just as well and is averaging 15 ppg. Conners only needs 184 more points to surpass Amber Sprague as USD's all-time leading scorer.
- USD is set to play Gonzaga on Saturday, Feb. 4 for a chance at first place.
- USD will start the second half of their conference play against Santa Clara tonight in the Jenny Craig Pavilion at 7 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Men's Basketball is off to an 8-13 start and have a conference record of 3-6.
- The Toreros are currently 6th in the West Coast Conference.
- Freshman Johnny Dee and Christopher Anderson are leading the way averaging 14.5 and 8.2 ppg respectively.
- The Toreros play Saint Mary's on Feb. 2, Saint Mary's is currently ranked No. 18 in the nation.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

- During intersession the swim team won a meet, beating Loyola Marymount University, Fresno State University and Colorado College
- The team is now gearing up for the conference championships



tweets of the week

@OnionSports:

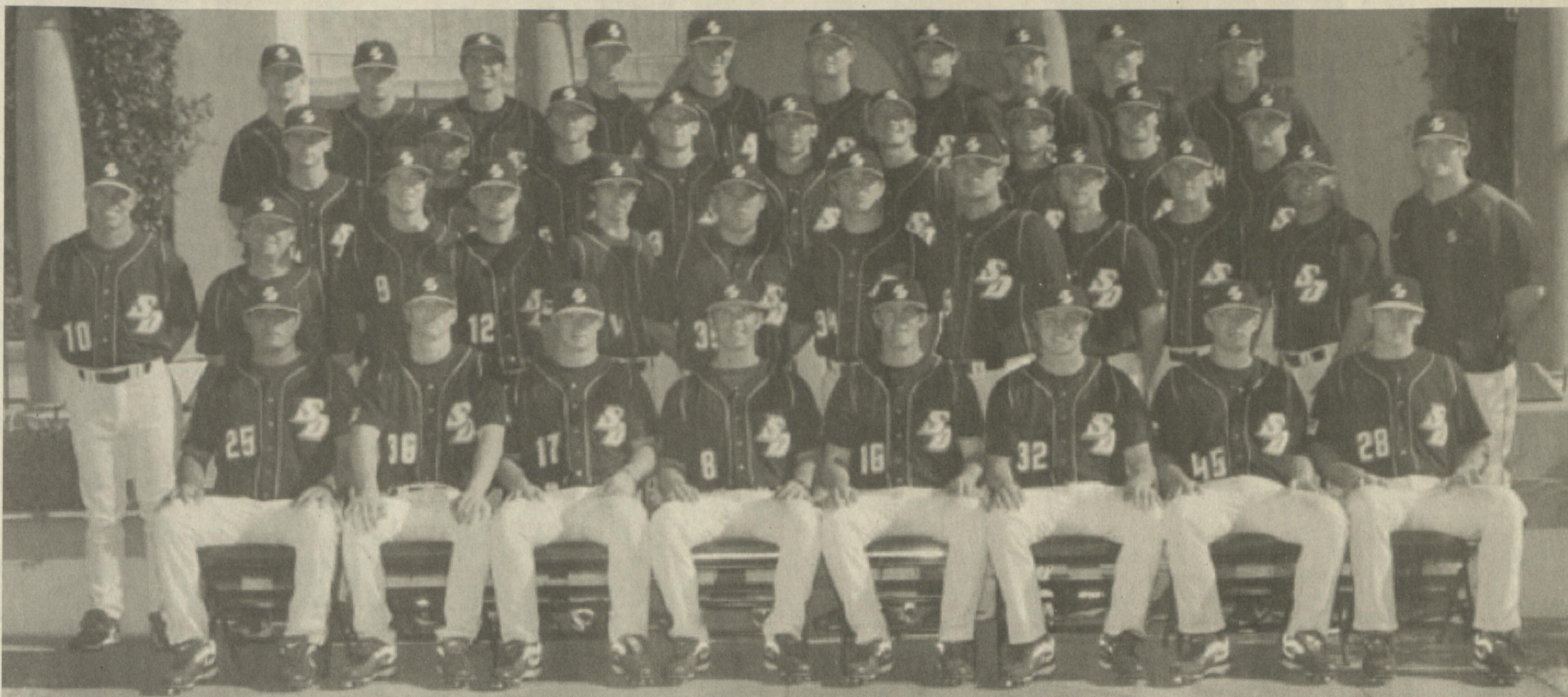
Pathetic Harbaugh family unable to even get one son to coach in the Super Bowl

@mcuban
(Mark Cuban)

FYI I worked at @dairyqueen 10 years ago this week

@KingJames
(Lebron James)

Dunk of the Year!!
@blakegriffin just dunked on Kendrick Perkins so hard!!
Wow!! I guess I'm #2 now.
Move over #6



USD's 2012 baseball team will kick off their season Feb.17 on the road against Sam Houston State.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

Dugout Diary: Preparing for the season

By Jackson Shannon

Jackson Shannon is a redshirt junior lefthanded pitcher for the Toreros. He will be keeping a diary throughout the season on his experience with the team as they look to bounce back from last season's disappointment and earn a trip back to the College World Series.

Baseball season is right around the corner and the Toreros baseball team has been hard at work. Unlike the rest of the student body, we have been on campus since Jan. 3. This past intersession for the Toreros baseball

team was an all-out effort to prepare for the upcoming season. Each day we ate three meals together, which helped us come together as a team and become closer. Since the majority of the team was not taking an intersession class, we used this time to get our bodies into shape for the fifty-six game season. As well, this was a great opportunity to build team chemistry, which is extremely important to have a successful season.

New to the Toreros baseball program this year, a Yoga instructor was brought in for three sessions a week. No one knew what to expect, as most of our team had never done Yoga before. To our surprise we have found it difficult but very beneficial. We are

slowly becoming Yoga experts and our flexibility and core strength is increasing which in turn is benefiting our on-field performance. As always, we have been in the varsity weight-room working hard with our strength coach Matt Couch. This year's weight program has bumped up a few notches from that of the past few years which is translating to increased strength and increased velocity on pitcher's fastballs.

The biggest event during intersession had to be the ten-day long "World Collegiate Baseball Classic" a mini-team tournament created by USD coaches for its players. This consisted of ten "countries" made up of two Toreros hitters competing against the Toreros pitchers to get the most

points possible. Examples of positive points are quality at-bats, walks and hits. Examples of negative points are strikeouts, failure to execute, and pop-ups. For the Pitchers, it was all about throwing strikes, getting ahead in the count, and getting the leadoff batter out. The winning country got rewarded with not having to do "field jobs" for the entire season.

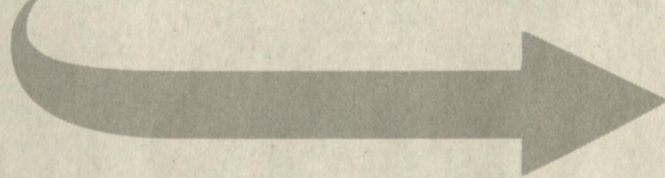
This might not sound very exciting to the normal fan, but let me put it this way. Imagine being at the field for six hours and being able to grab your stuff after the game and head straight to the locker room. All while the rest of the team is on the field for at least thirty more minutes raking, watering, tamping and tarping the field.

To a collegiate baseball player this is equivalent to winning a trip to the Caribbean. The winner of the Pitchers is rewarded with a guarantee of pitching in the first game. With the conclusion of the tournament, team Mexico won consisting of Toreros outfielder A.J. Robinson and infielder Corey Bloom, while Dylan Covey won for the pitchers.

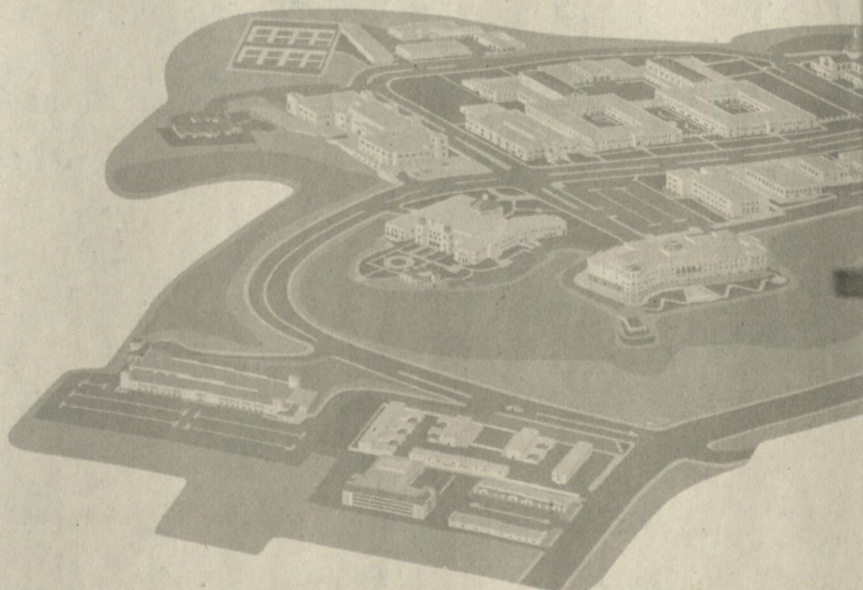
Official full team practice began on Jan. 27, including the Alumni game on Jan. 28. Practice will consist of a six-day-a-week practice format with about three or four scrimmages mixed in. We are all buying in to working hard in practice so that we hit the season running down hill and representing the university with a great season.



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12 | SPORTS

USD to construct new baseball complex

Renovations to several more athletic facilities also expected

By Tyler Wilson

USD has unveiled its Revised Master Plan for Recreation, Intramurals, Club Sports and Intercollegiate Athletics. The master plan will begin with the construction of a new on-campus baseball stadium named Fowler Park and Cunningham Field.

This \$13 million on campus baseball stadium was made possible by an undisclosed donation from Ron and Alexis Fowler. Ron Fowler, the CEO of Liquid Investments, has always regarded USD as a special place.

Fowler's daughter Allison attended USD and was a member of the Toreros rowing team. It was when his daughter was a Torero that he discovered USD's potential.

"This university is one of the most wonderful places I have ever had the opportunity to be associated with," Fowler said at the unveiling of the Drive for Torero Success campaign at the Jenny Craig Pavilion on Jan. 28.

The campaign is expected to raise about \$30 million to be spread between two phases of USD's Revised Master Plan. The campaign is intended to be entirely funded by donations, therefore the university would incur no debt at the completion of the campaign.

Phase I will include renovations to the Skip and Cindy Hogan Tennis Center, the additions of new golf/softball and club sports facilities and new scholarship and operational endowments.

The golf/softball facility will include a 100-yard driving range and two greens. Next to that will be the golf locker room and clubhouse, as well as the softball locker room and clubhouse which will lead right to the softball field.

The club sports facility will be located across from Manchester Field, which is where the majority of USD's club sports activities take place.

Phase II of the Drive for Torero Success campaign will include an Intercollegiate Athletics Center. According to USD Athletic Director Ky Snyder, this will include office space for all coaches and administration, locker rooms for sports who do not have them, a sports medicine facility, sports training and academic support space.

But the main project of Phase I is baseball's Fowler Park.

The baseball program, although recognized in national rankings consistently for the most part of last decade, had to host its own regional at San Diego State University's Tony Gwynn Stadium when it earned a national seed in the 2007 NCAA playoffs because Cunningham stadium did not meet the 3,000 seat requirement the NCAA imposes to host NCAA Regional and Super Regional playoffs.

"Our baseball program is a regular top-25 program and yet we are unable to host post season play," Snyder said.

But with the recent donation by Fowler and the Drive for Torero Success campaign, USD will never have to share San Diego State's facilities again.

"Fowler Park is the first step to bringing our facilities up to par with the university," Snyder said. "So many people believe that the JCP [Jenny Craig Pavilion] houses our intercollegiate athletics. The truth, however, is that it houses just 12 percent of our staff and 10 percent of our student athletes."

Fowler Park will have 1,700 permanent seats and can be expanded to seat over 3,000 for the possibility of hosting the NCAA Regional and Super Regional Playoffs, which will meet the minimum requirement for a host site of a NCAA Regional or Super Regional. Fowler Park will also have full stadium lighting, something Cunningham Stadium currently lacks.

"One of the many things Fowler Park will provide is a spring time evening activity on campus for students to gather and socialize with each other," Snyder said. "That has been missing on campus since we do not have lights."

The official name of the complex will be Fowler Park and Cunningham Field, keeping the name of the previous stadium in the name of the new complex.

John Cunningham, who Cunningham Stadium is named after, is entering his 50th year as an important member of the USD athletics staff.

Cunningham Field will also be reconstructed and rotated four degrees to more closely resemble TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha Nebraska, where the College World Series is held annually. Fowler Park and TD Ameritrade Park were also both designed by the architectural firm Populous, who also designed Petco Park, the home of the San Diego Padres.

To keep with the university's 16th century Spanish Renaissance architectural theme, Populous created a Spanish Renaissance entry way to the stadium that will completely blend with the rest of the university's aesthetic theme.

Five levels will be created inside the stadium for an optimal viewing experience and for convenience with various events: an entry level with plaza space, a suite and plaza level, the main concourse, the Torero Zone and the team clubhouse.

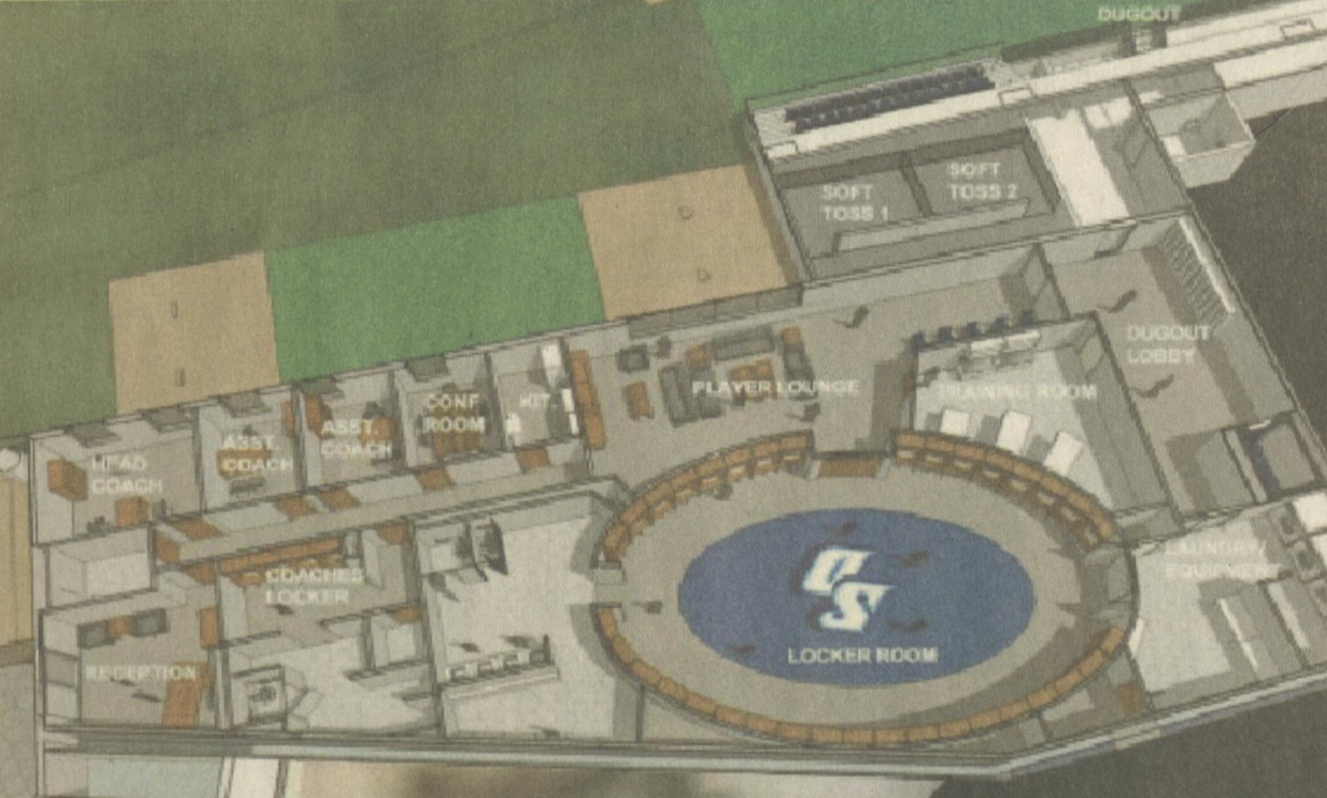
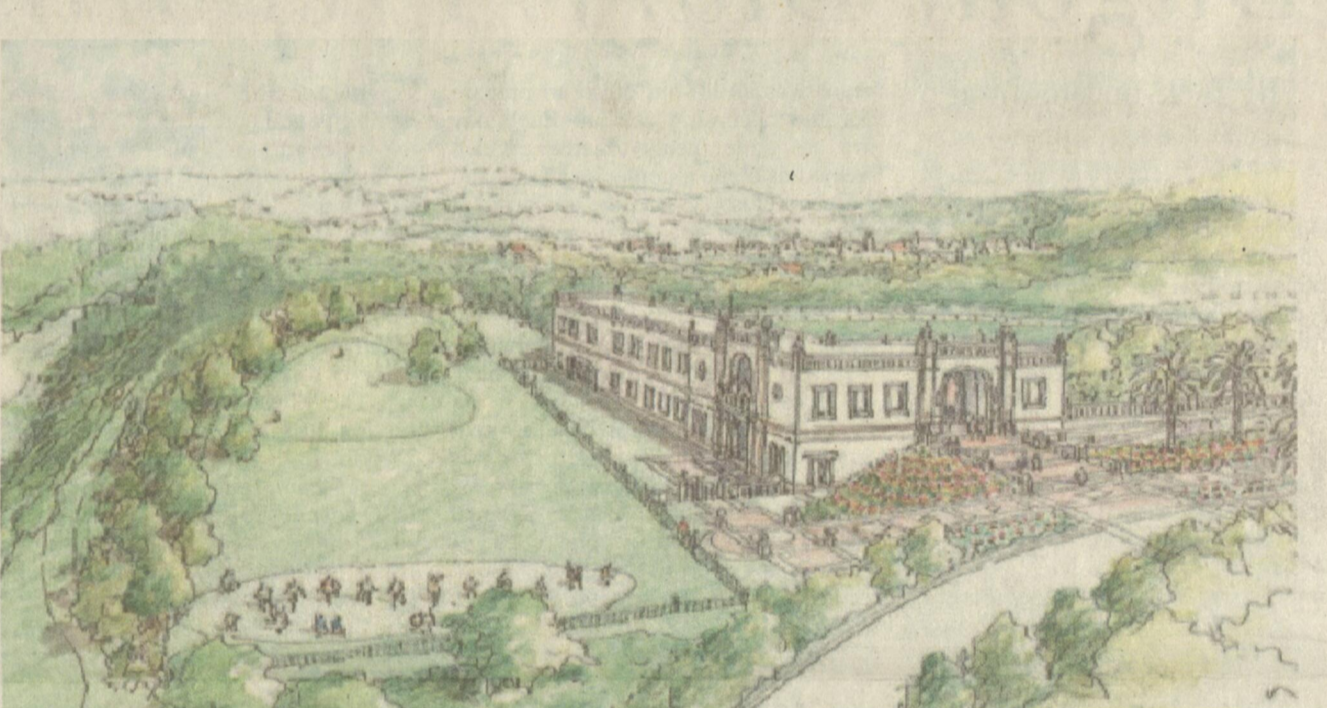
The Torero Zone will feature a miniature Little League infield with artificial turf that can also be used for additional seating.

The clubhouse will feature a training room, equipment room, expanded locker rooms, a players' lounge, a display and reception, added space for batting cages and spaces for coaches and athletes. Additionally, Fowler Park will feature a new batter's eye in centerfield, which will aid batters in locating the ball once it is pitched.

USD has already raised \$15 million, but still needs much more for the rest of Phase I and Phase II to be complete.

The university is hoping to use the momentum from Fowler Park to raise more money for the campaign.

Construction for Fowler Park will begin immediately after the conclusion of USD's 2012 baseball season and is scheduled for completion in time to host USD's first home game of 2013 against San Diego State.



Photos courtesy of USD Athletics

TOP: Aerial image of what the new stadium is slated to look like. TOP MIDDLE: Rendering of the renovations planned for the softball field and the installation of a new driving range for the golf team. BOTTOM MIDDLE: Image of the plans for new baseball players lounge and coaches offices that will be installed with the new field. BOTTOM: View of the proposed entrance to Fowler Park which will feature USD's signature 16th-century Spanish Renaissance architecture style.