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Osama bin Laden assassinated

USD reacts to death of FBI's most wanted terrorist

By John Sandberg

Al-Qaida founder and 9/11 mastermind Osama bin Laden was found and killed in Pakistan by a team of Americans, bringing an end to a 13-year search for the international terrorist. President Barack Obama took the podium in the East Room of the White House Sunday night to confirm widespread reports of bin Laden's assassination, deeming it "the most significant achievement to date in our nation's effort to defeat al-Qaida."

According to ABC News, in the early hours of Monday morning Pakistan time, two U.S. helicopters from Joint Special Operations Command carrying Navy SEALs swept into the compound where bin Laden was hiding. After a firefight that lasted nearly 40 minutes, bin Laden and four of those with him were killed. There were no American casualties in what Obama described as a job executed with "extraordinary courage and capability."

USA Today stated that intelligence from a detainee at the prison at Guantanamo Bay led to the identification of a courier working for bin Laden, who was tracked to the compound in Pakistan this past August. CNN reported that the three-story building, constructed for the purpose of hiding bin Laden, sits in the mountainous region of Abbottabad, roughly 31 miles north of the Pakistani capital, Islamabad. ABC News disclosed that the CIA had begun



U.S. forces pinpointed Osama bin Laden's hideout in Abbottabad, Pakistan, and assassinated him on May 1. The location of the attack is east of Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, and 31 miles north of the Pakistani capital city, Islamabad.

focusing on the structure in Abbottabad in August.

Bin Laden was one of the FBI's 10 Most Wanted Fugitives since 1998, after his involvement with the U.S. embassy bombings in Africa.

In 2009, former Commander of U.S. Forces in Afghanistan Stanley McChrystal told Congress that bin Laden was "an iconic figure whose survival emboldens al-Qaida," and that the regime could not be defeated until

his capture or killing.

U.S. officials quickly reminded Americans that this recent event does not signal the end of the global fight against terrorism. USD's own professor of political science and international relations, Dr. Michael Turner, categorized bin Laden's assassination as "a blip in an otherwise tough and ongoing campaign" that has required close observation.

"My immediate reaction was relief

that this part of the counterterrorist fight is over," Turner said, "[it was] quickly replaced by anxiety that the Western press will blow the event all out of proportion to its significance, thereby giving us a false sense of security and the terrorists a public relations boost when they should be in the process of retrenching."

Still, many acknowledged its

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NATO attack kills son of Libyan ruler Col. Gadhafi

By Jen Gabrielli and Bernadette Smith

A NATO airstrike in the Libyan capital of Tripoli killed Saif al-Arab, the youngest son of Col. Moammar Gadhafi, along with three of his grandchildren. According to the Atlantic Herald, the April 30 attack at Gadhafi's villa in the Bab al-Aziziya compound was assumedly intended to target Gadhafi himself. It comes in the wake of continued violence throughout Libya that began in February with their day of rage. NATO had rejected Gadhafi's cease-fire offer, demanding that he first put into place measures preventing further violence against Libyan civilians.

"Come France, Italy, U.K., America, come, we'll negotiate with you," Gadhafi said in a speech broadcast over Libyan state television, reported The New York Times. "You lie and say I'm killing my own people. Show us the bodies."

Following the national address, NATO forces said that they would widen their list of potential strike zones to include palaces, communication centers and other administrative buildings that Gadhafi needs to stay in control.

American and NATO officials, however, deny any attempts to kill Gadhafi. Lt. Gen. Charles Bouchard, the mission's operational commander, said that while he was aware of the reports of Gadhafi family deaths, they were unconfirmed. "All NATO's targets are military in nature," Bouchard said, "and have been clearly linked to the Gadhafi regime's systematic attacks on the Libyan population and populated areas. We do not target individuals."

News of an attack against Gadhafi is nothing new to Libya; indeed, it is the second airstrike in the past seven days to have hit a location remarkably close to the Libyan leader.

According to The New York Times, a midnight attack in his compound just last week destroyed an office building where he and his aides sometimes work. According to ABC News, Gadhafi declared last February that he would "die a martyr" before he would step down from his position as ruler of Libya. His 42 years in power have made him one of the longest-ruling leaders in history, a threatening statistic to many of the world's opposing nations and leaders.

USD professor of political science and international relations Avi Spiegel believes that the chain reaction of uprising and violence in Arab countries over the last four months signifies a rejection of decades of oppressive leadership. As the leader of al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden spoke vehemently against Arab dictatorships, and Spiegel explained that his recent death reveals the limits of a campaign of terror.

"For decades Osama bin Laden maintained that terror alone could bring down autocratic regimes in the Middle East," Spiegel said. "But that goal was never accomplished by him or by any of his supporters. Instead, young people these last few months, through peaceful and cross-ideological protests, accomplished what bin Laden never could: to bring down Middle Eastern dictators."

The New York Times calls the most recent attack "the sharpest intensification yet of the NATO air campaign intended to pressure the Libyan leader from power."

Despite the signs of more uprisings to come, Gadhafi refuses to back down in the face of impending campaigns against his stronghold power in Libya.



Alexandra Nelson/The Vista

USD Medical Brigades practices for their Bat-A-Thon fundraiser this Saturday at Boomer's.

Medical Brigades set to break Guinness record

By Bernadette Smith

Freshman Kami Shabaz and her father will attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the longest consecutive time spent hitting balls in a batting cage to raise funds for the upcoming Medical Brigades trip to Honduras. The Bat-A-Thon fundraiser will be held this Saturday, May 7, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Boomers Amusement Park on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, and supporters from the USD community are invited to attend. Medical Brigades supporters will have exclusive access to the park from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., after which the facility will be opened to the public. All fundraising attendees will receive reduced admission to the park until it closes at 7 p.m.

Money raised from the record-breaking event will help support the undergraduate pre-medical group in their August brigade to provide medical services to rural populations in Honduras. The event will also feature raffles, including authentic, autographed Padres merchandise and a week-long stay on the island of Kauai in Hawaii. Raffle tickets are still being sold in front of the University Center and around campus until tomorrow afternoon.

Shabaz, fundraising co-chair of Medical Brigades, explained she is excited about the event but also nervous about the pressure to perform. "It'll be extremely hard," Shabaz said, "but knowing that all the money we raise will be going to such a worthwhile cause will keep

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Home robbery linked to USD basketball case

By Gabrielle Obeji

In the weeks following the recent allegations against two former USD basketball stars and a former assistant coach, authorities continue to investigate the marijuana distribution charges and sports bribery charges. Eight of the 10 people accused with running a betting ring that involved members of the USD basketball program pled not guilty, and six of the defendants were granted bail ranging from \$35,000 to \$50,000. USD's all-time leading scorer Brandon Johnson appeared in court last Monday and pled not guilty as well. He returned to Houston, Texas, and has been free on a \$25,000 bond. He was appointed a local public defender, Oliver Cleary, and is currently awaiting trial. The 10 defendants, including Johnson, each face up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

According to San Diego 6 News, additional complications arose last Friday when two of the 10 defendants were connected to a home-invasion robbery in East County where a family was bound and blindfolded. Two other men, so far not linked to the basketball case, are suspected to have assisted in the robbery.

The USD community continues to show support for the basketball program, as well as those involved in the case. USD basketball head coach Bill Grier told The Los Angeles Times that he will "feel betrayed" if the point-shaving and bribery allegations prove to be true, but he did not respond to questions from The Vista. Grier further reported to The Los Angeles Times that his relationship with Johnson on the floor was "up

and down at times." Johnson was suspended from the team in 2009, but Grier has declined to say why.

Grier remains supportive of his former players who have been accused, maintaining trust and confidence in his team.

The allegations have raised countless concerns among the NCAA and many college athletic departments. "In sports there is nothing worse than a tragedy to an athlete, especially one that involves losing the integrity of the game," USD athletic director Ky Snyder said at a press conference held April 15. "It calls into question all who are involved - was it real or was it not? The loss of integrity makes a sport no longer a sport. It blurs the lines between entertainment and competition. I hope the university continues to instill in its students the value of truth and integrity, both on and off the court."

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Alexandra Nelson/The Vista

USD basketball head coach Bill Grier is working to uphold his team's morale amidst the FBI investigation.

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A \$500,000 donation will go toward a renovation project for the Black Box Theatre in Camino. PAGE 2

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Communication offers many course options in course catalog, but does not offer them on a regular basis. PAGE 6



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USD women's rowing captures their second consecutive WCC Championship at Lake Natoma. PAGE 20

NEWS

EDITOR

Bernadette Smith
bsmith@usdrista.com

Black Box to receive \$500,000 upgrade

By Anne Slagill
Class of 2011

The College of Arts and Sciences has confirmed that a \$500,000 gift from a USD parent will be used to renovate and refurbish the Black Box Theatre.

"We are very grateful for this generous gift," Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Mary Boyd said, "which will allow the College to create a theatre space to showcase our talented students and faculty, and enhance the department of undergraduate theatre arts."

Linda Vista resident Carol Vassiliadis plans to make the donation in installments over the course of 2011 and 2012. Once the renovations are complete, the venue will be renamed The Vassiliadis Family Black Box Theatre in honor of Carol, her late husband Alkiviadis, their son Andrew and their daughter Melissa, a 2008 USD theatre arts alumna. The three-month renovation project is set to begin in May of 2013.

According to a project proposal released by the CAS, the Black Box currently lacks adequate soundproofing, which impacts Camino classrooms and surrounding residence halls. Though it was intended to be a modular theatrical space, the theater is largely immobile and cumbersome to change. Additionally, the proposal claims that the room's awkward proportions make set design "very difficult, even for the most seasoned

designer."

According to the proposal, the Department of Undergraduate Theatre will use the gift to purchase and install "new lighting equipment, seats, curtains, staging, flooring and soundproofing." The proposal further explains that any remaining funds will be used "to support future renovations to the theatre as well as professional development opportunities for theatre students and faculty."

Valerie Attisha, director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences, said that Vassiliadis initially made a \$5,000 donation to support the 2009-2010 undergraduate theatre season.

"From there, Carol and I met and chatted frequently and developed a wonderful relationship," Attisha said, "and when I sensed she was ready to do something more transformative for the university, the renovation and refurbishment of the Black Box seemed like the best fit, and one which is so desperately needed."

According to Attisha, the College has not yet selected a design firm or construction company. These selections will be made next year. Since the final installment of the gift will arrive in fall 2012, the College must wait until late May of 2013 to begin construction.

"The Black Box Theatre is a critical component of the undergraduate theatre program and academic curriculum," Attisha said, "and therefore, we cannot begin renovations until classes are in session. It would disrupt the season."

Bin Laden dead, but terrorism not

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security and providing closure for those affected by bin Laden's murderous agenda.

"I know that nothing can make up for the loss of the victims or fill the voids they left," Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said. "But I hope their families can now find some comfort in the fact that justice has been served."

To what extent bin Laden's death will affect the global anti-terror effort still remains to be seen.

"Osama bin Laden's death brings some measure of psychological closure to the tragedy of 9/11," said USD professor of Practice, Human Security and Peacebuilding Necla Tschirgi. "Unfortunately, it does not represent a significant blow to the scourge of terrorism. As the growing body of research on terrorism since 9/11 has amply demonstrated, the roots of terrorism are deep and require concerted responses at multiple levels."

Still, a demonstration of patriotic unity has been seen from the crowds that gathered outside of the White House and Ground Zero on Sunday night to those here in the San Diego area. Local California Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher responded Monday to the event via Twitter.

"As a Marine veteran who has served our country in the War on Terror," Fletcher tweeted, "I feel a tremendous amount of pride today for the United States."

Only time will tell how this event fits into the larger picture of American history, but May 1, 2011, is a day that will not be soon forgotten by citizens across the U.S.

"We are living in a particularly dangerous moment in history," Tschirgi said, "as entire societies in the Middle East have risen up against repressive regimes, bankrupt ideologies and violent politics. The uprisings in the Middle East offer the promise of a better future in the long run. However, we should have no illusions about the continuing threats to international peace and security in the near future as the international community strives to address the sources of terrorism."



Photos by Kaita Weedman

ABOVE: The department of undergraduate theatre arts put on "Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge" last semester in the Camino Black Box Theatre.

BELOW: Designers utilized the theater's moveable blocks for "Cratchit's" set pieces. RIGHT: The lack of seating and inconvenience of large windows and heavy set blocks makes using the Black Box for performances difficult.



Kenny Rosen/The Vista

A personal nutrition credo



By Bernadette Smith

Over the course of the past 24 issues I have offered my knowledge and experience with health and wellness issues to hopefully spark at least a few people to think about the importance of self care.

If there's one thing I've learned in college, it's that I am the only one who is going to take care of me, and that's a big job. Between classes, homework, extracurricular activities and The Vista, leftover time is a rare occurrence. There comes a point when practical choices, and sometimes making sacrifices, is far better than following a perfect schedule.

In a similar manner, nutrition and wellness is about educating yourself with the best available information and then adapting your behaviors and habits in the most beneficial way to the rhythms of your life. For me that includes gluten-free, dairy-free (for the most part), no red meat (because I don't like the taste) and organic (as much as possible). Of course, different work loads over past semesters have forced me to adjust my health habits accordingly, but if I ever get off track I tell myself to "reset" and start from the beginning. Like mom always says, there's no time like the present, and your health is something that certainly will not wait for the most opportune moment.

A good solution, in my opinion, is to adopt a sort of nutrition credo with the top 10 guidelines for your own personal health. That way if you ever get off track, there is an easy pattern to fall back into and keep on going.

Mine is as follows:

1.) If my eating is off track, instead of saying, "Well it's messed up so I might as well keep going," I help myself out by getting back on track as soon as

possible.

2.) Food nourishes my body, but it can also nourish my state of being by sharing meals with others, cooking delicious recipes and learning about nutrition. I make food choices because they are good for my health, but I also recognize that food is a basic way of rewarding myself and should be enjoyed. And there's absolutely nothing wrong with that.

3.) When friends want to go out to eat at restaurants that aren't my cup of tea, I do my best to make a good choice rather than skip the outing entirely.

4.) Grocery shopping is fun, and I make it as fun for myself as possible. Bringing home new fruits and vegetables and experimenting with recipes is great way to add interest to my daily health routine.

5.) It's important to drink as much water as possible. Some days this means drinking bottles of water, and other days it means fruit juice or tea. On an off day, it can also mean drinking a bit of Diet Coke.

6.) I always keep a cabinet stocked up with spices. Not only are they good for increasing immune function, but they also are a quick and handy resource to enliven any tired old recipe.

7.) Exercise is a way of life and not just something on my to-do list. Scheduling aerobic activities with friends is the best way I've found to stay consistent with an exercise routine.

8.) Always having high protein snacks on hand, whether at home or at the office, is a great way to keep blood sugar levels stable. That way, I can prevent mood swings and junk food pitfalls.

9.) An apple a day keeps the doctor away, but dried apple rings from Trader Joe's are excellent too.

10.) Goodies are a must. In any healthy diet, it's important to have desserts so that feelings of deprivation never begin to take over. Feeling deprived is usually the point in time when healthy eating goes out the window and cravings for sugary, calorie-laden foods skyrocket. I like mousse because it tends to be light in calories (because it is made with whipped egg whites) and it can come in a variety of chocolate or fruity flavors.

Creative writing emphasis takes English major to new heights

The department of English will introduce new creative writing courses as an option for students

By Conor Cawley

Beginning next semester, the USD English department will be offering a creative writing emphasis in the English major. The addition has been approved in the hopes of creating more opportunities for aspiring writers to effectively hone their writing skills in a more specific way.

USD's English major has provided students with an unmatched knowledge of existing literature, but lacked the faculty, courses and bulletin requirements to offer studies in creative writing. A new creative writing major emphasis will help students who wish to pursue careers in fiction and other forms of creative writing.

The emphasis has a few basic requirements in addition to those of a typical English major. Specialized courses will include Introduction to Creative Writing, Intermediate and Advanced Poetry or Intermediate and Advanced Fiction Writing and one course that crosses over between Poetry and Fiction. Students are encouraged to select either the Poetry or Fiction tracts within the emphasis. These higher-level writing courses will help students to not only perfect critical reading, writing and communication skills, but they will also work as an advanced stepping stone for those looking to pursue graduate and even professional level creative writing opportunities.

Efforts to establish the new major emphasis were led by Dr. Jericho Brown and Dr. Halina Duraj of the English department.

The emphasis comes on the heels of a large amount of interest expressed by current English majors and other USD students.

"The new creative writing emphasis expands the creative writing course offerings at USD and

allows English majors to take a focused, in-depth sequence of creative writing classes," Duraj said. "We now have intermediate and advanced courses in both fiction and poetry, and with the emphasis, students can specialize in the genre that interests them. The English department has been excited about finally being able to offer the emphasis, since student interest in creative writing at USD has grown so rapidly."

A contributing factor has also been the Cropper Memorial Writers Series, a literary event held at USD in memory of Lindsay J. Cropper, an alumna of USD who aspired to be a creative writer but passed away in 2000. The event features prominent writers and poets, some of whom are professors at USD, who showcase their work for attendees in the UC Forums.

"The emphasis in creative writing," Brown said, "is proof that the University of San Diego is committed to graduating men and women who have both the ability to read and interpret and appreciate good literature and the ability to create it."

Another impetus for establishing the creative writing emphasis was an increasing amount of applicants for the Cropper Memorial Creative

Natalie Kunstadter/The Vista
The English department will offer a new creative writing emphasis for majors this fall.

Writing Contest. The contest has seen a recent increase in participants and in the quality of poetry and fiction works that have been submitted, which ultimately served as the litmus test for the administration to develop the emphasis.

"I'm very excited about the new creative writing emphasis," said creative writing professor and Cropper Memorial Writing Series guest Deniz Perin. "It's a wonderful opportunity for students to hone their skills and to pursue something they really love. It also puts USD's English Department on par with many other departments nationwide, in terms of preparing interested English majors for graduate studies in creative writing."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

April 23 - May 2

April 27, 2011

Location: MISSIONS B LOT

At 4:27 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a stolen parking permit. Upon investigation, another student had possession of the stolen permit and it has been returned to the owner.

April 28, 2011

Location: COPLEY LIBRARY

At 1:37 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated student. Upon investigation, it was determined that the student required medical attention. The student was evaluated and transported to the hospital.

April 28, 2011

Location: OFF CAMPUS

At 2:33 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of harassing communication. Upon investigation, three students had posted derogatory comments about another student on Facebook. This case has been referred to Student Affairs.

April 28, 2011

Location: JCP - WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM

At 2:59 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a grand theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person removed a laptop from a student's backpack which was left on a couch in the women's locker room on April 27 between midnight and 4 p.m. Anyone having information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Public Safety at (619) 260-7777.

April 29, 2011

Location: MISSIONS A

At 2:37 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of vandalism. Upon investigation, an unknown person threw a baseball through a dorm room window. Anyone having information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Public Safety at (619) 260-7777.

April 29, 2011

Location: UNIVERSITY TERRACE APARTMENTS

At 11:40 a.m. Public Safety noticed marijuana in plain view in a residence hall. Upon investigation, three students were cited for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

April 29, 2011

Location: SAN MIGUEL

At 3:25 p.m. Residential Life took a report of a student that urinated in the residence hallway.

April 30, 2011

Location: UNIVERSITY TERRACE APARTMENTS

At 3:16 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a grand theft. Upon investigation, an unknown person removed a laptop and laptop case from a student's apartment between 5:30 p.m. on April 29 and 2 a.m. on April 30. Anyone having information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Public Safety at (619) 260-7777.

Next year will bring changes to meal plans

By Nazin Sedehi

One area of campus life that has been receiving numerous complaints, according to Associated Students and the Student Life Committee, is dining services. Students have expressed their concerns, the most notable of which include the addition of a coffee cart to the Vista Apartments, an increase in the number of vegan and vegetarian food options, an increase in composting on campus, better labels that will display potential allergens in food and the extension of dining location hours into the evening and during weekends.

In order to discuss these issues, the AS Student Life Committee has been having monthly meetings with the Director of Dining Services Carol Norman. "These meetings give both parties the opportunity to discuss student concerns as well as gain perspective on how Dining Services runs from the university's standpoint," junior Chuck Cook, AS committee senator, said.

According to Cook, these meetings have brought to light the importance of on-campus dining for students, and as a result, little inconveniences have a bigger effect.

"Dining on campus affects us all," Cook said. "No matter if we live in the Vistas, Camino, Mission B or at the beach, we all eat on campus at some point. There have been instances of students having allergic reactions to a food because it wasn't disclosed that it contained some type of nuts, and many of us have been studying on campus late into the night and find it difficult to grab a snack. The simple fact is that we are all impacted by the dining choices on this campus. The goal with this continued interaction is to better serve the campus population."

The monthly meetings have resulted in some changes for next semester. Incoming students for the fall will be asked to purchase a meal plan for the four years that they are at USD, no matter where they will be living. This meal plan will be more flexible and will allow for the use of meals in locations other than the Student Life Pavilion for dinner and brunch. They will be able to use meals in La Paloma for lunchtime, for instance. This summer, Bert's Bistro will be remodeled. La Paloma will be remodeled next summer in part to accommodate the high number of students. There is also a possibility that the coffee cart that is currently in the courtyard between Camino and Founders will be moved to the Vistas.

Chair of the Student Life Committee Taisia Dubinina said that the meetings with Norman also addressed some of the more common dining concerns, like the inability of meals to transfer from one semester to the next.

"Carol explained to us that whether or not you are there to use the meals in your meal plans, they are preparing the food and accounting for every student who has a meal plan to be there," Dubinina said. "They are spending the money to have the food there and ready. It is just up to the students to show up. Thus, they are charging that meal plan whether or not the student shows up, because they [still] have the resources available if the student does show up."

Norman also explained that fresh food items are not cooked past 8:30 p.m. in the SLP in order to reduce the cost of unconsumed food that must be discarded after closing.

Incoming AS president Anthony Pavlovic believes that the establishment of a new AS position, a director for wellness and sustainability, will have a positive impact on efforts toward improving on-campus dining.

"I encourage all of the students at USD to let us know other ways in which they would like to see Dining Services change or improve on campus," Pavlovic said.

Brigade hopes to raise funds at Bat-A-Thon

MED, continued from Front Page

me going. The Brigade is such a great group of people, so I'm proud that I will be able to even somewhat help the group get to Honduras this summer and do great things."

The upcoming Honduras trip will bring 30 USD students and three physicians to two remote villages with little to no access to medical care. The group plans to see about 300 patients per day over the six days they will be in the area.

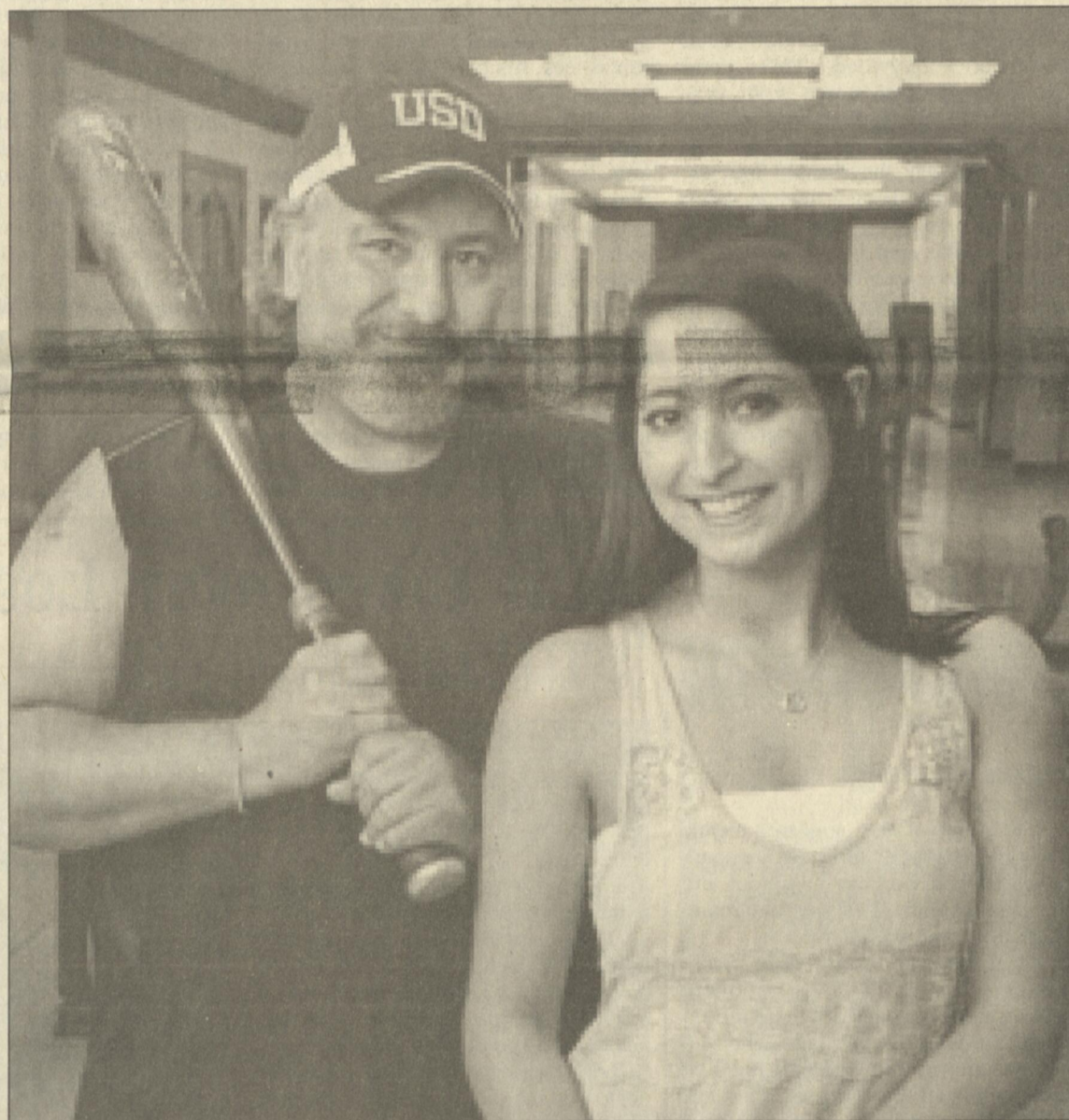
"Our last brigade [to Honduras] helped me realize how fortunate we are as students in America," James Walston, junior and USD Medical Brigades president said. "For many of us, the most challenging thing we have to deal with on a daily basis is our school work. For most Hondurans, they have to worry about being able to balance their limited budgets for food and medical care."

In addition, Medical Brigades is in need of crucial supplies for the trip, and their current drive asks for hygienic supplies and clothing, including reading glasses, shampoo, soap and used or new clothing items. Donations can be dropped off in marked boxes in Mission Crossroads, the Vista Apartments, Shiley Center for Science and Technology, the UC, Founders and Camino.

"Many Hondurans live on less than a dollar a day and often that dollar is only available to feed an empty stomach," Walston said. "Our club's mission is to provide the people of Honduras with the medical care that they desperately need. I am excited for a whole new group of USD students to learn many important life lessons, including the true meaning of humility."

To further their humanitarian cause on the local front, the group plans to partner with the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen and serve breakfast to the homeless of San Diego on May 11.

"My experience in Honduras during our last brigade changed my outlook on life itself," junior Shane Smith, Medical Brigades vice president said. "What these people go through on a daily basis amazes me and motivates me to take full advantage of the privilege I have to reside in the U.S. Medical Brigades has allowed me to become a part of something much bigger than my own life."



Freshman Medical Brigade fundraising co-chair Kami Shabaz and her father practice their batting skills before the club fundraiser this Saturday at Boomer's.



Former USD basketball player Brandon Johnson left the university in 2009.

USD basketball continues prep for season

Brandon Johnson returns home on a \$25,000 bond

BASKET, continued from Front Page

Although such incidents do not occur often, it is clear the implications are deeply felt by the entire athletic community and by USD students. "It is a shame that any athlete should question their hard work or success," senior Andrew Sohr said. "I have spent my college career going to games and being proud to call myself a Torero. I would hate to let the poor judgment of one player take away the pride I have for our sports teams."

It is important for the USD community and USD supporters to remember that no one has been proven guilty in the matter. It is unknown whether former basketball player, Johnson, volunteered his services in an attempt to make profit, or if he was a victim in the matter, falling into debt with others in the scheme. Johnson's motives are still undetermined, but the allegations raise longstanding questions as to whether collegiate athletes deserve a stipend for their hard work and dedication to the game, with hopes of preventing this type of illegal

play. As it stands now, such stipends are against Title IX of the Bill of Rights. It is also unclear whether a stipend is an easy fix to the situation, and it cannot be said that such schemes would disappear entirely.

In spite of the allegations, Grier has signed Orange County's top player, Christopher Anderson, to a letter of intent. As long as the FBI's investigations confirm that USD officials were not involved in the allegations, Grier and his basketball team hope to move past the scandal and on to a successful 2011-2012 season.

THE VISTA

Editorial - 619.260.4584

Business - 619.206.4714

www.theusdvista.com

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All inquiries should be sent to:
The Vista
5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110

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BUSINESS

EDITOR

Lindsey Weintraub
lweintraub@usdvista.com

Facebook launches Deals, competes with Groupon

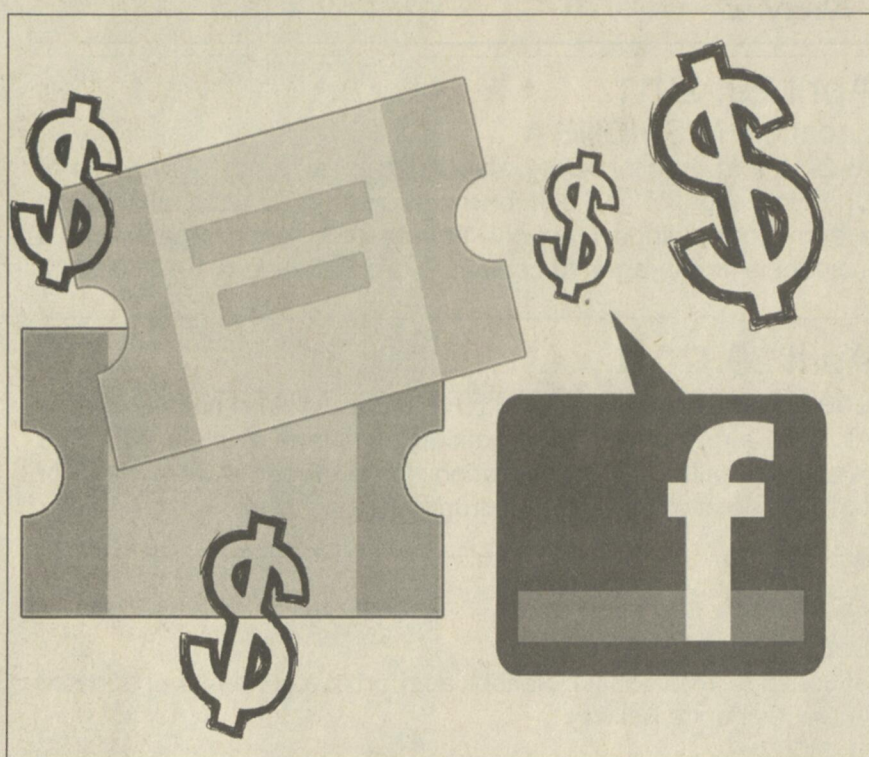
By Annie Ferreira and
Lindsey Weintraub

As an Internet powerhouse, Facebook is now using its girth and influence to try to get a bite out of the daily deals market. With established leaders like Groupon and LivingSocial, Facebook faces fierce competition, but is aiming to provide a differentiated product offering that stays consistent with Facebook's core value of bringing people together. Unlike some of its competitors, who focus on deep discounts, Facebook Deals will focus on group activities that bring people together and the process of sharing them.

The difference between Facebook and other companies who are taking initiatives to establish this trend of "deals" is that Facebook has a much bigger membership base than its competitors. According to Mashable.com, LivingSocial has a membership base of 28 million plus users and Groupon reaches 70 million plus users.

Facebook Deals will begin testing in the San Diego, San Francisco, Atlanta, Austin and Dallas areas. After opting to receive deals, users in these locations will have a chance to see a list of discounts available in their communities via a link on the left side of their Facebook pages.

Emily C. White, director of local at Facebook, wrote in a recent company



Cathy Nguyen/TheVista

blog post that following the success of the trial in these five major cities, Facebook plans to expand Deals to other cities. Deals launched with discounts on wine tastings in Napa Valley, restaurants and children's sleepovers at the California Academy of Sciences.

While Groupon offers many popular individual pampering services, such as massages and yoga classes, White shared

a different strategic edge that Facebook plans to take with Deals. "While many Deals on Facebook offer discounts," White said, "it's more important to us that you find interesting experiences around you to do with friends."

Benny Evangelista, a staff writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, shared his insight on Facebook's potential in this market. "With Deals on Facebook,"

Evangelista said, "the Palo Alto firm could further tap lucrative local advertising revenues using the hot trend popularized by firms like Groupon, which offer daily deals with often deep discount prices for everything from yogurt to wine country excursions."

Ever since Groupon allegedly rejected an offer from Google to buy the company for \$6 billion, other websites have jumped into the market, smelling an opportunity for profit. Google even launched its own coupon website, Google Offers. There is now an abundance of websites trying to get a piece of the pie by offering a different kind of twist on the idea of "social shopping."

Because Facebook has so many users, competitors realize its potential to gain market share. The success of these daily deals sites relies on loyal clientele to share the discounts with their friends, a department in which Facebook has an edge with more than 600 million active users.

While daily deals websites rely on their members sharing deals with friends, Debra Aho Williamson, principal social media marketing analyst for the research firm eMarketer Inc., explained to the San Francisco Chronicle why she believes Facebook might have an edge in the deals market. "It weaves the sharing and buying of deals into its social networking platform," Williamson said.

Despite being such a large company, Facebook must find ways to

tap into the local scene, and Deals may be the perfect way to do that. "What Facebook is tapping into is the power of friends' recommendations," Williamson said. "Facebook has been wanting to get into the local markets. Local advertising is really tough to crack if you're a national company."

While Groupon forces members to log in to view a daily deal, Facebook can take advantage of the fact that they don't have to woo customers in; there's already significant traffic to the website regardless of what they choose to do with Deals. This means that the users who have opted in will be exposed to Deals offerings even when not seeking out the service. Facebook also has a competitive advantage with access to user information. User information can be used to direct deals to users their interests. As a marketing tool, this could be extremely effective.

Although Facebook has garnered a lot of attention by entering the daily deals market, its status as a powerhouse company doesn't necessarily equate to success. Twitter made an attempt to enter the daily deals market with its Earlybird Offers last year, but stopped it just two months after launching. Twitter's failed entry shows that no matter how much influence a company has in one market, this does not directly translate to success in other markets. One can't jump to conclusions like, "The early bird always gets the worm"; in Twitter's case, the Earlybird never took flight.

Netflix reaches 23.6 million subscribers, more growth expected

By Samantha Child

Netflix Inc., which provides its members with both on-demand video streaming via the Internet as well as flat-rate online video rentals, has accrued more subscribers than Comcast, Showtime and Hulu Plus, all of which deliver movie and TV content through a subscription service. Over 7 percent of Americans now subscribe to Netflix. Netflix carries both Blu-Ray DVDs as well as normal DVDs to the United States and Canada.

The company's streaming service allows subscribers to watch movies on an Internet-connected HDTV or on a regular television using a Wii, PS3, Xbox360, Internet-connected Blu-Ray

player and Tivo and Roku DVRs. The streaming service is also available on the iPad, iPhone and Windows Phone.

Netflix was first dominated by both Hollywood Video and Blockbuster rental stores, with very low startup numbers in 1997. They were struggling to get customers to change the way they rented movies. With the start of the new decade, video stores were going out of business at an alarming rate, and Netflix and other online video streaming companies took control. Netflix grossed over 10 million subscribers within the first five years. According to Forbes.com, Netflix is in 21 percent of today's U.S. households.

Reed Hastings, a computer software engineer, started the company after a run-in with late fees. When the

company first launched in April 1998, it was more of a traditional pay-per-rental form, \$4 per rental, plus \$2 in postage. Although Hastings hated rental fees, his original business plan had late fees.

Netflix broke the traditional movie rental routine when they launched their monthly subscription concept in late 1999. Netflix issued an IPO in May of 2002 for \$15 per share, selling an astonishing 5.5 billion shares. Netflix posted its profits during its first fiscal year in 2003, earning \$6.5 million in revenues of over \$272 million.

Today, a monthly subscription to Netflix for unlimited streaming and downloading of TV shows and DVDs is only \$7.99 per month. For an additional \$2 each month, customers

can get unlimited DVDs by mail, with a wider selection available and no due dates or late fees. Netflix prides itself as having a business model of flat fee, unlimited rentals without due dates, late fees, shipping or handling fees and per-title rental fees.

According to Forbes.com, a CITI Investment research analyst forecasted that the company's strong revenue growth could continue and Netflix could accrue 50 million subscribers by the end of 2013. Netflix has 23.6 million subscribers worldwide, and 22.8 of those are within the U.S. Therefore, their biggest opportunity for growth may be in the international market.

Netflix is a company organized into international and U.S. operating segments. The company is able to

obtain content from various studios and other content providers through fixed-fee licenses, revenue sharing agreements and direct purchases. Netflix is a highly marketable company, as they use various channels to market their product. The company has TV commercials and online advertising, but has also crossed markets and advertised on the radio and in print.

Netflix is a growing company with a bright future of online streaming videos. Although they have proved successful in the past, the entry of new competitors into the online video streaming market, such as Amazon, Comcast and Google, will drive Netflix to continue to stay current and provide a product that satisfies customer needs.

Be here now: finding joy in finals



By Lindsey Weintraub

With the finish line in sight and our legs weary with the fatigue of a semester's worth of hard work and sleep deprivation, most students are now scratching and clawing their way toward the finish line in a desperate attempt to reach the solace of summer.

We San Diegans are already enjoying the balmy climate, the sun wooing us away from our desks and the ocean beckoning us to synchronize with the lullaby of its gentle rhythm. But it requires discipline to hunker down in the library and be productive.

With only a couple of weeks left in the semester, many grades are relatively solidified. But some grades are on the fence and need some serious elbow grease to be raised. Either way, now is not the time to completely let go.

Regardless of where your grades stand, for most people the next couple of weeks will be demanding and will require a decent investment of time and effort. It's like getting down to the end of a marathon and realizing that in order to keep your place, the last mile is going to require an all-out sprint. After already running so many miles, the last one seems to demand an eternity of effort, threatening to bring you down before you even reach the finish line. And knowing that the last mile is going to require a sprint is what makes us dread the very last part of the semester.

This is the time when there seems to be unanimous agreement that school is the most vile thing possible. It's the only thing stopping us from devouring the last of our precious summers before bigger, adult responsibilities like a full-time

job and supporting a family aren't hanging over our head.

The end of the semester means we will no longer have easy access to the friends we have at school and the sans-parents lifestyle that many people become accustomed to.

It's the end to my epic candy binges - oh wait, no. I can definitely still do that. We basically lose a little bit of the freedom we have when no parents are around, but it's not like parents install big brother cameras everywhere and have tracking devices on your clothing.

It's important to be able to see the big picture, because it's easy to look at the situation from the bubble of bliss we live in at USD. We have to remember that we have it good. We live in paradise, we're receiving an incredible education and we're about to be free for the summer.

The irony of it is that summer presents a paradox: we've worked so hard, we're exhausted and all we want is a break, but in about two weeks, if things aren't picking up with a job or an internship and you have too many hours on your hands, you suddenly find yourself aching for something busier and more exciting. Wait, what? Now you kind of secretly wish you were back at school?

You always want what you can't have. The grass is always greener on the other side. When it's busy, you yearn for quiet and lazy days of relaxation. When there's nothing to fill up the space in a day, the hunger for the productivity of school and the feeling of being surrounded by friends and activity lures you back to school days.

Don't let yourself become caught up in the hallucination of greener grass. Realize that the greenest grass is right here and right now. Life is best experienced fresh. It's like choosing between going out to dinner with your friends and thinking about skipping the whole thing to eat cold leftovers. Sit down to a great meal, enjoy waiting for it, enjoy eating it and enjoy the satisfaction of feeling full. It's okay to be hungry for new experiences. Just make sure you enjoy each bite of where you are now.

MLB takes over Los Angeles Dodgers

By David Downs

Major League Baseball stepped in to stop the financial bleeding of the Los Angeles Dodgers, a team entrenched in debt, forcing owner Frank McCourt to get approval for any expense exceeding \$5,000.

McCourt reportedly faces serious financial troubles as a result of his divorce with wife Jamie McCourt, a co-owner of the franchise. The two have had a prolonged court battle for full ownership of the team, which has destroyed the team's finances and left the future of the organization hanging in the balance.

Frank McCourt has been forced to cut costs wherever possible just to make payroll. However, some of his cost cutting measures have garnered further negative attention. McCourt was forced to lay off the head of security six months before the start of the season, which may have contributed to the April 1 incident when a San Francisco Giants fan was beaten by Dodgers' fans after a win against the Giants. The fan was so brutally assaulted that he had to be put in a medically-induced coma. McCourt has come under intense criticism for his response, saying only that it was, "a disgrace that ruined a great night."

MLB Commissioner Bud Selig later announced in a press release on April 26 that former Texas Rangers President J. Thomas Schieffer had been appointed by the MLB to oversee the Dodgers' finances. Schieffer's approval is necessary before for any expenditure of \$5,000 or more. Schieffer is the younger brother of "Face the Nation" host Bob Schieffer. He served the Rangers as president from 1991 to 1999 and also served as the team's general partner from November 1994 to June 1998. The team reached the postseason for the first time during his tenure, winning the American League West in 1996. As the president of the Rangers, Schieffer was a member of several significant MLB committees and boards, including Selig's 1999 Blue Ribbon Task Force on Baseball Economics.

Jamie McCourt released a statement 24 hours after the original announcement of the MLB takeover.



Hailey Means/TheVista

The McCourts have had an extremely public divorce, with the two fighting over ownership of the team.

"As the 50 percent owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers," Jamie McCourt said, "I welcome and support the commissioner's actions to provide the necessary transparency, guidance and direction for the franchise and for Dodgers fans everywhere."

McCourt, however, has been adamant in his desire to retain control of his franchise. McCourt expressed his commitment to fight for his rights to retain his business during a press conference held on April 27.

"Nobody handed the Dodgers to me," McCourt said defiantly, "and nobody is going to take it away."

A recent article on Forbes magazine's website says court records show the Dodgers' debt is in excess of \$459 million. Forbes estimates most of the team's profits are being used just to pay the interest on that debt. According to Forbes, much of the debt is the result of the McCourts' personal expenses, mostly spent prior to their hotly contested divorce, in 2004 to 2009.

Other MLB teams have also experienced financial troubles in recent years. The Texas Rangers filed for bankruptcy in 2010 and the New York Mets are in highly publicized financial trouble, claiming operating losses estimated at \$6.2 million. The organization has a plethora of bills and has experienced tremendous difficulty getting a loan from banks due to the current economic climate.

The McCourt saga has been troubling to longtime fans because the Dodgers have long been considered one of baseball's most distinguished franchises, with greats such as Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella and Sandy Koufax highlighting the team's glorified history.

Several names of possible new owners have been rumored since the takeover. Controversial Dallas Mavericks' owner Mark Cuban, former Los Angeles Lakers part-owner Magic Johnson and legendary Dodgers' owner Peter O'Malley, son of the great Walter O'Malley, widely considered one of the greatest owners in MLB history, have been the three most publicized candidates.

"Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine."

- ROBERT C. GALLAGHER

Sony PlayStation Network security compromised

By Andrew Daou

Sony's PlayStation Network experienced a security nightmare when the giant network for online gamers was shutdown.

"An external intrusion on our system has affected our PlayStation Network and Qriocity [music] services," Sony spokesperson Patrick Seybold said. "The service outage was done to conduct a thorough investigation and to verify the smooth and secure operation of our network services going forward."

On April 24, three days after the network abruptly went offline, Sony admitted that hackers had stolen personal information from customers who use the company's online PSN. This not only includes names, home billing and e-mail addresses, but also the user's account details, logins and online IDs, and potentially credit card information as well.

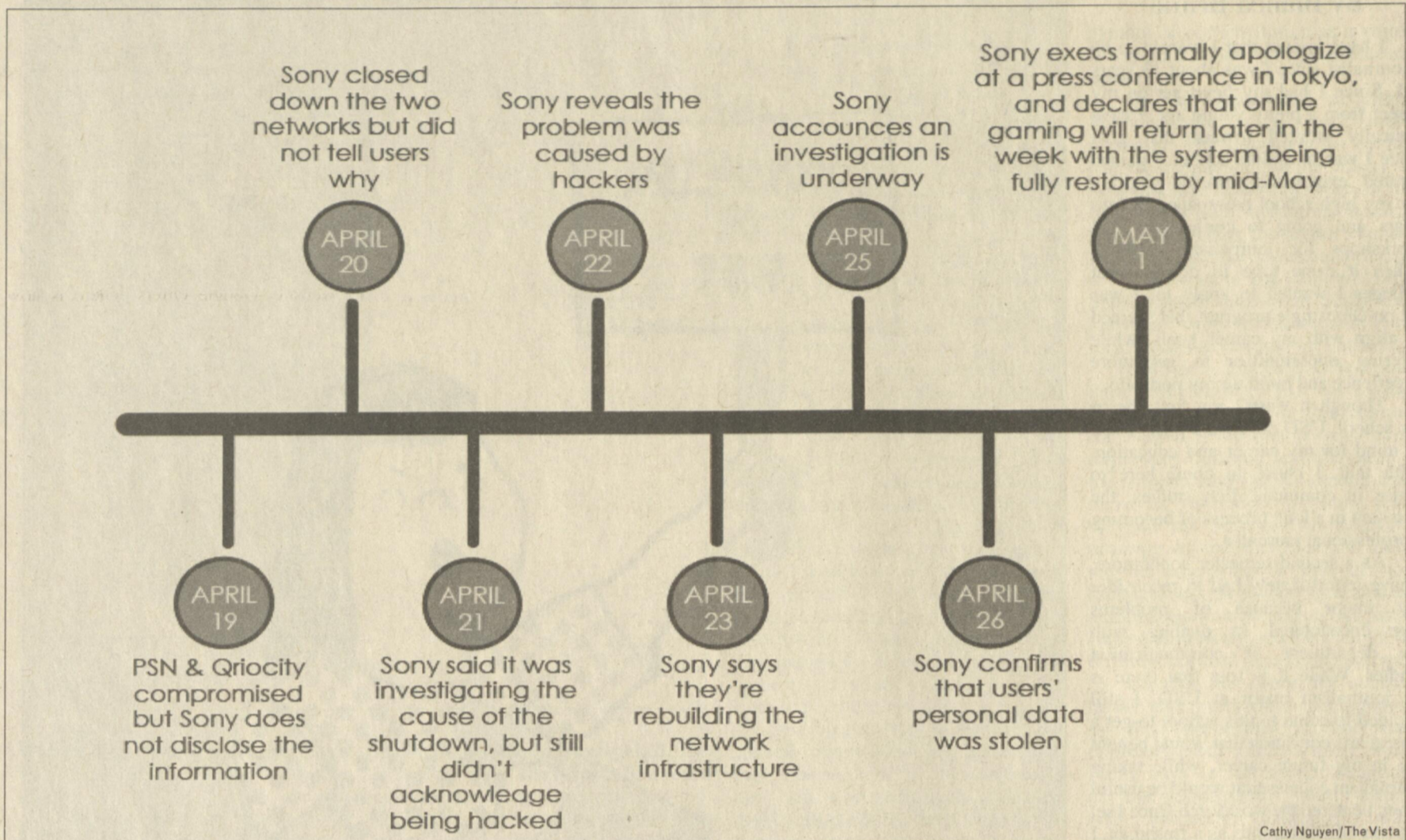
What is even more troubling is the breach of 77 million user accounts that have been compromised through the PSN and the Qriocity music service, which enable gamers to play online games together as well as purchase and play movies and music. While it is unclear how many people the 77 million users represent, 77 million is roughly twice the population of California, and about 25 percent of the total U.S. population.

According to MSNBC News, Sony also discussed the possibility of credit card information being compromised. "While there is no evidence at this time that credit card data was taken, we cannot rule out the possibility," Sony said. "If you have provided your credit card data through PlayStation Network or Qriocity, out of an abundance of caution we are advising you that your credit card number, excluding security code, and expiration date may have been obtained."

The information was allegedly stolen sometime between April 17 and 19, meaning it took Sony over a week to notify its users of the breach. Online gamers were furious with the amount of time that passed before Sony announced when the network would be up and running again.

At this point, Sony has temporarily turned off the PSN and Qriocity music services to strategically mitigate the security issues.

According to CNN.com, Sony announced on May 1 that it would bring back online gameplay for PlayStation 3 and PlayStation Portable users later in



Cathy Nguyen/The Vista

the week. PlayStation Home, friends list and chat functionality will be restored as well.

Sony has quickly taken steps to enhance security and strengthen its network infrastructure by rebuilding its system to provide PSN users with greater protection of personal information. The company has also partnered with an outside, recognized security firm to conduct a full and complete investigation into what happened.

PSN users were able to express their frustration on PC World's blog. "I would like it, though, if they'd be a bit more forthcoming about how things are going," commenter 'ownbothsystems' posted. "It's not fair to all the online players to just leave us hanging. And for PS3 users who rely on the network to play online-enhanced gaming titles, such as the recent release Mortal Kombat or SOCOM 4, this outage is causing even more anger and frustration."

USD senior Max Jasper elaborated on the situation. "With the compromised user accounts of PlayStation Network

users, Sony has a lot of questions to answer, and answer fast," he said. "It took Sony over a week to disclose any information and that is quite troubling. Now, with the possibility of hackers obtaining valuable credit card information and government intervention, the future does not look bright for the company."

Though it took Sony what seems like years to disclose information and warn its PSN users, it is not too late for users to keep themselves safe. For PSN users, there are several steps that can be taken to ensure the integrity of personal data will not be compromised. First, change all information on online accounts, including e-mail, banks and social media passwords. Also, be wary of calls and e-mails from people asking for extra personal information who claim to be from Sony or other companies or services. Sony will never ask PSN users to verify information.

Regarding credit cards, PSN users can either monitor it for suspicious activity or cancel the card and get a new one. PSN users can also place a fraud

alert on their credit card with the three of the major U.S. credit bureaus, FICO, Experian and Equifax, for no charge. This will make it extremely difficult for another person to open up a new credit card in your name. The Federal Trade Commission website, FTC.gov, can provide further information.

Lastly, when PSN finally comes back, PSN users must remember to log in and change their password immediately.

MSNBC News reported that Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal sent a letter to Sony of America CEO Jack Tretton, demanding answers about the company's failure to notify millions of customers about the data breach in a timely manner.

"When a data breach occurs," Blumenthal said, "it is essential that customers be immediately notified about whether and to what extent their personal and financial information has been compromised."

In addition, Blumenthal advocated for increased security. "Affected individuals should also be provided

with sufficient insurance to protect them from the possible financial consequences of identity theft."

According to The Los Angeles Times, a congressional subcommittee sent a letter to Sony Chairman Kazuo Hirai pursuing further information related to the security breach.

"Given the amount and nature of the personal information known to have been taken," the committee said, "the potential harm that could be caused if credit card information was also taken would be quite significant."

Hirai, however, addressed security for the industry as a whole. "This criminal act against our network had a significant impact not only on our consumers, but our entire industry," Hirai said. "These illegal attacks obviously highlight the widespread problem with cyber security."

To compensate PSN users for the hassle, Sony is offering a 30-day membership to the PlayStation Plus service, free of charge. The PlayStation Plus gives users access to exclusive games and beta trials for games.

Miles Romney gives his 'last lecture'

By Ryan Shuman

To commemorate the final days of Professor of Accounting Miles Romney's USD career, the Mortar Board hosted its bi-annual last lecture series. On April 27, students filled the room in the Warren Auditorium to hear Romney share life lessons in a setting much different from that of the classroom.

The event, organized by senior James Gianulis, chair of the last lecture committee, was an opportunity for Mortar Board to promote their goals of helping the community.

The concept originated from Randy Pausch, a former professor at Carnegie Mellon University and best-selling author of the book "The Last Lecture." Pausch began giving an annual last lecture in 2007, after he had learned that he was terminally ill with pancreatic cancer. It was his chance to convey to the world what was most important to him before he passed away in 2008. The lecture captured the world's attention, and has since evolved into an opportunity for a professor to impart wisdom before leaving a university.

"[Romney] was nominated from a list of professors that students enjoyed and wanted to hear from beyond the classroom," Gianulis said.

Romney, who is no stranger to the stage, having been in a sketch comedy group in college, felt honored to have been given such an opportunity and approached his lecture with enthusiasm. "I enjoyed the last lecture concept," Romney said. "The idea of what I can tell people before I go and what life lessons I can impart."

Before diving into his own lecture, Romney played a video of Pausch's lecture in which Pausch answered the question, "If you had one last lecture to give before you die, what would it be?" Using this concept as his inspiration, Romney began by satirically describing who he was and what his history at USD had been.

Romney then continued to break down his lecture into three main themes, including the quest for excellence, "you can't take it with you" and "life is short." "Quest for excellence comes from my own experience where I have fallen short in my strive for excellence," Romney said.

He spent a great deal of time



Photo Courtesy of Tricia Duran

Seniors James Gianulis and Hannah Levorsen with the entertaining Professor Romney.

discussing James Gianulis on 'you can't take it with you.' "The idea there is that the only things you can take with you are your integrity and the knowledge you gain in life," Romney said. "I drill a lot on this mentality because I have a real big issue with some of the integrity issues we see with students. The moral of the story is to be able to look at yourself in the mirror and say 'I'm proud to be me. I'm a good person.'"

In addition, Romney referenced USD's recent basketball scandal to underscore his main point. "They don't call it dope because it makes you smarter," Romney said. He then asked students to think before they act and stated, "Don't complain, just work harder."

The lecture took a more serious turn when Romney shared the story of the three major losses he had experienced through the deaths of his father, his son Matthew at two weeks old and his mother-in-law. "You never know how much time we are going to have,"

Romney said. "Why waste it doing stupid stuff?"

Following his conclusion, Romney opened up the floor and fielded questions from the audience, eventually addressing his favorite experience during his time at USD. "My favorite experience is getting to meet with faculty on a regular basis that have more knowledge and experience," Romney said. "Rubbing shoulders with people who are bright and cool."

Students alike enjoyed the lecture and were inspired by Romney's wisdom. "I just wish I was able to take a class with him," freshman Nicole Stenoish said. "The way in which he mixed comedy with advice was astonishing."

Having imparted his wisdom on a captivated audience for an hour and a half, Romney called his last lecture a success and "a tradition that I hope they continue after I leave."

Romney will begin pursuing his Ph.D. in accounting at Michigan State University in the fall.

The graphic is a spiral-bound notebook page. At the top, there are two signs that say "PRESS" in a stylized font. To the right of the signs is a pen and a smiley face with a tongue sticking out. The main text in the center reads: "The Vista is looking for a Business Editor for 2011-2012". Below this, there are two checkmarks with the following text: "Applications are on the door of the Vista Office, SLP 403B" and "Submit completed applications to the Vista Office".

OPINION

EDITORS

Sarah Jorgensen
sjorgensen@usdvista.comBianca Bruno
bbruno@usdvista.com

Communication department lacks diverse courses

By Bianca Bruno

I have known that I wanted to be a journalist since I was about 13 years old. Since I had my heart set on my career from a pretty young age, I have basically worked toward that goal since I was in middle school. I gained limited experience through working for my high school newspaper all four years and going to conferences and workshops for journalism students. When it came time to decide which colleges I wanted to apply to, I was set on choosing a program that seemed to align with my career goals, while offering opportunities to get more experience and build up my portfolio.

Though it wasn't my first choice for school, USD did fit the goals I had in mind for my career and education. With that, I chose to come here to major in communication studies, the first step in a long process of becoming a professional journalist.

As a second-semester sophomore, I have unfortunately had to reconsider my major because of problems I've encountered in dealing with the department of communication studies. While it is true that there is no journalism major at USD, I still decided to come to this school to get a liberal arts education that would benefit me in my future career, while taking journalism courses that would be useful when I entered the workforce. Once I set foot on USD's campus as a freshman, I was determined to be a communication studies major. At this point, I had no idea the constant uphill battle I would face in dealing with trying to obtain a communication studies degree that meant something to me.

While I wouldn't consider myself a planner per se, there were certain elective communication studies classes offered in the 2008-2010 undergraduate bulletin that I have had the intention of taking since I was a freshman, such as Advanced Journalism, New Media and Technology and Writing for Electronic Media. In the two years that I have been here, I have never seen these courses offered, and to my dismay, my advisor, as well as other professors within the department, have confirmed my inkling that these classes will most likely never be offered during my time at USD.

When you choose to seek a communication studies degree in hopes of becoming a professional journalist one day, it is disappointing that the very



Lauren Millislagie/TheVista

classes that would be most applicable to you seem to be the courses that are never offered.

Dr. Kristin Moran, an associate professor in the department of communication studies and the new chair of the department starting in Fall 2011, said that course offerings depend on many different factors. "The chair of the department makes the schedule," she said. "But sometimes [the lack of courses offered] has to do with faculty being available to teach. We also have to offer the classes that are required, so that puts us in a bind."

While many claim that print journalism is dead, or at the very least,

on its way out, that does not mean that the need for quality journalism and quality writers is dead. In fact, it seems that producing well-educated journalists is just as, if not more, vital today than it ever has been.

Dr. Esteban del Rio, an assistant professor in the department of communication studies, says that in recent years, journalism programs at other schools are starting to emphasize communication more, with some departments of journalism and communication even merging together. "Journalism programs are starting to have more communication curriculum," he said. "They want to create journalists

who can do more than just know how to write a story, and journalism flows seamlessly through a communication curriculum."

This predicament might boil down to the fact that students are either content with the communication classes currently offered, or dissatisfied with course offerings and have not voiced their opinions and concerns to their professors or the department.

Department Chair Dr. Eric Pierson says that students have not voiced dissent with anything in the department of communication studies, but that they should communicate their expectations of the program to the department.

"Clearly, student voices are part of the conversation," he said. "But students haven't come in and asked, 'When are these courses going to be offered?'"

If communication students have planned on taking courses that are printed in the course catalog but have not been offered, they should communicate these expectations to the department so that it may provide them with the type of experience they came to USD for. Pierson also revealed that next year, two new tenure-track faculty members will be added to the department of communication studies, which will ultimately mean that six new classes will be added to the course offerings within the department per semester.

It is unfortunate that the department of communication studies has not been able to offer many of the courses that are printed in the course catalog. Students who plan on taking these courses find that they have to take classes that may not interest them or apply to them. Some may even consider changing majors because of a lack of diverse course offerings.

It would be prudent of the department to establish a journalism minor or concentration within the department of communication studies, which would offer students the option to learn not only critical communication skills, but critical writing skills for journalism as well. If this were offered, a liberal arts approach could even be taken, and classes in political science, English, history, ethnic studies or the like could be offered in accordance with minor or concentration requirements.

These critical thinking skills are something that our liberal arts education provides us. This is vital to all college students, especially those pursuing careers in journalism or the public sphere.

Pierson agrees that taking a "bigger picture" approach will ultimately serve graduates better in the end. "We're a liberal arts institution," he said. "It's about training people how to think critically; teaching them how to engage their world in a way that's useful to them."

Encouraging students to have an education of breadth and depth will serve them well in the journalism field. This would further contribute to students' opportunity to get a well-rounded liberal arts education, and to ultimately be well-educated citizens.

Justice is finally served



By Sarah Jorgensen

in his eloquent and appropriately inspiring speech on Sunday, our war on terrorism is far from over. However, let's cast all cynicism aside for a moment and celebrate what this means for our country.

We've been divided over many issues in the past few years. What is the best approach to health care for our country? Is the prison at Guantanamo Bay a human rights violation? Is our president a U.S. citizen? We finally have a major victory that cannot be attributed to one party or another - it is attributed to the strength and perseverance of our armed forces. The most powerful aspect of this entire story, for me, is the fact that the mission to kill bin Laden was carried out by a human team of American citizens, as opposed to a robotic drone as was initially reported. It involved a physical firefight, and no American soldiers were lost in the mission. All in all, the mission was flawlessly executed.

This is a victory for our allies, and for the Middle East as well. Pakistan, where bin Laden was residing and was killed, offered its congratulations and support to the U.S. Although al-Qaida will continue to operate, they will undoubtedly be severely hindered by the loss of their idol and primary leader. The death of the most wanted terrorist in the world, a man who defined U.S. foreign policy for a decade, will certainly change the new world that we have gotten used to over the course of the past decade.

I remember first seeing bin Laden's face on the television screen 10 years ago and somehow knowing that this would be a long struggle. At points, it seemed that we would never have victory - mistaken identity, conspiracy theories and unreliable intelligence plagued the mission for many years. Obama's final, flawless mission is the perfect ending to a story that has taken so long to finally end.

The last generation had the Cold War; we had 9/11. The death of bin Laden is the fall of our generation's Berlin Wall. Let's remember May 1, 2011, as a turning point in our lives, a day as significant as that September morning 10 years ago.

Do you remember where you were on September 11, 2001?

I grew up within commuting distance of New York City, and on that date I was in my fifth grade classroom. There was a rumor of a school shooting in another town, but our teacher stood up before the class and explained that there had been an incident in New York City and that she would let our parents explain it to us.

We were released early from school, and I remember seeing the video of the plane flying into the towers. Many people in my area died, and I had family, including my father, in New York City at the time. As more details emerged about the attacks in Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., it was clear that the world would never be the same again.

9/11 has remained a sensitive topic in my home region for the past 10 years. I especially realized this when I interned at Voices of September 11, a nationally recognized organization based in my hometown of New Canaan, Conn. My internship involved interviewing community members about the events that transpired on 9/11, and it was clear that many wounds from that day had not yet been healed in my tight-knit town. It is, without a doubt, the defining moment of our generation.

The United States has finally been vindicated for the past 10 years of struggle and pain. When Osama bin Laden was announced as killed, I almost didn't believe it. It is unbelievable to think that this man - a legendary villain - is dead. As President Barack Obama mentioned

Micro-aggressions pervade society

Hurtful comments can be spoken unknowingly

By Ben Vozzola

A micro-aggression is an everyday act of discrimination, which might seem small, but adds up to a lot. They are very hurtful and cause a great deal of stress for the individual that receives the negative comments. These aggressions are affecting the quality of life for those who are discriminated against because they can happen at any time. They take place all over the United States. All minorities are subject to micro-aggressions, just in different ways. The most common form of micro-aggressions are mean comments that may not seem hurtful, but in reality they are.

Micro-aggressions can occur even with those who do not consider themselves racist, according to the American Psychological Association.

"It's a monumental task to get white people to realize that they are delivering microaggressions, because it's scary to them," Dr. Derald Sue of Columbia University said. "It assails their self-image of being good, moral, decent human beings to realize that they have biased thoughts, attitudes and feelings that harm people of color." This phenomenon makes it difficult for people to realize when they are making a micro-aggressive remark.

The reason why micro-aggressions occur everyday is because of the prevalence of whiteness in society. Caucasianism, in terms of population, is the dominant race in our country, so people will naturally compare another race to it. Whiteness also naturally carries with it the best aspects of a society or people, so comparisons that reflect poorly upon others are easily made. It seems to be widely assumed that this race does not have to prove itself in almost anything

it does. Because of this, whiteness retains its position as the race that all other races are compared to. All races should be looked at equally and there should not be extra importance placed on whiteness. This change in philosophy will ultimately lead to a better community, which could translate to cities and then to entire states. The entire country could reach heights that have never been reached before.

The sad reality is that micro-aggressions are the most common form of discrimination in today's society. It is because of their prevalence that they are one of our most important discrimination issues. Their daily occurrences speak to the problems in our society that need to be fixed. We need to make ourselves more aware both of when they are happening and of the damage that they cause. Only by doing this can we hope to bring an end to micro-aggressions and work toward a more accepting society.

New French law unfair to Muslim women

By Kevin Noori

From now on, in France, if a woman is seen in public wearing a veil that covers her face, she will be breaking the law. On April 11, a law was passed in France that made the niqab - a veil that covers the face - and burqa - a full-length robe that also covers the face - illegal to wear in public. According to The Guardian, veils are now outlawed everywhere except inside homes, during time of worship and when traveling in a private car as a passenger only. Anyone seen wearing a veil can be fined and ordered to attend a citizenship class. Additionally, according to CNN, there is now a punishment for those who force women to wear a veil, including a fine of up to 15,000 € or a one-year jail sentence.

This issue is incredibly controversial, due to the fact that France has one of the largest Muslim populations outside of the Middle East. Many of the women who wear these veils say that the French Parliament is attacking the religious beliefs of Muslims with racist intentions.

According to CBS News, French President Nicolas Sarkozy stated that the whole aspect of face veiling goes against French beliefs, due to the fact that they believe it restricts women from wearing certain clothes. Additionally, there are many Western feminists that argue against veiling by calling it oppressive and supportive of a patriarchal society.

Muslim women who make the decision to wear veils counter these oppositional beliefs. To them, wearing veils or burqas is complying with traditions of religious beliefs and traditions while also making a statement that they should have the right to be able to dress in whatever manner they please.

Wearing a veil is also considered by some of the Muslim women who wear them to be a protest against the beauty standards that Western society has placed upon them. According to The Guardian, one Muslim mother said, "I'm French, not a fanatic. I just want to be able to practice my religion without being ostracized."

The policy that punishes those who force women to wear the illegal

Muslim attire mainly applies to men, whether they're fathers, husbands or guardians. Those who force someone else to wear a veil should be punished. A man forcing a woman or girl to wear religious clothes, or for that matter, a woman forcing a woman or a girl to wear religious clothes, would seem worthy of punishment.

I share this same view with many Muslim women of France. If a woman freely chooses to wear clothes that suit their lifestyle or religion, the government should honor that choice. The government must remain neutral to all religions, and that means that banning one religion's dress would mean that all religions' symbolic clothing would be banned, too. By banning the usage of veils in public, women who choose to wear them will be forced to stay inside their homes for fear of being arrested or being fined. The idea of trying to stop the oppression of women wearing veils actually does the complete opposite. Furthermore, this entire controversy could be seen as an attempt to try and assimilate people into the French society and force them to conform to the French culture.

A marketing major's blues

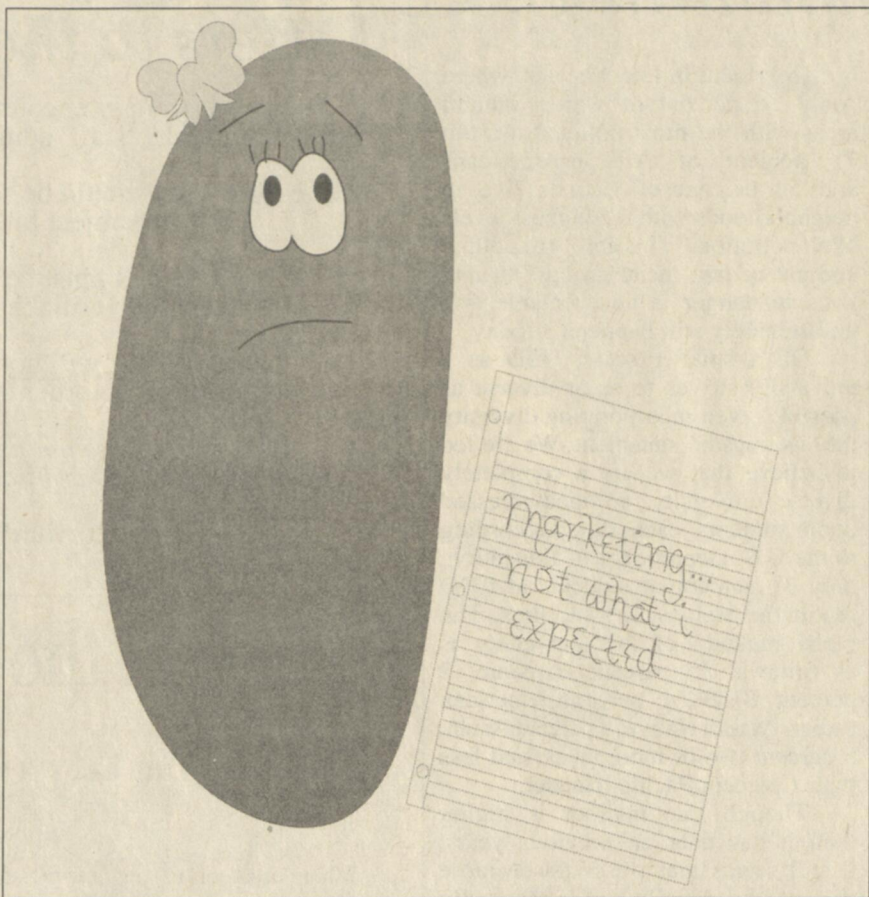
One student's reflection on program's lack of relevance

By Allie Safran

As a senior about to make my final exit from USD, I've been reminiscing a lot on the past four years. Most of my memories have little to do with schoolwork, but instead involve fun parties, events, the beach and, of course, my friends. When I think about the education I have gotten from USD, the core curriculum is something that I very much support, even though many people complain about it. Some of the best classes I have taken were because of the core curriculum requirements, such as Natural Disasters with Dr. Eric Cathcart, which might have been one of my favorite classes ever, and I'm definitely not a scientist. But when I think about the classes I have taken to fulfill requirements for my marketing major, there are very few that I have actually enjoyed, let alone gotten something out of.

I understand that as part of the business school, a marketing major would have to partake in some lower division, basic business classes. But I feel like I have spent too much time stressing over my accounting or decision science classes and too little time even participating in a marketing class. Of all of my business classes, only five have been actual marketing classes. Five - merely one semester's worth of classes about something that I chose to be my focus during college. Of those five classes, only one has been helpful during my two marketing internships.

To me, this is appalling. Aren't my college courses supposed to apply to the real world? I don't want to sit here and dissect each class and tell you how it's not been useful at all, but honestly, they haven't been helpful at all. It's to the point where I've actually discouraged younger students from the marketing major because, undoubtedly, they will graduate feeling unhappy as well. Instead of the majority of the marketing major being about business classes, the major should focus more on the creative side to business - isn't that what marketing is? For example, the marketing major should entail some kind of Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator or InDesign course. Interestingly enough, I took a new media class here at USD to fulfill my art requirement, and that has



Allie Safran/The Vista

been far more helpful in my internships than most of my actual marketing classes.

The one marketing class that I really felt was helpful was Marketing Research with Dr. Robin McCoy. The class is mostly structured around the final project, which in my group's case was an in-depth research study about the nutritional value in the foods served at the Student Life Pavilion. The project was not easy, and the course in general was tough and demanding. Nevertheless, this class taught me more about marketing than the other four marketing classes I have taken combined. The final project provided me with invaluable skills about surveying, researching techniques and productive ways to market a product or service that I have used countless times in the internships I have held. If only all of the classes within the marketing major had been this useful, I might be graduating feeling a little less disappointed.

The advice I heard over and over again when I was entering college was to

major in something you really liked, that it would be miserable to spend four years studying something you couldn't stand. I chose marketing because it was the most creative sector in the business school and seemed like something I could see myself doing as a career. But based on the classes I have been required to take, I have ended up hating my major. Based on my marketing internship, however, I know it's not marketing that I dislike so much as it's the marketing curriculum at USD that I have a problem with.

I do think the marketing major has a lot of potential, I just think that it's outdated and desperately needs to be revamped to ensure that other students don't prepare for graduation feeling like I do. Despite all of these complaints, USD has been an unbeatable college experience. Even now, I wouldn't have chosen another school. But what is important for USD to remember is to stay current with their curriculum, even if it involves yearly changes to prevent a situation like mine from occurring again.

Native heritage disregarded

Is USD ignoring certain cultures?

By Simon Menard

symbol of our institution as a whole, is a symbol of Spanish dominance and power.

San Diego is a city steeped in American Indian tradition. It is hard, if not impossible, to travel through the city without seeing a street sign or business with a Kumeyaay namesake or reference. But for a community with so much rich history, where is the representation of this group on campus?

According to the website for the University of San Diego Native American Student Organization, the current membership sits at 10 members. Also according to their website, they have had no events planned at all this semester. In a university with 5,000 undergraduates, that number amounts to 0.2 percent of the population. This is even more egregious in a county that has 17,000 members who are registered with any of the 13 local bands or tribes, according to the Kumeyaay Information Village. So why, in a city seemingly in tune with its roots, is there such a lack of identity on this campus?

The answer lies not with the student organization, but rather with the university itself. This university has tried, successfully, to associate itself with the culture and style of the Spanish conquistadors, rather than the native peoples of this region. Look, for example, at the names of buildings on campus: Alcalá Vista, Serra Hall, Loma Hall, San Miguel de Arcangel, San Buenaventura, etc. Also, the entire architectural style on campus is of the Spanish Mission tradition. Although this style is prevalent throughout the city of San Diego, including in Balboa Park, one of San Diego's most cherished areas, the concentration of buildings in this style is particularly prominent.

Every day, this university screams out its allegiance to the victors of conquest, simultaneously flaunting the systematic oppression of an entire nation. Students of Native American heritage are continuously bombarded by reminders of what is quite possibly the deepest scar in the history of their racial memory. Even our mascot, the

In the Department of Ethnic Studies, there is only one professor. The university, to be fair, has accomplished some things in honoring the Native heritage of the land - the path bordering Tecolote Canyon honoring the region's former residents and the permanent display of the artwork of the Hopi and other Southwestern nations in Serra Hall. However, these are diamonds in the rough, and are few and far between.

College is supposed to be a place united by learning and not divided by color. However, on this campus, for Native American people, every day, every building and the faces of the students and faculty around them serve as reminders of how much they do not belong. This school is unaware of the fact that the image they're conveying is one of non-inclusiveness. It is high time that the administration took notice, not just of Native American peoples, but of all different cultural groups on campus.

Because for many, the cultural, racial and intellectual homogeneity in this university is not only oppressive, but totally stifling. Paulo Freire says in his book, "Pedagogy of the Oppressed," that "critical and liberating dialogue, which presupposes action, must be carried on with the oppressed at whatever the stage of their struggle for liberation." At this both bright and tenuous time in our nation's history, it is time for equality and justice to move from dream to reality.

Throughout the history of America, institutions of higher learning have been at the forefront of positive social change. It has been, four decades since the Civil Rights Act, and racial equality is more attainable than ever, but this is not to say that we have reached the promised land. There is still work to do.

It takes a few small acts to begin a move toward larger social change, and this university needs to recognize that there are groups on campus that are not only ill represented, but also actively disenfranchised by the current status quo.

China's future still uncertain

Societal factors could bring down economy

By Dane Cummaro

Nothing lasts forever. Cold rain, piles of homework, friends and lovers - they all go away eventually. Foreign politics is no different, but the process usually takes longer. This is why the Chinese government should be disappointed that the empire they have long dreamed of is crumbling before their eyes.

True, China has recently posted double-digit growth rates, with many experts believing that an 8 to 9 percent growth rate could continue in the foreseeable future. Moreover, this economic surge has been paired with increasing military strength, particularly in the navy, leading many Americans to view China as a hegemonic threat.

Despite these facts, China has contributed to its own demise. This has transpired in three distinct areas: environment, a widening gap between the rich and poor and education.

"Seven of the world's 10 most polluted cities are in China," United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said. "[China's] environmental footprint is growing daily."

Pollution has made cancer China's leading cause of death, according to the Ministry of Health. The New York Times reports that nearly 500 million people lack access to safe drinking water. And only 1 percent of the country's 560 million residents breathe air considered safe by the European Union. A country cannot survive on job creation alone. If workers are being overwhelmed by an increasingly polluted China, production will slow down.

In the interim, inequality is rampant. According to the U.N., the poorest 20 percent of China's 1.3 billion residents account for nearly 5 percent of the total income, while the richest account for more than half. This disparity has created a huge divide in China. There is a clear

distinction between the royalty and the rabble. How can China keep this up? Gradually, the workers will shed their chains and fight for equality. Eventually, they will no longer stand for being pushed around by the upper class. Finally, they will demand fairness.

Still, the philosophy in China has been that as long as the overall populace is better off today than it was yesterday, there will be no rebellion. However, this past year The Los Angeles Times reported a series of labor strikes at Honda Motor Co. factories, along with a small number of suicides at the electric component plants belonging to Foxconn Technology Group. This is directly related to the working class's push for higher wages, which has been denied by the government. The communist leaders fear that rising wages will threaten the foreign investment that has created jobs and served as an engine for economic growth.

Regardless of how the government rationalizes oppressing its population, the evidence is clear. Chinese men and women are moving toward the demands of their Western counterparts. With the spread of technology and online social media, keeping your population in the dark is getting difficult. Don't believe me? Just ask, Too Topquadafi. The education system is lacking, too. Topuniversities.com does not list a single Chinese university in its top 150 schools.

So can someone please tell me how China can threaten the United States as the world's leader, if its population is undereducated, overworked and underpaid? I've got news for you: it can't and it won't. Workers will need to be given rights similar to those seen in the U.S. and Japan. The government will have to make some business concessions in order to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, and an even stronger push for education is sorely needed.

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The meaning of whiteness today

Insitutional racism still rampant in U.S.

By Sarah Nickless

The notion of color, or lack thereof, is an idea that has greatly shaped our society throughout history. Many argue that this division of a superior race is disappearing. However, it is invariably still a very prominent aspect of many opportunities today.

Diversity, a largely discussed topic in society and more specifically on the campus of USD, seems to have become a focal point in our daily lives. We have been programmed to diversify ourselves as we grow up. Through childhood and into college, it becomes almost second nature to us, especially in this generation. We learn about the ways in which segregation and racial discrimination shaped our nation's past, but we fail to notice the subtle continuation of the social construction of race we have created within the legal system and environmental issues, as well as on our campus.

In "The Civil Rights Movement: Struggle and Resistance" by William Terence Martin Riches, the author identifies the obvious racial discrimination of blacks in the legal system. Although "African-Americans were only 13 percent of the monthly drug users, they represent 35 percent of arrests for drug possession, 55 percent of convictions and 74

percent of prison sentences."

It is evident through these statistics that our legal system is unfair and projects false assumptions upon people of color. Levinson also argues that "black offenders convicted of serious offenses were 50 percent more likely to be 'habitualized' than similarly situated non-blacks convicted of the same level of offense." Though the same offense was committed, these people were treated differently, and giving greater punishment to someone who deserves it no more than the other is ridiculously unfair.

Another instance of racial discrimination still present in our society is through environmental racism. According to George Lipsitz's essay "The Possessive Investment in Whiteness," a 1992 "study by staff writers for the National Law Journal examined the Environmental Protection Agency's response to 1,177 toxic waste cases and found that polluters of sites near the greatest white population received penalties 500 percent higher than penalties imposed on polluters in minority areas - an average of \$335,566 for white areas contrasted with \$55,318 for minority areas." Once again, this infliction of toxins upon certain people is completely wrong. Who is to say that waste can be dumped in one neighborhood and not another.

According to Lipsitz, this trend

is also evident in Los Angeles, where "only 34 percent of whites inhabit areas with the most polluted air, but 71 percent of African-Americans and 50 percent of Latinos live in neighborhoods with the highest levels of air pollution." This ability to pollute and put certain racial groups' air and lives in danger is unacceptable, yet unfortunately still happening today.

On a smaller scale, USD as a university strives to be as diverse as possible, even incorporating diversity into its mission statement. We are led to believe that we are a completely diverse university, an idea stressed upon students each day. According to the U.S. Department of Education, only 31 percent of students at USD report themselves as minorities. The racial makeup of this university is as follows: 15 percent Hispanic, 2 percent Black, 1 percent American Indian/Alaska Native, 8 percent Asian, 5 percent two or more races, and less than 1 percent Pacific Islander.

Though this number is higher than it has been in previous years, it still seems that we could be more diverse and racially and is ethnically inclusive as an institution.

Today's society is impacted with racial injustice and is still lacking diversity. As a nation, we need to work on creating a racially equal environment in many instances, changing our "melting pot" into a "cultural color palette."

THE VISTA

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 channeke@usdvista.com with the subject line "Letter to the Editor."

Submissions must be limited to 300 words and include verifiable contact information.

Letter content will not be edited for clarity, style or grammar in order to preserve its authenticity.

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

Danger of the model minority

By Sang Yun Lee

When most of us picture racism today, we are reminded of images of extremists such as the Ku Klux Klan or the Civil Rights movements of the 1960s. We believe that, due to improvements in recent decades, society has left most racism behind. While extreme racial violence is shown to have decreased significantly, more subtle forms of racism sneak past us unknowingly. As authors Rosalind S. Chou and Joe R. Feagin state in their book, "The Myth of The Model Minority: Asian Americans Facing Racism," "While extreme forms of overt racism have not ceased, they now occur less frequently. Associating these extremely violent images with the idea of racism can mislead a person into thinking that racism is a thing of the past."

When the thought of racism comes to mind, too often Asian-Americans are not included in the picture, frequently obscured by the U.S. society's creation of an illusion that is the model minority myth.

The model minority myth is defined as the concept that a certain ethnic, racial or religious group attains higher degrees of success than the rest of the population average. In the United States, Asian-Americans are the main victims of this positive stereotype. It is through the myth's idea of the Asian-Americans' academic and economic success that most members of this ethnic group are pressured by discrimination nearly every day in ways that do not seem to be directly influencing any harm.

Many people have made casual jokes using the model minority myth. For example, if one receives a grade on an assignment any lower than an A+, it is considered as an "Asian fail." What many do not realize is the impact that these seemingly harmless connotations have on members of this ethnic group. By accepting the model minority view

as a commonality, we are all guilty in supporting a racist stereotype and inadvertently creating in society a superficial, but also very real, standard by which an entire racial or ethnic group must be seen to fit.

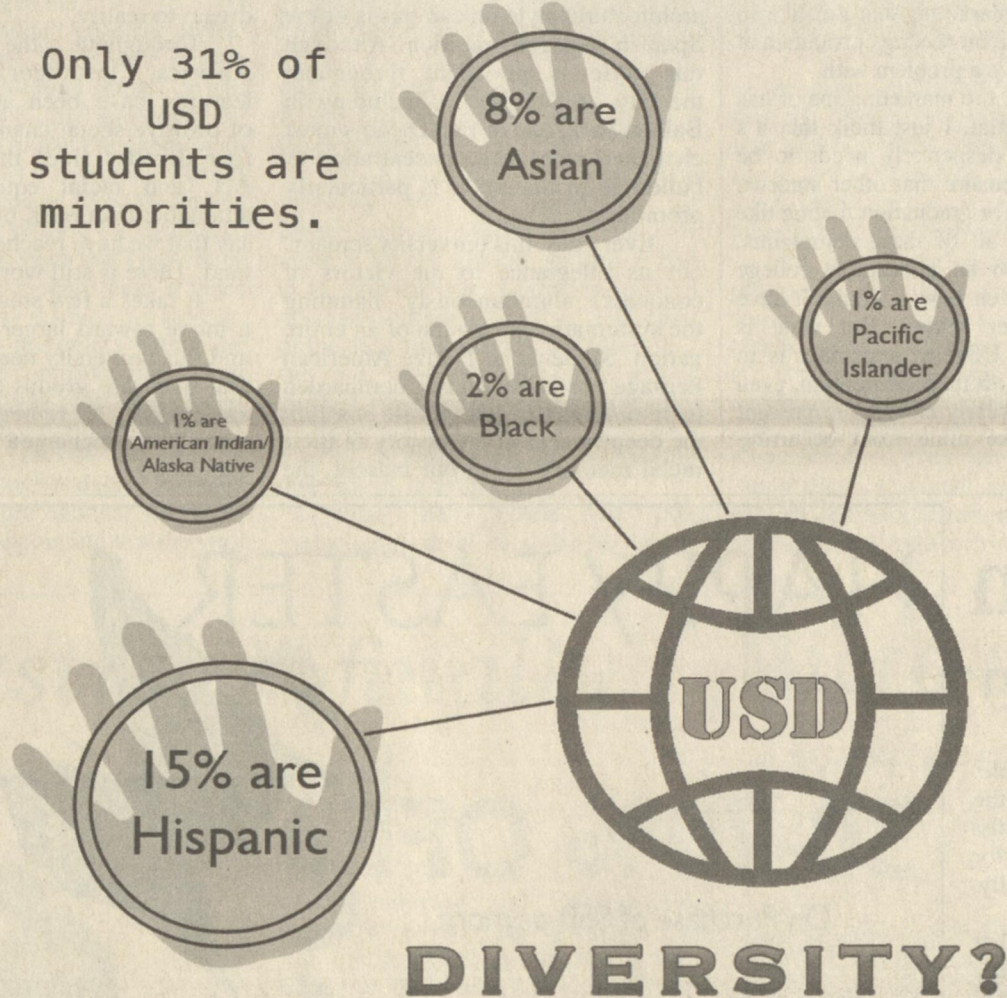
According to an article in The New York Times by Somini Sengupta, the stereotypical myth that all Asian-Americans excel academically puts unnecessary pressure among Asian-American students to receive higher grades. "I still deal with educators who tell me how great the Asian kids are," said Principal Archer W. Dong of Dr. Sun Yat Sen Junior high school near Chinatown in New York City. "It puts an extra burden on the kid who just wants to be a normal kid."

Instead of going through their education the way the average Caucasian majority may experience it, Asian-American students are increasingly pressured by the general public and by their own household family members to perform extremely well, even while they are young. While this pressure may seem benign, and even productive from an outside perspective, it has proved to be significantly detrimental to the health of many Asian-Americans.

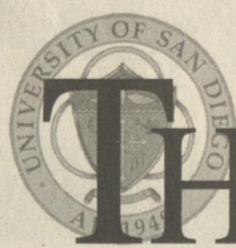
According to CNN, the Department of Health And Human Services indicates that Asian-American women around the ages of 15 to 24 have the highest suicide rate of women in any racial group, making suicide the second leading cause of death among Asian-American women in that age range, largely due to the pressures of the model minority myths.

There are too many of us today who go about thinking that this positive stereotypical image can be seen as a good thing and completely harmless. It is important to realize that a simple reminder of pressures or expectations every single day can go far, especially when these expectations originate from a racist ideology. While this may not be an extreme or violent form of racism like examples of the past, we must acknowledge that these assumptions are in fact harmful. The evidence is proof.

Only 31% of USD students are minorities.



Cathy Nyugen / The Vista



THE VISTA

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A finals survival guide: Tips, tricks, and staff secrets

As the semester winds down and the weather begins to get warmer, there is only one obstacle in our way before we are released into the wild playground of summer: final exams. Long the bane of university students' existence everywhere, exams have become a largely dreaded event that cause a lot of grief and stress for students. However, dear reader, you have no reason to fear; The Vista staff is here to give you our best tried and true final exam tips.

For some, the key to acing tests is the fine art of cramming. "I tend to be a regular practitioner of the all-night method of studying," News Editor Bernadette Smith said. "My expert experience over the years has shown me that when taking naps in between cramming sessions, you get the best second-wind results from either 30-minute or 90-minute catnaps. Anything more, you might as well resign yourself to your bed, and any less is pointless."

Sports Editor Tyler Wilson agrees. "I always cram, and that seems to work for me," he said.

Opinion Editor Sarah Jorgensen described her studying philosophy as being related to real estate: the key is location, location, location. "While studying for my exams, my secret is to sit in the Harry Potter quiet study room in the library," she said. "The quiet, respectful and academic vibe of the room during finals week is enough to give me the drive to study hard. I also believe that there is such a thing as over-studying; when you feel like your brain is no longer absorbing information, it's time to stop."

Chief Copy Editor Jen Gabrielli relies on more practical exam preparations. "White erasers work better than pink ones for Scantrons, and blueberries help with memory retention," she said. She also described the importance of focus during this trying time. "Deactivate your Facebook or give a friend your password so you're not on the Book when you should be in the stacks," she said.

Editor in Chief Kaitlin Perry, too, offered advice for the studying process itself. "My tip is to go all out when you're studying," she said. "You'll have all summer to build your brainpower back up, so use as much of it as you can." She also offered a useful tip for group

projects and study groups. "Use Google docs for study groups," she said. "Everyone can work on it at the same time and there's a chat option on the side so you can discuss things that need to be clarified."

Artist Kelsey Perry takes special measures on the day of the exam itself. "I eat oatmeal before morning exams to get my brain in gear and not have a hungry stomach during the two hours of testing," she said.

Similarly, Managing Editor Allie Safran emphasized the importance of taking care of yourself during finals. "During the first two years of college, I would spend the night in Copley stressing over a test," she said. "But I figured out (probably too late in the game) that stressing less and getting sleep really are the key to success on a test. I realized my grades were better once I stopped freaking out so much."

Assistant Opinion Editor Bianca Bruno agreed with Safran. "If I'm studying late at night and I get too tired, I go to bed and will wake up a couple of hours early to finish studying," she said. "My mind is always fresher in the morning."

Arts and Culture Editor Kyle Strickland offers a more laid-back approach to the tests. "Don't stress, grades aren't everything," he said. "Remember that you aren't the only one who has finals and papers and projects; everybody is going through the same thing as you are. Sometimes it feels like you are the only one being screwed over by hard classes, but you aren't. That means you aren't missing out on much of anything when you're in the library putting in your time, so get to it early and you won't have to scramble your brains with all-nighters."

However, perhaps the best choice is to just start studying early. Feature Editor Chelsea Robinson urges early preparation for the impending exams. "Start preparing for finals and presentations now if you can," she said. "You'll be happy that you have extra time to relax around finals."

Whether or not you choose to take our advice, you will (probably) survive finals and be released into the bliss of vacation. Have a great summer!

“Remember that you aren't the only one who has finals and papers and projects; everybody is going through the same thing as you are.”

"Many times people will come through the door with good intentions but may not be willing to put in the work. They just want to see some results right away."

- TOM WISE

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Never Goodbye, Just See You Later

By Jen Gabrielli, Dominique Conners and Rachel Horgan

In the midst of trying to balance exams, papers, quizzes and a social life, each stage of your college career becomes more and more of a distant memory. As the spring semester winds down, USD's Class of 2011 finds themselves anticipating officially becoming adults. Since the first time Mary Lyons introduced us as "Torrerrrrros," seniors were told that graduating from USD would separate them from the rest, expressed through the slogan, "One of a Kind, Second to None."

Now, as seniors pick up their caps and gowns, many reminisce back to when they were starting classes and learning the ropes of college life. Senior Emily Hatch's best advice to younger students is, "Take advantage of the opportunities that USD has to offer, whether it's clubs, sporting events or even teachers. Get to know your professors [as more than] authority figures, because they are amazing people and you could learn so much from them just by talking to them."

Senior Jen Gabrielli agrees, having found that the most amazing part of USD's campus culture is the professor-student relationships. "I picked USD because of its small campus," she said, "because I didn't want to get lost in a lecture hall or write a number instead of my name on an exam. We get to hang out with our professors at Aromas, O'Toole's - wherever. It's academically encouraging when your professor wants to get to know you."

USD isn't just a place for education, it's also a place to find yourself and make a difference in the community. Senior Olivia Menton's philosophy is clear, "Simply live and continue to grow daily," she said. "Life is about making mistakes and learning from each mistake. But the largest imprint you can place on USD is within the community and helping others." As a USD transfer student, Menton learned the benefits of acting early. "I advise that students engage in class and not wait until finals to try and do everything," Menton said. "Teachers see [when] students do that."

The Vista unleashed a writer to ask a handful of seniors to share their advice for underclassmen and when they realized they were seniors. Whether you are about to embark upon the real world or you're about to experience what the rest of college has to offer, check out some poignant responses from our beloved seniors. In the words of senior Courtney Vinson, "[College] is not supposed to be an easy transition, but it will be worth it."



Advice for undergrads

"Start a costume box now and invest in [clothes from the] '80s." - Rachel Horgan

"Explore San Diego and get out of Mission Beach every once in a while." - Olivia Uhart

"Live off campus at some point." - Bridget Dunnion

"Walk to your classes as much as possible. You'll miss it when you live off campus." - Kaitlin Perry

"Study something you are interested in. Your degree won't limit the job you get as long as you're smart, sociable and have internship or work experience." - Emily Jacobs

"Take a personal finance class." - Mollie Schultz

"Meet with your academic advisor now and then. You don't want to be a senior realizing you need a 'W' class or foreign language class to graduate." - Jen Gabrielli

"Make a [college] bucket list now and not your last semester." - Olivia Uhart and Meghan McMahon

"Make your time here a positive adventure. Do things you never thought you would, appreciate each moment, as well as the beautiful campus, and don't let the little things bother you. You won't get these days back, so why not live out loud?" - Erin Schneider

"Go abroad." - Michael Gouletas

"Senior year is realizing that some of these moments won't happen again, and taking advantage of the time you have left with friends." - Lexie Malchione

"Join every club and organization you can. It develops you as an individual and employers love it." - James Arndt

"Enjoy the city; make it your own." - Brennan Milligan

"Check out the Camino basement - it's not as creepy as it seems." - Kaitlin Perry

"Eat from as many local food joints as you can." - A.J. Avedon

"People always say that time flies, it really does. Enjoy everything and do what makes you happy, no matter what. Every day is a new day." - Caitlin Ellinwood

You know that you are a senior when

"Your teacher compliments your tan rather than your attendance record." - Brennan Milligan

"You are already at school sitting near your class and you skip it anyway." - Brian Burns

"Your white MacBook isn't white anymore." - Chelsea Robinson

"You know the days of the week by the specials at the bar, not what classes you have." - Mollie Schultz

"You wear business casual and suits more than anything else." - Stephanie Mercer

"You can use 'job interview' as an excuse to ditch almost any class."

- Amanda Holland

"When you're running to class from O'Toole's and not from the library." - Megan Moses

"When people stop asking if you're going to Sandbar [or] Coaster on Thursday because they know they'll see you there." - Steven Shepherd

"On nice days, the beach takes priority over homework assignments." - Taylor Scavo

"The first question you ask your professor is, 'What's the attendance policy?'" - Kaitlin Perry

"You go to Vegas more than once in a semester." - Tim Kaatman

"You missed three classes in the name of the best country concert [Stagecoach] in America and you have no guilt whatsoever about it." - Kim Gillie

"You don't worry about scheduling classes for next semester." - Jeremy Day

"You can meet your professor for office hours in O'Toole's." - Kaitlin Perry

"You vaguely but fondly remember when you could go to Tijuana with just a driver's license." - Natalie Kunstader

"You remember late nights at Torero Grille and all-day brunch and studying at the Caf." - Jennifer Gabrielli

"USD basketball used to be something you were proud of." - Natalie Kunstader

"The word 'thesis' does not make you throw up anymore." - Kaitlin Perry

ARTS & CULTURE

EDITORS

Kyle Strickland
kstrickland@usdvista.com

Ryan Coghill
rcoghill@usdvista.com

Atmosphere releases 13th album, "The Family Sign"

Progressive rap duo adds to their extensive music base

By Kelly Nassour

Atmosphere is a hip-hop group that made their debut in 1998 with their first album, "Overcast," an unrefined glimpse into the talent and ability of this deft duo. The group's members include Slug, real name Sean Daly, and Ant, also known as Anthony Davis. Now, 13 years later, Atmosphere has released their 13th album "The Family Sign."

Their second album, "Lucy Ford: the Atmosphere EPs," was released in 2000. Daly's skills were truly manifested in all their consummate and fiery glory with songs like "Guns and Cigarettes" and "Like Today." In 2003, their fourth album, "Seven's Travels," demonstrated a more passionate and political side of Daly's character, and illustrated the mixing and producing expertise of the unforgettable other hemisphere, Davis, with the songs "National Disgrace" and "Trying to Find a Balance."

Atmosphere continued to perfect their musical talent, and in 2008 "When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint That Shit Gold" hit the shelves. In this album, Daly introduces a more contemplative thought process into his music, particularly with the songs "Guarantees" and "Yesterday."

Atmosphere's 13th album, "The Family Sign," which premiered on April 12, 2011, is similar to "When Life Gives You Lemons," except it is taken to the next level of their transcendental thought process. With this album, Daly's philosophical and creative abilities come together in greatness, exhibiting his poetic and profound flair in a more mature and refined manner.

"On this record, I'll admit, you know," Daly said, "I might have gotten a little bit more introspective than I have in the past. It's just because interpretation is a choice and in these times when we're being bombarded with information from every angle - things that we have to interpret - I wanted to make sure that what I was communicating to you this year was on point, was focused... that you got what I was talking about."

Atmosphere's indie-rap genre label has solidified itself in this album with guest contributions from

Erik Anderson on keyboards and Nick Collis on guitar. The song "My Key" is psychedelic melody reminiscent of Radiohead. The slow, mostly instrumental track is slightly uncharacteristic of Atmosphere's usual style, but provides a smooth introduction to the new, more sincere style of music.

Daly, being a 38-year-old father, has developed his flow into a more meaningful expression of wholesome and thought-provoking ideas. This record is the most personal one yet. The track "The Last to Say" is a sad life lesson about domestic violence and the negative emotional effects it has on everyone involved, vaguely reminiscent of the brief ballad "Dreamer" from "When Life Gives You Lemons."

Daly's narrative and metaphorical tendencies are evident in the song "Became," a soft trance-like piece about losing a loved one. "It's not that tragic, it's not a shame/ You're not the hunted, you're not the aim/ You just another dog with hunger pains/ I was so afraid that you'd become the game/ I forgot to worry about what you became."

The familial trend in this album continues with "Bad, Bad Daddy," a more negative and personal representation of a negligent father than the song "Good Daddy" from the album "Sad Clown Bad Spring #12." This song presents a clear reflection of a bad father in a more intimate way, with a little more credence and gravity. It isn't exactly a party song, but it does have a catchy tune.

This album provides a look into the problems and struggles that most families must go through. For example, "For Show" is a heartfelt plea to a distant partner, hinting at divorce and resentment, while "She's Enough" is a more optimistic side to love. The music video portrays a very innocent depiction of a childhood crush. "She the one that you wanna grow old with/ She gotta touch it/ She want to hold it/ She gets focused/ She's got the dopest kissed/ She don't need you to tell her already knows it is."

Atmosphere has still maintained their original style that made them famous. "Millenium Dodo" is a throwback to Davis' old style of

producing and Daly's old underground rap career, with shout outs to old friends and past hip-hop family members - "You might know me as Jacob and Malcom's father/ Rest in peace Eyedea and Sally Slaughter."

The solemn tone of the album continues with a guitar-heavy, depressing account of a lover pushed away in the song, "I Don't Need Brighter Days." The tone of the album adopts a relaxing yet upbeat melody combined with brooding concepts of love and family. Anderson's piano prowess is most discernable in "Your Name Here," continuing with the contrasting elements of meditative but hopeful music and pensive but pessimistic lyrics.

Indie-rap style found its definition in the songs "If You Can Save Me Now" and "Something So" on this album. The combination of real instruments and rap music marines a Coachella kind of sound in a hip-hop twist. Though this album is somewhat depressing, it is an impressive exhibition of Atmosphere's versatility, talent and musical libido.

Atmosphere has embarked on "The Family Sign" tour to promote their new music. Tomorrow, May 6, Atmosphere and DJ Abilities from the former Eyedea & Abilities rap group will be performing the new album at the San Diego House of Blues.

Unfortunately, the concert is sold out, and has been for a while. However, on May 29, Atmosphere is hosting The Soundset Music Festival in Canterbury Park, Minn. The lineup includes Atmosphere, Brother Ali, Mac Miller, Blueprint, DJ Abilities

and Budo. "Little B, Odd Future," Daly said, "groups like this are, they're important to this movement, it's based on youth on one hand, but it's also - this is a struggle music. It's based on struggle, and so if anybody can communicate

to these kids, I would think other kids could. An old cat like me or an even older cat like KRS-One - we might not necessarily have that direct link to talking to a 14- or a 15-year-old about struggle. We could come off like old preachy dudes."

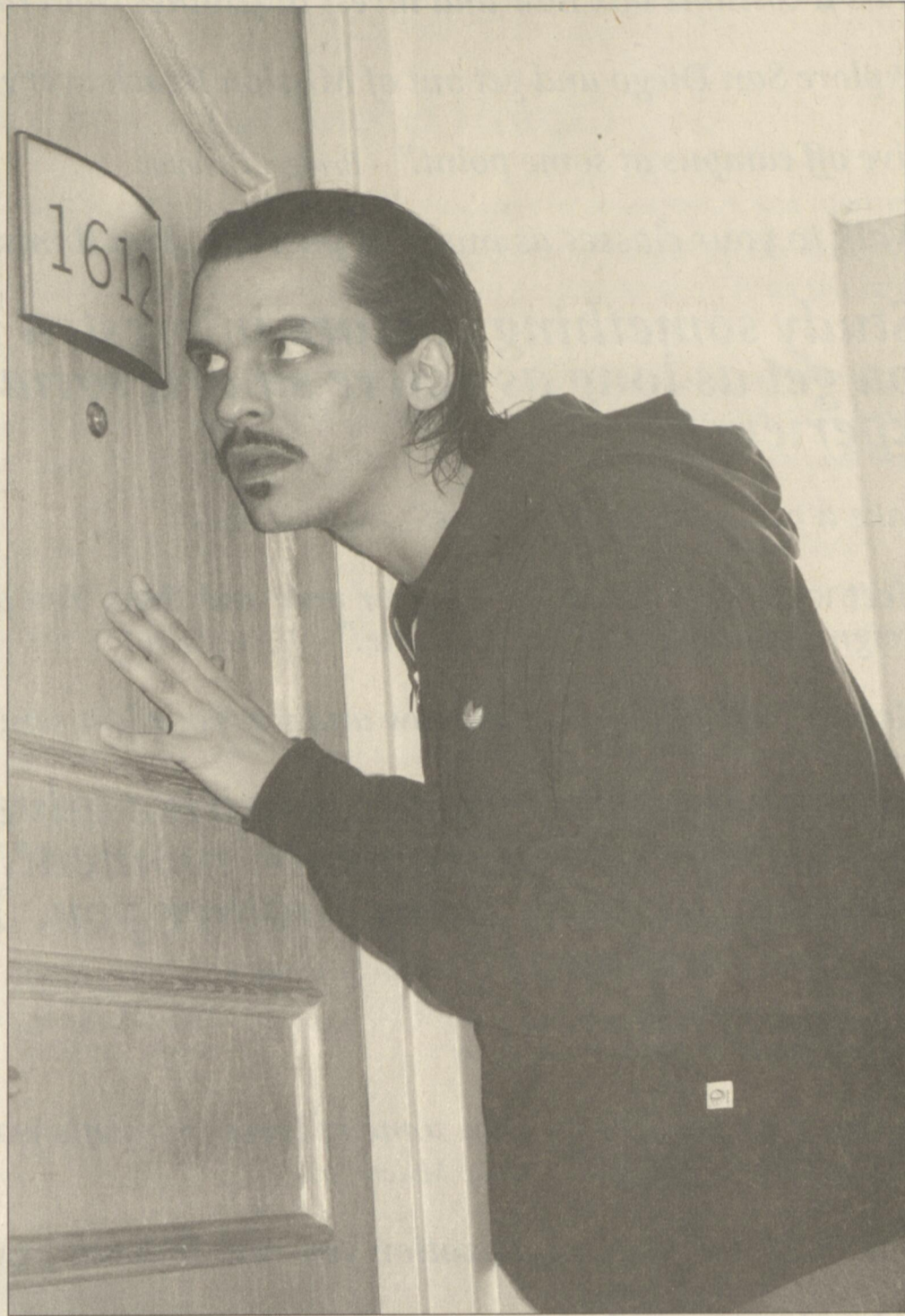


Photo Courtesy of Joe Howell

Atmosphere will play a sold-out HOB show tomorrow night at 6:30.

It's been super chill bro



By Kyle Strickland

This is my last column. Woot. I have only been writing these for the past couple months, one semester's worth of feeling worthy of print. Being published boosted my ego to unnatural levels, and it resulted in a level of self-confidence unlike any other I had experienced before. One of the best parts about this privilege has been hearing reactions to my articles and my columns, whether they came in the form of e-mails, comments at bars or shouts on the sidewalks of school. I sincerely want to thank everyone for all the praise and even criticism given; it really meant a lot to me.

What do I do from now on, though? I am losing my printworthy status - a status that I thoroughly enjoyed. That probably sounds lame and nerdy to many of you, but I think you'd be surprised at how many different ways I used my editorial status to achieve different goals. It has been my go-to all semester - I've used it to start meaningful conversations, talk to girls and get dates (seriously), meet new people and overall boost my social prowess. I guess I got creative with the job, and it was fun as hell to see what I could do. It actually made going to USD worthwhile for once; I wish I had become an editor years ago.

This status has been so useful, but now it's over. Even if I had the option to continue writing, I highly doubt that my columns and articles would be good enough to get me a job at a newspaper or magazine, even as a part-time writer. If I did, I'd probably be at the bottom of the barrel writing stories on cat fashion shows, unable to continue expressing myself so openly and personally. I'd rather cook burgers than write shit that

didn't matter, though; I always write with a sincerity that I think demonstrates a respect for the reader. I try and hold nothing back, which is risky, but worth it.

This is another thing that I greatly appreciated about writing columns; I was able to be open and honest and, at times, far too personal. I still don't know why I wanted to write some things that I did. My family seems to have never seen that side of me so clearly before. Their responses were of shock and concern at times, which points to why I think I wrote what I did - it allowed me to be honest.

There is something unique about writing for print that helps me envision my life from a third-person perspective, that of the reader. It always helps me organize and interpret who I am. Printing it is just the final part of the process. Somehow, knowing that I am publishing something that is bothering me helps me get over it.

When people really do respond to my columns via e-mail or in person, it helps me even more. For instance, my nightmare about my brother concerned a few very serious and concerned responses from people who shared similar experiences, or from people who wanted to let me know that these things are okay to go through. I happened to read one response at a party on my phone and began to cry because it was so meaningful and sad and honest and true. I hardly ever cry, maybe once every year or two, so it was a defining moment to be amongst people and teary-eyed. We all have struggles, and when other people express their struggles back to me in a similarly honest and sincere manner, it makes mine seem not so bad after all. Thanks.

I thought about starting a blog to keep up my tradition of writing my deepest thoughts, concerns and personal stories every week. I don't necessarily think anybody would follow it, except the friend who gave me the idea, but I think I'd like to keep writing as if some would. I don't like the idea of trading face-to-face reactions for posted comments, but it might still be worth it. The Internet is not as satisfying as print, but I'd take it any day over never writing like this again.

Local DJs keep the crowd in mind

By Lauren Millslagle

Recent University of California, San Diego grad Tim Nguyen made his debut as a DJ on a friend's party bus just over a year ago and has been hooked on DJing ever since. Always an avid music fan, Nguyen cites the Bloody Beetroots and Justice as the inspiration behind his decision to leave the crowd and to step behind the DJ booth. Nguyen joins forces with friend and former coworker, Dan Gilkerson, under the name "Tim and Dan" to produce a set full of mashups that echo the likes of Girl Talk and the Hood Internet.

The duo focuses on engaging the entire crowd by choosing a vast variety of music. They often layer music from the Top 40 Billboard chart with lesser-known electronic tracks and supplement the mix with Internet memes from popular YouTube videos, including the iconic Antoine Dodson's "Bed Intruder

Song." Nguyen half jokes that the duo's aim is to get the bouncer to like the set. "The goal is to get the bouncer into it," Nguyen said. "The bouncer is at the club every night. If he likes you, then you've done your job."

Nguyen breaks down the process of preparing for a set. While he chooses the bulk of the set list, Gilkerson fine-tunes all the details. The two take the stage with well thought out playlists and choose the song order, transitions and effects live, based on the vibe from the night's concert-goers.

Though many DJs play sets that maintain a high intensity throughout, Tim and Dan prefer to create sets that provide rising and falling action so that the crowd can take a moment to refuel at the bar and then hit the dance floor with renewed intensity. The idea of being hypersensitive to the night's audience is something Nguyen picked up while working as an opener for DJ Edgartronic at AC Lounge's "Final Fridays."

"One time I just played what I wanted," Nguyen said "and the crowd hated it." Learning from that experience, he then worked an iPad into his set, encouraging audience members to be part of the DJing experience. Though he has since scrapped the iPad, Nguyen now makes a point to incorporate the audience.

Tim and Dan will be playing the 21+ AC Lounge, located at 4673 30th Street in North Park, from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. this Friday, and will be followed by Junior the Discopunk from 10:30 p.m. until close. There is no cover charge until 10:30 p.m., so bring all your friends and enjoy the dance party. And if you're thinking about taking up DJing, Nguyen offers some pearls of wisdom.

"If you want to DJ," Nguyen said, "don't ever give up. Flood the market. Talk to everyone. You'll need to be persistent and consistent because the hardest part is getting the initial opportunity to play a set."



Photo Courtesy of Ric Faifer

DJs Tim and Dan will play North Park's AC lounge tomorrow at 9 p.m.

Cowboy music and fashion hit the desert oasis

By Alex Bozich

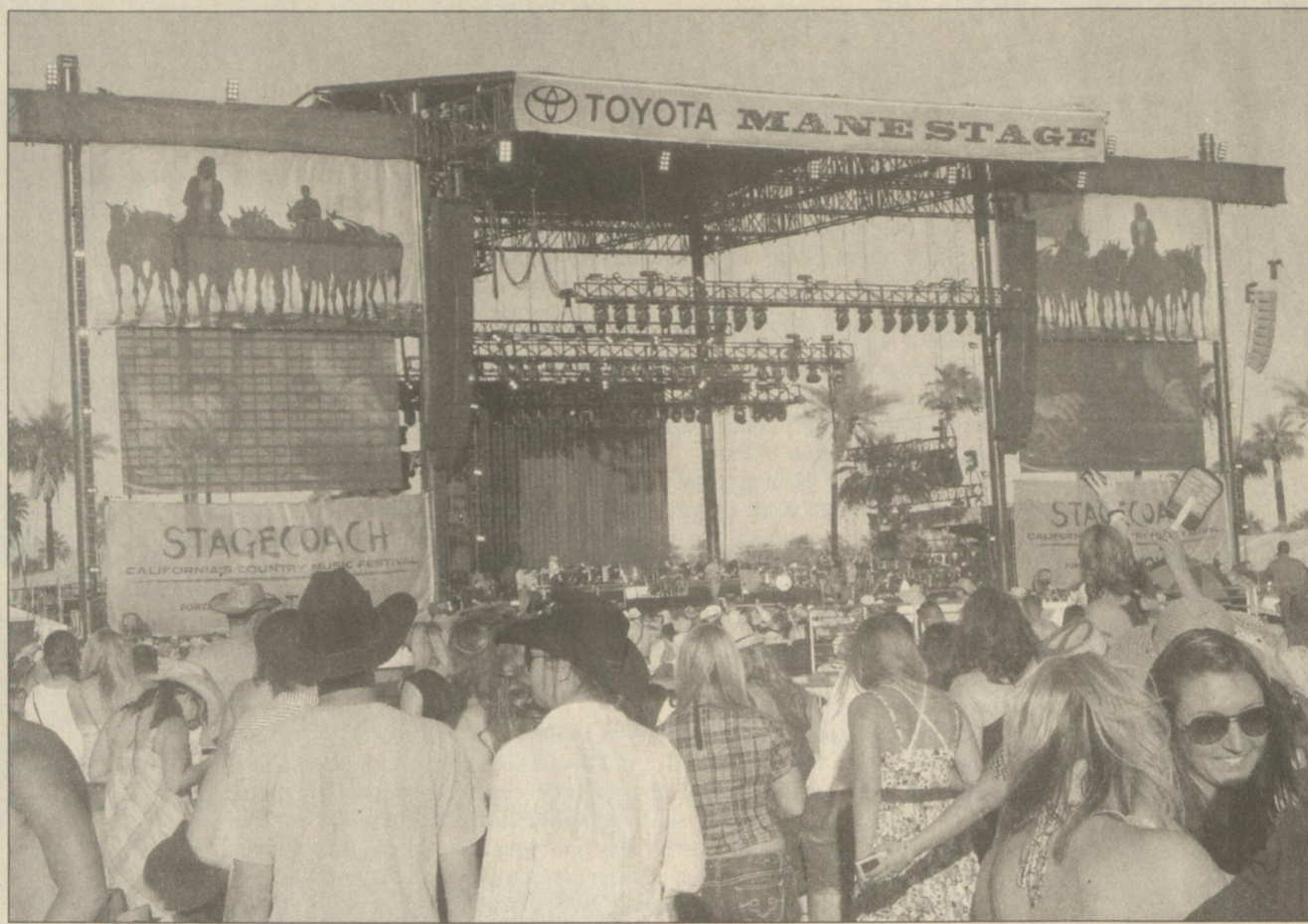
Coachella happened only a few weeks ago, but the Empire Polo Club in Indio, Calif., had to gear up for another spring music festival. This past weekend, the Stagecoach country music festival took over the desert. Mobile homes and campers started flooding the grounds last Thursday evening and kept rolling in until the music started on Saturday afternoon.

If people-watching is your thing, Stagecoach provides more than enough. Every camper was decked out in posters, flags and banners, with its residents hanging out of the car windows with beers in hand. While country music often gets a love it or hate it response, there's one thing that most people can agree with - whether or not you enjoy the music, country concerts provide a heck of a great time.

Stagecoach is known for bringing together some of the greatest country performers, along with up-and-coming stars, and this year was no different. Saturday afternoon kicked off with newer musicians David Serby and The Cleverlys. It wasn't until around 4:30 p.m. when Steel Magnolia came on that the area really started to fill up.

After Steel Magnolia closed their set with their hit single, "Keep on Loving You," Chris Young took over the main stage. Chris Young is probably best known for his song "Gettin' You Home," as validated by the wild crowd when he began. His performance ended with the sunset and people geared up for the final two performers of the evening.

After gaining immense popularity in the country music world after leaving Hootie & the Blowfish, Darius Rucker was invited to Stagecoach for the very first time. His performance was greatly anticipated by many people, as he was not originally a country musician. He



Crowds gather at the "Mane" stage at Stagecoach, which was put on by the same promoters as Coachella on April 30 and May 1.

performed his best country hits to date, including "Alright," "Comeback Song" and "Don't Think I Don't Think About It."

What really surprised the crowd was when he chose to perform a few of his older songs from his days in Hootie & the Blowfish. As they are not typical country songs, Rucker added a little twang to them. Though this may have been a risky move for his first time at a major country festival, it seemed to work in his favor as the crowd was extremely receptive.

Following Rucker, Kenny Chesney closed the Saturday evening festivities.

Chesney has always been a favorite country musician for most people who are into the genre. It's also known that he's a very energetic and talented performer when live in concert, a reputation he lived up to on Saturday night. Chesney has been around the country music world for quite some time, so he has more than enough songs that could please the crowd. The crowd swayed slowly along to his older hit "Anything But Mine," but then picked

the energy back up with songs like "Keg in The Closet" and "Summertime."

Chesney was called back for an encore, where he closed the entire set with his very first single that still remains a fan favorite, "She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy."

Sunday's music started at 1 p.m. with Truth & Salvage Co., but again, the crowd didn't start to flood in until more of the popular acts took stage. This started around 4:45 p.m. when Easton Corbin took the stage. He sang his main hits for less than an hour on the

main stage before Josh Turner came on. At the same time, on a smaller stage, Jack Ingram began his set, which was problematic for those who wanted to see Ingram as well as Turner. As Turner finished and the sun went down behind the mountains, people were still on their feet dancing to his final song, "Why Don't We Just Dance."

After Turner left the stage, people anxiously awaited the performance by former American Idol winner Carrie Underwood. It may have been a coincidence, but more men definitely tried to get closer to the stage when she was about to start. She came on stage looking beautiful as ever and sang both old and new songs, including "Undo It," "Before He Cheats," "Wasted" and "So Small." Having just performed at the American Country Music Awards with Steven Tyler, she surprised the crowd by singing a cover of Aerosmith's "Walk This Way." She then transitioned into "Paradise City" by Guns N' Roses.

Underwood wasn't the only artist to cover rock bands. After her performance, Rascal Flatts did the same. The band sang upbeat songs such as "Me and My Gang," but also emotional, slower singles like "What Hurts The Most." They closed Stagecoach with classic rock hits "Foreplay-Long Time" by Boston and "Free Ride" by the Edgar Winter Group. Rascal Flatts often has the reputation of being country music's boy-band, but they proved that they can put on a great show.

After being at Stagecoach, it's clear that the music is initially what draws people in, but it's the overall experience that keeps people coming back year after year. There's no doubt that Stagecoach will continue to be one of the most popular country music festivals around the nation for a very long time. As USD senior Nicolle Mona said, "Stagecoach is the greatest thing that ever happened to me."

An all-American food truck for an all-American time

By Allie Safran

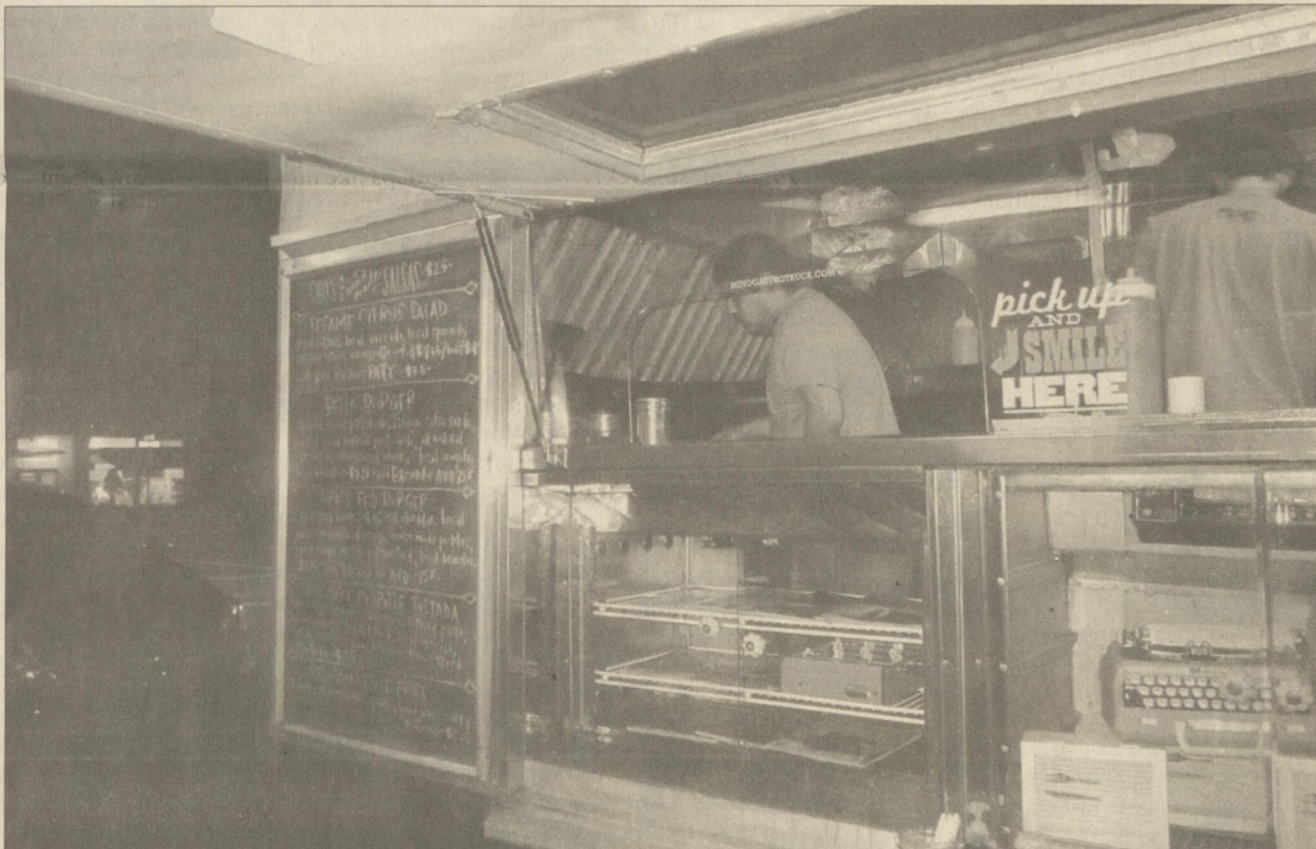
I've always been a big fan of roaming food. Whether it be a large truck cooking fresh, made-to-order food or a hot dog cart on the side of the road, I always want to stop for a bite. I was first introduced to the concept of roaming food in San Francisco, where The Tamale Lady, a food cart, is practically a celebrity who serves famous tamales into the wee hours of the morning.

Although popular up north, San Diegans still seem to be learning about the food truck industry. What many people don't know is that there's over 20 food trucks in the area, moving around San Diego to present their best dishes to the locals.

Trucks are usually created based on a type of food. India on Wheels makes traditional Indian dishes; Green Truck, which runs on vegetable oil, cooks mostly vegetarian dishes; even comfort food like mashed potatoes, fried chicken and gravy is served by the Fried Junkies truck.

But Miho Gastrotruck, my personal favorite food truck, wanders around San Diego creating sustainable and flavorful all-American cuisine. The food is comparable to that of a restaurant that uses the freshest local and seasonal ingredients. In addition, on most Fridays the truck is parked outside of the Whistle Stop Bar in South Park, a bar where you're able to bring your food inside to eat and receive \$1 off of your drink.

Besides amazing food, the crowd



Miho Gastrotruck is a mobile dispensary of culinary goodness, offering creative and very intricate dishes on the go.

at this location is always a lot of fun, with very interesting people who are all bonding over an unbeatable dining experience. On my first of two trips to Miho, I was immediately impressed with the aesthetics of the truck. Characteristically, food trucks have the reputation of being a little grungy, but Miho is perfectly clean and the truck's

exterior is adorably painted.

While chatting with the guy behind the counter, I found that their menu rotates on a weekly basis (you can find the current menu for the week on their website), but that they typically have some type of burger, an additional meat, such as a fish or poultry dish, a salad, a vegetarian option and some kind of fry.

The best part is their homemade ketchup, which takes ketchup to a completely new level. It's a tad on the spicy side, but it's full of flavor and goes wonderfully with the Belgian-style fries, which are almost always offered.

During my first trip to Miho, I ordered the portobello burger, though I was a little skeptical because often

portobello isn't cooked thoroughly or lacks flavor. This one, however, was very tender, bursting with flavor and topped with salsa verde, pesto aioli, caramelized onion and arugula, all on a tasty brioche bun.

On the second trip, my friends and I ordered a few things. We sampled their blue cheese burger, which was made with juicy, grass-fed beef and buffalo sauce, bursting with spices, tricolore salad and tofu lettuce wraps. The lettuce wraps were my favorite.

As a vegetarian, I have definitely missed the concept of lettuce wraps, usually made with chicken. But with Miho's generous chunks of garlic, ginger and soy marinated baked local tofu, local Napa cabbage, baby carrots, daikon, lemongrass, ginger and peanut dressing, better leaf wrap and green tea brown rice, it's hard to imagine a better lettuce wrap.

The tricolore salad was also noteworthy, with local treviso, spinach, frisee, incredibly soft and fresh mozzarella, salt-roasted local beets and a kalamata olive vinaigrette, with the option to add salami or a beef patty. On this second occasion, Miho offered one of their top-selling menu items, poutine, which takes their already fantastic Belgian-style fries and tops them with wild mushroom gravy and all natural cheddar cheese.

As I mentioned before, this is only one of many food trucks in San Diego. Download the free app, Roaming Hunger, to find the trucks nearest to you, and make sure to track down the Miho Gastrotruck the next time you're looking for something new to eat.

Beastie Boys are back with the "masta plan" and a new CD

By Gunner Wiebe

The Beastie Boys came back into the music scene with the recent release of their new album, "Hot Sauce Committee Part 2." Beastie Boys fans everywhere have been eagerly anticipating the arrival of the group's eighth album. The four-year wait between "The Mix Up," an all-instrumental album, and "Hot Sauce Committee Part 2" was well worth it. "Hot Sauce" takes listeners back in time to the unique sound of the Beastie Boys.

The album features 16 new tracks full of vintage Beastie Boys funkiness, and the album is a featured look back into the past, with rough sounds and muffled, scratchy lyrics. It is about as far from mainstream as possible, which has previously been a staple of the group's style. This album does not try to gain new fans or aim to be played on the radio; it is for true fans of the group who want something fun. Every song sounds like it was fun to make, and indeed this seems to be the main goal of the album.

The opening track, "Make Some Noise," is a young rhythm that sounds like the same young kids from the '80s.

This track is the most old school out of the bunch, and it even rocks the cowbell better than Will Ferrell on "Saturday Night Live." The lyrical chemistry of Mike D, MCA and Ad-Rock heard in classics like "Sounds of Science" is still present in the track "Nonstop Disco Powerpack," where the three finish each other's sentences in their familiar yet talented style.

The song "Too Many Rappers (New Reactionaries Version)" will probably be one of the fan favorites because of Nas' addition to the track. This song is lyrically heavy, but Nas meshes with the Beastie Boys well and the beat is smooth. The Beastie Boys keep up with Nas and echo some of the endings of his lyrics. For guys that have been around for a long time, it's pretty impressive that they can still showcase their lyrical genius.

Along with Nas, the group also pairs with Santigold in "Don't Play No Game That I Can't Win." This song has an awesome intro and is super funky. Santigold has a unique sound, and the fit with the group on a reggae-type beat makes for an awesome track.

The Beastie Boys are not trying to go back and recreate the '80s and '90s, but they are getting back to the original

sounds that made them who they are. The album still has its strange tracks, including "Tadlock's Glasses," where the lyrics are hard to understand through muffled sounds and background noise.

The Beastie Boys have been leaking songs ahead of their scheduled release date and now have the entire album available for streaming online. According to Pitchfork.com, the record "Hot Sauce Committee Part 1" was supposed to be released in 2009 but was delayed due to MCA's cancer diagnosis. The new album has an almost identical tracklist with the exception of the song "Bundt Cake."

The group began playing together in 1979, and all of them are well into their forties. Mike D is married with two children, while Ad-Rock remarried in 2006. Ad-Rock suffers from epilepsy, but it is under control and regulated. The group has been incredibly successful together, but each member of the group has had successful personal lives as well. The new album showcases their punk-rap style and is impressive even through MCA's health struggles. The group has transcended time, and Mike D says it best in "Make Some Noise" when he says, "My rhymes, they age like wine as I get older."



Beastie Boys' Mike D, Ad-Rock and MCA released their new album May 2.

Voz Alta to host USD students' art show and DJ set

By Lauren Millslagle

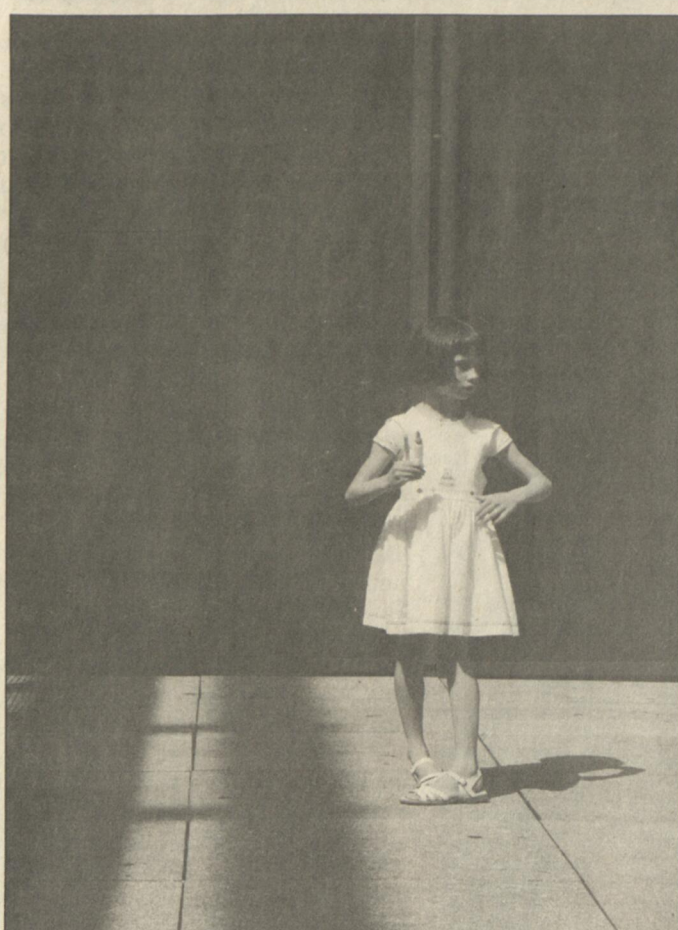


Photo by Alexandra Noel

Alexandra Noel's photograph of a girl in Paris is one of her entries in the "Untitled" art show.

USD senior Noe Olivas is preparing to curate his first art show at Voz Alta, the independent San Diego art gallery at which he interns. The show, titled "Untitled," features a broad range of work from many USD students and alumni.

Olivas explains the meaning behind the title. "Everyone has their own experience when they walk into a [gallery] space," he said. "It's not just the actual works, but [also] a culmination of the space's location, the music playing and the culture of the gallery that make the experience. By not giving it a title, each person can decide on their own what the show is about."

For Olivas, it's about presenting a diverse group of work and giving his fellow artists a leg up in the art scene beyond USD. "Untitled," includes work from USD seniors Alexandra Noel, Joshua Bellfy, Nathan Vaughan and USD alumni Katherine Powers, J Noland and Joe Yorty, among others. The work is incredibly varied, from conceptual art made from severed pigeon heads to elegant photographs taken in Paris.

Though "Untitled" is an atypical show for Voz Alta, as the gallery generally shows Chicano and street art, Olivas' goal to promote new artists is perfectly in line with Voz Alta's core values. Empowering the community is one of the primary aims of the gallery. Tucked away at 1754 National Ave. in Barrio Logan, the gallery often shows art from San Diego locals and is a source of pride to its neighbors. Located just blocks away from Chicano Park, the gallery draws in a diverse crowd and provides a much more casual and laid-back vibe than is typical of most galleries. This welcoming atmosphere makes art accessible to even the most novice gallery-goers.

In general, a curator's responsibility is to decide which pieces to present in a show and where each piece will go. Olivas goes above and beyond his curator role and takes on the manual labor that is necessary to prepare the space by patching holes, painting walls and hanging the artwork. He prefers to do the physical labor over administrative work of assembling a show because it allows him to interact more with the artists and be more in touch with their artwork.

"Untitled" will be a one day event held on Saturday, May 7, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Voz Alta. The event will be DJed by USD senior Ross Ehren. Come by, grab a drink and support the local art scene.



Photo Courtesy of J Noland

One of J Noland's eccentric sculptures of severed, painted pigeon heads, which will be mounted on the walls of Saturday's exhibit.

I scream you scream we all scream, "Scream 4" sucks"

By David Downs

Wes Craven's latest entry into his multibillion-dollar "Scream" horror and comedy franchise is a witty flick that, much like its predecessors, attempts to mix satire with legitimate scare tactics. While it succeeds in surpassing the previous installment, "Scream 3," in terms of originality, it fails to make the cut for an actual horror movie because it just isn't scary.

In its attempt to be witty and comedic at the expense of legitimate suspense and scary moments, the movie carried a close resemblance to being the latest entry into the "Scary Movie" franchise, rather than a legitimate horror movie. This is a problem the aforementioned "Scream

3" also suffered from. The original "Scream" and its sequel "Scream 2," however, mixed the two elements of horror and satire together so perfectly and discreetly that both movies could have passed off as no-frills horror films. Yet, the last two entries into the series focused way too much on comedy, therefore ceasing to be horror films and transforming into unmotivated comedies in the process.

While the first two films portrayed each character as having legitimate human qualities and realistic reactions to the events in the films, the latest entries shifted more to exploiting the buffoonery of the main characters and the absurdity of the repetitive nature of the series.

In addition to the repetitive nature of the main character, Sidney, and her

past, we get Neve Campbell back, who really doesn't do a good job this time around. Sidney has been revised as a strong female character who uses her tragedies to become a best-selling author and motivational speaker. The problem, however, doesn't stem from the character revision, but rather in the performance of Campbell, who once again has demonstrated why you probably haven't heard her name associated with any major projects since "Scream 3" was released.

The same could be said for the other two returning stars. David Arquette is as far from entertaining as ever before, and he is somehow magically cured of his stab-induced limp. Arquette's soon-to-be ex-wife Courtney Cox Arquette is semi-entertaining as the ultra motivated, yet

common-sense lacking Gail Weathers Dewey.

However, much like Arquette's character, Dewey has changed so little from the original that she has become stale. There really hasn't been any major breakthrough in either character's psyche since "Scream 2." Seeing as the characters were in the middle of not one but four separate killing sprees in which they sustained serious physical injury, one would think their world view and temperament would have changed at least a little by now.

Ultimately, my biggest gripe with the film is that on two separate occasions, it threatens to actually create a genuinely shocking moment by teasing the death of two of the film's main characters, ultimately failing to come through on either. It's often been

said that the best part of the original "Scream" was the shocking and now iconic murder of Drew Barrymore within the first 15 minutes of the film. The moment was highly unexpected and satisfying because it went against basic slasher movie conventions of letting the biggest star survive the film.

At this point, the only thing this series could do to recapture that sense of shock and unconventional disbelief that made that moment, and really that movie, so great would be to kill off one of the main characters. However, after seeing them tease the idea twice and ultimately not come through with it in "Scream 4," it indicates that the series created on the premise of satirizing predictable horror movie clichés has become just that, one big predictable, mildly-entertaining cliché.

The Vista: Red pens, coffee and underlying inequities



By Kaitlin Perry

Three-and-a-half years ago, I was an itty-bitty freshman with big dreams of being the editor of my college's newspaper. My dream was mainly influenced by "Gilmore Girls," that classic show about a mother and daughter with the same name whose shared goal was to get Rory (the daughter) into an Ivy League school. Once she got there, she started writing for the school's paper and then became editor. I was instantly inspired, and so was my mom, who motivated me to keep working toward my dream. Thanks to her, it came true.

Throughout my career with The Vista, I've had many exciting, priceless experiences and learned countless valuable lessons. But the most important lesson that I learned was how to fight for what I believed was right.

Many are aware that The Vista has dealt with its fair share of "censorship" issues. While some have dramatized it to be more intense than it really was, censorship is censorship, and no one should let themselves give in when it comes to their right to free speech. I didn't, and it's one of the decisions I'm most proud of making.

The story goes like this: During the 2008 presidential election, Proposition 8 was a pretty big deal. After The Vista published a pro-gay marriage/anti-Prop 8 article in the Opinion section, Student Affairs required us to find a writer willing to write an article that was representative of the opposing viewpoint (pro-Prop 8). Because we were often lacking writers that year, we had to scramble under deadline to find someone willing to have his or her conservative viewpoint published in The Vista. After finding a writer and publishing his article the following week, many within the USD community were offended by his opinions, and expressed their shock that The Vista would publish the things he said.

This is a perfect example of a situation that is not uncommon in the Vista newsroom. The editing staff is constantly put under pressure from university officials to present controversial matters in a certain light, one that caters to Catholic values and mostly conservative viewpoints. One

beneficial lesson that came out of this experience was the importance of publishing a pro editorial alongside a con, as well as the idea that opposing viewpoints should be published side by side.

Nevertheless, the real issue for our staff was the inefficiency of having a Student Affairs staff member oversee our pages on press night. It makes sense to have a professor of journalism (or communication studies in the case of USD) review pages before they go to print, but it doesn't make sense to be required to have the assistant dean of students oversee pages for the sole purpose of finding issues that may upset university decision makers. This is our STUDENT-run newspaper, and The Vista needs to take full responsibility for what we print. But this is only possible when the students are the ones making editorial decisions.

I was (and still am) a very anti-Prop 8 person. I was the editor of the Arts & Culture section during the Prop 8 battle, and I decided to express my views on the issue in my column (which happened to be about Katy Perry's song about kissing girls). That's when I received my first plate of censorship. The assistant dean of students advised my editor to have me remove my "I'm voting against Prop 8" sentence from my column. We were told that my column was an unacceptable place for me to voice my political beliefs.

We fought the assistant dean of students' instructions tooth and nail until Tuesday night turned into Wednesday morning. As a scare tactic, the assistant dean of students told us we'd upset the Board of Trustees by publishing another pro-Prop 8 piece, which she said could result in loss of funding for the paper (I now know that the Board of Trustees doesn't give money to The Vista). So I made the executive decision to change the topic of my column. Rather than write about annoying pop stars and mention the inhumanity of Prop 8, I wrote about how USD wouldn't let me write about what I wanted to write about. Though in a way it could be said that I gave in, I felt it was better to change my topic rather than take out the most important sentence. And to be honest, I was scared about what would happen to me if I refused to do what the assistant dean of students asked me to. I didn't want to be the cause of something detrimental happening to my beloved Vista, so I decided to do something that I hoped would be more effective, and I think it worked.

I never felt more stifled by the school than I did that night, and my anger toward the school lasted for quite

a while. I didn't come to this university to have my rights violated (though I am aware that because they are a private school they apparently have the right to limit my rights); I came here for the opportunity to grow as a person and be a part of a community that respected everyone, no matter their sexual preference. While I've constantly tried to fall in love with my school again, it's been tough.

In the case of the Prop 8 article, the assistant dean of students expressed to Buckley that she was under pressure from her boss, the dean of students, to keep an eye on what was being published in The Vista. As many communication studies students know, newspapers are supposed to act as watchdogs.

"If The Vista is not to be trusted as an impartial view of the student body," Buckley said, "then where should [students] turn for news? Students should know that every week they are reading student-approved content, not propaganda aimed at pacifying the Board of Trustees or alumni."

Having been a Vista staff member and writer for three-and-a-half years, I believe that being forced to have Student Affairs "police" The Vista is more than a conflict of interest - it's embarrassing. The assistant dean of students shouldn't have her job threatened for not successfully censoring The Vista (yes, that happened), and Vista staff members should be able to publish what they deem appropriate, and to also be able to take the fall for the mistakes they make. The opposition directed toward last spring's Women's Center article is a perfect example of what happens when the Vista staff makes an editorial mistake, and takes the fall for it.

The aforementioned article criticized the way Women's History Month is celebrated, and took a jab or two at hypocritical feminists as well. We as editors were aware of the article's "touchiness," so to speak, and we ran it by both our faculty advisor and the assistant dean of students. Both gave us the "okay" to publish it, as well as a few warnings about what could happen. Let it be known that the article never once mentioned the Women's Center, and it never said anything negative toward the rights of women. Let it also be known that our Opinion editor at the time approached the Women's Center, told them that we were going to be publishing this article and offered them the chance to write a counter article (adhering to our new "publish a pro with a con" rule). They declined the offer.

After the article was published, it received an insane amount of comments on The Vista's website, some of which

were insulting toward women, but many of which were supportive of both points of view regarding Women's History Month. The Women's Center, already upset about the article, decided to take a stand against both the writer of the article and The Vista as a whole. The director of the Women's Center e-mailed USD faculty members, telling them that The Vista attacked the Women's Center and that something needed to be done. She also approached Student Affairs and told them that something needed to be done about the comments being posted on The Vista website. Without giving the current Editor in Chief any choice in the matter, comments throughout the entire website were hidden, and the ability to leave comments was disabled. Needless to say, we as a staff were shocked.

In order to allow students' voices to be heard, we dedicated two pages of the opinion section to articles and letters to the editor that addressed the Women's History Month article. Unfortunately, the Women's Center still claims that The Vista attacked them, and that is hurtful. As a woman, I felt that all of my hard work was dismissed just because of an article that offended some, yet empowered others. It was a difficult time for me, especially considering how much we had fought for students' rights to free speech.

After the Women's Center debacle, I started to feel that the way The Vista was treated was far from the way a real newspaper, let alone any other college newspaper, is treated. It should be understood that The Vista is not going to be able to please everybody who reads it, and having to cater to those that can't handle opinions that differ from their own is simply unfair.

Take for example the article that criticized rave culture. That writer received an insane amount of hateful comments, just because he pointed out the reckless behavior of those that are a part of a culture that truly does revolve around drugs. The insulting comments posted by ravers weren't very P.L.U.R. to me, but what the commenters might not realize is that journalists thrive on starting discussions about the things they write about, whether the discussions are in favor of their personal opinion or not. If we weren't controversial, we'd have no respect whatsoever. That's why we encourage letters to the editor and online comments.

The things I have had to deal with as editor in chief are almost comical. At the beginning of the year the assistant dean of students would tell me that I had to remove portions of restaurant reviews that mentioned alcoholic beverages. I never did it, despite her warnings that the

vice president of Student Affairs and the dean of students would be e-mailing me to explain what my role as a "university employee" entails.

I never did get an e-mail from the assistant dean of students' bosses, but a member of our editing staff did happen to come across an issue of The Vista from last year that had an article about O'Toole's. Alongside the article was a photo of a student drinking a beer at the bar. That's when I learned that unless a banned topic is a part of something that was donated to the school, it's not okay. Isn't that funny? Yeah, but not as funny as the irony of allowing the Public Safety Report to be published every week. I feel that the amount of minors in possession documented in the Public Safety Report is probably more damaging to USD's image than a two-sentence review of a martini that was served to a 21-year-old in an off-campus restaurant.

Nevertheless, The Vista itself (outside of university politics) is the best thing that happened to me at USD. The Vista has taught me how to manage my time, how to be a good writer, how to meet deadlines, how to work as a part of a team, how to design a layout, how to edit thoroughly, how to manage a staff, how to run meetings, how to handle conflict... I could add on to this list for days. As grateful as I am for all of the technical skills I've gained, I'm even more grateful for the people I've met and the opportunities that have been placed in front of me.

A few weeks ago, I wrote about how stressed I was about finding a job. After that I applied for a job on a whim, and they told me I'm their first choice. I credit The Vista for that. It's taught me how to be a professional, and I think that comes through in my resumes and interviews.

Even though I'm graduating in May, I plan on remaining a part of The Vista as long as I can. I hope to bring about change in the way it's handled by the university, because no matter how much USD frustrates me, I'm happy to be getting a degree from here, and I'd like to improve the experience that future Editors in Chief have. As professional as I sometimes feel, I often worry that because I was so restricted in what I could and could not do I didn't have as much of a real-world experience as I wanted. If I did, then the real world isn't what I thought it was. Hopefully my post-grad endeavors will open my eyes to what it really means to be an adult and allow me the freedom to make the editorial decisions I'd like to make, and hopefully the next publication I work for has a publisher that values freedom as much as I do.

"As our lives change, from whatever, we will still be, friends forever."

- VITAMIN C



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SPORTS

EDITOR

Tyler Wilson
twilson@usdvista.com

Rafael Crescencio/The Vista

Freshman Dana Prelisnik helps the Toreros softball team to victory in their 3-1 series victory over the Gaels this past weekend.

USD Softball victorious against Saint Mary's on Senior Day

By Morgan Woodrow

The three seniors of USD's softball team could potentially finish out their careers as champions of the Pacific Coast Softball Conference. But before they have a chance to finish off their season on a high note against the Loyola University Marymount Lions this upcoming weekend, all three were recognized for their contributions to the team at Senior Day this past weekend, which marks the final home game of the season.

Kristen Gensler, the USD senior from Goleta, Calif., has kept the outfield strong. She has been named to the All-PCSC second team and PCSC All-Academic team for two consecutive years. Locking down

third base for the Toreros is another senior, Celeste Soto, from Clovis, Calif. Soto has also acquired notable awards. In 2008, she was named team Rookie of the Year and in 2009 was named team Defensive Player of the Year. The last senior of this 2011 team is first baseman Megan Walsh, from Portland, Ore. An extraordinary student-athlete, Walsh represented the Toreros alongside Gensler on the 2008 and 2010 PCSC All-Academic teams.

Senior Day is always an emotional day for athletic teams, as on this day seniors who have spent their entire careers with the team play their final home game. On this day, the emotions usually provide the team with a rejuvenation that can be very beneficial in their last home game. USD took every advantage of this

emotional boost last Saturday against the Saint Mary's College Gaels.

"I think our team is very good at playing with a lot of heart and passion," junior Kaitlin Healy said. "However, Senior Day, and our last home games, definitely give us a little something extra to play for."

The Toreros did not get this extra boost in the first game of the series last Saturday. They had a rough start to the series, dropping the first game 3-0, putting their 11-game winning streak to an end. Despite their hard work, USD could not perform offensively.

However, game two was quite the contrary. The thrilling game ended in the Toreros' favor with a 5-4 win. Sophomore Kimberlee Shimizu hit the walk-off RBI-single to win the game. It was not just Shimizu who

helped the Toreros, the entire team fought hard to get the victory. Walsh hit a key single to the outfield that put sophomore Lauren Tomey in scoring position for Shimizu's walk-off RBI.

The Toreros continued their strong offensive production the last two games of the series. "Our hitting set the tone for all of the other aspects of our game," Healy said. "And every single person in our lineup swings a strong, confident bat."

In the first game on Sunday, Walsh and Gensler played solid, but it was junior Taylor Hensley who sent a shot deep over left field for a two-run home run, her seventh of the season. Her home run gave the Toreros a 4-1 victory to finish off the game.

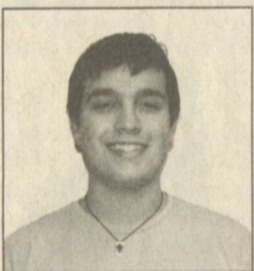
Continuing their momentum, the Toreros took a commanding 8-0

lead in the fourth inning of Sunday's second game. Junior Jessica Tieszen connected with the bat, starting with a two-run RBI in the third inning. She then amazed the crowd with a grand slam, which put the Toreros up 8-0.

If the Toreros continue to connect at bat like this against LMU, they should be well on their way to a PCSC championship. The energy and excitement of the end of the season is continuing to build as USD continues to dominate their opponents.

"We have worked so hard this season," Healy said, "and have really set ourselves up for success in the ending weeks of conference. Everyone is so excited and ready to put in the work this week to finish up conference just as strong as we started."

American unity in professional sports



By Tyler Wilson

Osama bin Laden is dead. Now you may be asking yourself, What does this have to do with sports? In all reality, it really has nothing to do with sports. But since America is going to be on patriotic high this next week, and even though it may be a long shot to try and relate it to sports, I might as well try the best I can to relate it to the American sports world.

Bin Laden was the mastermind behind the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He changed the mindset of Americans that day, instilling fear into their hearts and minds where fear was never before existent. Airport security tightened, people became afraid to travel and skyscrapers everywhere were now considered terrorist targets. But despite the fear, Americans everywhere rallied around each other and became more unified than ever thought possible.

One place this unification manifested itself was in the American sporting world. Professional sporting games in all the major sports were cancelled as a result of the attacks. But this did not deter Americans from attending these games when they resumed after 9/11. Americans came out, not to support their teams, but to support their nation. They used professional athletics to help support a nation in its time of need.

But now, this mindset is completely gone from the American professional sporting world. And it's all because of money. The NHL had its 2004-2005 season cancelled because of an ongoing labor dispute with players. The NFL is already amidst a lockout for this same reason, and the newly drafted players can't even begin to prepare for the upcoming season because of it. The NBA is likely to be locked-out as

well because of a disputed collective-bargaining agreement. Money, money, money.

Professional sports is one of the most characteristically American aspects known to the world. Especially baseball, "America's pastime." Baseball, basketball and football were all invented in the United States. How much more American can sports be?

It is for this reason that the owners and players need to look past their current disputes and become unified for the sake of a nation. Security threats will be higher than they have been in a very long time because of bin Laden's assassination. Another terrorist attack is not likely, but is possible. And if it does happen, oh, let's say sometime around Sept. 2011, the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, where will Americans turn to? Where will Americans be able to show their pride in their country and unify, just as they did ten years prior?

Now I know I'm being a little extreme, but the owners and players need to take Osama's assassination as a cue to try and unify as soon as possible. What they are doing right now is un-American. It is inexcusable.

And don't tell me sports isn't important to Americans. When there are congressional hearings on the baseball steroid scandals and the Bowl Championship Series mess in college football, you know it is important. When Obama attends sporting events and publicly announces his fandom for Chicago sports, you know it is important.

Therefore, sports are a staple to the American lifestyle and should represent everything great about America. 'Should' is the key word here. In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, American sports did represent the true American spirit. But right now, their lack of agreement about money is ruining this spirit and not representing America in the light that it should be represented in.

America is as unified as it has been since after the 9/11 attacks because of the assassination of bin Laden. The owners and players, but mostly the owners, need to take cue from this and completely oust their greedy personalities. Hopefully this patriotic unification will seep through to the owners and stop all this lockout nonsense.



Rafael Crescencio/The Vista

Junior Kaitlin Healy uses her fierce fastball against Saint Mary's to clinch the series victory on May 1 at the USD Softball Complex.



USD alumni show their Torero spirit at Homecoming and Reunion Weekend.

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USD alumni meet to network all around the nation

Congratulations Student Affairs Student Award Winners

Each year, Student Affairs staff and administrators nominate students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and have made valuable contributions in the areas of student government, official university-sponsored activities, multicultural awareness and understanding, service to the entire campus, community service, and residential life. These students were honored at the annual Honor's Convocation in Shiley Theater on May 3, 2011. Please join us in congratulating these students for their outstanding contributions to our community.

Kelsey Chase - Diana Rodriguez-Agiss

Dr. Thomas J. Cosgrove Outstanding Service to Student Government

Fred Myrtle - Spenser Leverett

Outstanding Service in Official University-Sponsored Activities

Melissa Lucas - Dan Martin

Outstanding Contribution to the Entire Campus through Involvement

Joseph Rocha - Delia Tepozan

Outstanding Contribution to Multicultural Awareness and Understanding

Kayla Witt

Outstanding Contribution to Residential Life

Anjuli Wright

The Chet Pagni Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service

Congratulations again and we wish you all great success!



Toreros sweep Gaels, extending win streak to five games

USD takes on USF this week in their final home series of 2011

By John Sandberg

Following last week's upset victory against No. 10 California State University, Fullerton, USD head coach Rich Hill told USD's official athletic website that his team was very prepared and "had a good plan" heading into the game. Whatever that plan was, it is apparent that the Toreros stuck to it.

USD did not skip a beat as they rolled into Louis Guisto Field in Moraga, Calif. to play the Saint Mary's College Gaels this past weekend. The Toreros swept the Gaels in three games just a few days removed from their biggest victory of the season against the Titans of Cal State, Fullerton. USD pounded out 25 runs over the three games against Saint Mary's, their first sweep of any team this season. The Toreros' record is now an even 6-6 in WCC play and 15-26 overall.

Sophomore starting pitcher Calvin Drummond set the tone in game one against the Gaels, pitching 7.0 scoreless innings and giving up just two hits. It took until the fifth inning for the Gaels to even get on base. USD's offense was a different story, though, as the Toreros posted two runs in the first inning and one more in the fifth thanks to two RBIs from junior Zach Kometani and a Saint Mary's fielding error. USD pulled away in the late innings and went on to win by a final of 10-0. Kometani had four hits on the day, including three doubles, and junior Julian Duran had two RBIs as well.

Game two saw more effective pitching and timely hitting from USD. Junior Chris Jensen, a native of Gilbert, Ariz., started for the Toreros. He surrendered two unearned runs in 8.0 innings in another quality outing. USD provided steady scoring throughout the game, putting up two runs in the first inning and one more in the fourth, then following up with more scoring in the fifth, seventh and eighth innings. Kometani had two more RBIs, and junior Corey LeVier and sophomore Kalei Hanawahine each added three hits and an RBI of their own.

The Toreros went down early in game three, as the Gaels scored

three runs in the second inning off of freshman Dylan Covey. USD responded in the fifth inning, though, as they were able to get men in scoring position for redshirt sophomore Dillon Checkal and freshman Kris Bryant. Checkal came to the plate with senior Tony Strazzara at third and drove him in, and Bryant immediately followed with an RBI single up the middle, cutting the Gaels' lead down to one.

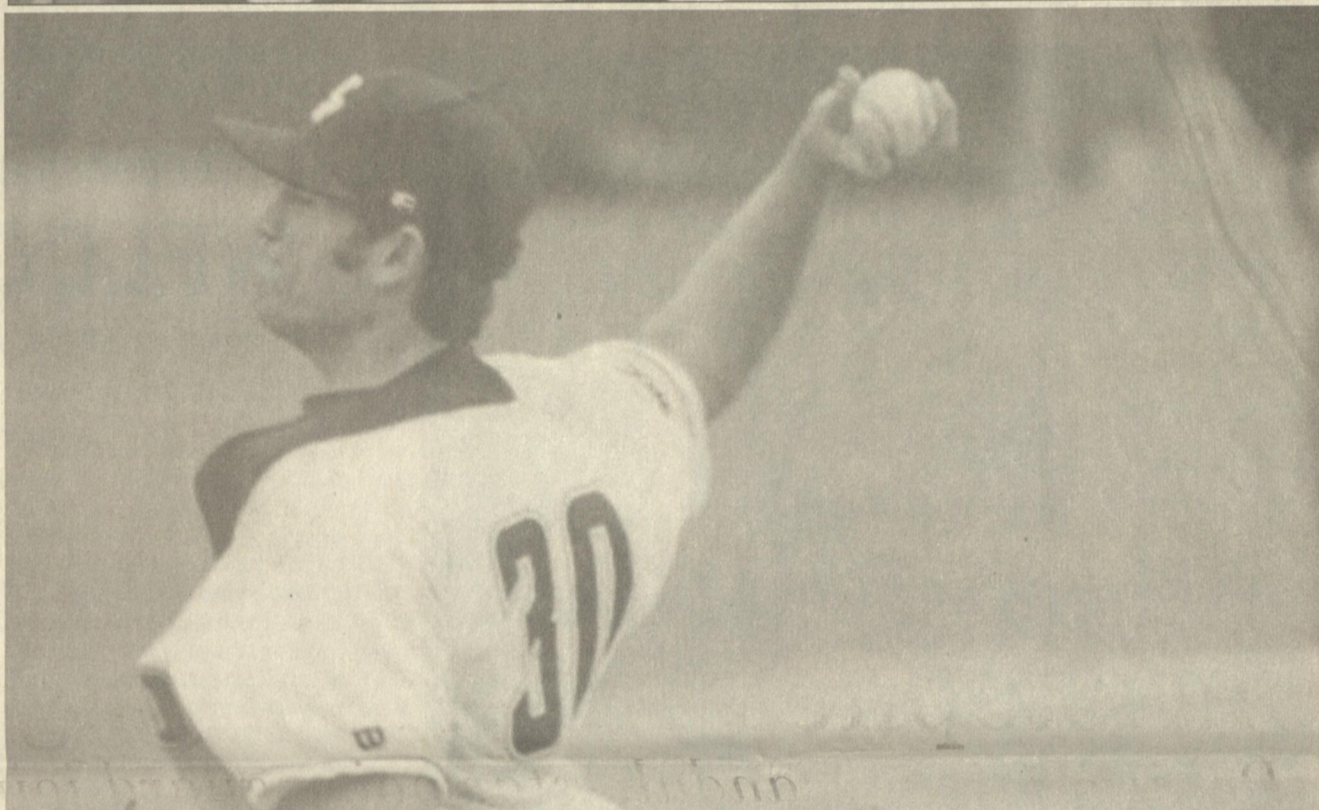
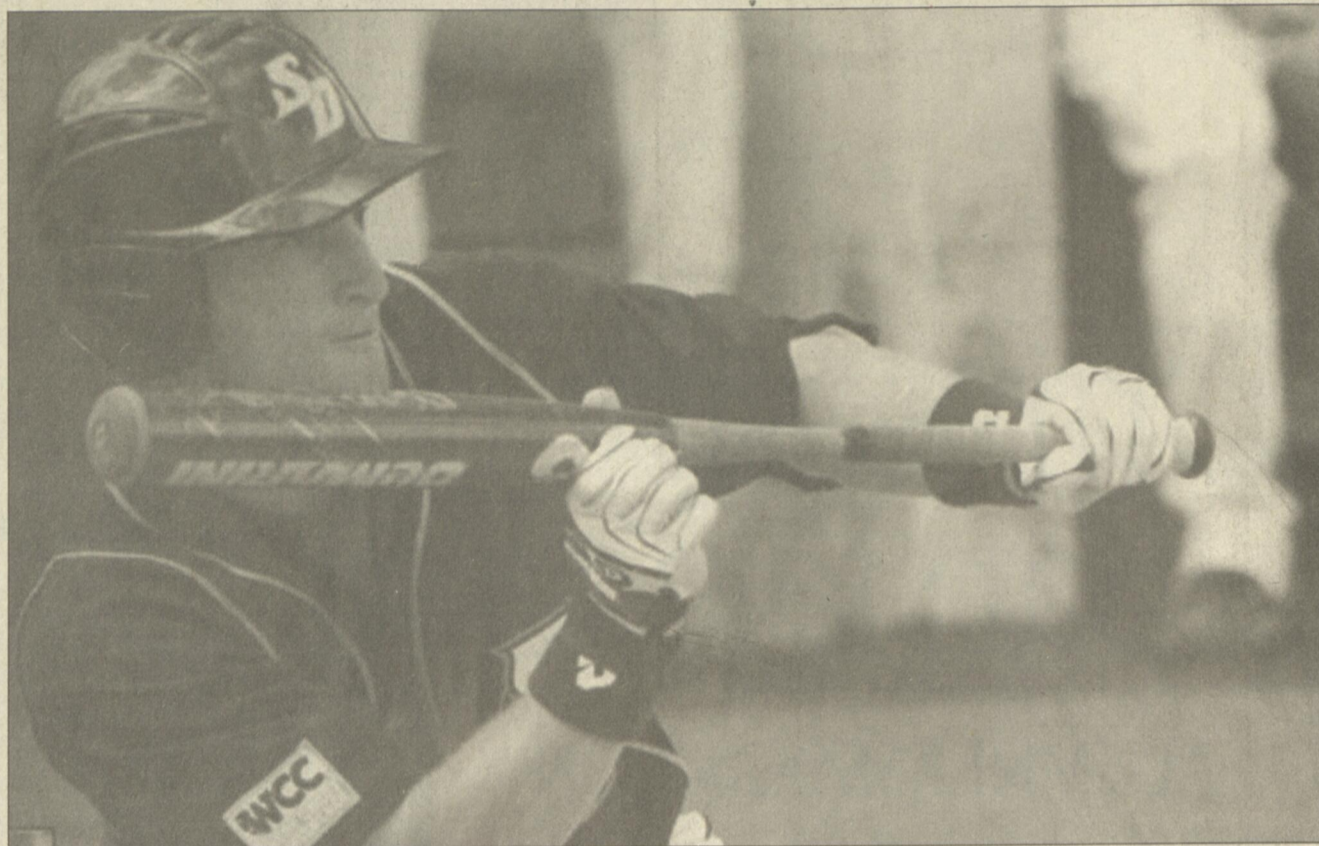
Still trailing by one going into the eighth, senior Kevin Muno led off the inning with a home run over the left-field wall, tying the game at three. A few batters later, with the bases loaded, pinch-hitter Scott Schauer singled to left, bringing in two more. A wild pitch allowed for junior Jon Hotta to come home, and Strazzara followed with an RBI single to right, scoring Schauer. The five-run eighth inning gave USD a comfortable four-run advantage, all they needed to win by a final score of 7-3.

Freshman Paul Paez, from Baldwin Park, Calif., was impressive on the mound yet again. He shut down Saint Mary's in 5.1 innings of relief, allowing no runs while earning his team-best fifth win of the season. Fellow freshman Michael Wagner had a solid outing as well, throwing the final 2.0 innings and giving up no runs.

USD now sets its sights on the University of San Francisco Dons, who will come to Cunningham Stadium this weekend in the Toreros' final home appearance of the 2011 season. Following their weekend set against USF, USD will take on nonconference opponents University of California, Riverside and San Diego Christian College in its final home games.

This weekend's series is shaping up to be a good one, with two hot teams set to clash. USF currently sits atop the West Coast Conference standings with a 10-2 conference record. The Dons are riding a wave of their own momentum, coming into their series with the Toreros having won 10 of their last 11 games. USF junior shortstop Ariz Garcia is the reigning WCC player of the week.

The first game is set for tomorrow, at 3 p.m. at USD's Cunningham Stadium.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF USD ATHLETICS
 ABOVE: Junior Julian Duran prepares to bunt against Saint Mary's. BELOW: Junior pitcher Chris Jensen throws a fastball against the Gaels this past weekend.

Trying to keep it positive for once



By Chris Hanneke

I've been negative the past few weeks. Heck, I'm almost always negative. That's what happens when your basketball team goes from being a mess on the court to being an absolute debacle off the court.

But a bunch of you readers are graduating in a couple weeks, and this very well may be the last issue of The Vista you ever hold. And since I'll still be around next year (sorry, world) and, therefore, don't have to mess with the whole "farewell" concept quite yet, I think I'll try and keep it positive this week and take an optimist's view of USD athletics as the 2010-2011 academic year comes to a close.

I started out the year calling it a make or break year for football coach Ron Caragher and basketball coach Bill Grier. However, that was before I realized our school hates sports and would rather have a coach that they could use as their puppet, rather than one that takes a stand and truly cares about, you know, actually winning. Crap, did that sound negative?

The point is, a lot happened this year. Our two major sports (just to clarify, the two biggest sports at any major college will always be football and men's basketball. That's not sexist, and there are certainly a few schools where that isn't the case. But if you took a survey and asked what two sports were the biggest on a college campus, those would be the answers) had rocky seasons, and our biggest sport, the men's basketball team, was mired in arguably the biggest scandal in our school's history.

But there is plenty to rejoice in. Men's tennis won the West Coast

Conference title while women's tennis lost in the final. The men's golf team should be a threat in the regional championships. Women's soccer made it back to the NCAA Tournament. Even women's rowing repeated as WCC champions.

The point is, it was a pretty solid year for the Torero athletic program as a whole. We're a small school, and one of the biggest benefits of that is how easy it is to interact with the hundreds of student athletes on our campus. It allows us to see them for who they really are. And while idiots like me sit behind a keyboard and critique things they do on their respective fields of play, sometimes it's nice to just sit back and marvel at what they go through every week to not only excel on the field, but in the classroom as well.

A bunch of these athletes are graduating, and I salute each and every one of them for their hard work. Regardless of how their teams did on the field, it takes an incredible effort to play a game on a Tuesday night and study for a midterm on Wednesday morning right after. It's a struggle I can't even fathom.

And for the rest of the non-athletes that will be graduating along with them, I salute you as well. I also take stabs at the poor fan support at USD sporting events, but I know how many other things people have going on and how difficult it can be to make it out to all of these games.

My hope is that the moments you did spend watching any of these teams were memorable. You are all the last class of the infamous 2008 NCAA Tournament run. No matter what happens with this scandal, you all will always have that moment, and I envy you for that.

I'll miss watching seniors like Godfrey Smith pull down seemingly impossible catches, or Ryan Harbour come off the bench to provide energy to a struggling team. But seniors have to move on. I just hope the new faces coming in are as inspired by the efforts of each and every one of you, athlete or not, as I am. Congratulations.

To the rest of you, see you next year. Sorry.

Former Toreros star now training guru

By Philip Morelli

In 2004, when Matt Couch was just a freshman, he solidified himself as a starter in the USD baseball team's pitching rotation. He eventually earned a 5-1 record that season, with an ERA of 2.51 after starting seven games. His sophomore year, Couch returned with seven wins and 71 strikeouts, including an 11-strikeout game against the University of Portland on April 4, 2006. As a junior, he helped his team to win the WCC regular-season championship and eventually a program-best No. 4 national ranking. With an ERA of 3.60, he posted a career-best 9-2 record and, most importantly, a place on the All-WCC first-team in the same season.

Entering his senior year in 2008, many expected the same dominating performances from Couch. On an away trip to play the University of Hawaii, Couch's career dramatically changed. In the fourth inning he tore his ulnar collateral ligament (UCL) after throwing a curveball. The dispiriting injury requires what is known as Tommy John surgery, an operation made famous by Tommy John, a Major League pitcher who was the first athlete to successfully undergo the surgery.

Tommy John surgery is one of the most debilitating and strenuous procedures in sports, especially for a baseball pitcher. Recovery and rehabilitation can often last anywhere between 12-15 months and can come with the risk of ulnar nerve damage, which is commonly associated with the "funny bone."

In the spring of 2009, during his fifth year of eligibility, Couch returned to the mound hoping to revitalize his career. Three games, six innings and

nine strikeouts later, heartbreak struck again - Couch had torn the labrum in his right shoulder. "My Doctor - Dr. Yocum of the Anaheim Angels MLB team - said that the two injuries were most likely linked together," Couch said. "The labrum tear could have been from compensating for my elbow."

For Couch, the road to total recovery had taken a massive blow. "The Tommy John surgery required 13 months [of] rehabilitation," Couch said, "and shoulder surgery was another 12 months." In 2010, he filed a grievance with the NCAA to obtain a sixth year of eligibility. Only in very rare cases can certain collegiate athletes qualify for an extra year of participation in their sport, but the odds of such a grant by the NCAA are very poor. Injured athletes such as Couch stand the best chance for qualification, but luck was not on his side, as he was denied the extra year. Couch's playing days for USD came to an abrupt and tragic end.

The injuries that led to the end of his career as a baseball player left Couch weighing his options regarding the future. As a natural competitor and a dominant athlete, Couch turned his efforts to CrossFit training. "Coach Rochet [the head varsity weightlifting coach at USD] is a CrossFit HQ trainer," Couch said, "and had introduced me to CrossFit while I played baseball here during my career. And as soon as my baseball career ended, I didn't have a way to let out my competitive drive, and CrossFit became that avenue for me."

In addition to competing in CrossFit, Matt is also an assistant weightlifting coach for USD athletics. "He's a natural leader," said Joe Martin, a senior on the USD football team. "And he understands what it's like being a student-athlete at the collegiate level.

Being able to work with someone who also used to train in this weight room as a player has been awesome."

This past year, Couch competed in the Reebok CrossFit open, consisting of a series of six workouts performed over a six-week period. Scores are submitted after the six weeks and competitors are ranked both regionally and worldwide. It was Couch's first major CrossFit competition, and he ended up with a ranking of No. 103 in the Southern California region. He was also able to crack the top 1,000 in the world, an impressive feat seeing as nearly 25,000 individuals competed worldwide.

"I have been training for the games since October 2010," said Couch, "and being able to compete again in something is the main force driving me to come into the gym everyday. It's also why I became a CrossFit trainer. I want to help others reach their own fitness goals, and possibly someday reach the games."

The design of the CrossFit program is meant to develop overall fitness through varied high-intensity workouts that often consist of pushups, pullups, burpees and several other functional movements.

Despite the unexpected end to his baseball career, Couch has been able to overcome the adversity that once confronted him. "I am going to continue to compete with CrossFit in the years to come," Couch said, "and my training regimen for next year has already begun. I know my weaknesses and know what I need to improve on, so my programming for next year has already started."

Couch's determination to compete and his passion for both training and assisting others in their training have both helped him to prevail over the injuries that once held him back.

Men's and women's tennis make NCAA Tournament

By Tyler Wilson

Both the USD men's and women's tennis teams made it to the NCAA Tournament, the men for the first time since 2006 and the women for the first time since 1999.

The women will be heading to the Los Angeles Tennis Center, where they already played two games this season, to face the University of Nevada, Las Vegas on Saturday, May 14 at 9 a.m.

The winner of this game will face the victor of regional-host University of California, Los Angeles and Quinnipiac University. The winner of the regional will advance to the next round in Palo Alto, Calif. May 20 to 24.

The men will be heading to the University of Southern California's Marks Stadium to face Brigham Young University on Friday, May 13 at 11 a.m. The winner of this match will advance to face the victor of host USC

and Sacramento State University.

The men will be looking to top their Sweet 16 appearance in 1999 when they lost to the University of California, Berkeley by a score of 4-1.

This will mark the men's eighth NCAA Tournament appearance in school history since moving up to Division I in 1980.

The men will be looking to beat BYU for the second time this season, as they defeated them 6-1 at USD on Jan. 22.



Christopher Anderson (No. 1), the star point guard for Canyon High School in Anaheim, Calif., attempts a layup in the CIF playoffs this past season. Anderson will join the Toreros despite USD's recent point-shaving allegations. Photo Courtesy of OCVarsity.com

Christopher Anderson signs letter of intent

Despite recent scandal, star point guard joins team for 2011-2012 season

By Joseph Shoen

After a week-and-a-half of turmoil, the USD men's basketball team was in need of something to lift its spirits.

On April 21, they got that lift from someone who will be the smallest man on their roster next year.

Christopher Anderson, a 5-foot-9 point guard from Anaheim, Calif., who had orally committed to attend USD prior to the recent sports bribery scandal, finally signed his letter of intent. The Canyon High School senior averaged 21 points, eight rebounds and eight assists per game this past

season, and was appropriately named the Orange County and CIF Division II player of the year. The signing fills the final remaining scholarship head coach Bill Grier had to offer for the 2011-2012 campaign.

"It's huge for us after the last 10 days of what we've gone through," Grier said. "We are very excited to have Chris in our program. He is a terrific young man who has an infectious personality."

Anderson's decision was still up in the air as he and his family sorted out the multitude of news stories on the USD point-shaving case. After researching prior situations similar to USD at Arizona State University

and the University of Toledo, the Andersons felt confident that the program would not be put on probation.

"We just felt comfortable with the integrity of the coaching staff and the administration," said Mark Anderson, Chris' father. "There was nothing to prolong any longer. Chris just wanted to get it done."

Anderson led Canyon to a 26-4 record this past year and a Century League Championship. Canyon High made it all the way to the CIF-Southern Section 2AA playoffs quarterfinals, where they lost to the Summit High School.

"What made Chris so special

was his impact on every game," Canyon coach Nate Harrison said. "He impacted the game in every facet, on offense and on defense, and rebounding. The rest of our kids overachieved, and the credit for that has to go to Chris and what he did on the floor."

It will be interesting to see how much of an impact Anderson has on the Toreros' next season. USD returns all but two players from last year's team that finished 6-24, including starting point guard Darian Norris. The team also will add Torrey Pines High senior guard Nick Kerr, as well as redshirts Simi Fajemisin, John Sinis and Ben Vozzola. Grier and Anderson

will have until the beginning of the season to determine whether or not the freshman will play right away or spend his first year getting stronger as a redshirt.

Regardless of whether or not Anderson scores a point next year, the fact that he decided to stay committed to USD amidst all the negativity is a true boost to the program.

As Grier attempts to dig his team out of the deep hole it currently finds itself in, he will need to convince elite players that USD is a place where they can come and expect to win. Anderson's signing, simply put, was big. Even if he doesn't reach 5-foot-10 in high-tops.

Torero Diary: moving forward after basketball allegations

By Ryan Harbour

The investigation is still ongoing. The charges aren't convictions. The details are still unknown. As you all have heard, over the last month the USD name has been temporarily tainted by an alleged incident involving a few individuals associated with the school and others totally separate from the school.

As a basketball player, I can assure you it was a surprise to all of us on the team and in the athletic program when the rush of information reached everyone that Monday morning. Ever since then, it has been a waiting game,

as we all wait to hear what really happened. The basketball team and athletic program know nothing more than anyone else, and every day we check the papers to see if any more information has been released. When asked for comments, the only response we have is, "No comment." This is because we have so many questions ourselves, not because we have secret information to hold from you all.

I wish I knew exactly what happened. We all do. It's hard not understanding what may have happened in the past or what the consequences will be in the future. I don't know if the allegations are true, I don't know if deals were made and I

don't know who did what. But what I do know is that to this day, the word that still comes to my mind when I think of USD is "integrity." This university has been an exceptional example of hard-working people who have high ambitions and unlimited career goals. Regardless of how this situation turns out, USD will continue to be a prestigious school that produces successful leaders in all areas of the world. From day one, the people I have interacted with here have been nothing but supportive and genuine. I couldn't have asked for a better group of mentors to help me mature and grow both in and out of the athletic program, and I know my fellow teammates feel

the same way.

I know it can be easy to speculate what happened, especially as rumors pass from one ear to another, but I think it's important to let the investigation take its course before fingers are pointed. This is a situation that is completely new to everyone at USD. There is no training or preparation for something like this.

Although the process may be challenging and unfair, I can't think of a more capable institution more able to recover from an isolated incident such as this one. We are all feeling the effects, and that is why now, more than ever, it's time for students, faculty, families, fans, administration and

associates to stick together to prove that an event like this won't break us apart, but instead will bring us closer together as a school.

I'm truly sorry if these allegations cause any of you to lose confidence in USD basketball. I ask that all fans continue to support the team, because I can guarantee that the men on the team are determined to be successful and will not let an episode like this deter them from their goals. The allegations are of the past, and the future for USD basketball is still bright and promising. This adversity is something that has only made the players work harder and longer to prepare for the upcoming season.

Dugout Diary: closing thoughts and one final goodbye

By Tony Strazzara

Baseball is a funny game. It's hard to imagine a worse first half of the season for this 2011 campaign, yet here we are with only three weekend series remaining, still able to win the WCC. We're currently at 6-6 in conference play, but we host the first place University of San Francisco Dons this weekend in the biggest series of our season. It's no secret we need to sweep the Dons to keep our season alive. Nevertheless, it's remarkable that we're still in contention for the WCC Championship, and this team has certainly played its best baseball of the year in our last five games. At the end of the day, all a team can ask is that they have control of their own destiny,

and at this point in the season, we are at the point where our fate lies entirely in our hands.

On a personal note, as my senior season comes to an end, I'm filled with a gamut of different emotions. To think this Sunday is already Senior Day, it seems like it was just yesterday that I was watching ex-Toreros such as Logan Gelbrich and Luke Roniger take the field for their final time at Cunningham Stadium.

It's true that college flies by, and as my remaining weeks at USD continue to dwindle, I'm left trying to soak up and enjoy every last day that I can. At the same time, I'm nostalgic of the great moments I've had on the field: from hitting a base-clearing double at California State University, Fullerton, to win the game as a freshman, to

routing Santa Clara University 22-10 on national television as a sophomore, to playing in a regional contest at Arizona State University last season, I can remember countless games and off-the-field experiences that I will cherish for the rest of my life. In addition, I've had the pleasure of playing with and against some truly talented players whom I look forward to seeing in the Major Leagues some day (and some who are already there). Finally, as a part of USD baseball, I've been fortunate enough to establish some of the greatest friendships I've ever had. These will undoubtedly be lifelong friendships, and I couldn't be more grateful for the type of men I've been able to share my four years of college with.

To try to sum up all that I've

learned as a Torero baseball player in one paragraph would be impossible – not because a paragraph isn't long enough; rather, because what I have learned cannot possibly be put into words. For one, anyone who has completed four years of being a Division I student-athlete can attest to the amount of adversity one faces throughout college. Sure, most people can realize the time commitment it takes to be a college athlete, and of course anyone can understand the rigors of waking up before sunrise for a morning workout or arriving after midnight from an away game with a midterm scheduled the next day. However, unless one actually lives the life of a student-athlete, it is impossible to understand the tremendous adversity we face almost every day.

Real adversity is trying to fall asleep after making an error that costs your team the game – a mistake that not only affects you but also affects the group of thirty men who have sacrificed sweat and blood alongside you for an entire year. Real adversity is handling your role as a bench player, staying positive and cheering on your teammates in the spotlight, even though you've worked harder than anybody else on the team. It's amazing how much a simple game can teach you about life and, in truth, I couldn't be more prepared to take on the outside world.

In closing, I'm so grateful for all that I've been blessed with as a four-year member of the baseball team, and as I wrap up my time at USD, I will always be a Torero at heart.



Kyle Terada/WCC Photos

The USD women's rowing team celebrates their second consecutive WCC Championship last Friday afternoon on Lake Natoma in Rancho Cordova, Calif.

Women's rowing scores second consecutive WCC Championship

By Celeste Soto

The USD women's rowing team found themselves in a familiar place after their last meet of the season. After Friday afternoon, the Toreros sealed up a second-consecutive WCC Championship with a clean sweep of all three championship races on the day. USD totaled 36 overall points, while the Gonzaga University Bulldogs had 30, the Saint Mary's College Gaels 24, the Creighton University Bluejays 16, the Loyola Marymount University Lions 14 and the Santa

Clara University Broncos five. With this victorious performance, the USD women's rowing team became one of the first teams to win back-to-back WCC Championships.

Going into Friday's races, the Toreros were confident and excited, but still had a slight case of pre-race butterflies. Words of wisdom from junior Hannah Ward allowed the USD team to settle into their boats and work as a team. "Think of the nerves as butterflies," Ward said to her team before the race, "because nerves weigh you down while butterflies make you fly." And fly they did.

The USD Varsity 4 set the tone for the day with their outlasting performance. They remained by Gonzaga's side for most of the race, eventually clawing their way to a 7:58.8 winning time, finishing nearly a boat length ahead of Gonzaga who came in at 8:01.8.

The USD Varsity 8 quickly fell behind in the first 100m of their race. They finally found the energy for a momentous push in the third 500m, which allowed them to outrun Gonzaga in open water. The USD Varsity 8 finished first at 7:09.5, nearly five seconds ahead of Gonzaga.

The Toreros headed into their third race with one thing on their mind - a three-race sweep. "We have learned through all the racing experience this year that we can walk back on any crew," junior Stephanie Jegat said. "No matter how we start, we can always come in first."

This powerful determination carried the V8 into their final race. The first 1000m looked as though the Bulldogs had the race easily within grasp, but the Toreros fought their way back in reach of the victory. Inch by inch, stroke by stroke, USD gained on Gonzaga and eventually pulled out the

third Toreros victory of the day.

The USD V8 finished two seats in front of Gonzaga with a time of 6:56.9, while the Gonzaga came in at 6:58.5.

These key performances by USD carried them to their second-consecutive WCC title, which puts them on the map within WCC athletics and NCAA women's rowing.

"I think we have started a new reign of West Coast Conference championships," Jegat said. "This will hopefully give us a bid to NCAA post-season races in the next couple of years. We are motivated to make history one year at a time."

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