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Vista: April 18, 2013

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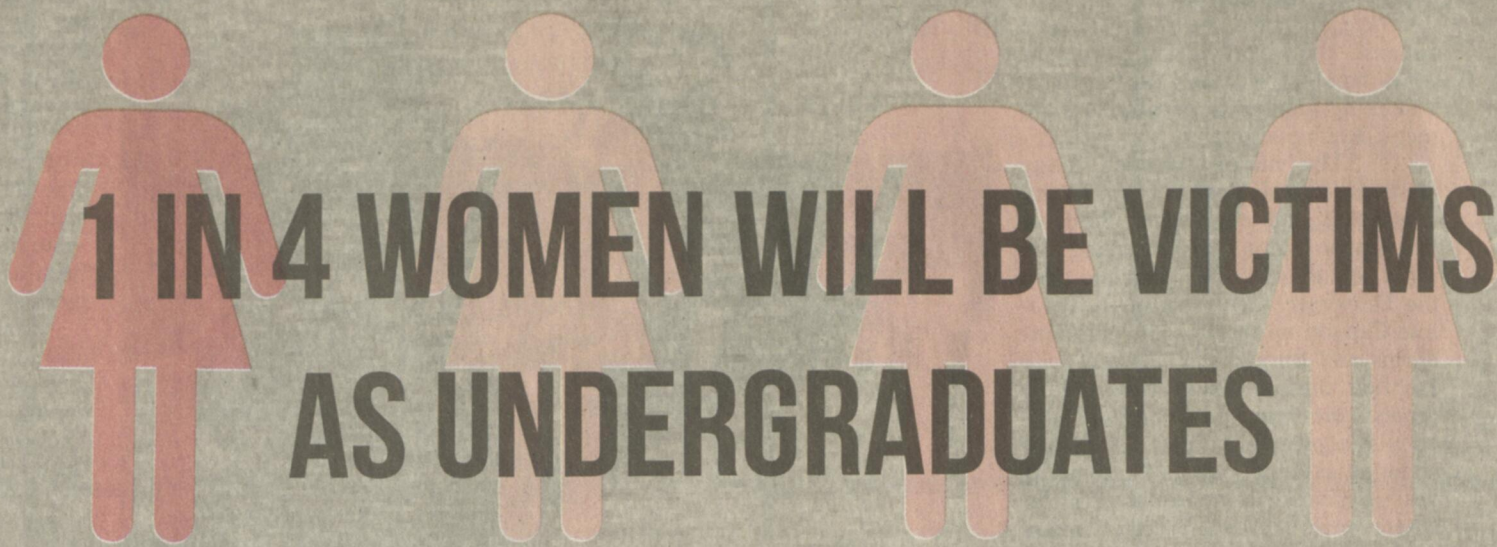
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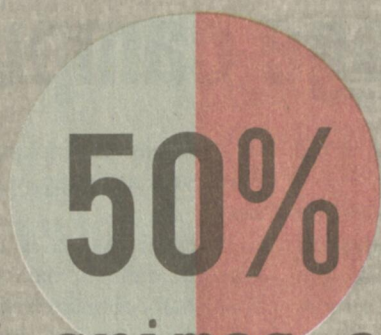
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Thursday, April 18, 2013

SEXUAL ASSAULT EXPOSED



1 IN 4 WOMEN WILL BE VICTIMS AS UNDERGRADUATES



of crimes are associated with **alcohol**

there have been

19

 reported cases at USD in the past **6 years**

Every **21 hours** a woman is raped on an American college campus

By Hannah Bucklin
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Sexual violence is as prevalent as ever on college campuses. On average one in 20 college females report being raped and one in four will be the victim of sexual assault during her academic career as an undergraduate, according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

Throughout April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, USD Women's Center supports the awareness of sexual violence. Last week, the Center offered a sexual awareness program where they put on certain events, such

as Consent: Why It Matters and Take Back The Night, to enlighten the student body about sexual assault and offer up a chance for those who have been victims to share their stories.

Students also decorated T-shirts as part of the Clothesline Project, which was started in Cape Cod, MA to address the issue of sexual violence against women. Each T-shirt represents a victim of sexual violence.

According to NSVRC, sexual assault does not only include rape, but any involuntary sexual activity that someone is coerced to engage in when they have not consented. Sexual assault on college campuses is evident and many

efforts to prevent such violence have been put in action.

USD, being a smaller campus, reduces the risk of sexual assault but does not eliminate it altogether.

Nevertheless, Sophomore Sloane Smith feels that sexual violence is prevalent on any campus.

"The issue of rape and sexual violence is relevant whether not you are a male or female, partier or Friday night studier, on a big campus or a small campus," Smith said. "USD is no exception to sexual violence."

There have been 19 reported cases of sexual violence at USD in the past six years. According

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Photos Courtesy of Women's Center

LEFT: A student holds a sign for Take Back the Night, an event fighting sexual violence on campus. RIGHT: Two students light candles in solidarity with sexual violence victims.

Toreros fight sexual violence

By Bianca Bruno
CONTRIBUTOR

Last week's Sexual Assault Awareness activities culminated with the annual march and vigil known as Take Back the Night. The event, held Thursday, April 11, was sponsored by the USD Women's Center.

The event kicked off in the UC Exhibit Hall, where attendees were invited to view a display that featured pho-

tographs of parts of different women's bodies, where the story of a survivor of sexual assault was written. Statistical information as well as resources for women were also on display at the exhibit and were discussed throughout the entire event.

Senior Yasi Mahallaty and junior Courtney Boyer, the two co-chairs of Sexual Assault Awareness Week Planning Committee, were responsible for organizing the event. Boyer

said that promoting awareness of sexual assault is especially important on college campuses.

"This topic is a taboo subject despite it's prevalence on college campuses and it needs to be discussed openly," Boyer said.

Mahallaty agreed, saying that it is important for "survivors to have the opportunity to have their voices heard."

Before the march began, there were numerous speakers and performers who rallied the

crowd, including a USD theater group who did an improv activity with attendees of the event. Two women advocates from outside the USD community spoke about their experiences with rape and sexual assault respectively.

Sociology professor Tom Reifer said that women on college campuses are more likely to be sexually assaulted than the general population. He discussed

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Turn to
PAGE 2
for an
exclusive
interview
about
sexual
assault
recovery
with the
founder
of:

**TO
WRITE
LOVE
ON HER
ARMS.**

NEWS

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zonesBy Matt Hose
NEWS EDITOR

It took a road trip up the coast of California for me to understand one of Aristotle's lessons, a lesson of friendship.

In his Nicomachean Ethics, Aristotle wrote that there are three types of friendships: friendship of utility, friendship of pleasure and friendship of the good.

Friends of utility are the ones who are useful to you. If you do not have a car and are friendly to someone solely for the reason that he or she does have a car, then that is a friend of use. The friend of pleasure is one with whom you enjoy doing activities, such as surfing, making music or the "friends with benefits" status that becomes popular in college (though it is certainly up for debate as to whether a friend with benefits is a friend of utility or one of pleasure).

These first two types of friendship, Aristotle says, are easily dissolved once the circumstances surrounding them change or when the friends become separated.

The friendship of the good, on the other hand, is one in which each person seeks to maximize the good of the other person in every way. In other words, it is not a selfish friendship. It is one in which you always want to do good for your friend without thought of reciprocation.

So, the question for everyone is: how do we determine which of our friends belongs to which category?

In college, where many of my conversations are reduced to howyadoin-s and how-was-yaweekend-s, it can be difficult to sieve out the people who would be friends to the end from the ones that are just along for the ride.

I argue that the best way to find out which category a friend belongs in is through a road trip.

At least, that was the way I found out. I took a road trip this Spring Break to Portland and Seattle.

Our vessel was a white truck that was made in 2006 but could have just as easily been made in the 1970s. It has an old-fashioned crank window that squeaks and creaks as you muscle it up. The door does not shut all the way, making the car sound like a hurricane when it reaches speeds greater than 70 mph. The only source of electrical entertainment is an AM/FM radio which flickers in and out as you travel through the grapevine and under the monstrous redwoods of Northern California.

So, my travel companion and I set out for Portland in this car, and I put Aristotle's ideas to the test in my own mind. What kind of friend was she?

It occurred to me that long stretches of road would be difficult with a friend of pleasure, and nearly impossible with a friend of use. With a friend of pleasure, the circumstances surrounding the friendship would disappear in a car. As long bouts of silence undoubtedly take hold on trips that can last 12 hours each day, the friendship would unravel and the two travelers would realize that their interests do not always align.

For the friend of pleasure, conversation is a means to an end. It is what you occupy your time with on the way to a new surf spot so you can get that new experience. Silence is killer with these friends.

With the friend of good, conversation itself is an end. As you drive along winding stretches of road, the less meaningful conversations are filtered out from your dialogue. You feel physically and mentally secure with expanses of time without conversation, and only make conversation when it is something truly important to you, or something new and interesting. Those are the kinds of friendships that can last a lifetime.

With these friends, you can tailor yourself to fit with the personality of the other person.

I found out on that trip that my friend was a friend of the good. Instead of playing car games, we could make up car games. We tried to see who could scream loudest when passing various livestock; we read aloud from hilarious books by David Sedaris.

In the end, a relationship placed inside of the vessel of a car can either crumble or it can form a stronger bond. It all just depends on the friend that you are around.

Toreros take back the night

Students marched around campus and held a vigil to raise awareness about sexual violence

NIGHT, continued from Front Page

that "rape culture" is deeply connected with masculinity.

"We as men need to change because the overwhelming amount of victims are women and the overwhelming number of perpetrators are men," Reifer said.

The march included many students, faculty, staff, community supporters and advocates. Students who made signs earlier during the night held them as they marched from the University Center through Tecolote Canyon up through the Missions dorms and through the Student Life Pavilion during dinner time. Many diners were surprised to be bombarded with a group of at least 100 people chanting sayings such as "Yes means yes/ no means no/ whatever we wear/ wherever we go" and "We are women/ we are men/ together we fight/ to take back the night."

The marchers then changed di-

rections and marched over to the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice where they stopped at the Garden of the Sea to hold a candlelight vigil.



Students marched up from the Valley for Take Back the Night, and event that raises awareness about sexual violence on campus. Photo Courtesy of Women's Center

Marchers were asked to say the name of someone they knew who had been affected by sexual assault or sexual violence. Afterwards, two women

who are current students at USD spoke about their experience with sexual assault.

For senior Stephanie Ramirez, her first time attending Take Back the Night was important for supporting others whose lives had been affected by sexual assault.

"It's a night where men and women can come together to recognize those who have been hurt," she said. "It's important to give a support system to not only those who have been assaulted but for those close to them as well."

Many attendees were emotionally moved by the whole experience; several people present had been personally affected by sexual assault or knew someone close to them who had been affected.

For the attendees, Take Back the Night allowed students to talk freely about their experiences and offered them support with dealing with any encounter of sexual assault.

Sexual assault rate high on college campuses

ASSAULT, continued from Front Page

to Public Safety, the 19 reported cases of sexual assault occurred on-campus, in certain off-campus buildings or on property owned or controlled by USD.

Despite statistics, many USD students, including junior Kami Shabaz feel relatively safe on USD campus.

"As a female I have never felt threatened in any way throughout my experience at USD," Shabaz said. "I definitely think that because we have a smaller campus it creates a safer, more comfortable environment for the students."

Shabaz is fortunate never to have been victim of sexual violence, but many other female college students across the country have been less

fortunate.

The Cleveland Rape Crisis Center said that every 21 hours a woman is raped on an American college campus. The study found that these women are normally in their first or second year of college.

The report also said, "8 percent

"Of these men who committed rape, 84 percent said that what they did was definitely not rape"

of men admit to committing acts that meet the legal definition of rape or attempted rape. Of these men who committed rape, 84 percent said that what they did was definitely not rape."

Confusion on whether it was rape

or consensual is often related to the consumption of alcohol.

Being intoxicated increases the chance of being raped by one and half percent, according to NSVRC. The Cleveland Center said men are more likely to think that a woman who drinks is more willing to engage in

sexual behavior.

Sarah Lawrence College did a study and determined that at least 50 percent of college students' sexual assaults are associated with alcohol use. Their study showed that

if a woman is drinking than she is perceived as being willing to have sex.

Sexual assault is most likely to occur on campus than off campus and is normally committed by someone the victim knows. The Sarah Lawrence College study of sexual violence said that 80 percent of rape victims know their attacker.

Smith feels that USD being a smaller school offers students a sense of security.

"The smallness of our school enables me to feel more comfortable and safe in that I have many resources and a solid network of support available to me, should I be a victim of sexual violence," said Smith. "However, that by no means trivializes the need for awareness raising efforts."

Founder of non-profit
discusses recovery
from sexual assaultBy Matt Hose
NEWS EDITOR

Jamie Tworkowski is the founder of To Write Love on Her Arms, a non-profit organization based out of Florida that raises awareness about people struggling with issues including depression, addiction and self-injury. In an interview with The Vista, he discussed how to recover from the harm that can come out of sexual violence.

The Vista: Your company focuses on several issues that college students may face. With last week being sexual assault awareness week at USD, what are some of the ways that you could give hope to people who are victims of sexual violence in particular?

Jamie Tworkowski: It's really cool that you guys are doing that and talking about it. I think first off it's important to know that they're not

"Shame has a way of telling you that...you can't talk about it, no one can know about it. We've come to believe that a lot of that is false."

alone. Shame has a way of telling you that you're the only one who's been there, you're the only one who feels this way, you can't talk about it, no one can know about it. We've come to believe that a lot of that is false.

TV: What sorts of resources do students in college have that make it different from people in other situations?

JT: One of the best things about college is that at almost every campus we visit, there's a counseling center, there's counselors available that's

usually free, and if it's not free then it's very affordable.

Those are some of the hurdles that folks outside of college face. We hear from a lot of people [for] whom finances are often one of the biggest excuses.

Usually at the college level that doesn't have to be an excuse, because it's included in the tuition. I don't know the situation at [USD] but to me that's really encouraging news.

TV: It may be difficult for some sexual abuse victims to admit to anyone, let alone a counselor, that they have been sexually abused. How would you get over that hurdle?

JT: There's really not a way around just beginning to be honest. We would hope that they have a relationship or a couple of friends that they could be honest with.

Obviously we think counseling is a great first step, and counseling is really the best-case scenario in terms of being private and confidential

and with someone who is qualified and has a unique perspective to hear those things and speak about those things. I think the hardest part is just breaking the ice, is just making that appointment or just saying it for the first time.

But I think we've seen great results and heard great stories when people begin to do that. My first advice would be, whether starting with a friend or stepping into counseling, just to begin to be honest and not to be alone in that broken place in that part of their story.

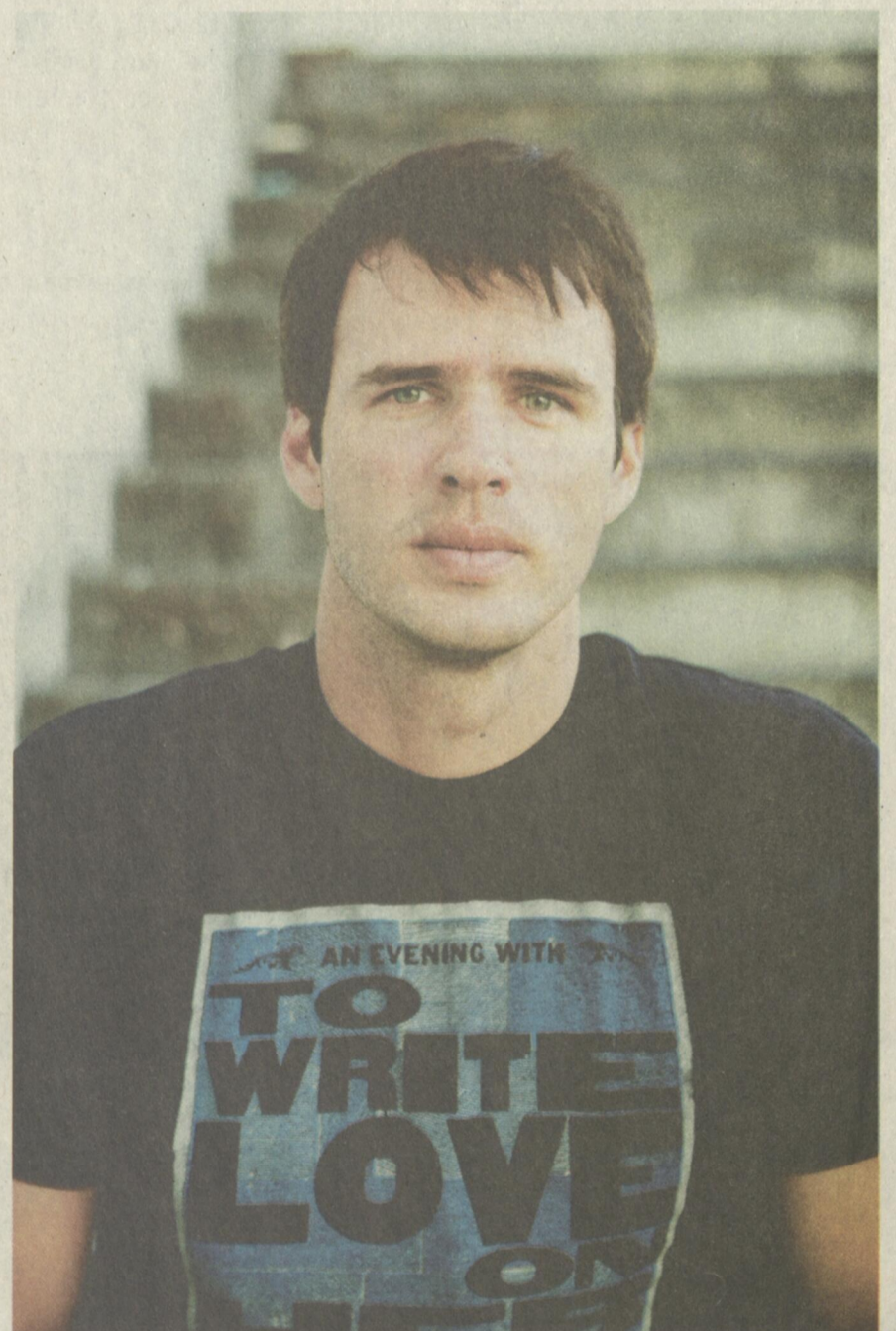


Photo Courtesy of Rachel Miller

Jamie Tworkowski, who spoke at USD on Tuesday, is the founder of To Write Love On Her Arms, a non-profit organization that raises awareness to acknowledge and recover from sexual violence.

TV: How important is friendship for someone who has experienced sexual violence?

JT: One of the things that we talk about a ton is community and the idea that everybody deserves a support system, and everybody deserves people they can be honest with and where they don't have to fake it, where they can instead be real. Folks who know their questions and their

struggles.

TV: Is there anything you would like to add to that?

JT: We just find that a lot of people feel alone, and we've seen such amazing things happen when people begin to realize that it's okay to talk about whatever they're going through.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

APRIL 2 - APRIL 14

<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 3:55 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed a MacBook Pro laptop between March 23 at approximately 2 p.m. and April 1 at 3 p.m.</p> <p>01</p>	<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 9:41 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed a safe from a student's closet and an Xbox from another resident's room between March 23 at 3 p.m. and April 1 at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>01</p>	<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 12:40 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed an iPod and a Gameboy between March 23 at 10 a.m. hours and April 1 at 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>02</p>	<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 9 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed a student's watch between March 22 noon and April 2 at 2 a.m.</p> <p>03</p>	<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 10:22 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed \$250 cash between March 23 at 8 p.m. and April 3 at 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>03</p>	<p>Location: IMMACULATA PARISH CHURCH W LOT</p> <p>At 10:22 p.m. Public Safety detected the odor of marijuana coming from a parked vehicle. Upon investigation, two students were cited for possession of marijuana.</p> <p>05</p>
<p>Location: PALOMAR HALL</p> <p>At 8:03 Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated student. Upon investigation, the student was determined to be unable to care for herself and she was transported to Detox.</p> <p>06</p>	<p>Location: BORREGO HALL</p> <p>At 1:38 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated student. Upon investigation, the student was determined to be unable to care for himself and he was transported to Detox.</p> <p>07</p>	<p>Location: MANCHESTER VILLAGE</p> <p>At 2:39 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated student. Upon investigation, the student was determined to be unable to care for herself and she was transported to the hospital.</p> <p>07</p>	<p>Location: OLIN HALL W LOT</p> <p>At 6:15 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a vehicle theft. Upon investigation, unknown person(s) stole an employee's vehicle on April 8 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>08</p>	<p>Location: MISSIONS A</p> <p>At 9:21 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, an unknown suspect(s) removed an Xbox gaming console and a ring between March 22 at 4:00 p.m. April 1st at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>08</p>	<p>Location: SHILEY SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTER</p> <p>At 6:00 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, unknown suspect(s) stole various items from an employee's wallet which was placed in an unsecured desk drawer on April 9th between 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>09</p>
<p>Location: BARCELONA</p> <p>At 8:22 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of vandalism. Upon investigation, graffiti was discovered in the first floor men's restroom at approximately 8:20 a.m. on April 11th.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Location: CAMINO HALL COURTYARD</p> <p>At 2:34 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a fire. Upon investigation, a small fire ignited on a student's truck while it was parked in the courtyard on April 10th at approximately 6:00 p.m.. No damage or injuries were reported.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Location: CAMINO HALL COURTYARD</p> <p>At 10:22 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of a theft. Upon investigation, unknown suspect(s) stole a student's secured bicycle on April 11th at 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Location: ALCALA PARK WY/TORERO WY (MAIN CIRCLE)</p> <p>At 1:21 a.m. Public Safety responded to a report of an intoxicated student. Upon investigation, the student was determined to be unable to care for himself and he was transported to Detox.</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Location: EAGAN PLAZA & COLACHIS PLAZA</p> <p>At 12:29 p.m. Public Safety responded to a report of vandalism. Upon investigation, soap was poured into the Eagan Plaza and Colachis Plaza fountains around 12:20 p.m. on April 13th.</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Location: WEST KIOSK</p> <p>At 12:18 p.m. Public Safety pulled over a vehicle for running a stop sign. Upon investigation, the officer detected the odor of marijuana, and one student was cited for possession of marijuana.</p> <p>14</p>

Anyone having information regarding these incidents please contact Public Safety at 619-260-7777.

upcoming events

april 18

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE
@ Hahn University Center
12:10 pm - 2:15 pm

april 20

LEADERSHIP STUDIES GRADUATE PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE
@ Mother Rosalie Hill Hall
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

april 22

REFORMING THE LITURGY: REFORMING THE CHURCH AT VATICAN II
@ Joan B. Kroc IPJ, Rooms A-B
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

april 23

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION AND ONE CHALLENGE AWARDS CEREMONY
@ Front of SLP, Plaza Mayor
12:15 pm - 2:00 pm

april 23

HANDS OF PEACE
@ Kroc School of Peace Studies, Room A
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

april 23

VATICAN II: THE BATTLE FOR MEANING
@ Mother Rosalie Hill Hall, Warren Auditorium
6:00 pm - 7:45 pm

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NEWS

Girls rate guys in new viral app

By Lauren Vujovich
MANAGING EDITOR

A new app has recently swept USD, at least in the female population. "Lulu" allows women to rate anonymously and review men based on manners, looks, commitment, humor, sex, first kiss and ambition.

Basically it is an app that allows girls to rate the guys that they know. Other girls can then read the reviews. Some girls divulge long hidden crushes that they have had on some boys, while others wreak havoc and let out all angry, and sometimes brutal feelings on some men.

The key to this app is that access is limited strictly to women, meaning the men are not able to create their own Lulu account and look at the ratings they have received. The app works by using a girl's current location to find guys within the area. However, in order to get the most relevant pool of guys, most women sign in with their Facebook accounts. Lulu developers swear that it will never post anything to their Facebook pages.

According to Lulu's press release, the purpose of linking the app to Facebook is to make finding men easier and more interesting for the woman.

"Girls register through Facebook, but Lulu only uses Facebook to make registration easy and fast," the press release said. "Lulu never posts anything to Facebook, all girls are always anonymous on Lulu, and their activities are always private."

When a girl logs onto the app they will see the profile photo of a guy, his name and a number between 1 and 10. That number is his overall rating. If the girl feels compelled to find out more information on a particular guy, she can click on his photo and be brought to his own profile. This states how many views he has received, if any girl favorites him and his average score.

Then there are hash tags to describe him, including among many "#workethic, #trustfundbaby, #forgothiswallet, #bigfeet" and so on. If a girl is still intrigued, she can see the reviews that have been written about him.

These reviews give the "Best" and "Worst" traits of the guy, all done in hash tag protocol. Below that is

his broken down rating of humor, appearance, manners, ambition, commitment, first kiss and sex. These reviews are distinguished by the girl who wrote them from Friend, Ex-girlfriend and Crush, to name a few, in order to give background on the reviewer's relationship with the guy.

Many girls at USD have downloaded the app. Ary Abraham, a junior, said that she finds the app to be amusing and harmless.

"Lulu has been a lot of fun for my friends and I," Abraham said. "We have had a few great laughs giving our best guy friends funny ratings and telling them all about it. They all think it's hilarious."

However, freshman Liz McKinley finds the app demeaning and thinks that it takes things too far.

"I think that the app is kind of ridiculous," McKinley said. "I feel like it could've had the idea of letting girls know more about the guys around them, but in reality it's turned out to be guys checking their ratings and girls bashing on guys that have screwed them over."

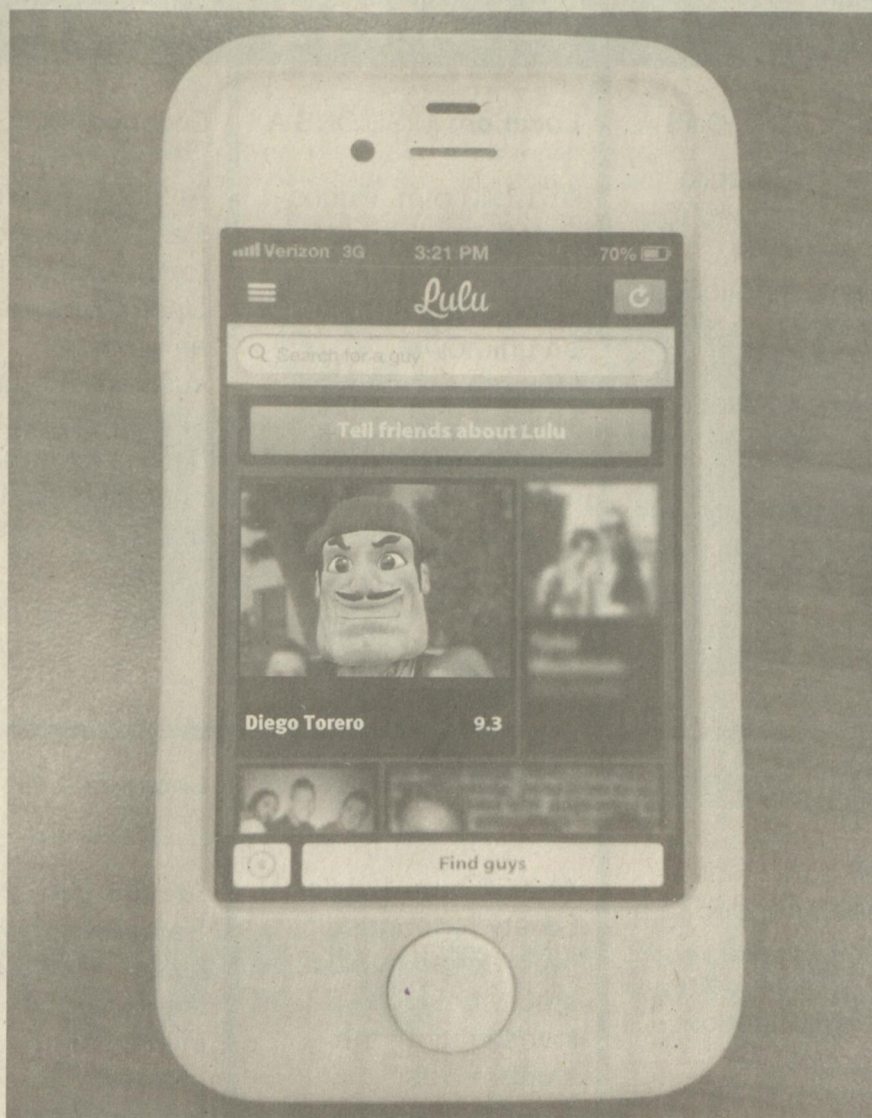
McKinley said she was surprised with how much her friends care about what others have to say.

"I see all my guy friends talk about it and always wonder what girls are saying about them," McKinley said. "It's crazy that they care so much about how others think of them. I think it's a bad idea and I don't like the app because now they have to come out with one for guys to rate girls, which is going to cause chaos and girls killing themselves to change."

Despite some women distaste to the app, according to Lulu, the app has already reached Top 20 in the App Store, with over 450,000 reviews and 250,000 downloads.

Alex Manassis, a male senior, is not as thrilled with Lulu. He not only thinks it's an invasion of privacy but also could even be libelous.

"My first reaction is whoa, that's terrifying," Manassis said. "It is disconcerting to know that an app like this exists. My second thought is that this could cause a lot of legal issues with libel. The app and its users should be careful with what they say, because they may run into legal trouble. I think it's a bad idea especially since



Lulu is an app in which women can rate men in many categories, including sex, dating, and friendship.

it's essentially just putting gossip into writing."

Sophomore Bryan Ruzich sees Lulu to be misleading and shallow but still sees it as a fun app, if taken lightheartedly.

"I think Lulu is very materialistic and can be misleading," Ruzich said. "The pervasiveness of Lulu throughout the USD community makes it feel like high school, where everyone knows everyone, or at least their Lulu rating."

Ruzich said that while it is a fun app, it is still judgmental.

"I think this can be unfortunate because some people may get a bad reputation or people may pass

judgments on someone based on what is on Lulu, rather than getting to know him," Ruzich said. "It does allow women to know more about the person, whether it is true or false, but I think it highlights the fascination women have with judging others. I think it's a fun app, though, that shouldn't be taken too seriously."

According to Lulu's Press release, Alexandra Chong, the founder of Lulu, came up with the app after going on a date, in which she thought they guy was perfect but just not for her. Thus, launching the idea of Lulu to help other girls find the right guy.

According to Lulu's website, Lulu

stresses that this app isn't a place to bash on guys, but rather to help other girls find the right guy.

"The vast majority of reviews are positive—ex-girlfriends, sisters, and friends helping other girls discover the guys they believe are keepers," Lulu's website said. "To be clear, Lulu isn't a place to trash-talk: Lulu's review system makes it impossible for a vindictive ex to reveal the size of a guy's itty bitty friend or claim he gave the Herp to 1,000 women."

Aly Bori, a junior, is a representative for Lulu and has heard both good and bad things about the app.

"I've heard a bunch of mixed reviews from both guys and girls," Bori said. "A few people told me it's shallow and will only cause drama, but the majority of the people I've spoken to about it are pretty amused by it. Most of my guys friends love it and think it's hilarious. They're always asking about their ratings and how many girls have reviewed them and trying to steal my phone to check their pages out."

Bori personally thinks that the app is in all good fun.

"I personally think the app is pretty entertaining," Bori said. "It's pretty comical to see what other girls have to say about some of your friends, brothers and exes."

While Lulu is strictly a girls-only app, they do offer LuluDude, in which guys are able to get a sense of how they are doing, edit their profile, add photos, and describe what they believe are their best qualities. In addition they can read the Sex Ed feature to see what girls have to say about sex and relationships in general.

"At the end of the day, Lulu is all about encouraging good, gentlemanly behavior, and providing a platform that makes girls' research easier and more fun," Lulu's website said. "Ultimately, we see Lulu as a private network dedicated to girls and relationships, providing an online extension and enhancement of the kind of information and support that girls provide each other in real life."

As Lulu continues to become apart of the USD community, it is unclear what direction it will take. It could be here for the long run, or be another crazy fad that is forgotten about in the upcoming weeks.

catch a VISTA reader



Sophomore Allie Stratis reads The Vista after getting a sandwich from Tu Mercado

Hannah Bucklin/The Vista

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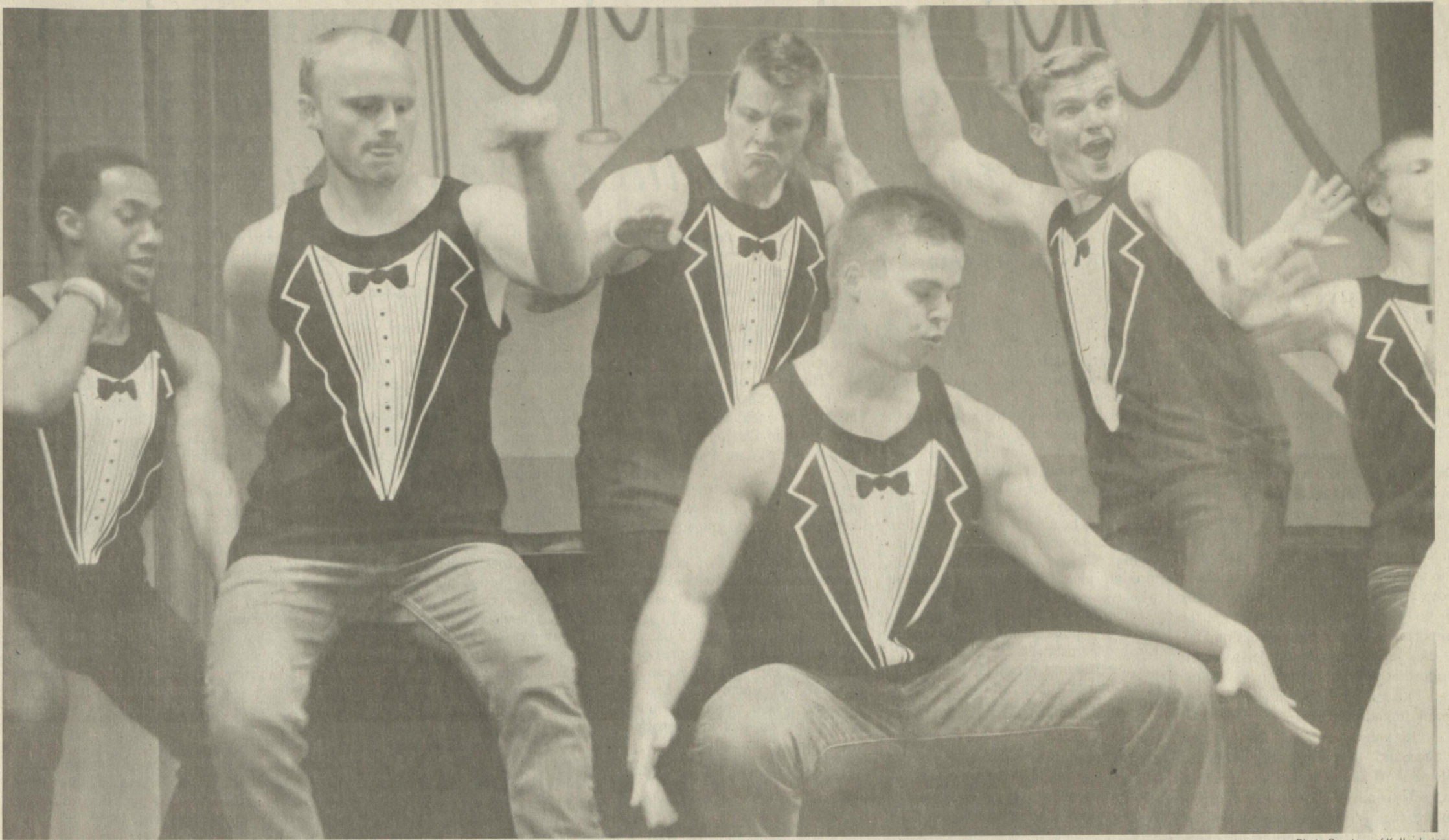
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The competitors in the Mr. University male pageant perform an opening dance to kick-start the event in the University Center.

Photo Courtesy of Kelley Lujan

Mr. University rocks the UCs

By Leeza Earl
STAFF WRITER

Kappa Alpha Theta fraternity for women hosted their 12th annual Mr. University pageant, raising more than \$20 thousand for the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation and their philanthropy Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children.

This event consisted of 10 male contestants, five from Greek life and five who are nonaffiliated, ranging from various clubs and academic departments.

The pageant contained three categories: talent, formal wear and a question and answer section for the final five participated in a question and answer section.

Senior Mr. U coach Ellen Rohman expressed her excitement for the accomplishment of her chapter and this event on April 4.

"We are amazed by the outcome of Mr. U," said Rohman. "While we are still receiving donations for CASA we know as a chapter we are serving our children in CASA well."

There was only one winner of all the categories and that was Mr. Phi Kappa Theta, Michael Peterson. Along with all of the other contestants Peterson also contributed to the CASA foundation by selling tickets to the show. In addition the audience purchased raffle tickets for various prizes ranging from a coupon to Nothing Bundt Cake to a week stay in Vegas.

Senior Mr. Theater participant Edred Utomi explained his reasons for participating in Mr. U.

"I did Mr. U because I wanted to have fun and also change a child's life" Utomi said. "Winning was not my concern, my concern was for the children in CASA."

According to CASA's website CASA is a nonprofit network supporting and promoting court appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children. The national CASA has 946 local community programs to support volunteers serving children. CASA has been awarded for many achievements such as Prevention for a Safer Society Award, Outstanding Volunteer Program and most recently an award for Independent Charities Seal of Excellence.

"Some people may think Greek life is only about the social aspect, but our philanthropies are very important to us and this is a way for Theta to show USD students what Greek life is truly about; coming together through sisterhood and raising over \$20,000 yearly for CASA and the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation" said Rohman.

Kappa Alpha Theta was founded in 1870 as the first Greek-letter fraternity for women.

Theta has been on USD's campus since 2000 and is known for their 5K run in the Fall and Mr. University in the Spring.

Theta holds many other community based events throughout the year on and off campus.

Junior Theta member Katrina Bess expressed her appreciation to her sorority and their philanthropies.

"It is with great privilege that we got to serve CASA," said Bess. "I am proud to be a part of a sorority that is driven on giving back and making a



Senior Chad Dunham, the Mr. Beta contestant at the Mr. University pageant, performs a salsa dance with senior Lauren Bushman for the talent portion of the competition.

Photo Courtesy of Kelley Lujan

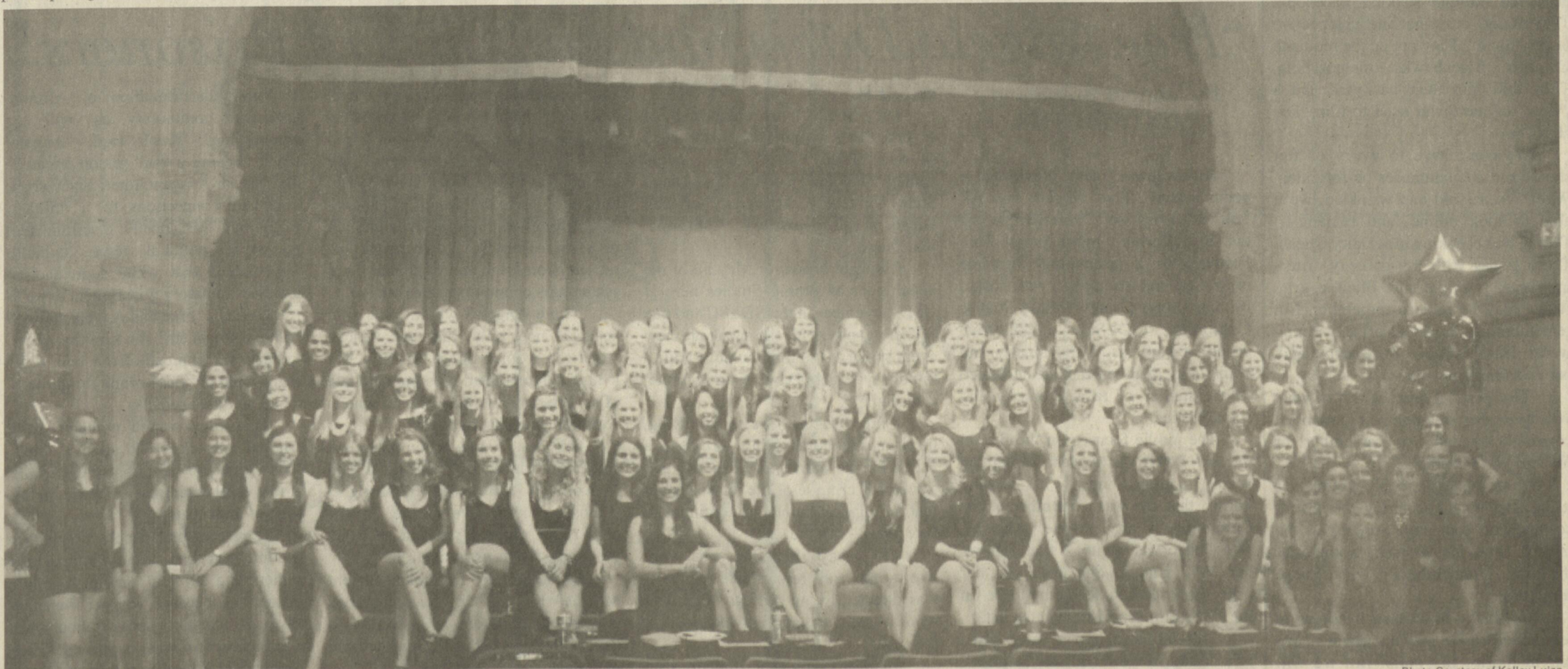
difference in the community."

Mr. University has always been hosted in the Hahn University Center every year. However, this year it was moved to Shiley Theater which had

over 700 guests and sold out of seats.

This Theta chapter has had strong momentum this semester after winning Greek Week and having a successful Mr. University.

The members of Kappa Alpha Theta hope this momentum continues into next semester and throughout the many years here at USD and in the San Diego community.



The members of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority pose for a picture in the University Center forums. Kappa Alpha Theta hosted the 12th annual Mr. University pageant.

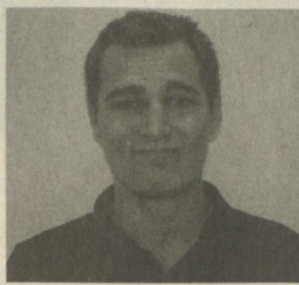
Photo Courtesy of Kelley Lujan

OPINION

EDITOR

Nick Dilonardo
opinion@usdvista.com

Remember me

By Nick Dilonardo
OPINION EDITOR

In Benjamin Franklin's autobiography, he wrote of the importance of being aware of the difference between one's private and public selves.

For Franklin, this translated into the identity he held as a writer - under pen-names, at times - that he maintained working for New England newspapers.

Franklin, as a columnist, essayist and polemicist was astutely aware of the power of appearing to be humble - not necessarily being it, but appearing to be. If Oscar Wilde understood the importance of being earnest, Franklin, it can safely be said, understood the importance of appearing to have little ego. It made me imagine what if Franklin had a Facebook.

Our ego has a whole new playground through social media. There is us as we Instagram. There is the self from which we tweet. For our future, for our jobs, for our lives as we move forward, we must dutifully check ourselves and our online identities, each and every one of them.

We can't have a profile picture with a drink. You can't have people making crass jokes on your page, perhaps, and certainly nothing exposing the use of narcotics. Daring to Instagram yourself smoking, perhaps - drinking, if you're even younger - can be a grasping attempt toward death. It's our death drive, that James Dean-sean impulse to risk flirting with consequences, be damned. To the most brazen go the most future possible doors closed. Employers check your social media profiles. Ex-girlfriends and boyfriends aren't the only ones stalking you online anymore.

Our lives, as we live them, and especially as we photograph them, are living themselves out online. We live it out first - then we remember it on Facebook. We tweet it out - we connect, we rekindle. We tweet about going out. We tweet about breaking up. We Instagram our breakfast. Or do we?

If we read an article on the Washington Post online, it's broadcast. Look: somebody read an article about China. Isn't he smart? It's like using Spotify to say something about yourself - look what I listen to - do you think I'm cool? Aren't I unique? Is anybody watching to that which I'm listening?

It's just like that Percy Bysshe Shelley poem. We are like Ozymandias, king of kings, crying out "Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!" It's our attempt to demonstrate to ourselves and to others that we matter, and that we do indeed in fact exist. We did go out this weekend. We do have friends. Someone is watching, and they "like" me.

It's like the week before last's Modern Family episode, when they tried selling their house with a pitch perfected through stalking Facebook. They found out what the prospective buyer "liked." They put up the requisite Chicago Blackhawks memorabilia. They told him their backyard had a "view" of the tower used to film "Die Hard."

We won't have to worry or fret should old acquaintances be forgotten. When we are old and wrinkled, we'll be able to look online, and remember: There I was checking in at Dairy Queen. There I was with my sorority sisters in Vegas. It might just illicit a grin. It just may be nice to remember. But remembering, as Nobel-prize winning writer Harold Pinter once explained, isn't so simple or easy.

"The past," Pinter said, "is what you remember, imagine you remember, convince yourself you remember, or pretend you remember."

We are who we remember ourselves to be. It's why in therapy they work so much on your past. Sometimes the trick is forgiving yourself. Sometimes the trick is remembering what you're forgetting.

But, lucky us - when it comes to remembering, we may not always have our memories of Paris. But we will always have Facebook.

On Corridos and communication: Taking a look at how ancient forms of expression influence modern music

By Georgia Andresen
CONTRIBUTOR

The lights begin to illuminate the stage. The cowboy boots click-clack as the artist makes her way to center-stage. The music begins. Her voice fills the room.

Her songs are filled with the sad stories of boyfriends past and the trials and tribulations of a rough upbringing. Wait - the setting changes: now there is a man in the center of the stage, with a microphone in his hands.

A hard beat begins to fill the room. He starts rhythmically and poetically laying out the struggles he's been through and fought through to be where he is today.

Country and Hip-Hop in particular are two popular genres of music that can be heard on USD's campus. This may be because people like the easy, down-home sound of the country ballads and upbeat songs. People like to feel that underlying beat of the rap songs with various melodies layered on top.

People find these genres comforting because they can somehow relate to the lyrics or messages of the song.

Being able to identify with others, even if it is through song, helps to build community and shows support for an individual or group of people. Finding others who have been through similar situations helps people to keep breaking through barriers no matter what stands in their way.

This type of therapeutic music closely resembles the corridos of the time of the Mexican American War. Living in San Diego, there is a great amount of Hispanic culture around us everyday.

Take Old Town for example: go into any restaurant and you will most likely hear cultural music throughout the building.

Although there is a cheery mood of the sound of the music today, in the 1800s, the music would have had a very different mood.

Throughout the mid to late 1800s and even beyond that into the twentieth century, the Mexican American people were subject to many injustices. They faced not only personal discrimination in their day-to-day routines, but also structural discrimination.

One of the ways that they made it through each day was to form a social bond and support group with their peers.

Rather than become hostile and

start fighting the government again, the Mexican American people started writing songs filled with folklore to give the people hope for a better future.

The corridos would capture their souls and remind them of certain hardships in their pasts that they were strong enough to make it through.

In most corridos, there is a hero that evades oppressors; this hero and his actions give hope for the people that they, too, can evade all of the oppressive hardships that they would face in their lives.

Much like the heroes in the corridos, usually the artist is the hero of their rap songs.

Having that emotion conveyed through their songs allows others to connect through shared experiences, as Freshman, Courtney Kant notes.

"I can connect to rap songs because they are portrayed in a somber mood and that makes it easier for me to feel the emotion that the artist expresses through the lyrics," said Kant.

The same can also be said about country music artists. These artists sometimes draw upon very difficult past experiences to show how perseverance can get you through almost anything, which Freshman, Olivia Wunsch appreciates.

"Country music is one of the most

heart-felt genres of music," Wunsch explains. "Every [country] song is a story. It has a beginning, a middle and an end."

Music in general, whether it is rap, country, classical or alternative provides people with a creative outlet through which they can express emotion that may not be able to feel in other facets of their lives.

For Junior, Caroline Vigneron, music exists also as much more, and especially as a means to build community.

"Music is the most interesting outlet because everyone has a different definition of what music is, and that's what makes it so unique," Vigneron said. "No one can say 'that's not music' in response to a song because every individual characterizes music differently."

Music is an unbelievable bonding agent. It has the power to unite different people under one creative outlet. A group of people who may not have anything in common can come together and create something that is uniquely theirs."

Music is a way we as the human race can bond and support one another, whether we are a corrido or a Communications student.



Angela Davis speaks out against the forces conspiring against her in her efforts to bring attention to the problems of those on the margins of society. Photo Courtesy of AP

Finally, Angela gets her release: "Free Angela Davis and All Political Prisoners"

By Jennifer Baltadano
CONTRIBUTOR

An exclusive sneak preview of a documentary, "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners", referred to by the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival "as a fascinating chronicle of justice and strength," was hosted by San Diego County Ethnic Studies Consortium (SDESC), a collective group of students, staff, faculty and community members that are dedicated to the studies of race, ethnicity and social justice.

The movie focuses on the life on Angela Davis, an African American social activist, after it became known that she was a member of the Communist Party. "Free Angela", is a "historical vérité" that follows her 1972 trial in San Jose and her experience leading her name to be on the FBI's Top Ten Most Wanted list.

This fabulous movie was shown as a sneak preview Thursday, April 4, 2013 at the Digiplex Mission Valley by

the SDESC.

The SDESC is composed of several participating campuses such as San Diego City College, Mesa College, Palomar College, San Diego State University, University of San Diego, and University of California, San Diego.

Assistant Professor May Fu of the department of Ethnic Studies here at USD, a member in the SDESC and one of the organizers for the sneak preview event spoke of the film's unique ability to portray Angela Davis in an accurate, clear light.

"Free Angela was a refreshing, inspiring and humanizing portrait of a Black female activist-intellectual, and a sobering critique of the racist system that the Black community continues to face today," said Fu.

To many this film was very interesting and remarkable since it was directed by an African American woman and was nationally released in theaters.

Andrew Grimes, a student from USD that is a part of the SDESC, was

also a big contribution to this event, and talked about the importance of the film's ability to educate.

"From watching the movie, we can all learn a lot from Davis," said Grimes. "[Especially] to never back down from what you believe, whether it's sexism from your own people, or racism from the entire country and system this country operates on."

"Free Angela" was a great film because not only did an African American woman direct this film, but it also demonstrated the dramatic life of an African American activist who is seen as inspiration by many.

This was a big accomplishment since both Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X were both equal rights activists whose involvement in the civil rights crusade was cut short by their unfortunate assassinations.

According to freshman student Maddie Kasik, the documentary's power comes from it's ability to deal directly with institutionalized prejudice.

"This documentary addresses

structural discrimination of African American community as well as stereotyping," Kasik said. "Angela Davis became a bad person because she was an African American woman who had connections to a militant group but was mostly discriminated against her political views... [which] perpetuated what white supremacists and discriminatory government's fear."

Overall, "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners" is a film that gives audiences a glimpse of our own U.S. history and provides prime insight into social activist Davis.

This film, which contains both original interviews and archival clips, does a great job capturing all the details of this era, keeping the audience on the edge of their seats.

I recommend people watch this documentary film because it provides audiences a different view of Angela's issues, and because you get a chance to hear Angela speak about her interpretation of what happened. "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners" is a must see movie.



Jana Winter cracks a smile as she exits the Colorado courtroom in which the James Holmes trial she is covering is being held. Some believe the silence surrounding her persecution is political in nature. Photo Courtesy of Getty Images

Jana Winter, journalism and media politics: *Silence from her peers in light of her subpoena is shocking*

By Sarah Jorgensen
CONTRIBUTOR

The ongoing trial of James Holmes, the lead suspect in the Aurora movie theater shooting last summer, has received national attention for its contributions to the national conversation about gun control and mental health care. However, an under-acknowledged piece of the puzzle could have major ramifications on the role of the press. In the days following the shooting, Jana Winter, a FoxNews.com reporter, broke a major new development in the case. According to her article, Holmes had sent a journal full of violent writings, drawings and even plans outlining the shooting to a psychiatrist at the University of Colorado at Boulder where he attended a PhD program. This development was especially critical because the judge in Holmes' case had set a gag order on the case, which meant that no one affiliated with the case was allowed to leak information pertinent to the

case – Winter's source, whoever it was, violated that order. Winter was subpoenaed in January, but she still has not given up her law enforcement source that gave her the information. That choice could land her in jail, since she is not complying with the judge's orders to reveal her source. While the judge has postponed his decision on Winter's case, many questions are still raised by this situation.

Winters' case did not receive much mainstream media attention beyond Fox News originally, which raised some eyebrows within the news industry. New York Magazine's Joe Coscarelli wrote that, "The hypocrisy of Fox News makes other outlets, especially competing cable networks, which have thus far avoided Winter's situation entirely, wary of covering a just battle." Coscarelli and other media commentators seemed concerned that fellow news outlets' lack of coverage was rooted in politics rather than simple oversight. While other print and broadcast outlets finally began to cover this critical case after the judge's choice

to defer his decision, the question about the slow coverage is still critical. In the past, when journalists have been put on the stand, the journalism community has banded together in full outrage. Winter's news about the journal was one of the biggest developments in the early days of Holmes' case – why would other journalists ignore that now that she is in hot water?

While I can't talk or know about exactly what went into that choice since I was not in the newsroom of those outlets when the choice was made, I can certainly hope it isn't rooted in politics. With the birth of more biased outlets like Fox News and MSNBC, it is easy to see these outlets as rivals or as antagonists. At the end of the day, though, all of these outlets should be committed to dispersing correct, factual information. Whether or not they cover issues that certain political parties prioritize is a moot point. The ethics of any outlet should be questioned if politics become too large of an emphasis or concern.

Winter made the right choice in

pursuing additional information about the case – if journalists didn't push the envelope, we would be a much less-informed society - but when does that become too much? In the era of a 24-hour news cycle, many news outlets find themselves in the position to make an important decision: whether to be right or to be first. Take, for example, the Newtown shooting in December. Many outlets got key information wrong early in the day of the shooting, including the shooter's name. Gawker compiled a reel of the news outlets' constantly shifting and changing coverage of the day, and the result is disconcerting. While this is partially the fault of the sources that the outlets depended upon for accurate information, one has to question if journalists rushed to break the information they received for the sake of breaking it first. Since integrity is a core principle of journalism, being right is the better choice.

Finally, in light of the Boston Marathon tragedy on Monday, the question of what to cover at all comes into question. Many graphic

photographs were released in light of the explosions, and some TV outlets broadcast live footage from the Boston Marathon finish line. There is a difficult line to toe during events like this, and while journalists owe the public the truth about a situation, it does cross the line into exploitative if pushed too far. That line may change over time and based on the event, but it is one that journalists must constantly be aware of.

The media landscape is rapidly changing, but Jana Winter's subpoena should offer the news industry to take a step back to look at the ethics of new media. Where should the line be drawn in terms of politics, the 24-hour news cycle, and in terms of what should even be shown or reported on? It will be interesting to see how these changes in the journalism industry shake out, especially for those USD students, like me, that want to be journalists. Journalists serve an important duty to society and should be held to the highest standards, especially in breaking news scenarios.

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OPINION



Photo Courtesy of Flickr CC/mark@roxberries

These dancers at a luau in Hawaii stand in stark contrast to what some believe was a failed attempt to bring island culture to our welcome week here at USD.

So, you think you can throw us a Hawaiian Luau?

By Diana Fontaine
CONTRIBUTOR

During the first weeks of the school year, USD hosts a variety of events in an attempt to build the campus community. For example, to kick off the start of fall semester, USD Dining Services held a luau outside the Student Life Pavilion. Often we enjoy the splendor of these festivities, but miss the cultural significance.

A traditional Native Hawaiian luau is a celebration. Today, Hawaiians host a luau to celebrate important events such as a first birthday or high school graduation. In addition to music and dance, the food prepared has many traditional ties. Some popular dishes include the taro plant steamed with coconut cream and various types of fish.

It's been a while, but if you can, I ask you to reflect on the entertainment and food options. It seemed as though

students were enjoying themselves as they mingled in their plastic leis, but after receiving insight from native Hawaiian and freshman, Anya Littlefield, my perspective completely changed.

"I was really excited at first because I was homesick," Littlefield said. "San Diego is different and I thought it would be nice to experience a part of home. Once I got there, I was angry because instead of the Kalua pig in the pit, I saw American BBQ pulled pork and Hawaiians don't even eat BBQ sauce!"

At USD's luau, there was sushi, broccoli, Chinese food, and potatoes — food most definitely not traditional to Hawaii, let alone cooked at an authentic luau.

"There was sushi. I mean, come on, sushi?" Littlefield continued. "That's Japanese. To me, it seemed as though USD didn't even try to have traditional Hawaiian food."

Former resident of Hawaii and

Junior, Courtney Ochi, though she did not attend the event herself as she was studying abroad, when reached for comment, was terse in her analysis of the issue.

"If they were to have a luau and not serve Hawaiian food, that seems really stupid," Ochi said. "Like seriously, they could have just had L&L cater."

There wasn't a taro plant in sight, which is one of the most important and historically significant parts of Hawaiian cuisine and culture. You may be saying, "so what? We aren't in Hawaii!" But why then, did we name it a 'luau'?

According to freshman Mandy Echevarria, the difference in dining options was welcome.

"The food was enjoyable because it was a good change to the normal SLP food," Echevarria said.

"As far as being Hawaiian, maybe they had pineapple, and that's about it."

Even Mandy, non-native to Hawaii, realized the mistake USD

made when they named this event "The Welcome Week Luau."

A luau is a sacred cultural Hawaiian tradition that's been destroyed by its transformation into an American feast. I know that I, for one, blindly participated in the luau; however, learning more about Hawaiian culture has given me insight into the traditional meaning behind it. Every year, we are exposed to various cultural events that have a deep meaning for certain groups of people. If we are to apply these aspects of culture in our lives, then we must be aware of the background and their significance to other people besides ourselves.

I understand that USD was trying to put on an event to welcome everyone back to campus; however, I am appalled that they would call this event a luau. It was far from it. A luau is supposed to be a joyous, gift-giving celebration with close family and friends to honor someone. People gather around the imu pit and watch as men roast the Kalua

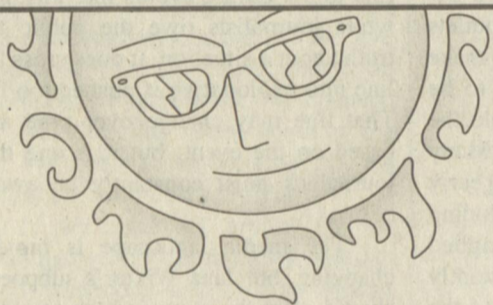
pig. Traditional Hawaiian music plays in the background with hula dancers front and center. I saw none of this outside the SLP that Tuesday evening.

I am not against a welcome feast at the beginning of the year, but why can't we call it something else? With my new found knowledge, I expect that the next Welcome Week Luau will incorporate the authentic Hawaiian food and traditions.

A luau is close to the native Hawaiians' hearts, thus it is important that our ignorance doesn't distort the meaning.

Even though USD attempted to have a luau, it was a week attempt, at that. It's a shame when we take someone else's culture for granted. At the very least, why not bother to learn about the traditions and history that comprise it?

At least learn what a traditional luau is and open your mind to the diverse cultures around you. It will do you good, I promise.



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

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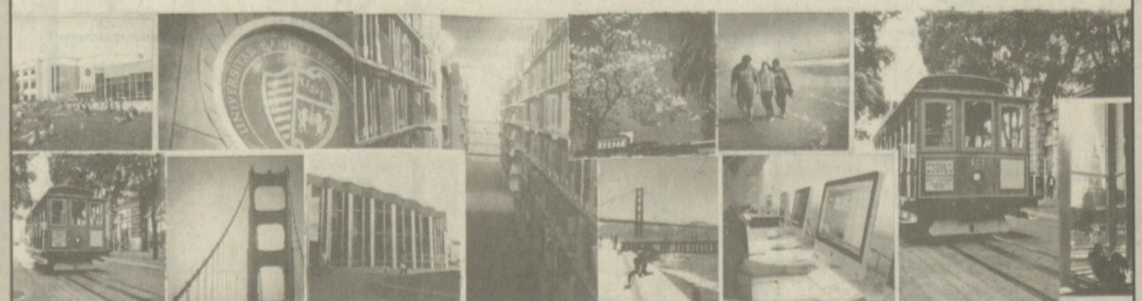
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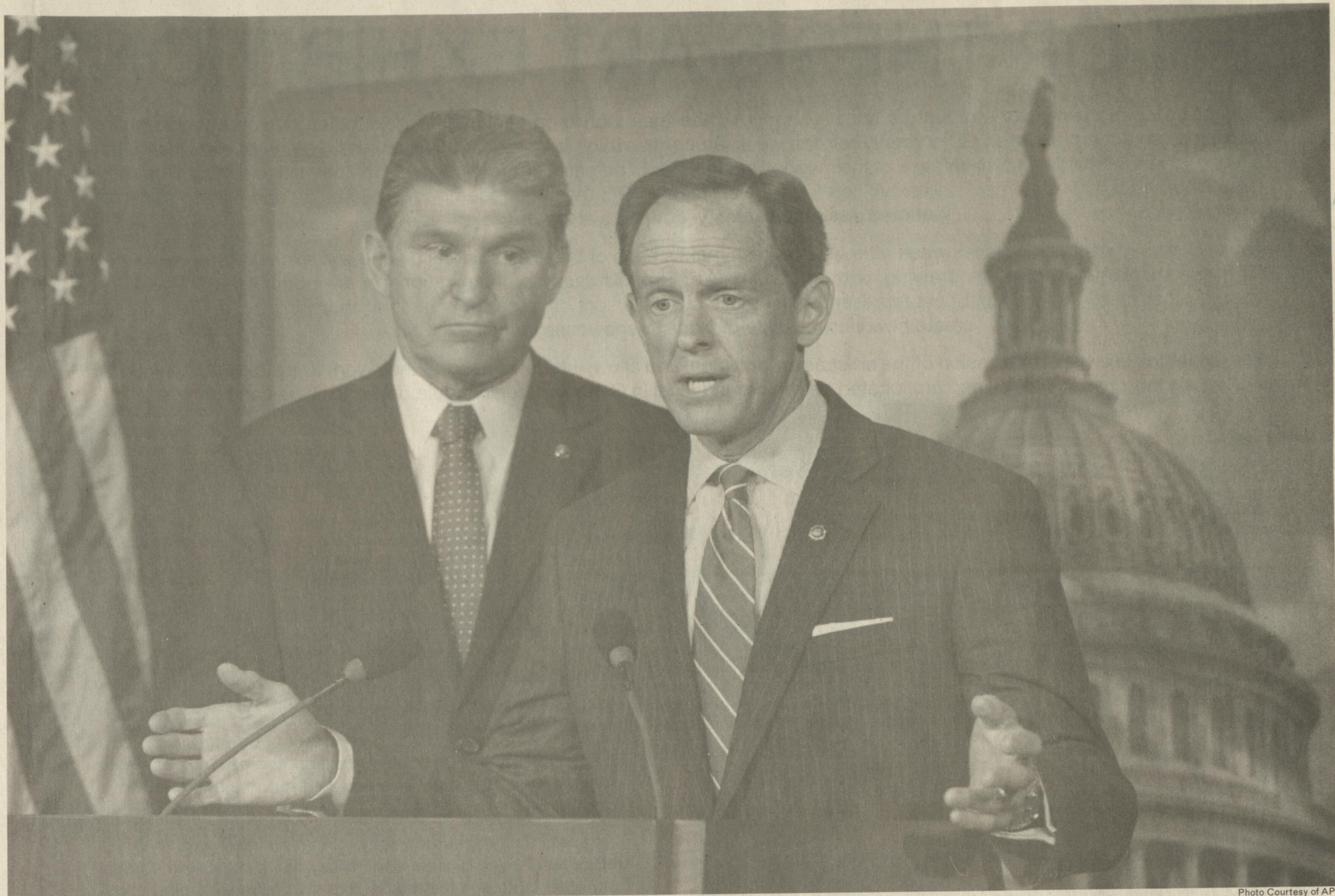
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CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE



Senators Joe Manchin(D-WV) and Pat Toomey (R-PA) stand together in their work to consolidate both parties efforts to stymie the effects of dangerous, lethal weapons going unregulated in our society. Photo Courtesy of AP

Al Queda, YouTube and its link to gun-control: *How easily available assault weapons are a boon to terrorists, and why Constitutional Originalism may be to blame*

By Oralia Valencia
CONTRIBUTOR

The gun control debate continues as Senators Joe Manchin and Pat Toomey agree to an amendment regarding background checks on gun purchases.

During the announcement of the amendment, Senator Manchin released an Al Qaeda video from 2011.

"What are you waiting for?" asks Adam Gadahn, American-born and raised in California.

Now an Al Qaeda spokesman who produced a YouTube video, Gadahn encourages militants to accumulate assault rifles as they are plentiful and easy to acquire. He emphasizes the lack of background checks at gun shows as an opportunity.

"You could go to your local convention center and buy guns without a background check and most likely without having to show an identification card," Gadahn said.

In previously produced videos, Gadahn has explained that assault rifles are easier to obtain and require less technical skills than bombs for planned acts of terror.

Federal law requires background checks by licensed gun dealers, yet there are no background checks required for purchases of firearms

at gun shows. Proposed gun control legislation out of the Senate will mandate that background checks will become a new requirement for purchases at gun shows.

The new amendment to gun control legislation is a result of a new agreement between Senators Joe Manchin (D - WV) and Pat Tommey (R - Pa) to bring awareness to a potential Al Qaeda threat from lax gun laws.

The senators brought attention to the video during Joe Scarborough's Morning Joe news program. The video brings attention to the potential risks of terrorism that can result from lenient gun laws in the United States.

The intention of bringing awareness to the video is a means to garner support for the gun safety, gun control debate that is scheduled to take place in the Senate this week.

The reminder of the existence of the 2011 video focuses attention to the question of whether or not background checks should be required, as there is a threat terrorists can acquire and use assault weapons against Americans.

I think the video raises an even larger existential question: Does the protection of an individual's second amendment right to bear arms become a national security dilemma for the United States at large?

Non-state actors foreign and domestic who desire to engage in

terror in the United States by waging wars of Jihad against capitalism and American exceptionalism pose a far greater-risk than a tyrannical United States government.

Globalization has created a tremendous amount of wealth as free-market capitalism modeled by the United States has been replicated around the world, establishing wealth creation where little existed previously.

Many nations around our globe have enjoyed the migration of capitalism from the west to developing nations, but the benefits have not come without cost.

Terrorism has migrated from the Middle East to the United States; tactics employed by terrorists abroad can and could become the modus operandi in America, as we saw in Boston this week. Tactics once used in Baghdad were used to disrupt the Boston Marathon, taking three lives and wounding over a hundred others. As capitalism has evolved to become more efficient, so has terrorism.

During the attack at the American embassy on September 11, 2012 in Benghazi, terrorists there used assault rifles, hand grenades, portable missile launchers and home-made bombs. The increased use of military style assault rifles may become the new method of choice for Al Qaeda and other non-state foreign actors of the 21st century.

When the framers and founders wrote the second amendment to the United States Constitution, their priority at the time was protection from a federal government that could become tyrannical - the priority was not foreign invaders. They established the second amendment as a solution for citizens to reclaim control of their sovereignty from a tyrannical central government.

Since the Cold War, most wars have occurred within nation states in the form of insurgencies, rather than wars between nations. Today, a new adaptation to war is the presence of non state actors who seek to engage in wars within free-market societies.

Their desire is not to conquer property and resources; they are deconstructionists who seek to dismantle modernity.

Terrorists may be enticed to leverage American Constitutional originalism, thinking that the United States Constitution should be narrowly interpreted literally and protected at all cost.

The opportunity for terrorism lies in America's priority on individual freedom to live in the Wild West, rather than place a priority in the protection of the majority of unarmed Americans. Gun rights activists obstruction of gun laws may enable emerging methods of terror employed by domestic and

foreign terrorist.

I shutter to think if Wayne La Pierre, Vice President of the NRA, were to respond to an Al Qaeda video in a similar way he responded to the shootings in Newtown Connecticut. He could proclaim such lunacy as the solution to a terrorist with a bomb is a good guy with a bomb.

The United States needs to adapt to new security dilemmas developed with the spread of globalization. In light of attempts to stick to our founder's "original" intent, we may consider the words of Thomas Jefferson in 1816.

"I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions, but laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind," Jefferson said. "As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors."

Developing security threats may require that Americans consider their world in the 21st century when interpreting a document written in the 18th century.

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FEATURE

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SENIOR THESIS ART EXHIBITIONS

During the spring semester, graduating art majors showcase their work in a senior thesis exhibition, which concludes their journey as an undergraduate USD student. For one week, students exhibit their art in the Visual Arts Gallery (or elsewhere), host a reception and provide an oral defense of their work. During the oral defense, students discuss their thesis and must respond to questions about their statement and exhibition from the art faculty. The thesis is based on their research and written statement that discusses their identity, concerns and work as an artist.

The structure of each show varies week after week, which makes each of these exhibitions unique and exciting. Seniors can use any medium (painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, new media and visual communications) or any combination of mediums, though most present pieces that best represent their artistic style. Seniors often select work from their junior and senior year, or create new work outside of class to showcase in their exhibition.

The exhibition is a visual expression of the artist as an individual and allows students to bring their work to a public domain. Senior shows change weekly and are located on the ground level in Camino. See schedule below for times and shows.

KIRSTEN CROWE / WITHERED REFLECTIONS

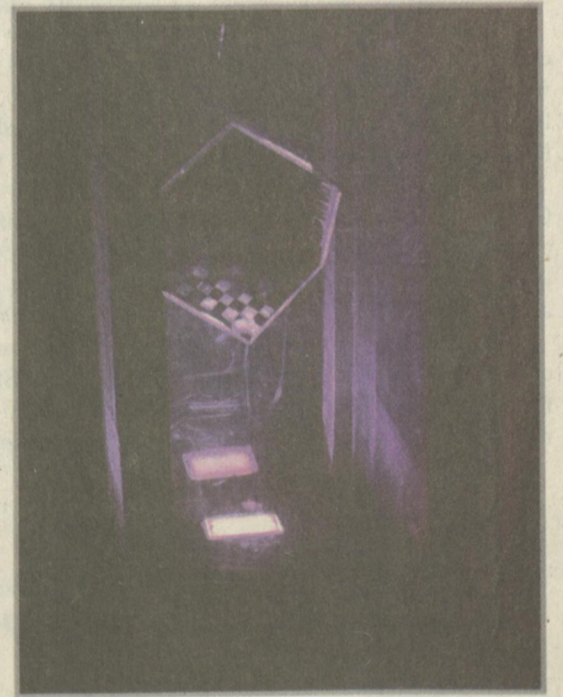


“ My photographs reveal reflections of a past time in a particular place. The Sawtooth Valley, in central Idaho is littered with dilapidated structures, tell-tale signs of its history. The abandoned cabins and barns that I photograph against a white, snow-covered backdrop capture the essence of these withered dwellings that have been left for time and man to overtake and erase. The images highlight these places that are now passed by without a second glance. The history of the region is rich due to the mining era in the region. It is my desire to remind my viewers that little snippets of our past history are all around us, lonely and forgotten. There is immense beauty in these simple structures. Through my large prints, I wish to transport my viewers to this forgot place. Hopefully they will walk away and perhaps look a little closer the next time they see an abandoned home or barn and reflect on its potential history. ”



STEFAN BRYSHA / THE BOOTH

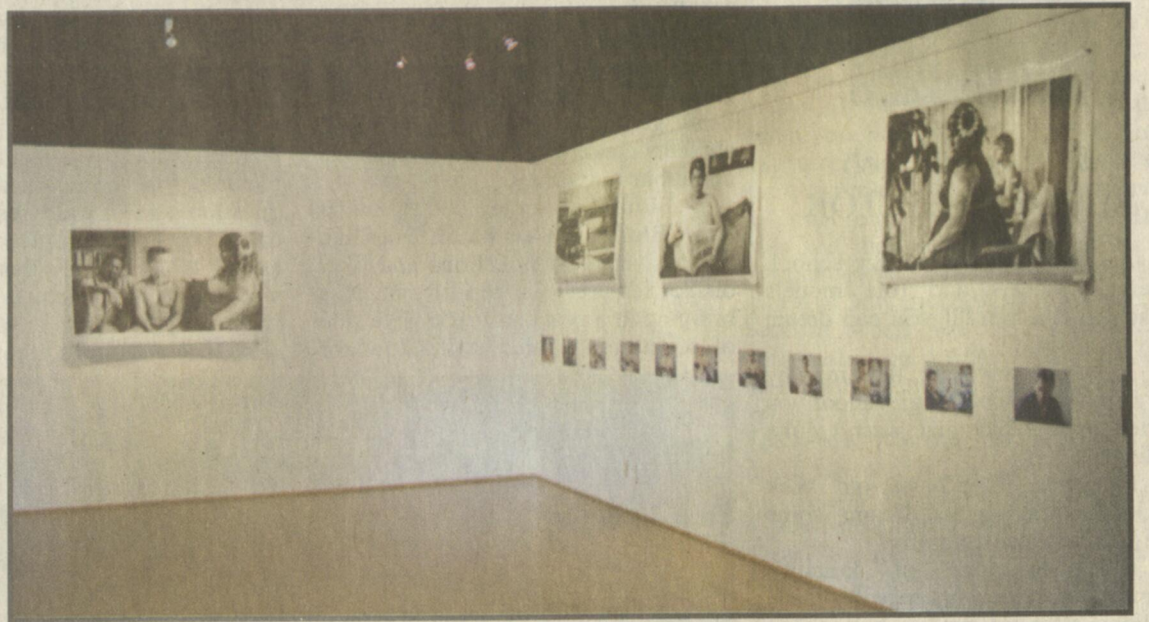
“ My installation was in response to a 24-hour period spent in isolation inside “The Booth” and the personal experience I shared with the space. I then created a physical environment that visually and audibly replicated my internal understanding of the illusion created. “Much like a mask, illusion does not change the true but only the perception of what is true. It is a temporary thing that will always return back to its habitual state. Whether it is a person, painting or a piece of audio, we constantly strive to create things that push the line between reality and the real.” ”



EDDY DE LEON /
EXPOSE AND ENGAGE



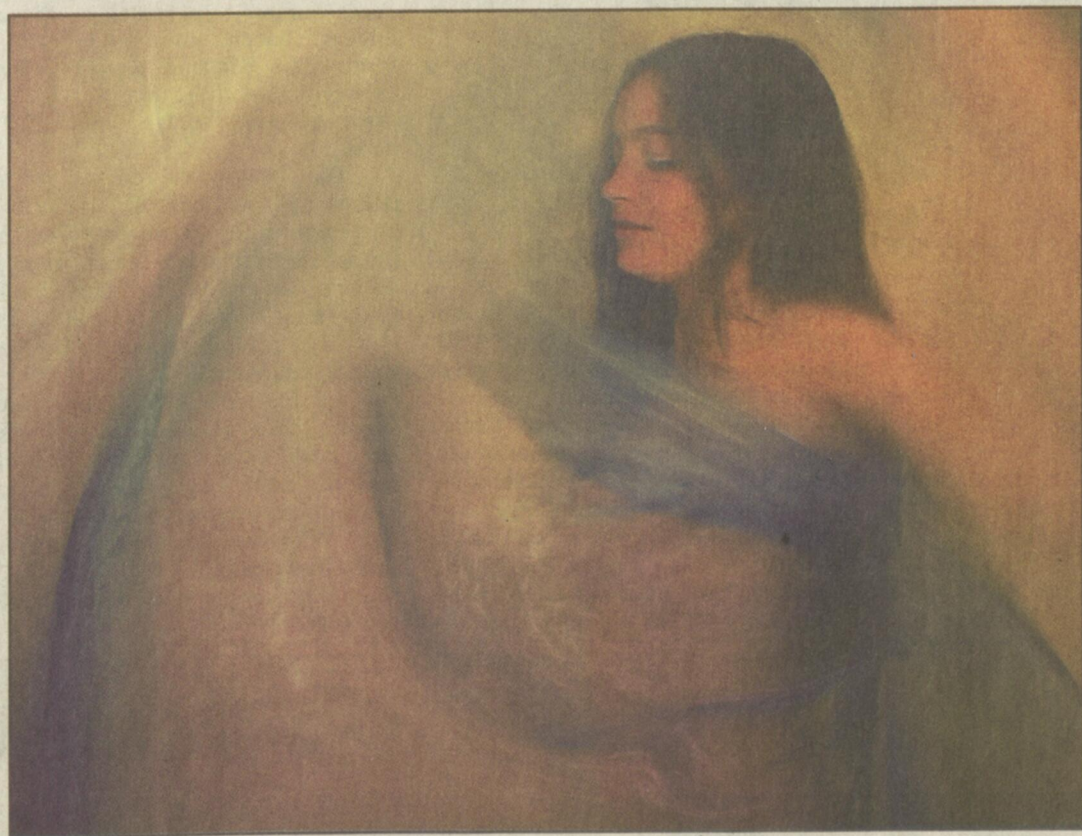
“Expose and Engage” is an exploration of the construction of the LGBT community and a visual narrative documentation of Ruthie Inacay, Andy Espinoza and how aspects of their personal story paralleled aspects of my my own narrative as well as reflected similar political and social views on the LGBT community. This photo installation contained large mural prints juxtaposed to smaller color prints to showcase a fluctuating view on sexuality; “Expose and engage” invites its audience to look at the narratives of Andy and Ruthie as visceral examples of how members of the LGBT can challenge stereotypes and the exhibitions ultimate goal was to expose the spaces between “LGBT” as just as important as the letters themselves.



MAFER ARCE /
THE CONSTRUCTION OF DREAMS

“A camera holds darkness inside, but it needs light in order to create an image. In the same way, dreams are born in the darkness; we close our eyes in order to create light in our minds, to create our dreams. Dreams are found in the subconscious world where all our fantasies and desires hide, a world that has no barriers and no restrictions, where we find our inner light. Dreams feed us with inspiration and creativity, where our reality meets our fantasies and creates a world full of new possibilities. Being awake confines our mind to a dimension full of limitations, but when asleep, our mind is free to wander and explore the unimaginable.

I decided to start experimenting with photography when I realized the freedom and power a camera gives me, it allows me to capture and reveal private moments in other people’s life. I complement my images with cross processing, double exposures and blurriness in order to enhance the viewer’s experience. This work was created during a two-year period under the guidance of my mentor Andrew Cross.

”


SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Be sure to check out the remaining exhibitions for this semester:

- APRIL 15 - 19: Hannah Day
- APRIL 22 - 26: Lauren Hovanesian
- APRIL 22 - 26: Alex Gaona
- APRIL 29 - MAY 3: Avery Downs
- APRIL 29 - MAY 3: Rafi Kopacz
- MAY 6 - 10: Olivia Igoe
- MAY 6 - 10: Noe Olivas
- MAY 13 - 17: Cara Brown

BUSINESS

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Don't forget about those "silly childhood dreams."



By Kendall Tich
BUSINESS EDITOR

As young as elementary school, parents, teachers and role models preach to children "if you can dream it, you can do it".

If you're anything like me, by the time you reached high school you started to feel like that wasn't quite realistic.

However, for 17-year-old Nick d'Aloisio, making his dreams come true was just the beginning.

D'Aloisio, one of Britain's youngest entrepreneurs recently made millions after selling his cell phone application, Summly, to Yahoo.

D'Aloisio turned a dream he had while taking an exam at school into a multimillion-dollar deal that is likely to set him up for success for the rest of his life.

It's difficult not to be inspired and motivated by such stories but it's sometimes even harder to acknowledge your own ability to achieve what may currently seem like the impossible.

Perhaps the biggest dream you will ever chase to achieve is what Paulo Coelho describes in "The Alchemist" as one's "personal legend", or goal in life.

As college students, we have a number of common goals: acing an upcoming test, getting a 4.0 GPA or getting accepted into a top graduate program.

These goals become our day-to-day goals that we incorporate into our daily activities and decisions.

Those dreams that we keep in the back of our minds, however, such as creating a billion dollar company, becoming the first female president or travelling to space are hardly ever recognized after a certain age.

This is not necessarily because they cannot be accomplished, but rather because the reality of day-to-day goals is what dominates our lives.

Our dreams are altered during the course of our lives based on the experiences to which we are exposed.

By the time we enter college, we forgo on many of our childhood dreams, using excuses like "it was just a silly dream" or "it was just a phase."

Although it is important to dream within certain boundaries, diminishing your belief in your own ability to achieve your goal is often the first mistake we make as adults.

College is perhaps the most crucial time in our lives in terms of setting ourselves up for positive and prosperous futures.

Because of this, calling dreams "silly dreams" and forgetting the opportunity to achieve them can have negative consequences on our futures.

For example, take a high school student getting ready to apply to college. She is the first in her family to have graduated high school and is hoping to get a soccer scholarship at a prestigious university next year.

After going through a rough patch with her friends that has translated over to multiple failures in school, she is beginning to worry about that soccer scholarship.

She starts to feel as though going to college was just a dream and something that she cannot accomplish.

From this point on, she will be operating under the notion that she will not succeed—and more often than not, this is what leads to the biggest chance at failure.

Whether your dream may be to start an app like Nick d'Aloisio or to travel the world after graduation, keep those dreams close to your heart even when they seem impossible.

Some of the most successful people in the world began their lives with one single dream. Those dreams never became "silly childhood dreams" but rather turned into goals and opportunities.

Setting goals and following through with those goals is perhaps the biggest key to success. As soon as you let go of your ability to dream, you also let go of your motivation to succeed.

Ask and answer those little life questions on the new iPhone app, Blurtopia

By Kendall Tich
BUSINESS EDITOR

Blurtopia, a new mobile phone application that could potentially change the way the entire world views and interacts with social media. For the past few years, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter have dominated the charts in terms of most downloaded and used apps—but something new is coming.

Blurtopia is taking social media and social networking a step further by allowing companies and the public to interact in new ways and it is being created right here in San Diego. Because of this proximity, USD has been given a unique page where students can engage in conversations about our university.

Similar to other social media apps, Blurtopia uses basic ideas like photo sharing, connections and like/dislike features. On top of that, it is bringing in a new comprehensive side of social media that will allow for

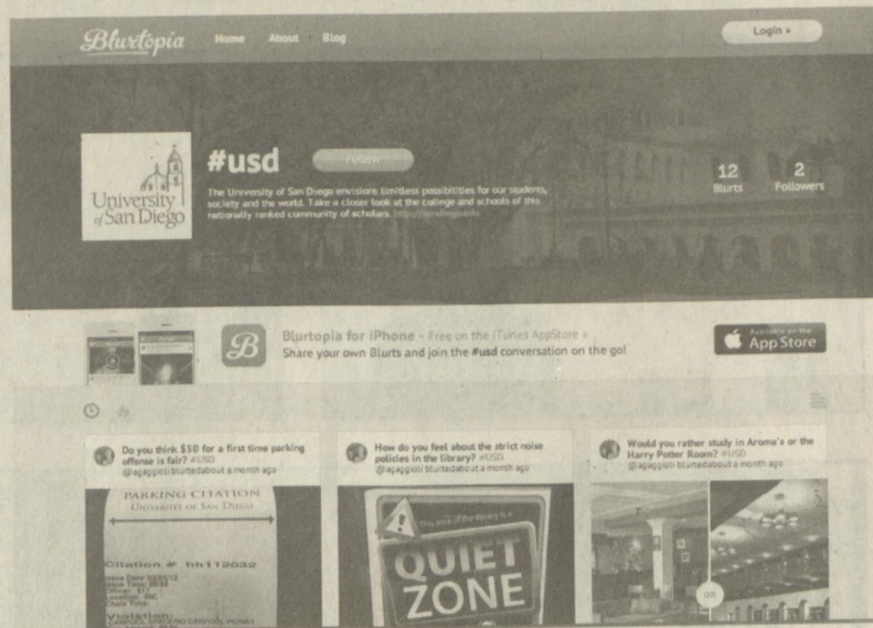
user communication and interaction.

Every day, you are posed with big and small questions and decisions. What should I wear today? What restaurant is better to take a date to? Where should I study abroad? Blurtopia has created a platform for these questions to be discussed and answered.

The questions that would apply to the like/dislike options would be questions such as "should I buy this shirt?" and the questions for which you would use the rating option would be along the lines of "how good is the food at this restaurant?"

On the USD Blurtopia page, students can post questions and pick 1 of 3 response options for other users. These options are "like/dislike", "rate 1-5 stars" or "this or that". For "this or that" questions, you post two different pictures that correspond with your question and people respond based on those. For example, if you were asking "this shirt or that shirt", you would also post pictures of both the shirts for other users to vote upon.

Once a Blur is created, you can



Blurtopia's USD page gives students the opportunity to participate in asking and answering questions that affect our university community.

put it into a specific category. These categories range from humor to fashion to travel and help to set users up with categories that relate to their interests and the Blurs they would be able to give the most input to. After this, you hit send on your Blur and it is registered in your group or on the system. When people respond to your Blur, the results of the question you posted are creatively displayed in a circle graph with percentages. This makes decision making a little less stressful and the pressure is on the users that answer your question rather than just yourself.

One of the most applicable features of Blurtopia is the group that has been created for USD. Sophomore Alex Gaggioli is currently an intern at Blurtopia and is excited for the university community to become involved in this new form of social media.

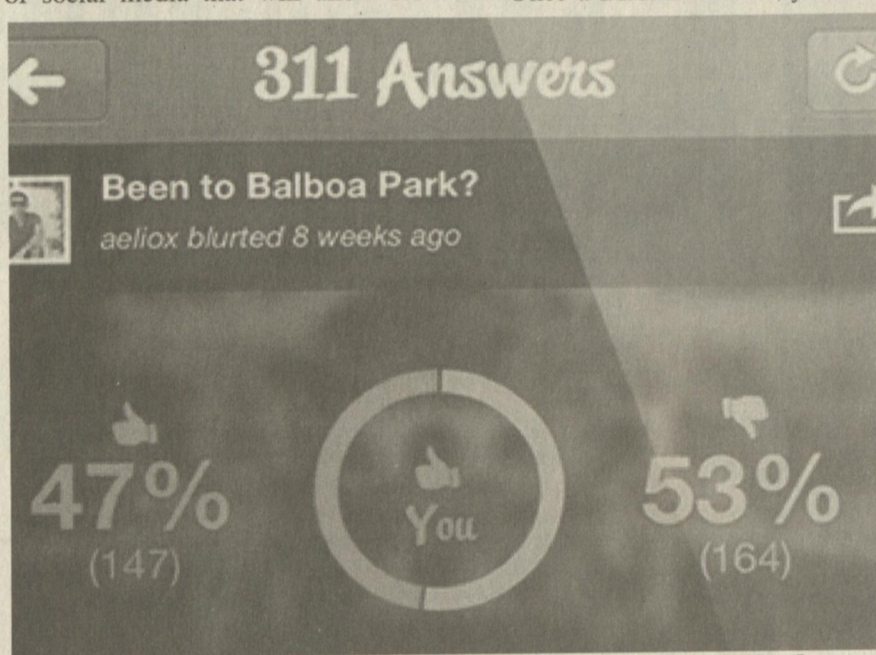
"Blurtopia is a great way for students to engage in conversations about USD and can be very valuable for day to day decisions as well as questions that clubs or organizations

on campus may need answered," said Gaggioli. "It is a way for students to voice their opinions in regards to others decisions as well as campus decisions."

Blurtopia is currently available in the Apple App Store for iPhones and the USD conversation page is now in use. Online (Blurtopia.com/tags/USD) you can download the app and join the USD conversation page to start posting Blurs for other USD students.

The creators of Blurtopia are working to improve the application and make it more comprehensive and user friendly. The new updates that have been implemented have added a lot of new features to increase user friendliness and user interaction. According to the Apple App Store, Blurtopia currently has 39 customer ratings averaging a 4.5 out of 5 stars.

Blurtopia is a fun way to have questions answered and decisions made by others and provides users with a convenient platform to "Blur", or speak their minds.



Blurtopia allows users to ask little and big life questions and receive responses to those questions by the touch of a button.

Fat Sal's is "makin' sandwiches" over in Pacific Beach

By Henry Kittle
STAFF WRITER

Look out Rubicon, there's a new sandwich shop in town and its not for the weak hearted. Fat Sal's, located on Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach, is the cutting edge culinary vision of three friends from New York.

The founders are made up of food lovers Jerry Ferrara, better known as "Turtle" from HBO's hit series Entourage, Joshua Stone, who began working in an Italian Deli at age thirteen, and master chef Salvatore Capek also known as, "Fat Sal."

The three entrepreneurs first opened Fat Sal's in Westwood, LA, on the outskirts of UCLA's campus with a simple goal in mind: to bring sandwiches as delicious as they are over the top to food savvy West Coasters.

Common ingredients in their signature "Fat Sandwiches" include steak, chicken fingers, mozzarella sticks, french fries, onion rings and crispy bacon all neatly layered on extra wide, hero garlic bread.

The business model is ideal for college students. Fat Sal's is open daily from 11 p.m. - 3 a.m. and offers a plethora of drunk munchies and greasy hangover cures.

USD students have certainly picked up on just how tasty the Fat



USD students are heading over to Fat Sal's, a new sandwich shop in Pacific Beach with new and interesting ways to make a sandwich.

Sal's food is.

"I always eat the first half [of his sandwich] really fast and then slow down on the second. The sandwiches are heavy but so good" said senior Ian Blom.

The shop opens up to the street and the walls are covered with massive flat screens featuring all major sporting events going on around the world.

Besides their ultra saucy, meat stuffed sandwiches, the menu also

has a selection of salads, wraps, hot dogs and few leaner sandwiches for the more health conscious customers such as the Albacore tuna.

But, the meats permeate almost all aspects of the food. For example, there is a Korean BBQ steak salad as well as bacon cheeseburger and buffalo chicken cheese french fries.

Where meat cannot be added, substitutes are made to keep things interesting. There are five specialty

milkshakes on the menu, one of which includes vanilla ice cream, a whole slice of New York cheesecake, strawberries and graham cracker crumbs. The options for additions are numerous and certainly keep the sandwiches interesting.

"The sandwiches have everything you never knew you wanted in a sandwich" said junior Christian Rosier.

The pinnacle of Fat Sal's menu is the "Big Fat Fatty," a sandwich that makes professional eaters quiver.

The colossal beast of a sandwich is made up of cheesesteak, five cheeseburgers, pastrami, chicken fingers, bacon, mozzarella sticks, fried eggs, jalapeno poppers, fries, onion rings, chili, marinara, "fat" sauce, all melted onto a 27 inch garlic hero.

The sandwich costs \$49.95 and is only available for their food challenge. If, however, someone miraculously finishes the monster in 40 minutes or less, the sandwich is free. Best of all, the winner of the challenge may create and name their own "fat sandwich."

Fat Sal's New York inspired slogan, "We're making sandwiches over here" says it all. Fat Sal's has attitude and they'll keep making sandwiches whether you like them or not. With new Fat Sal's being built in Hollywood, CA. and Austin, TX, there's no telling how big Fat Sal's can get.

APP OF THE WEEK

aTimeLogger 2

track your time quickly and easily

aTimeLogger2 is essentially an updated version of aTimeLogger. This app is a productivity app that allows you to record the duration of your activities throughout each day at the touch of a button. It then calculates how much time during the day you spend doing productive activities versus leisure activities.

aTimeLogger2 features a new design and new features that have made the app more useful.

It includes all the features of the original aTimeLogger plus a new option where the app sends a reminder to let you know when your designated time to ending an activity is.

If you are only planning to spend

1 hour on Facebook each day, the app will let you know when that hour has passed. After a day of activities has been logged, a pie chart shows how much time you spent on each activity relative to the rest.

If you are struggling with time management, aTimeLogger is the perfect app to manage your activities.

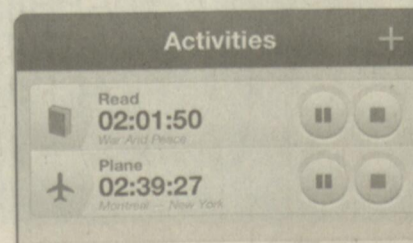


Photo Courtesy of aTimeLogger2

Savvy tips for saving and managing money this summer

By Rebecca Lukito
CONTRIBUTOR

With summer just around the corner, many USD students are going back home or traveling abroad. While some of us may take classes or work to keep busy, others might have more free time to meet up with old friends or hang out with family. Amidst all the catching-up and social events that go into the hot summer months, here are some tips on saving money no matter what you are doing for the summer.

1) Cook at home. This is probably the most popular and tried-and-true tip for saving money over the summer. Instead of dining out with friends for some fancy Italian food topped with parsley, why not find the recipes online and cook them yourselves? Perhaps invite all your friends over for dinner, with everyone bringing a recipe of the dish they would like to eat. You can buy your ingredients fresh at a local farmers market and tweak the recipe to fit your taste. Don't know how to cook? Well, nowadays, there's a YouTube video for everything. You will be sure to find a tutorial on how to cook your favorite dish. Most USD students agree that eating in is the easiest way to save money.

"During the summer, I find I have a lot of time to myself where I can cook. I go to Costco and buy in bulk- and then save a bunch of money because I'm not eating out" said junior Anthony Nguyen.

2) Carpool. Carpooling is a fun way to save gas and money. Grab your best buds and take a road trip or day trip to the beach, a national park, or perhaps even go to that one small town known for its soft serve ice cream. You can make a playlist of all the best songs and blast it in the car, or you can do as I do and download the soundtrack to The Dark Knight and blast that in the car just to make an adventure all the more epic.

3) Make your own coffee. Are you a coffee addict? Are you in line for Starbucks every morning? At three to four dollars or more a drink,



Kendall Tich/The Vista

Saving money over the summer has become easier with some some useful tips that will hopefully alleviate some of the stress that ac-

companies spending and managing money. this little habit can end up costing you a lot of money over time. If you are going back home, chances are that your parents already have a coffee machine. Ask for help and learn how to make your own coffee. You can adjust the sweetness to fit your needs or add flavors in. You can even blend the coffee with milk and ice in a blender, add caramel or chocolate sauce on top and create your own frappuccino.

4) Find a cheap getaway. If you are desperate to get away from home, perhaps a cheaper vacation alternative may be best. While nothing beats the beautiful beaches and warm sand of the Bahamas, perhaps an outdoor camping trip will fulfill your nature cravings. We are already in San Diego, a place known for beautiful beaches,

so perhaps a camping trip with friends will be a nice change of scenery.

5) Check out fun local events. Usually, there is a listing of weekly events that can be found either in the newspaper or online. In the summer, there are plenty of fairs and outdoor festivals to go to. These events are also good events to go with your family. Perhaps bonding with your sister over a snow cone or betting your brother that he won't eat a fried stick of butter will bring about that bond that you haven't had since you were younger.

6) Have a movie marathon. Go to a friend's house or host it at yours, but a movie marathon is the way to relive those high school memories. By gathering at one person's house, you will also be able to save money on electricity because you will not

be using any at your own house. Electricity and air conditioning costs are bound to increase dramatically during those summer months. With a movie marathon, you have an excuse to stay up all night eating junk food and drinking energy drinks for a reason other than finals.

7) Stop shopping. Now this is a hard one for many people, but do you really need that shirt? You probably already have two just like it in your closet. Instead of buying into the trends, buy pieces that make you look good and that will last for a while. Fashion trends come and go but a great classic piece will save you money.

8) Save your receipts. It is important to keep all of your receipts in order to track your day to day

spending and spending trends. It is not uncommon to be shocked by the way those small purchases add up once you review those receipts that you keep. By keeping and organizing your receipts, you can keep better track of your spending habits. This also helps you become aware of your spending and reduce the amount of money spent on unnecessary items.

9) Use cash. Today, most of us carry our credit or debit cards. Using a card is easier, faster and there is less hassle. It is also lighter to carry just a card in your wallet instead of bills and a bunch of coins. However, it is extremely easy to overspend using a card because you don't really need to pay attention as much as you do when you carry cash. With cash, you have a certain amount and you have to learn to ration that amount. You have to count out your coins and dollar bills and then stuff the change back in your wallet. This forces you to be aware of how much you are spending because when you buy something with cash, you are physically giving up something in exchange for another. When you run out of cash, it will make you realize that you are spending too much too quickly.

10) A tip for those traveling abroad: save money when you travel abroad by not staying in fancy resort hotels. This is a little tip I picked up from my own traveling adventures because you are traveling abroad to see the sights and experience a new country- not the interior of your hotel room or the fancy poolside margaritas. The money you spend on that fancy hotel could have gone to scuba diving or parasailing.

As a student, staying at a hostel isn't a bad idea, especially since all you really need is a place to sleep and shower at night. Although, if you are traveling to a more dangerous country, then by all means, stay at a more secure location. Safety first! As college students, summer should be a time to relax, catch up with old friends and start earning money for the real world.

Hopefully these tips will help relieve some of the stress that comes with spending and managing money during the summer months.

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ARTS & CULTURE

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for
forgetfulness

By Blanca Torii

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

It's coming to a close, the end of my college experience. It's not the end of school for me, but the term "college experience" as I so often saw, read and heard as depicted before attending. I had this idea of college before I came to USD. I saw dorm rooms, microwaveable food, read about activities with red cups and heard about people having the best time of their lives.

I'm not the 'feeling' type; I don't usually get sentimental. But there's a sense of nostalgia that arrives with the inclusion of anything that comes to a close.

In the words of J. K. Rowling, "I open at the close."

You know that feeling; that sense of being on the verge, of teeter-tottering back and forth between the final and looking back on the beginning. When a firework is about to explode, at the final moment there is a pause. The sparks fly about, then rest on the wick. The same with a candle about to go out. The semester is almost to an end. The challenge is almost complete, the puzzle is about to be solved.

In the fourth book of the Harry Potter series, one of Harry's tasks is to solve a puzzle including a snitch (used in the game of Quidditch) with the five words engraved on the side. Eventually someone tips him off to hold the snitch underwater and he solves the riddle.

I don't know exactly what will "open at the close," once I walk across the stage, but I do notice a difference in my attitude. The change in my attitude stems partly from the sense of expectancy and excitement in people asking me what I'm going to do after graduation. They ask me whether I've just met them or known them since freshman year. I can feel the motivation returning, the onset of "senioritis" has passed and clear thinking has taken its place. I can feel that rise of opportunities. It's padded with filling out applications, perfecting resumes, etc., of course; it's not completely based in musings. The semester is not yet finished. The feeling is not so much the sadness that comes with endings but a certain anticipation of some sort of build-up about to be exposed.

The other day I was looking at the sunset. This was a few weeks ago. I understood something in that moment. The sun between the trees and the sky in the foreground created a picturesque image. I wanted my camera, badly. I wanted to share it with my friends. But I resisted the urge and I just stood there in awe. I've never understood not wanting to live in the moment; not doing something volatile as an excuse to live in the moment, but wanting to enjoy the moment as it is. This way of thinking for me is starting to change. Only then did I understand the desire to capture a moment, encapsulate it, save it for later. To remember it as it was, for the future.

Behind the baseball field, in the same place where I saw the sunset, there used to be words graffitied on a telephone pole. It's now washed off, but it used to say, "Life is not spectator sport, so quit watching." Photographers stay in the background. They don't participate in whatever event they're covering.

Yet it's okay to not always take pleasure in the moment. It's okay to think of the future. Memories are so malleable. It's okay to want to have an image to recall the memory. Memory works in this way. It latches onto images from our experiences and are triggered by these images. I've always been afraid of morphing memories into something that differs from the way they actually happened. Now I seem to have solved a part of that puzzle. I hope to carry with me, wherever I go, whatever I have, pictures, papers, ticket stubs, to remember my time at USD. I know you will too.



The Scottish band Frightened Rabbits (pictured above) performed with fellow Scottish band Twilight Sad at The Belly Up Tavern on March 12.

Photo courtesy of Frightened Rabbit

Frightened Rabbit stirs it up at Belly up

By Loren Robb
CONTRIBUTOR

Apparently San Diego is fond of the Scottish. Or it may just be their blood that runs the streets. While I waited for the main act to grace the stage this misty Tuesday night in Solana Beach, I struck up a conversation with the fellowship surrounding me. What was felt there was an Atlantic swell, and America was the outnumbered victim.

On March 12, Scottish bands Twilight Sad and Frightened Rabbit to perform at The Belly Up Tavern in Solana Beach.

Banker's Hill, North Park, 5th & Market Street: scattered across the city, the United Kingdom had found its haven among the streets of San Diego. Tonight was an immigrant's opportunity to give thanks to the land that encouraged him,

and I was simply a passenger on the vessel. James Graham, vocalist for the opener Twilight Sad, started the gestures with a dialogue (which I can say with certainty) that was misunderstood by anyone not last named O'Connell.

The exchange set forth a tone juxtaposing inclusion and distance. The audience was engaged but nonetheless entranced because we were the show. And then we weren't. Twilight Sad was an echoing trio rummaging through its set looking for answers. The music had a spontaneous taste, as if the sounds were recently altered for American palates. They played on with jokes and laughs, but they seemed lost in place not sound. Nonetheless, the opener did as any appetizer operates: leave us satisfied but ultimately craving more.

As attendees at the The Belly Up strengthened in number, and the night grew restless, the patrons of Frightened Rabbit grew restless. We were diseased, encompassed by the show's eclectic

mix of tranquility and fascination that sponsored our appetites. As they took the stage an air of excitement permeated the tavern, and you could sense the direction.

The music was a drunken monologue (it was my friend's birthday) that exposed the current fever for good folk music. Although Frightened Rabbit covers bases of pop and rock, the show was premised around acoustics.

Lead singer Scott Hutchinson showed vocal technique and prowess, wowing his listeners with solos reminiscent of Mumford and Sons or Dave Matthews Band. The ideas seemed centered around the abandonment of everything except his voice and his guitar.

The show hosted a collection of highlights, most notably the catchy "Late March, Death March." Hutchinson introduced the tune as "Death March" and it has become a personal favorite ever since. Precluded

by cheers and shouts, it was evident I was not alone in this idea. The song kept the audience dedicated to a chorus drenched in handclaps and rhythmic. It was our pinnacle of involvement, and a bitter taste that the show would soon come to a close. As the set closed and the encore resumed, it was only Hutchinson who decided to return for more.

It was a brilliant ending to a night of flicking guitars and drum, both acoustic and amplified. After a few songs the band once again accompanied its vocalist; it was a beautiful sense of seeing Frightened Rabbit in full circle. They were stripped, fragmented and then put back together again. They did this to themselves for the audience, and for the purpose of getting to know people they'll never actually know.

But what was taken from this Tuesday night show in Solana Beach is this: cheap and fleeting love never sounded so brilliant.

Rudy Francisco is like
a beat boxer, but with
wordsBy Khea Pollard
Assistant A&C Editor

Poet Rudy Francisco graced USD with his poetic genius April 8th, at 6 p.m. in the SLP Exhibition Hall in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness week.

You may know him from the poetry venue North Park, Elevated, as a member of the popular group of San Diego performance artists, Collective Purpose. Francisco is particularly well-respected among the collegiate circuit, performing on many college campuses around the country.

The workshop was intimate. Audience members were encouraged to free-write their own poems in the format of a letter to someone who has been affected by sexual or domestic violence. After the writing session, those who wanted to share their work with the rest of the audience were encouraged to do so.

Following the workshop he performed some of his most popular works such as "Deuces" (his poem about Chris Brown) and "Monster" along with a few more selections from his first chapbook "Getting Stitches". Specifically, "Monster", a poem off his latest album "Scotch Tape" condemns the "millions of monsters walking the earth pretending to be men", wholly encompassing the week's theme.

His motivation for the poem, he said, was to create a piece different from his previous works that was not about heroes, but rather, some[thing] he hates.

As the evening progressed, the San Diego native spoke of his younger

years as a fledgling poet watching Def Poetry Jam and emulating his favorite poets. Francisco shared his thoughts about his first poetry slam, his first open mic, and he reflected on his high school years in which his first poem was read to a room full of sulky teenagers receiving their unexpected praise. In between each performance piece he engaged the crowd with his quirky personality and sense of humor for the span of two hours with only a small break between the workshop and his feature lineups.

Many of his works promote awareness about issues such as domestic violence, religion, and politics while other works address life issues that are both hard-hitting as well as satirical. In one of his poems entitled "Seventeen", Francisco addresses his seventeen year old self.

"Stop walking around like you are a mistake," he said.

The wide variety in subject matter of his pieces afflicted the audience with an array of emotions. At different moments in his performance the audience let out an audible chorus of "oohs" or rumblings of laughter following clever wordplay.

Among many tidbits of information that he shared, Francisco made it clear that in his mind, performance of poetry is a way to hide.

"Speaking about someone or something onstage in front of a room full of people is a lot easier than speaking directly to the person who inspired the poem," he said.

Perhaps that is why he is able to connect to the audience with such ease and conviction. That night the audience clung to Francisco's every word.

"His poetry is socially conscious; it was more than just words rhyming on a page," sophomore Je'vaughn Davis said. "The content of his poems draws

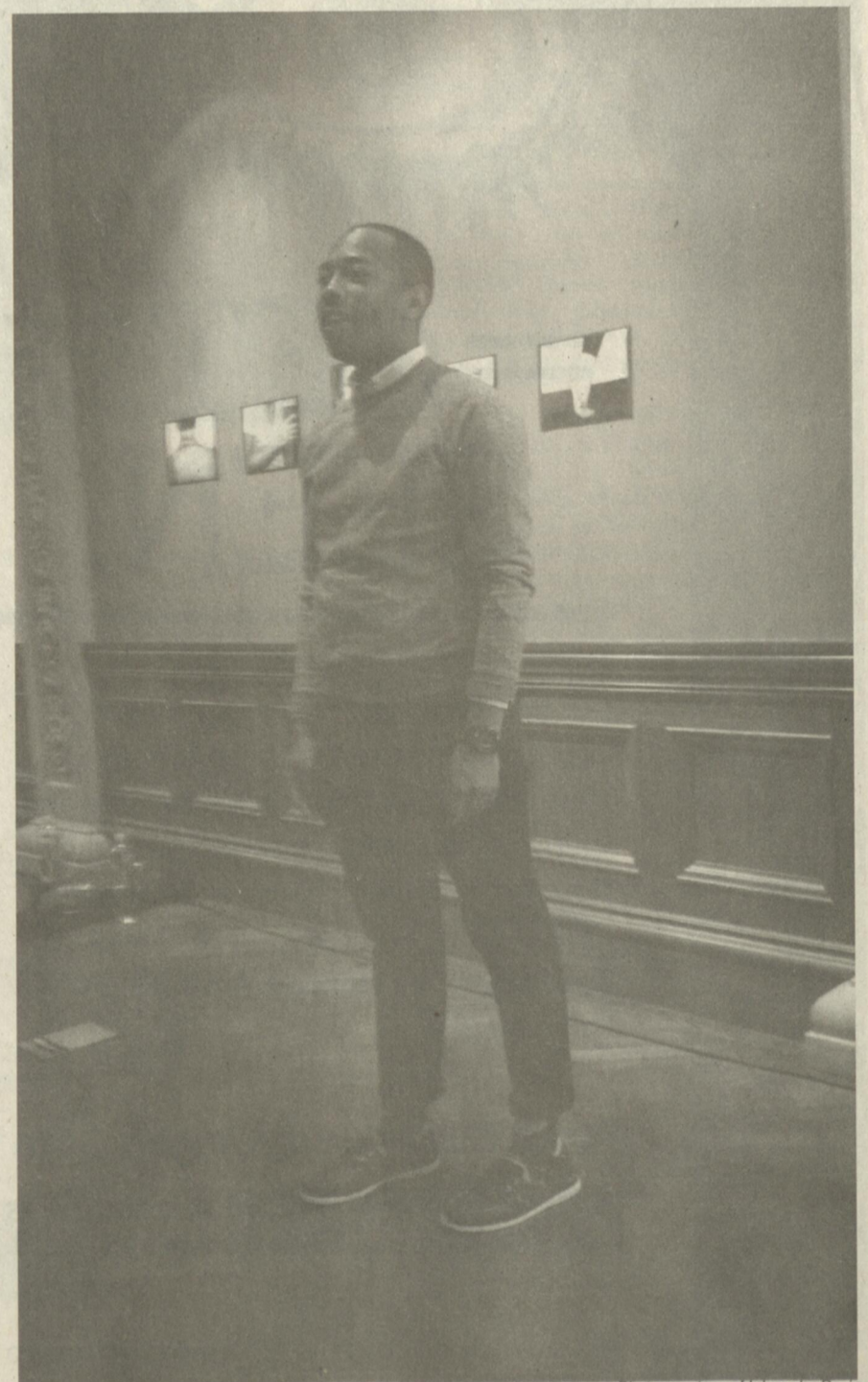


Photo courtesy of Je'vaughn Davis

Rudy Francisco performs across college campuses around the country as a spoken word artist.

you in."

The honesty of his poetry enables his personality to shine through and his words to become relatable. It's unclear whether it was the openness

of his dialogue with the audience, the beauty of his poetry, the wittiness of his conversation, or a combination of all three, but by the end of the night the audience felt closer to Rudy Francisco.

Men in "Mad": a look into the television series for viewers and nonviewers

One details an overview of the show as whole; the other briefs up the new season

By Tori Pappas
STAFF WRITER

from how much the male dominant work force let a woman control.

"Mad Men" has been able to persuade its audience of its authenticity in different ways.

"The set and costumes are so believable that I actually think I am living in the sixties for an hour every Sunday night," senior Elizabeth Grossett said. "My parents are children of this era and have said it is uncanny how many details are exactly as they remember."

This accuracy does not come at a small price. The show took over a year hiatus after season four due to budgeting issues.

Fortunately, the drama was able to rebound because of its spectators' dedication to it.

The premiere picked up on old story lines while also bringing some of the backburner characters out of the woodwork.

It is now the latter half of the 1960s and the show's creator, Matt Weiner, is sure to fill the script with the rich history of the decade.

"It is a fabulous show to engross yourself in because the factual events make you feel as though you're actually learning," Grossett said.

Draper starts out the premiere on a vacation with his wife and the entire episode is meant to mirror "The Sixth Sense" in that you question whether he is a ghost. Viewers are in for a wild spin.

"Mad Men" has survived six years on television and from the positive reviews of the premiere, it does not seem to be going anywhere.

There is an affirmative consensus from the community to give it a shot.

In the very least, it will be on the list of possible distractions from the approaching finals.

By Morgan Lewis
STAFF WRITER

Disclaimer: The following review contains spoilers.

Prior to Sunday April 7th, "Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner's description of the Season 6 premier was as lacking as Don Draper's dialogue in "Doorway," but the two hour, multi-dimensional episode makes your average "Mad Men" fanatic run around in excitement — just don't slip on Don's old-fashioned induced vomit while you're at it.

Although Weiner couldn't squeeze in some more Joan Holloway in the two hours he was given, the whole gang is back for this new season, along with a few notable additions. Among those is a surgeon, Dr. Arnold Rosen, who is a neighbor of the Drapers. Another new addition is Wharton graduate in the Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce (advertising agency) accounts department named Bob Benson who cannot stop spewing out his resume in what seems to be a quite impressive elevator interview. And the last of Weiner's key additions is a Juilliard reject, violin playing, cigarette smoking adolescent named Sandy whom the former Betty Draper—now Betty Francis—seems to care more for than anyone else in her life, including herself.

Nonetheless, Weiner picked up right where he left off. The premier is both comical and unexpected, which is as unsurprising as Roger Sterling's visits to the therapist. Crying over the death of his shoe shiner, Giorgio, but not weeping over the passing of his mother? Roger clearly had problems, and LSD is not the solution. But hey, Mrs. Sterling was 91 years old. To make

matters worse, Don's competence in his advertising profession seems to continue to spiral downward as he pitched a 'suicidal' campaign to his Hawaiian resort-owning clients. The clients' reactions are what one would have expected, as they were as shocked as the 10,000 volts that makes the difference between a sailor getting off the ship and a husband knocking on the door. And as Don is slowly declining, Peggy Olson is transforming into a Don Draper in his prime. She is becoming a spitting image of her former boss.

Don't assume that Don's losing of his mojo at work relates to what he does outside of it. The end of the two hour premier shows him sneaking into bed with Dr. Rosen's wife, and he did so for the price of a camera hidden away in the booze closet at SCDP. All the while being married to his attractive TV star Megan Draper.

You may think that Don Draper is

back; as a matter of fact, he never left.

Though everything mentioned above are all obvious observations for a regular viewer of "Mad Men," what most stood out was the show's nostalgia of the earlier seasons.

Don's accidental switching of the lighter with the soldier in Hawaii reminds the viewer of Don's continuous struggle with his identity and his trouble with the Dick Whitman to Don Draper transition; as the lingering lighter seems always find a way to get in Don's face. It was also especially pleasing to see the Carousel slideshow make a cameo, for I couldn't help myself but immediately YouTube the infamous 'Carousel scene' from the Season 1 finale. The show works in such a circular way, as it "travels around and around, and back home again, to a place where we know are loved." And truly, everything in "Doorway" is a reminder of why we love Mad Men.

When great television is the topic of conversation, the networks HBO or Showtime usually come to mind before AMC. However, AMC's hit series "Mad Men," has consistently broken this common conception. The series' dashing leading man, Don Draper (Jon Hamm), has stolen the hearts of women all over the country. The sixth season of the drama has finally begun and viewers could not have been more pleased with the April 7 premiere.

The show is set in the sixties on Manhattan's infamous Madison Avenue, hub of the advertising industry.

"Mad Men" takes its name from this notorious avenue and follows an advertisement agency as they experience the switch from black to white print and the evolution of the television.

Season one began at the beginning of this cultural decade and the previous seasons have led viewers through the ups and downs of the turbulent sixties.

From the Kennedy assassination to the Cuban Missile crisis, the show has created the perfect blend of fact and fiction to satisfy viewers.

Don Draper is the lead character that struggles with infidelity, a hidden identity, and the strong demand of a work life. Draper and his co-workers, most notably Roger Sterling, could not get anything accomplished without the help of the stunning secretaries. Joan Holloway runs the ad agency nonchalantly and her curves and permed red hair distract everyone



Photo courtesy of AMC

The cast of the AMC television series "Mad Men" returns for a sixth season.

Foodie on a mission: Claire's on Cedros Avenue Design District

The latest visit to a restaurant that serves stacks on stacks on stacks of pancakes

By Katelyn McCullough
CONTRIBUTOR

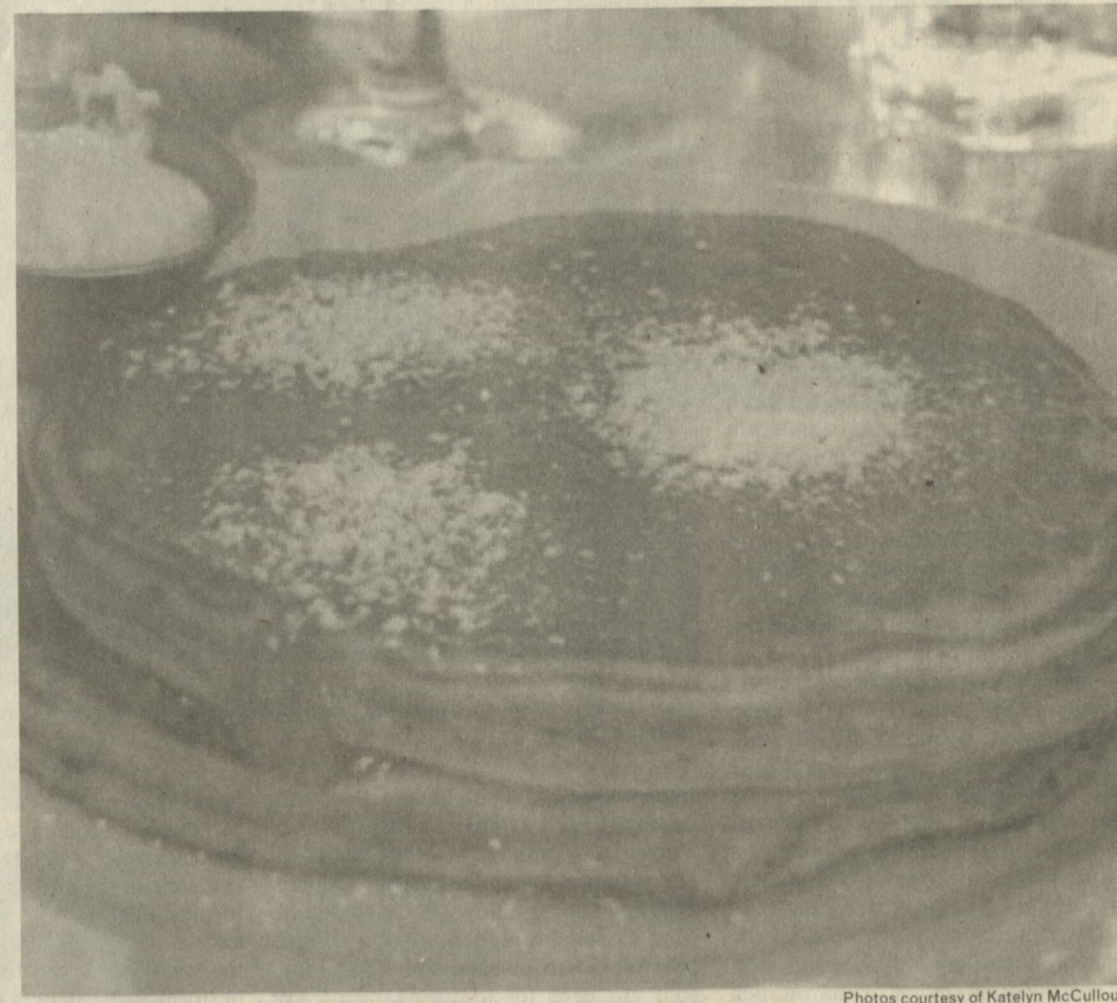
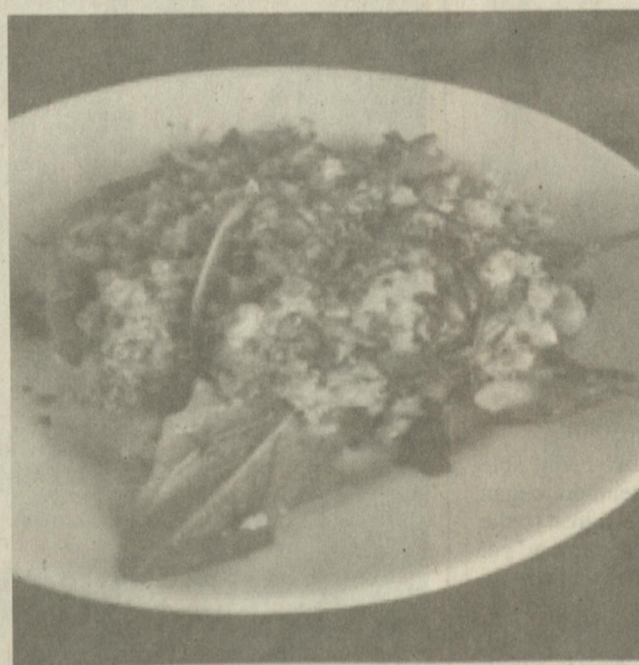
Cedros Avenue is known to many as the design district within the Solana Beach area.

The appeal of Claire's lies in the food, atmosphere and inviting space. Claire's is a home that was transformed into a restaurant by owners Claire Allison and Terri Boley a few years ago. This simplicity is what draws people in—that and the delicious food.

For starters, Claire's is known among the locals and loyalists for its pancakes, in particular its Multigrain Clairecakes. These pancakes are very light in texture, but not lacking in flavor; they hit that comfort spot that everyone seeks when eating pancakes. Any flavor of pancakes is available in a short stack (2 pancakes) or a tall stack (3 pancakes). Pancakes can also serve as a substitute for a breakfast side. Other notables on the breakfast menu are the omelets. There are ready-made combinations offered or there is the option to customize your own creation. The omelets are always good because they are made with fresh ingredients and cooked to perfection: light, fluffy and filled to the brim with toppings.

Other breakfast items are the breakfasts and southwestern combos, such as burritos, enchiladas and eggs. Along with the main entree the side options are salad, a fruit cup, herbed potatoes or tomatoes and a slice of toast. Say goodbye to flavorless gluten-free bread. At Claire's the gluten free breads and pancakes are just as delicious if not better than those with gluten.

For lunch there is a plethora of salad choices and sandwiches, the favorites being the newly introduced quinoa and vegetable salad, or the roasted squash and wild grain salad. Sandwich options include anything from a pork loin sandwich to a fried green tomato sandwich or a falafel wrap with hummus. The lunch menu is great but the appetizer section is not to be ignored. Claire's appetizer section contains some of the best items on the menu, such as the goat cheese and pear bruschetta or sweet potato fries with blue cheese sauce. The bruschetta is sweet but not overly so, in combination with the diced



Photos courtesy of Katelyn McCullough

Top left: The exterior of Claire's, a restaurant near Solana Beach. Bottom left: Quinoa vegetable salad. Top right: Pear and goat cheese bruschetta. Bottom right: Original Clairecakes

pears, apricots and cherries that coat the goat cheese. There is an explosion of flavors from the first bite and the bread is crispy enough to produce a significant crunch when bitten into.

Everyone should dine at Claire's. Despite the bustling crowds the

environment remains calm and comfortable. Unfortunately, they do not take reservations, but there is a waiting list available for those who call one hour ahead of time.

Parking may be difficult, but luckily there is the train lot directly

across the street for those opting to take public transportation. In spite of its few cons, the food is delicious for about ten dollars a plate.

The last piece of advice I will give is to go to Claire's immediately and tell others to go as well. The

experience is not something to be missed.

Claire's is open everyday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., serving breakfast all day and lunch starting from 11:30 a.m.

ARTS & CULTURE

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Student blogger Kailani Andrade on style in life and in fashion

By Angelique Bash
CONTRIBUTOR

There are approximately 7,017,846,922 people in the world who use the Internet, 348,280,154 in North America alone (internetworldstats.com). This large number can be quite intimidating to people who would like to make a name for themselves in the world of online blogging. How can one possibly stand out when there are so many others trying to do the exact same thing? Senior Kailani Andrade seems to have figured it out.

Andrade is the founder of her own blog, Kailani's Korner, which she started four years ago. The blog is comprised of things that she is passionate about.

"My blog is a fashion lifestyle blog," Andrade said. "It focuses not only on fashion but food entertainment, home decor, DIY projects and fitness tips."

"I curate my posts based off of things in my life that inspire me at

that moment," she continues. "One moment it could be stellar wedges and another it could be how to host a Sunday brunch. I post about things that are relevant in my life and things that are attainable to others."

As if it were not challenging and time-consuming enough to write about and stay current with the trends in the ever-changing fashion industry, Andrade is also an avid photographer and has her own photography business, called "Kapture by Kailani." Many of her photos can be seen on her blog.

The impact and success of Kailani's Korner was noticed early on in her blogging career, and in a big way.

"I started blogging in December of 2009, and shortly after I started I was asked to be a part of AOL's Stylists' select blogging network," Andrade said. "But I would have to say that my 'big break' was when I was featured on a billboard for Forever 21 in Times Square. It was such a surreal moment."

The popularity of Kailani's Korner has also led to Andrade being able to work with companies like Marc Jacobs, ShoeMint and Forever

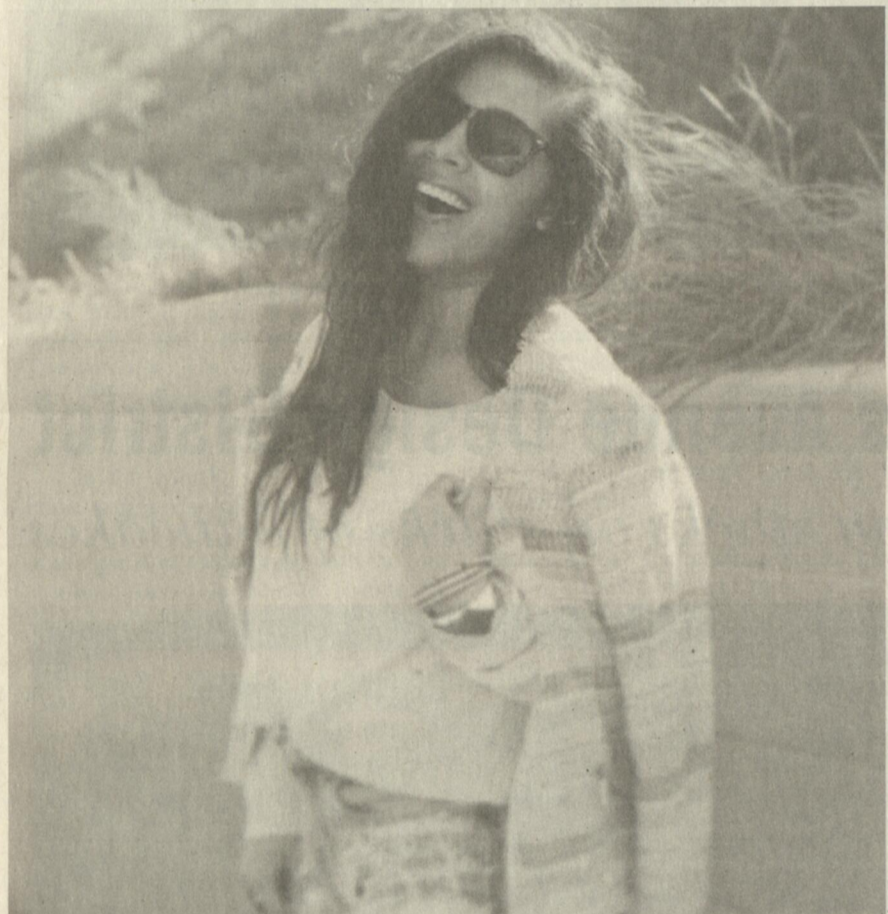


Photo Courtesy of Kailani Andrade

Senior Kailani Andrade maintains and updates a fashion lifestyle blog on a daily basis.

KAILANI

Kailani's Korner

SANDIEGO



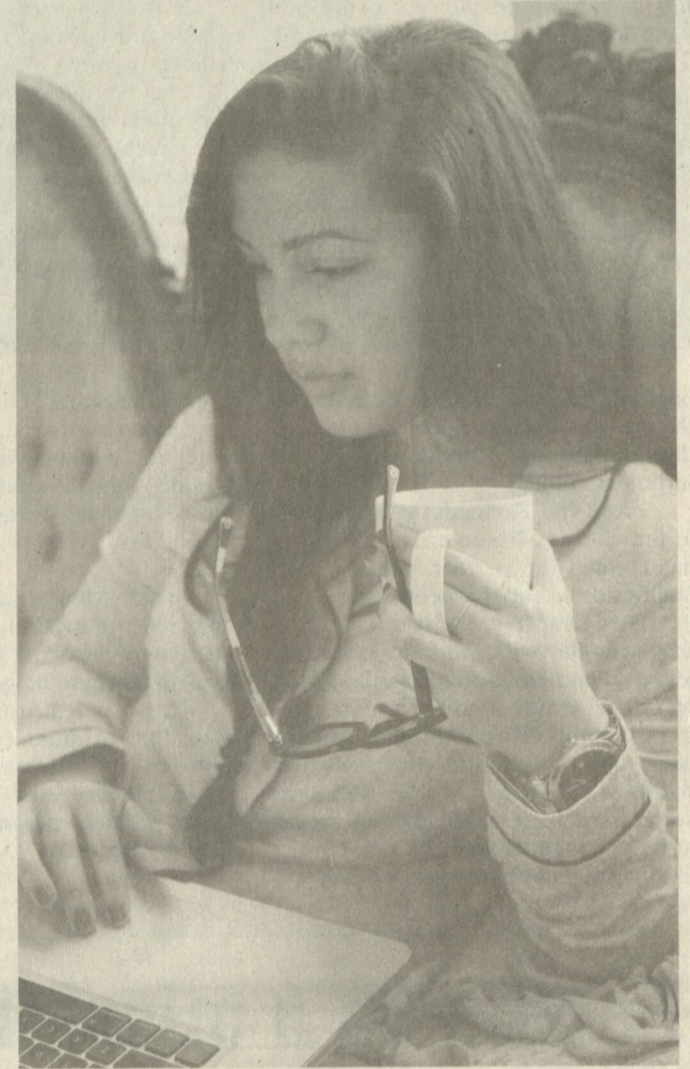
I can't live without... My chunky infinity scarf that I bought two years ago. The neutral color allows me to wear it with almost anything.



Best fall find so far? At the top of my list was finding a classic poncho. I discovered this one at Forever21 on sale for only \$18!



Dream shoe of the season? These booties from Shoemint.com are the perfect versatile shoe. You can pair them with tights



Photos Courtesy of Kailani Andrade

Top: The student fashion blogger was featured on Forever 21's blog The Skinny. Bottom left: Student blogger Kailani Andrade's billboard above Times Square's Forever 21 store. Bottom right: Andrade hopes to find a job as a set or fashion stylist for a magazine or company.

21, as well as being invited to the coveted "New York Fashion Week" last September.

Fashion Week "was such a thrilling and exciting experience," Andrade said. "I had never been to New York before so to visit NY during Fashion week was amazing."

Just like any senior about to graduate, Andrade is not sure what the future has in store for her. However, she does know that whatever her career ends up being, Kailani's Korner will remain a part of her life.

"I love blogging and all the amazing opportunities it has brought me," Andrade said. "It has become my life but I really want to experience the job industry before I commit to becoming a full time blogger. Kailani's Korner will still be apart of my life even when I have a full-time job after graduation."

Andrade shares some important pieces of advice for any of her fellow Tonerros who may be considering becoming a blogger, one being the importance of developing tough skin.

"I would do interviews and campaigns for companies and the nasty comments I would take extremely personally," she says. "But for every rude review there was a sweet one to compensate. Not everything I do will resonate with everyone but I never compromise the quality of my work."

"My biggest piece of advice is to stay true to yourself and don't compare yourself to others," Andrade said. "Post about things that inspire you."

Matt Costa is California cool

By Margaret Hartley
CONTRIBUTOR

Long shaggy brown hair, a face covered in a scruffy beard, wearing a loose tee and some dark jeans, Matt Costa looks like your average southern California dude. It was hard to spot him out as the headliner artist among the male audience at the Casbah. He also had many similarities to the opener before him, Sam Outlaw, as they both leaned on the bar in the back far left corner of the venue. The confusion was cleared up when Costa appeared from the corner to climb on stage.

The difference between Costa and most other guys born and raised in Huntington Beach, Calif. is that Costa can make some incredible music. He taught himself to play guitar at age 12, listening to Nirvana records. A skateboarding accident at 19 forced him to skate less and play music more. Not only can Costa play the guitar but he is also skilled on the piano and plays many of his songs with the accompaniment of a harmonica hanging from his neck.

This was Matt Costa's second time performing at the Casbah. He was there March 19 to promote his fourth full length album self-titled, "Matt Costa". His interactions with the audience were brief and modest. Costa was recently in Glasgow, Scotland recording for his album with Tony Doogan and an ensemble of Scottish musicians.

The crowd at the Casbah was an

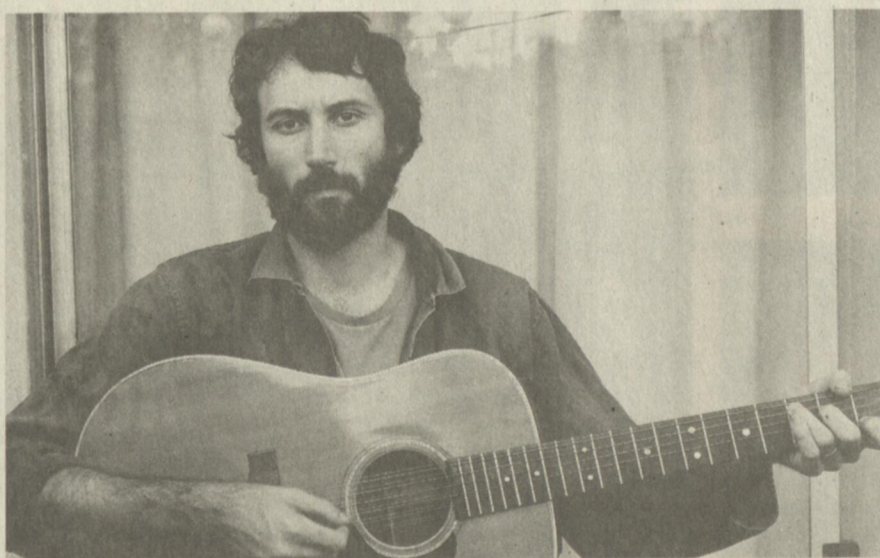


Photo courtesy of Matt Costa

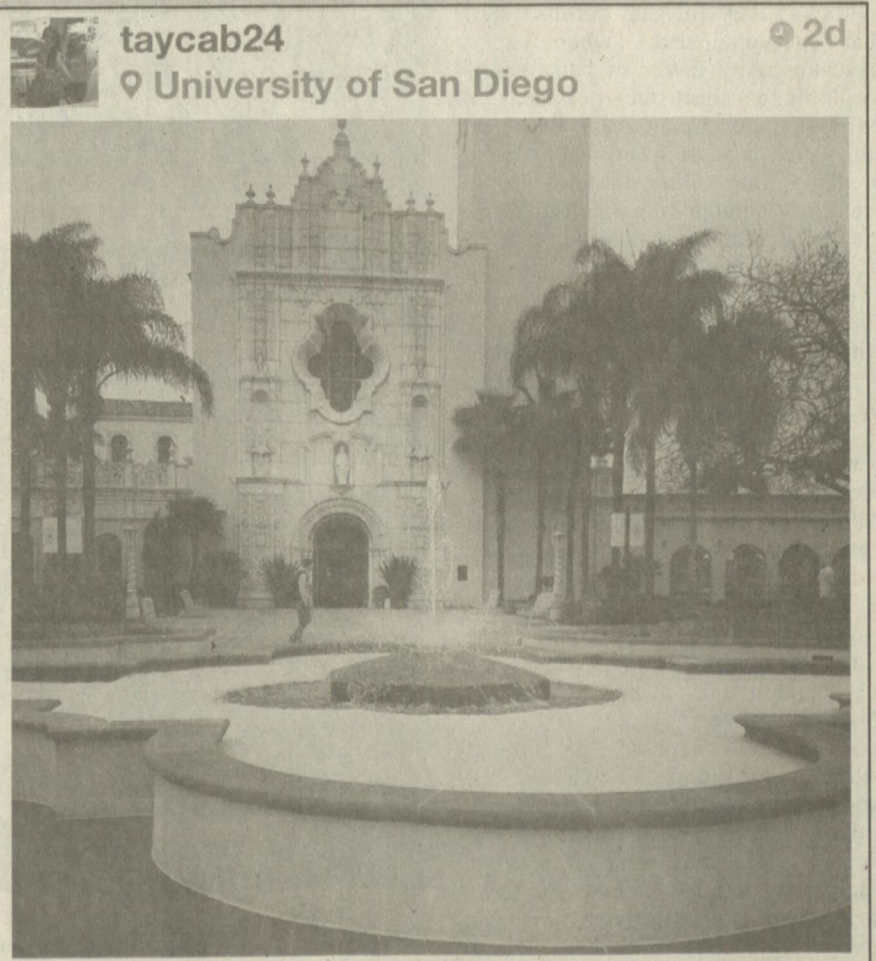
Matt Costa is famous for his song "Mr. Pitiful." The singer and guitarist performed March 19 at the Casbah.

interesting mix of dedicated fans and confused bar patrons. There was also a surprising amount of older adults in the audience. When I asked one woman standing near me how she knew about Matt Costa she replied, "I don't," and pointed to her husband. "He likes him, so I am here for him." Many of the younger girls in the crowd spent most of the performance gazing into Costa's eyes. They probably didn't notice the simple wedding band on his left ring finger. Matt Costa has been married to Casey Costa since 2009. His wife was there alongside him on stage to sing back-up. Though she quickly found out when she tried to sing that her microphone didn't work. She casually went along with it, singing as she would

have, with no one actually being able to hear her. Audience members began getting rowdy when it was close to the last song of the night and Costa had yet to play the song he is most famously known for, "Mr. Pitiful." Of course the song was saved for the end performance. Costa's new album "Matt Costa," has a lot of the same upbeat, joyful, tunes often speaking of love found on his past albums, with a stronger folk influence.

Costa will continue his album tour throughout the United States and be back in San Diego August 21 for a special performance at the University of Calif., San Diego Birch Aquarium Green Flash Concert Series.

Instagram of the week



The winner of this week's Instagram competition is junior Taylor Cabalse's "soap fountain" photograph. To enter to win, use #USDVista. It does not have to be related to USD or The Vista. The winner's photograph will be posted in next week's issue.

APRIL

APRIL 18

Parov Stelar
HoB @ 8 p.m.

APRIL 23

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club
HoB @ 8:30 p.m.

APRIL 19

Cloud Nothings
Casbah @ 8:30 p.m.

Chevy Woods of Taylor Gang
Porter's Pub @ 8 p.m.

Pusha T

Stingaree @ 9 p.m.

APRIL 24

araabMUZIK
Voyeur @ 10 p.m.

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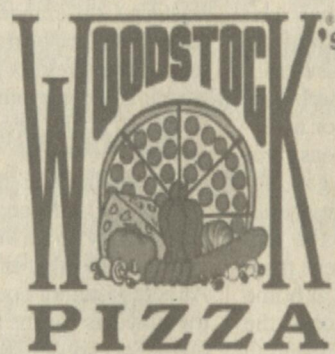
New Vendors!



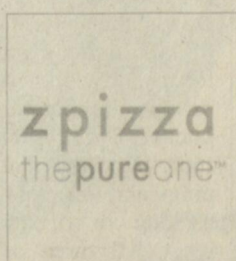
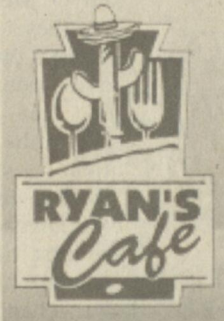
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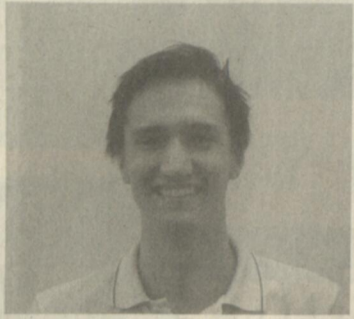
Campus Cash is also accepted at most campus locations:
Eateries, Cardiff Coffee, USD Torero Store, and many more!

SPORTS

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This generation's Jackie Robinson



By Alex Bullock
SPORTS EDITOR

There have been rumors lately swirling around ESPN and the rest of the sports media world that multiple NFL players would come out as gay in the near future.

To me and to many others, having a gay teammate would be a non-issue. Not necessarily because of my stance on marriage equality or my support for equal rights for all persons, but because to me, one's sexuality is a non-issue on the field of play.

When I walk into a gym to play pickup basketball I don't immediately judge the other men in the room based on what I think their sexual exploits may be, I judge them based on whether or not I could beat them to the basket.

A lot of pundits in the media have wondered whether or not an athlete who came out would subsequently feel uncomfortable in the locker room among his teammates.

The world of sports can be viewed as a hyper-masculine realm where one must fit the frankly outdated view of what makes a man a man, but numerous athletes, active and retired, have refuted that sentiment.

"I don't think one of our players would be scared to come out. We've got 25 guys, it's a family, and our goal is to win a World Series," Detroit Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander said in an interview with CNN. "What your sexual orientation is, I don't see how that affects the ultimate goal of our family."

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame member and NBA television analyst Charles Barkley said that a gay athlete would only be judged by "whether he can play or not. If somebody is gay, that's their own business... If a guy can't play that's the only time we don't care about all that extracurricular stuff."

These athletes cannot speak for all athletes in the same way that I cannot speak for all college students, but it seems like the majority of athletes would not have a problem with an openly gay teammate as long as they could contribute to the team in a positive way.

What someone does in their private life off of the court does not affect their abilities on the court. The only thing that should matter is whether or not you can help the team win or not.

It certainly will not be easy for whoever is the first openly gay active professional athlete. There would be added media coverage and the real possibility of malicious treatment from fans on the road or maybe even at home games. Also, the level of access the public has with public figures through social media could prove a serious difficulty as their personal life would be exposed and nitpicked more than any athlete before him.

Now, the possibility of a pioneer in sports draws obvious comparisons to Jackie Robinson, the first African-American to play in Major League Baseball. The move was highly controversial at the time and was not well received by a lot of players, coaches and fans alike.

The reason why Robinson was successful and is now viewed as one of the greatest cultural heroes of the twentieth century, in my opinion, is that he was a great baseball player.

There were a number of average black players playing in the minor leagues, but Robinson's talent level was too high to be wasted. In the big leagues Robinson was a career .300 hitter, a six-time all star, the winner of the National League Most Valuable Player award in 1949 and in 1955 helped lead the Brooklyn Dodgers to a World Series championship.

People could dislike him for the color of his skin, but his play on the field was unmatched.

I think whenever, because it is simply a matter of when rather than if, we see an openly gay athlete, they must be prepared to not only be a standard bearer under an intense microscope from the public. More importantly they must be prepared to perform well in their sport in order to prove that one's sexual orientation is a non-factor on the field.

Toreros baseball hits the midseason point

With one half of the season complete the Toreros still have work to do in order to achieve their goals for the season

By Alex Bullock
SPORTS EDITOR

As the school year begins to wind down, the Toreros baseball team finds themselves at the halfway point of their season. And like most students at USD, a lot of work must be done until they feel satisfied with the end of their term.

The season started slow for the Toreros after beginning the 2013 campaign by getting swept at home by the rival San Diego State Aztecs in the opening weekend of Fowler Park. The team responded by winning nine of their next ten games.

After the Toreros opened conference play with a dramatic series sweep of the Brigham Young University Cougars, they have not been able to build the momentum to reel off numerous wins in a row like they did early in the season.

The Toreros did, however, earn an impressive series victory against the Oregon State University Beavers, who were ranked No. 2 in the country at the time. The team hoped that this would show the country that they are a force to be reckoned with on the West Coast, but they have not been able to keep up that level of play against conference opponents.

The series victory against the Cougars is the Toreros only one of the season. Although they have not been swept since the losses to the Aztecs to open the season, the Toreros were unable to win more than one game against the Gonzaga University Bulldogs, the Loyola Marymount University Lions and the Pepperdine University Waves.

The Toreros are just 6-6 in conference play and find themselves in sixth place in the tightly packed West Coast Conference standings.

Make no mistake, the Toreros team is talented, but talent alone will

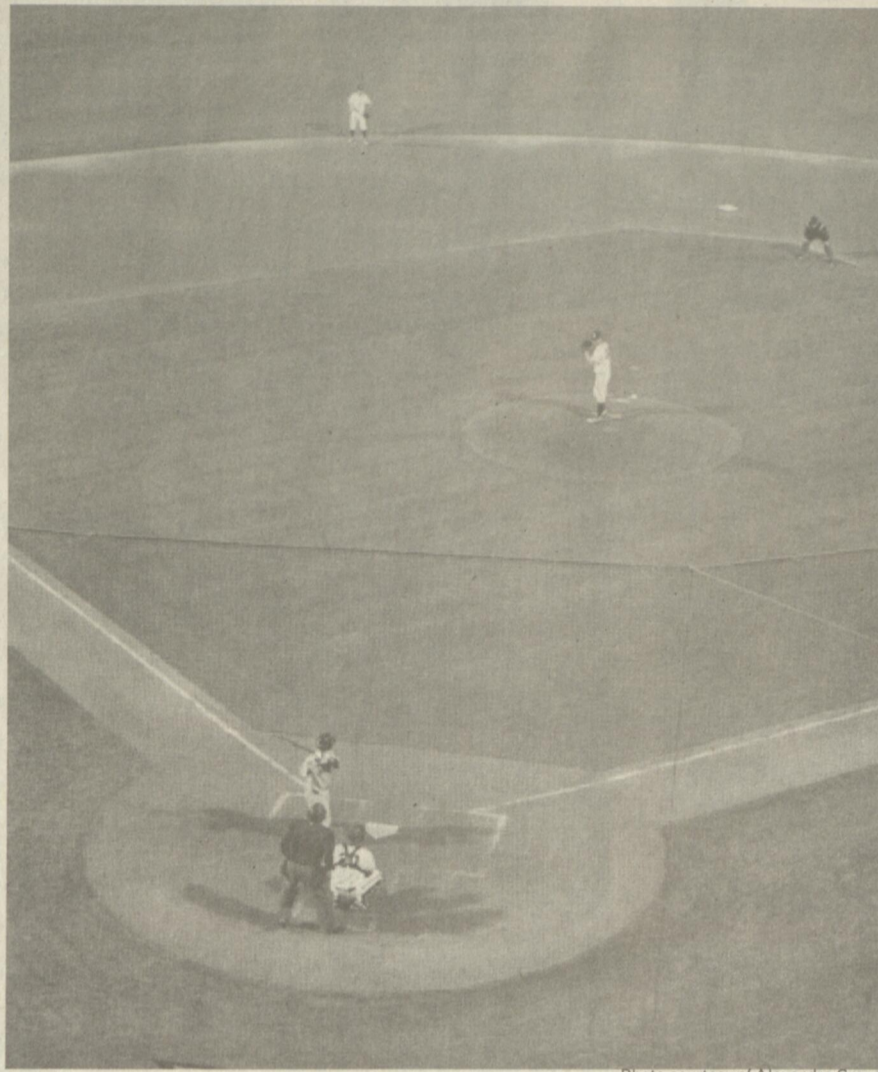


Photo courtesy of Alexandra Green
The Toreros are looking to make Fowler Park's inaugural season one to remember

not win a conference championship. Junior third baseman Kris Bryant is hitting .336 and has 15 home runs, cementing his place as one of the nation's top college prospects. Freshman pitcher PJ Conlon is 4-0 with an ERA of just 1.73. Conlon also leads the pitching staff in innings pitched.

The Toreros have been in and out

of the Baseball America Top 25 rankings all season, but with four WCC series down and four to go, the Toreros cannot afford to underperform if they hope to return to the NCAA tournament this postseason.

Offensively, the Toreros are a power hitting team who have found it difficult to manufacture runs when

their hitting isn't on for the day. As a team, the Toreros lead the WCC in almost all offensive categories including batting average, slugging percentage, on-base percentage, runs scored and hits. Unfortunately, most of those numbers come from the Toreros' great non-conference play this season.

As of late, the only Torero who has consistently maintained his impressive early-season success is Bryant. The All-American leads the WCC in on-base percentage with a .515 mark while no other Toreros are among the leaders in the conference.

The same can be said for batting average, runs scored and hits. Bryant is playing exceptionally well at the plate this season, but he needs his teammates who were playing well in February and March to regain their early season success if the Toreros want to move up in the standings.

The Toreros need to improve on defense to have any hope of moving up, however, as they are last in the WCC in fielding percentage and lead the conference in errors.

Their pitching staff has walked more runners than any other team in the conference and leads the league in wild pitches. The Toreros can certainly score runs, but their inability to prevent them may prevent them from reaching their potential this season.

The Toreros need only to break into the top four in the conference to move on to the WCC conference tournament to play for a chance to earn an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. Luckily, the team has shown a taste for the dramatic after notching multiple walk-off victories this season.

With an added focus on playing sound defensive baseball while remaining the offensive power that they are, the Toreros will hopefully be able to claim the top spot in the conference and a trip to the NCAA tournament.

Clearing up the NBA playoff picture

As the regular season comes to a close, the real competition for the NBA Championship begins

By Edwin Blebu
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

This year's NBA Playoff race has been the topic of many discussions over the past few weeks. Although the Eastern Conference playoff race is not nearly as competitive, the playoff seeding in the West is far from set as the positions of various teams will be determined at the very end of the regular season.

One of the biggest reasons the Western Conference playoff race is particularly noteworthy this year is because the historically dominant Los Angeles Lakers could potentially miss the playoffs for the first time since their dismal season in 2004-2005.

Before the start of this season the Lakers were considered the team to beat in the West after they acquired All-Star center Dwight Howard and two-time MVP point guard Steve Nash. However, their inconsistent play persisted throughout most the season resulting in their recent last minute push to earn a spot in the NBA postseason.

The Lakers are currently fighting to beat out the Utah Jazz for the eighth and final seed in the Western Conference. Currently the Lakers are leading the Jazz, however Utah holds the regular season tie breaker over Los Angeles.

With only two games left in the regular season every game is crucial for these two franchises with playoff aspirations.

The Houston Rockets and the Golden State Warriors occupy the sixth and seventh seeds in the West respectively. The Warriors recent loss to the Lakers on Friday night was a pivotal game in their effort to strengthen their grasp on the sixth spot in the West. Their loss was largely overshadowed by the untimely injury of Kobe Bryant

when he tore his Achilles tendon in the final minutes of the fourth quarter. Bryant's torn Achilles immediately casts a cloud of questions not only about the Lakers' playoff hopes, but the remainder of his career as well.

If the playoffs began today, the Lakers would face the Oklahoma City Thunder, who recently overtook the San Antonio Spurs for the number one seed in the West.

After a convincing win against San Antonio on April 14, the Lakers would prefer to play the Spurs in the first round of the playoffs. The Lakers do not match up well against the Thunder's youth and speed, and with Kobe Bryant out of the playoff picture the Lakers cannot rely on their superstar to combat the NBA's second leading scorer Kevin Durant.

Positions three through five in the Western Conference is also a tight race between the Denver Nuggets, Los Angeles Clippers and Memphis Grizzlies. The Clippers own the season tiebreaker for the fourth seed in the West, after having clinched the Pacific Division for the first time in franchise history.

Barring any drastic changes to the three seed in the west, the Clippers and Grizzlies will be scheduled for a rematch of last year's first round series that went seven games.

The Grizzlies, now without forward Rudy Gay who was traded to the Toronto Raptors, will look to rectify last year's defeat in the first round. The Clippers, on the other hand, will be looking to show improvement from last year by advancing to the Western Conference Finals.

No matter which teams are participating in this year's postseason, the 2013 NBA playoffs will without a doubt provide a lot of excitement and anticipation as the top 16 teams in the league faceoff to determine the next NBA Champion.

The dugout diary

A Torero pitcher offers behind-the-scenes insight from the USD baseball team

By Jackson Shannon
CONTRIBUTOR

Last weekend's series was a big one for Torero baseball as we took on our conference rivals, the Pepperdine University Waves. The Waves entered the series at Fowler Park with an 18-13 record and an impressive resume with wins against the Texas A&M University Aggies and the University of Oklahoma Sooners. The scouting report on the Waves was that they are a pretty balanced team with good starting pitching, a decent bullpen, and an aggressive lineup.

Friday's game was a tough one for the Toreros as we struggled in several facets of the game. Junior pitcher Michael Wagner just didn't have his normal stuff as he gave up more hits than usual and failed to finish pitching the fifth inning before being replaced.

Fortunately the bullpen kept the Waves scoreless for the final four and two thirds innings. Junior pitcher Max MacNabb kept us in the game with some quality work out of the bullpen and junior Sheldon Eckstrand and I kept the Waves scoreless in the eighth and ninth innings.

Where we failed as a pitching staff was allowing six out of the nine leadoff batters to reach base. Allowing the leadoff man to get on base substantially enhances the opponent's ability to score. If a team allows six out of nine leadoff men to reach base, it most likely means they are going to lose the game, as was the case in this game against the Waves.

Offensively, we battled all night but the starting pitching of the Waves junior starter Scott Frazier put an end to a lot of potential scoring opportunities and their bullpen shut the door and we lost the game 7-4.

Saturday's game was a must-win for us and we knew it. Fortunately for us, our pitching came up big as junior pitcher Dylan Covey put in a great start, throwing five and one third innings and allowing just one run while striking out six batters.

"All three of my pitches were on and I was able to consistently stay down in the zone, which really limited Pepperdine's ability to get good contact against me" said Covey.

Freshman pitcher PJ Conlon went three innings and allowed just one run. Senior pitcher Trevor Bayless came in with one out in the ninth and shut the

door, picking up his first save of the year.

Offensively we started with a bang as junior third baseman Kris Bryant led off the game with a homerun. Bryant hit leadoff for the first time in his career and launched a fastball 400 feet over the centerfield fence on the first pitch of the game. "I was sitting fastball and that's what I got, fortunately," said Bryant.

It was an awesome moment for Bryant and for the team as it really set the tone for the game and let the Waves know that we were going to bring it. We were able to scratch out three more runs and win the game 4-2, setting up Sunday's game as the series clincher.

Sunday's game didn't go as planned as we didn't bring the bats to the park and lost the game 5-2. I have to admit, the Wave's sophomore left-handed starting pitcher Aaron Brown pitched a great game, going eight innings and allowing just two runs. Brown's fastball sat in the 90s and he mixed in a good breaking ball and changeup that produced quick outs all afternoon.

The Waves were able to capitalize on some bad pitches and moments of wildness by our pitching staff but we grinded out a lot of outs and kept our team in the game. As a whole, Sunday's game was a grind as we scratched and clawed our way throughout the game. Coach Rich Hill told our team mid-game to play like this is the last game that we would ever play as he really wanted us to give it our all.

The best part about baseball is that we play more games than any sport, shortening the time we have to dwell on losses. It's safe to say that every game is crucial from here on out as we really need to hit our stride and rack up some wins in order to make the NCAA tournament.

We are playing pretty good baseball and I think our offense is on the verge of exploding, so this week will be a good gauge as to how the rest of the season is going to go. One thing that my teammates and I noticed this weekend was the great attendance that we had this weekend. Every game had a good crowd and the students came out to support of team. We love having support from the fans and I truly believe that it gives us an advantage over our opponents. As always I encourage everyone to come out and support our team for the rest of this season.

Abusive basketball coach out at Rutgers University

Rutgers University men's basketball coach Mike Rice was fired last week for after video of his actions were released to the public

By Edwin Blebu
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Last week Rutgers University came under substantial media attention as some very disturbing practice footage of men's basketball coach Mike Rice went viral. The footage explicitly showed Rice verbally and physically abusing his players with a variety of homophobic slurs and other aggressive and demeaning language. Rice was shown excessively kicking, hitting and throwing basketballs at his players during several practices at the university.

Rutgers University Athletic Director Tim Perneti was first shown the footage in November by former director of player development, Eric Murdock, but opted to reprimand Rice by fining and suspending him for three games.

Unfortunately, Rice's conduct resumed, and only when the video of his abuse went viral did the university feel pressured to terminate the employment of its head basketball coach. When asked if he had anything to say the former coach tried to appear remorseful for his actions.

"I stated three months after watching the video how deeply regrettable those actions [are]. I also stated I was going to try to work on changing and I think I accomplished a lot of that. Can't say anything now except I'm sorry and there will never be a time when I will use any of that as an excuse," Rice said.

"I stated three months after watching the video how deeply regrettable those actions [are]. I also stated I was going to try to work on changing and I think I accomplished a lot of that. Can't say anything now except I'm sorry and there will never be a time when I will use any of that as an excuse."

-Mike Rice

As the video gained national attention, current NBA superstar LeBron James of the Miami Heat offered his own take on the footage via twitter.

"If my son played for Rutgers or a coach like that he would have some real explaining to do and I'm still gone whoop on him afterwards! C'mon," James said.

James' tweet offers a very realistic and often overlooked perspective regarding the treatment of collegiate athletes at major universities. Often student athletes are only viewed in relation to the success of their athletic program. People tend to forget that at the end of the day, collegiate athletes are the sons and daughters of parents who entrust individuals like Rice to look out for the best interests of their children at all times.

Instances similar to that at Rutgers University could very well occur at other college campuses but have yet to surface for one reason or another. Many New Jersey public officials have referred to the recent situation at Rutgers University as a failure of leadership, not a failure of process, because the Athletic Director and University President failed to show sound judgement in their handling of the incident.

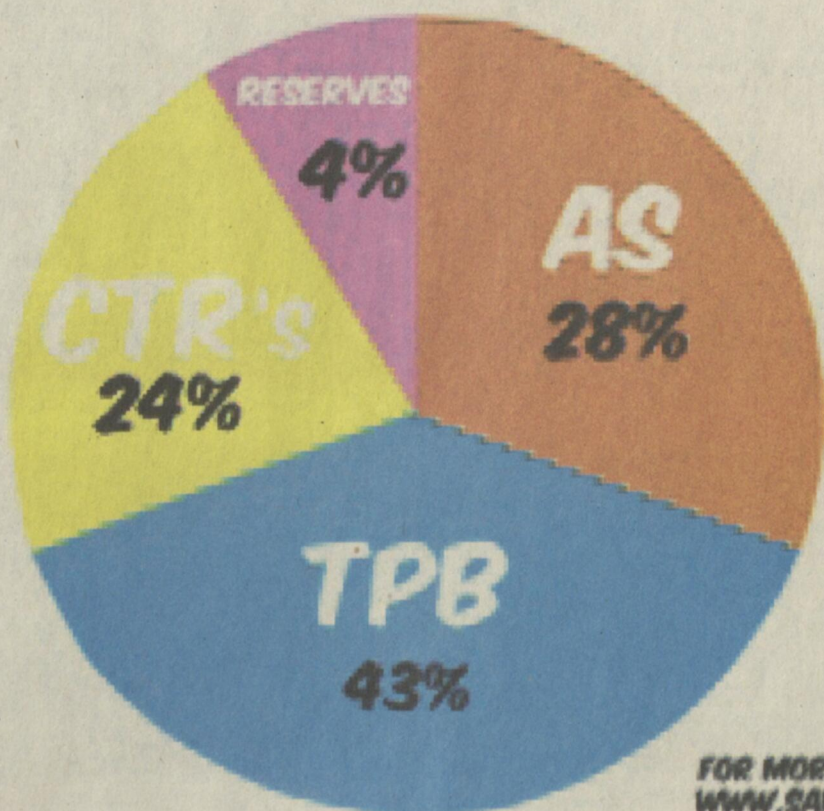
As strict as the NCAA has been over issues of players accepting unauthorized assistance from agents or boosters or recruiting violations, it will be interesting to see if officials will begin to institute special procedures to detect and punish universities who show a lack of judgment in cases similar to the one at Rutgers University.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EDRED UTOMI, WINNER OF THE 2013 VISTA BRACKET CHALLENGE!



Photo courtesy of The Vista

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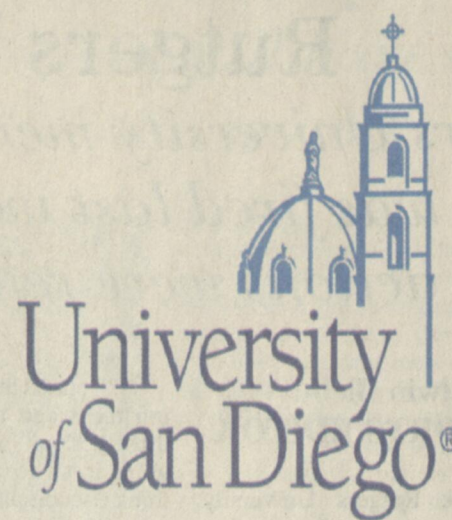
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