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February 2008**

University of San Diego Print Media Coverage February 2008

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Office of the President

February 12, 2008

Raising the fundraising bar

Gifts to universities becoming significant sources of income

By Sherry Saavedra
STAFF WRITER

These days, universities that want top-notch faculty, first-rate buildings and enviable football fields don't rely solely on tuition or state support. They fundraise.

In fact, it's hard to find a university that hasn't just initiated, wrapped up or isn't in a record-setting fundraising campaign.

San Diego County is no exception.

College gift-giving is reaching new heights, with universities beefing up their fundraising staffs, forming foundations to facilitate giving, and going after deeper pockets to reach record goals.

"Since 1997, we've raised twice as much money as we did in the prior 100 years," San Diego State University President Stephen Weber said.

In June, UC San Diego became the 34th campus in the nation to complete a campaign of \$1 billion or more, shattering the university's previous record of \$25 million in 1985.

At Grossmont College, the \$331,000 raised last fiscal year was more than triple the amount the

SEE **Fundraising, A10**

FUNDRAISING BY THE NUMBERS

\$28 billion: Amount raised by American colleges and universities in 2006.

\$911.1 million: Amount raised by Stanford University, which ranked No. 1.

\$94.9 million: Amount raised by Harvard University, which ranked No. 2.

SOURCE: Annual survey by Council for Aid to Education

► FUNDRAISING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Mega-gifts make up \$30 million of SDSU's \$53 million campaign

community college collected five years ago.

Public colleges say they are driven to raise money because the cost of running their schools has risen faster than the pace of state spending on them.

In California, state support of higher education has grown from \$10.1 billion in 2000-01 to \$12.5 billion this fiscal year, said Steve Boilard, higher education director for the state Legislative Analyst's Office. But adjusted for inflation, state spending per student has dropped from \$9,100 for a full-time student to \$7,225 over the same span.

University of California San Diego Chancellor Marye Anne Fox said only 12 percent of UCSD's budget comes from state funding. That compares with 20.5 percent in 1992.

Fox said fundraising consultants told the university that it might be too ambitious to raise the \$1 billion needed for faculty research, student scholarships, new buildings and more.

The school had little choice.

"Our only options were to raise private funds or accept a decrease in quality," she said.

Private universities often fundraise to keep tuition competitive.

"Otherwise, students will choose to go elsewhere," said Tim O'Malley, a vice president for the University of San Diego, where undergraduate tuition is \$32,300.

Change in tradition

College fundraising is as old as colleges. Harvard was named after clergyman John Harvard, who bequeathed nearly 800 British pounds to the university 350 years ago.

What's new is that fundraising is no longer the domain of the elite private and flagship public schools.

"It's not just about Harvard. It's about the University of Michigan or UCSD," said John Lippincott, president of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Also emerging are an unprecedented number of big gifts and record-setting campaigns.

U.S. colleges and universities raised \$28 billion in 2006, a 9.4 percent jump over 2005, according to an annual report by the Council for Aid to Education.

Record fundraising is catapulting endowments to record levels, as well, prompting the Senate Finance Committee to investigate whether the wealthiest schools are spending enough on financial aid. At \$34.6 billion, Harvard's endowment tops the list.

Neither Harvard nor UCSD, which boasts a \$500 million endowment, could reach ambitious fundraising goals without mega-gifts.

"If you're in a billion-dollar campaign, or in the case of Stanford, \$4.3 billion, you're in the business of having to raise something in excess of \$1



million a day," Lippincott said.

A chain of mega-gifts helped propel UCSD toward its goal, including \$6 million from San Diego businessman Conrad Prebys, \$34 million bequeathed by the late Dr. George Ury,

and \$110 million from philanthropists Irwin and Joan Jacobs.

Weber said large gifts are probably the fastest growing segment of donations on campus.

Fifteen seven-figure gifts totaling \$30.4 million helped catapult fundraising in SDSU's first university-wide campaign to \$53 million so far.

Larger fundraising staffs

The need for more dollars has led to a bigger investment in fundraising staffs.

SDSU more than doubled the size of its core staff to 28 over the past decade and established a philanthropic foundation that helps secure and manage gifts.

UCSD nearly tripled the size of its development department, which includes fundraising professionals, to 129 over 10 years, and simultaneously increased the amount of annual gifts from \$58.1 million to \$129.6 million.

But the hiring spree has created an industry shortage, and colleges are stealing seasoned fundraisers from one another.

"Since 1997, we've raised twice as much money as we did in the prior 100 years."

STEPHEN WEBER,

San Diego State University president

"It's almost to the point of a crisis, this shortage of fundraisers that we're facing," Lippincott said. "There's universities that are gearing up for the start of a campaign by hiring 100 new fundraisers."

And raising money is part of the job description for virtually any new college president.

In 2004, the California State University trustees set ambitious new fundraising goals, ranging from an equivalent of 10 percent of the general fund allocation for Cal State San Marcos to 15 percent or more for SDSU.

Community colleges

Community colleges educate nearly half of all undergraduates nationwide. However, they bring in only a fraction of the gifts.

Some fundraising experts estimate that they receive roughly 2 percent of all contributions to higher education.

They are beginning to ramp up efforts, such as Grossmont College with \$331,000 last fiscal year.

"They serve the poorest, the most vulnerable and most needy students, and they're raising the least amount of money," said Donald Summers, director of Seattle-based Principle Consulting, which provides fundraising advice.

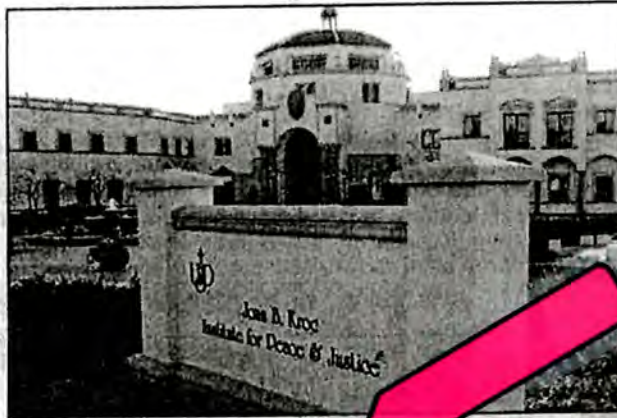
Summers said community colleges hire presidents without fundraising expertise, don't invest adequately in fundraising staff and lack an entrepreneurial culture.

In recent years, a second staff position has been added to the Grossmont College foundation, which raises money and helps with student events.

"We've been around for 47 years, but we're just getting started," said foundation Executive Director Ernie Ewin.

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sherry.saavedra@uniontrib.com

February 12, 2008



At the University of San Diego, fundraising helps ease the cost of tuition, which runs \$32,300.

*Sean M. Haffey/
Union-Tribune*

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Amount raised last year: \$17 million

Size of endowment: \$256 million

Campaign: Completed a six-year effort last year that netted a record \$206 million. It launched the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and paid for a science and technology center, alumni center, new residence halls, a building for the School of Leadership and Education Sciences and other projects.

College of Arts & Sciences

February 14, 2008



The next **Friday Night Free Soup, Bread and Water Supper and Discussion** will be held at 6:30 p.m. tomorrow at Our Lady of Refuge Parish Hall, 4226 Jewell St., Pacific Beach. The topic will be "How Muslims See Christians" and will be presented by Dr. Bahar Davary, a professor in the theology and religious studies department at USD. All are invited. Information: (858) 483-4485.

February 16, 2008

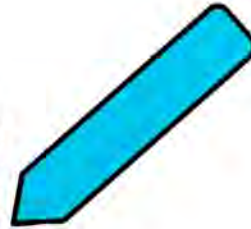


Randy Willoughby of the University of San Diego will give a lecture on "**Politics and Election Rules**," 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Remington Club, 16916 Hierba Drive, Rancho Bernardo. The lecture is sponsored by the Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo. Cost: \$5 for members, \$7 for nonmembers. (858) 487-0464.

SAN DIEGO
Reader

February 28, 2008

"Angelus: Early Music in Founders Chapel" The Toutes Suites ensemble performs 17th-century music by Biber, Rosenmüller, Müller, and Froberger in Founders Chapel of Founders Hall. 619-260-4600. University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park), 2 p.m., Sunday, March 2. (USD)



North County Times

February 21, 2008



TOUTES SUITES: MUSIC FOR LENT 2 p.m.
March 2; Founders Chapel, University of San Diego, Alcala Park, San Diego; for tickets, visit www.sandiego.edu/music/angelus.

School of Business Administration



Friday, February 29, 2008

editor@sddt.com

http://www.sddt.com

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BusinessWeek: USD undergrad business program ranks among Top 50 in the nation

Friday, February 29, 2008

For the second year in a row, *BusinessWeek* magazine ranks the University of San Diego School of Business Administration as one of the top undergraduate business programs in the nation.

USD's undergraduate business program ranks among the top five schools on the West Coast and in the top two in Southern California. USD ranked 47th on the list of the top 50 programs in the nation, *BusinessWeek* announced late Thursday.

In the category of teaching quality, USD was the highest-ranked school on the West Coast with students giving their professors a grade of A+.

For the second year in a row, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania was ranked number one. The University of Southern California was ranked 17th.

"Small class sizes and accessible professors contributed to the school's continued presence in the *BusinessWeek* ranking," said Stephen Standifird, a professor in the USD School of Business Administration and the director of undergraduate business programs.

"Our goal is to continue to improve every aspect of our program and offer an education that is on par with the caliber of students we are able to attract," he said. "We are currently engaged in a variety of activities designed to further improve our already strong program."

USD's School of Business Administration currently offers bachelor's degrees in accountancy, economics and business administration with majors in business administration, business economics, marketing and finance.

February 10, 2008

Dean Calbreath

Green building market sees growing popularity in area



Over the past few years, we've been hearing only bad news about the real estate market: declining sales, rising foreclosures, tightening credit, plum-

meting prices. Recently, even the market for commercial properties has begun to soften.

But take heart. There is at least one positive thing that's happening in the market: Things are getting greener.

A report released last week by the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego details the growing popularity of en-

ergy-efficient, environmentally friendly "green buildings."

The report — the first systematic study of the green building market — shows that a growing number of developers have been erecting buildings to strict environmental standards. Tenants have been willing to pay a top dollar to rent in those buildings.

According to the report, which relied on data from 2006, commercial property customers were willing to pay an average of \$2.45 per square foot extra for renting or an average of \$1.5 per square foot extra for buying an industry-certified green office

SEE Calbreath, F6

► CALBREATH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE F1

Wildfires present chance to build in green fashion

building.

The study found that the higher rents and purchase prices for green buildings were offset by lower energy bills. It found that operating expenses from energy costs at buildings that earned the U.S. government's Energy Star rating averaged \$1.27 per square foot per year, a 30 percent savings over other buildings, which averaged \$1.81 per square foot.

"The added value of the real estate is now exceeding the extra costs associated with going green," said Norm Miller, director of academic affairs at Burnham-Moores. "I couldn't have said that five years ago. And the costs are getting cheaper."

Just how much are those costs? Miller estimates that it takes between 1 percent and 8 percent of a building's total cost to turn it green — a range that depends on how green you want it.

But those costs are based on retrofitting buildings. Jane Leonard, an architectural designer with the Stantec engineering consulting firm, said that for a new building, the cost of incorporating energy-efficient environmental systems is negligible.

"If you design your building with the intent from the very beginning to integrate green building principles, not only should it not be more expensive, but you should have a higher-performing building," said Leonard, a board member of the San Diego chapter of the Green Building Council.

It's hard to say how green buildings will fare in the market now that prices for commercial space have started to weaken. An inconvenient truth about the commercial real estate mar-

ket these days is that there's a growing amount of office space on the market, which could take time to work through.

Nevertheless, judging from Miller's study, developers should probably start building green. "You might find you have an obsolete building on your hands if you don't start moving in that direction," he said.

The push for greener buildings started gaining steam in 1996, when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began using its Energy Star rating system to measure how efficiently new homes and commercial and industrial buildings were using energy. Buildings that were rated among the top 25 percent for energy efficiency were given an Energy Star rating.

In 2000, the U.S. Green Building Council — an association largely made up of architects, engineers and builders — came up with a rating system of its own: LEED, meaning Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. In the LEED program, buildings are evaluated for sustainability; how efficiently they use water, energy and atmosphere; materials and resources; indoor environmental quality; and design innovation. LEED has four rankings: certified, silver, gold and platinum.

What do you have to do to get a good rating? Consider TKG Consulting Engineers' headquarters in Sorrento Valley, which became the first building in San Diego County to get a gold LEED rating in 2004.

Among other things, TKD uses recycled water for irrigation and waterless urinals to save on flushing. It has also applied to the city to use recycled water in its toilets. With help

from San Diego Gas & Electric, it gets some of its electricity from solar panels; other electricity comes from wind power. The company has also introduced energy-efficient lighting, air conditioning, thicker insulation and tinted windows and has placed recycling bins at every desk and lounge.

TKG's modifications saved the company \$7,200 per year, partly by cutting its projected electricity use by nearly two-thirds.

A number of other local companies have earned LEED certification, including the Sun Harbor Marina, whose green activities include using recycled airplane tires and plastic bottles for construction materials, and the Department of Motor Vehicles outpost in San Ysidro, whose innovations included an under-floor air-distribution system. Both the marina and the DMV office are saving more than \$10,000 a year because of their conservationist energy and water systems.

According to Miller — who wrote the green building survey with Jay Spivey and Andy Florance of Costar, a commercial real estate tracking firm — it costs an average of 1 percent in extra construction and refurbishments to erect a building that would qualify for a silver certificate from LEED; 2.7 percent for gold; and 7.8 percent for platinum.

In the past seven years, more than 2.2 billion square feet of buildings have been certified by LEED. Not surprisingly, California has taken the lead in this revolution. As of 2006, it had 219 green top-flight office buildings totaling 52 million square feet of space, followed by Texas, New York, Minnesota, Colorado, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles has more green buildings than any city in the

nation, followed by Houston, Washington, New York and San Francisco, according to Miller's tabulations. San Diego does not come close to the top of the list, Miller said.

He said the chief problem is not with local developers, who seem to be going gaga for all things green. Instead, Miller said, the bottleneck is with local planning authorities who are sometimes slow to grant approval of green technologies.

"There's been an explosion of new techniques, but building officials are reluctant to approve products or systems that are new or different or that they're not used to seeing," said Stephen Kapp, who chairs the advocacy committee of the local chapter of the Green Building Council.

On the other hand, the city has officially committed itself to the Green Building Initiative, which has a goal of reducing energy use in public and private buildings to 20 percent below 2003 levels by 2015. So if there are any glitches during the planning process, hopefully they'll be cleared up soon.

Despite the occasional hurdles, Kapp is optimistic about expanding the use of green technologies, especially in the largely untouched residential market. The Green Building Council just came up with LEED standards for homes in December and even with the problems in the local real estate market, Kapp hopes to see some of the green principles put into action.

"After last October's wildfires, we're going to rebuild more than 1,700 homes," he said. "That means there are opportunities to rebuild the homes as green from the ground up."

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Lenders Continue to Assess Position In Commercial Real Estate Market

FINANCE Experts at the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate conference foresee a somber 2008 with some opportunities

BY MANDY JACKSON
 CRE/Staff Writer

Local banks and life insurance companies may be willing to finance commercial real estate in 2008, but most lenders and securitized debt sources will continue to assess the damage housing downturn and subprime

caused. Painted a somber picture of the capital markets and investment environment during the 11th Annual Real Estate Conference hosted by the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate on Jan. 22 at the San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina. A year earlier, conference attendees downplayed the housing market's impact on commercial real estate.

Only 19 percent of audience members responding to an informal electronic poll during the Burnham-Moores Center's 11th annual conference believed that housing would have a negative effect on commercial real estate in 2007, while 90 percent conceded this year that the housing downturn will hurt commercial property in 2008.

Keynote speaker John Robbins, managing director of Wachovia Securities Wholesale Mortgage Division, a wholly owned subsidiary of Wachovia Bank N.A., and immediate past chairman of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, kicked off this year's conference with a discussion of the turmoil in the residential mortgage industry and touched on issues in commercial lending.

Robbins founded San Diego-based American Residential Investment Trust, a mortgage REIT, in 1997. The company became American Mortgage Network in 2001 and was sold to Wachovia Bank in 2005.

In his remarks, Robbins compared the mortgage industry to someone who overindulged in alcohol. The good news is that the industry has stopped drinking the wine, he said, but the bad news is that it's going to have a hell of a headache as lenders reconcile troublesome subprime mortgages.

Securitization created a global market for buying pools of residential mortgages, but some of the riskiest loans during the recent housing market boom were split off into tranches that received high ratings from ratings agencies and caught the interest of investors around the world for the supposed high level of return on investment.

Since subprime loans began to default and reduce the value of those risky loan pools, investors have stopped buying bonds for mortgage-backed assets until the risk can be rated appropriately again.

"That has to happen to restore this market," Robbins said.

The concern over securitized residential mortgages has spread to commercial mortgage-backed securities, limiting the amount of capital available for commercial real estate investment as investors reassess the risk in buying CMBS bonds.

"Wachovia was the No. 1 issuer of commercial mortgage securities in the world and today we are issuing zero," Robbins said.

He predicted that there will be three more quarters of problems in the housing and mortgage industry, but foreclosures will decline beginning in the second quarter.

Home sales are likely to total 5 million units nationally in 2008 with similar activity in 2009,



Bob White, founder and president of Real Capital Analytics, said at a Jan. 22 conference hosted by the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate that San Diego and Southern California may be better positioned than other U.S. investment markets.

down from a peak of 7 million, while new construction may total 1 million homes. Robbins said those figures represent a normalized market, but he anticipated growth in 2010.

The commercial real estate market will see a slowdown in investors' appetite for property through the course of 2008 and into 2009, but conditions will improve in 2010, Robbins predicted.

Look for Opportunities

However, Janice Sears, managing director and western regional head at Bank of America Securities, said there is a lot of sentiment in the commercial real estate industry that the current bear market will end by the middle of 2008.

Sears, who works in Bank of America's global real estate, gaming and lodging investment banking group, noted that the worldwide equity markets are in disarray because of the turmoil in the capital markets related to real estate debt. That's why companies with cash to spend can benefit from the uncertainty that other companies face.

"In a bear market, businesses don't fail because of their business plans, they fail because of their capital structures," Sears said.

Her outlook for the real estate industry is a back-to-basics approach summarized by the acronym KISS — "keep it simple, stupid."

The credit crunch that began last year has spread throughout the global financial system and the fear of the unknown hasn't ended, Sears said. Banks are still assessing areas where they might have problems. Issuance of CMBS bonds is down and new collateralized debt obligations are nearly nonexistent.

Community banks and life insurance companies are the only debt left, according to Sears,

while equity remains available from a broad array of private and institutional sources.

"The good news is there is equity available to you," she said.

Sears advised investors with cash on hand to be ready to move as opportunities arise so they can easily partner with equity players in the market. She said there will be more distress among real estate companies and an increase in mergers and acquisitions as well-capitalized companies move to the forefront.

"In a bear market, businesses don't fail because of their business plans, they fail because of their capital structures."

Janice Sears — Bank of America Securities

While CitiBank has taken in \$20 billion from foreign capital sources due to its losses from subprime mortgages and ongoing volatility in the capital markets, Sears noted that Bank of America has not had to take in outside capital.

"We were in a strong capital situation, which allowed us to go after Countrywide when it was weak," she said.

Bank of America announced plans last month to acquire Countrywide Financial Corp., the country's largest mortgage lender, in an all-stock transaction valued at \$4 billion. Countrywide chairman and chief executive officer Angelo Mozilo was scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the USD conference, but was forced by Countrywide's talks with Bank of America to avoid public statements while negotiations are ongoing.

Burland East, co-founder and managing principal of San Diego-based Silver Portal Capital, predicted that 75 percent of home builders will go bankrupt in the current real estate downturn, with a dozen lenders following suit.

East also forecast that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will be temporarily crippled by the lack of activity in the capital markets. He said the CMBS market will be in tatters until 2009 and commercial property values will fall 10 percent to 20 percent while capitalization rates rise to 7.5 percent, though still lower than the 8 percent to 10 percent historical average.

East predicted that commercial real estate will stabilize in 2009. Until then, he said the best opportunities will be multi-family, industrial, value-added investments, land at steep discounts in the western United States and foreign investments.

"Institutional investors are still allocating 10 percent [of their portfolios] to real estate," East said. "It has reasonably predictable income compared to equities and foreign investments."

San Diego's Position

San Diego has become a global real estate investment market, according to Bob White, founder and president of New York City-based Real Capital Analytics.

In 2007, the region ranked 17th in the world for commercial real estate investment, with \$10.4 billion spent to acquire property last year. The region joins the ranks of New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Chicago and other top U.S. markets for foreign investment.

"From a capital perspective, Southern California and San Diego may be better positioned," White said.

Nationally, there was \$425 billion worth of office, industrial, apartment and retail activity in 2007, up from \$323 billion in 2006, driven largely by major portfolio acquisitions in which many investors sold billions of dollars worth of assets in one transaction.

In 2008, White said real estate investors are saying goodbye to the bull market of 2002 to 2007, though the slowdown began in March before the credit crunch took hold of the capital markets in August.

"If there is liquidity in the debt markets right now it is in local and regional banks," White said, noting that it is a good thing that the highest percentage of commercial real estate buyers in San Diego are private and local.

According to Real Capital Analytics, 31 percent of San Diego County investors were private buyers from California last year, while 26 percent were institutional investors and 21 percent were real estate funds. On average, only 16 percent of U.S. commercial real estate buyers were local private investors in 2007, 24 percent were funds and 23 percent were institutions.

Private investors have increasingly taken their money out of California in recent years in search of lower prices and higher yields. However, White said those transactions are typically financed by the CMBS market, so now that those conduit lenders are largely out of the market, private California investors may be forced to stick to their own back yard.

"Local investors could save the day," White said.

— E-mail Mandy.Jackson@DailyJournal.com



February 21, 2008

Industry Briefs

Burnham-Moores Center endows

The University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate has announced the establishment of a new endowed faculty position to honor San Diego businessman Daniel F. Mulvihill.

Mark Riedy, the center's executive director, credited Mulvihill with being instrumental in helping to establish the Burnham-Moores Center, which is part of the university's School of Business Administration. Mulvihill chaired the fund-raising committee for the Ernest W. Hahn Chair, which Riedy assumed in 1993, and he and his wife, Mary, gave the first major gift to launch the campaign, which was completed in eight months.

Mulvihill was one of the founding members of the Center's Policy Advisory Board (PAB) Executive Committee, which was established in 1995, and continues as an active member.

In 2002, the board created an annual award—the Daniel F. Mulvihill Leadership Award to recognize members who have provided sustained leadership and support for USD's real estate program. Mulvihill was the first honoree.

Mulvihill is chairman of the board and the founder of Pacific Southwest Realty Services, a San Diego-based commercial real estate mortgage banking company with branches in Orange County, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara.

Mulvihill has been active on national, state and local mortgage bankers associations for more than 30 years.

He has been chairman of the board and founder of Mercy Hospital Foundation is currently on that board.

Daily Business Report

February 20, 2008

USD's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate has established an endowed faculty position to honor **Daniel F. Mulvihill**, founder and chairman of **Pacific Southwest Realty Services**, who was instrumental in helping to establish the center. Mulvihill was one of the founding members of the center's policy advisory board executive committee, which was established in 1995, and continues as a member. In 2002, the board created an annual award -- the Daniel F. Mulvihill Leadership Award -- to recognize members who have provided sustained leadership and support for USD's real estate program. Mulvihill was the first honoree.

Mulvihill chaired the fundraising committee for the Ernest W. Hahn Chair, which **Mark Riedy**, the center's current executive director, assumed in 1993.

Mulvihill has been active on national, state and local mortgage bankers associations for more than 30 years, having served as president of the **California Mortgage Bankers Association** and the **San Diego Mortgage Bankers Association** as well as treasurer of the **Mortgage Bankers Association of America**.

The Mulvihill endowment adds to six existing Burnham-Moores Center endowments: the Ernest W. Hahn Chair; the John Moores/Burnham Foundation/Burnham Real Estate gift that endowed the center; and four endowed scholarships: the Marasco Family Scholarship Fund, Fieldstone Foundation, Mickey Carhart and Daniel B. Woodruff Memorial Scholarships.

February 7, 2008

Economists warn that county isn't recession-proof

By Dean Calbreath
STAFF WRITER

After San Diego County dodged the last recession in 2001 — continuing to grow as the rest of the nation went into decline — some civic boosters boasted that the region was immune to recessions, cushioned by its diverse industries, stable military presence and strong tourism business.

But as the nation appears to be heading into a recession, a growing number of economists fear that the county's sagging housing market and weakening employment could pull it under as well.

In a forecast to be unveiled this morning at a breakfast meeting associated with the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp., economist Christopher Thornberg said California and San Diego County are already in a recession.

"Unemployment is rising. Consumer spending is declining. Home prices are continuing to fall. The foreclosure rate is huge," said Thornberg, a co-founder of Beacon Economics in Los Angeles. "That's why I'm not saying a recession is about to happen in San Diego. I'm saying it already is happening."

Alan Gin, economist at the University of San Diego, agreed that the region has entered a "San Diego-style recession," meaning that job growth is lagging behind the population's growth rate. But he believes the county's diverse mix of industries will help it avoid the technical definition of a regional recession: a year-to-year decline in the number of jobs and a retraction in economic growth.

"It'll be very weak growth compared to what we've had, but it won't be a decline," Gin said.

On the other hand, Gin said the housing downturn could affect consumer spending.

"A key question is to what extent consumer spending was fueled by home-equity loans," he said. "With

► ECONOMY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Unemployment indicates slump best, expert says

those loans drying up, what will happen to retail spending?"

In recent weeks, a spate of negative economic news has spurred a growing number of top economists to say that a national recession is either imminent or under way. The government announced that 17,000 jobs were lost in January — the first nationwide job loss in five years — and the service industry reported a severe slowdown.

Local signs of weakness have been growing over the past few months:

• The median home price in San Diego County last month was 13 percent lower than it was the year before. In some neighborhoods, such as Spring Valley and southeast Chula Vista, the decline was more than 30 percent.

• A record 987 houses were foreclosed upon in December, and 2,569 homeowners were notified that they were in default on their mortgages.

• Bankruptcy filings jumped from 471 in January 2007 to 839 last month.

• Residential building permits declined 31 percent last year, following a 29 percent drop in 2006.

• Consumer confidence dropped nearly 10 percent last month, hitting its lowest point since *The San Diego Union-Tribune* began its surveys in April 1996. Over the past year, consumer confidence in San Diego County has dropped more than 33 percent.

• The unemployment rate rose by more than a full percentage point last year, jumping from 3.7 percent in December 2006 to 4.8 percent in December 2007, its highest point in four years. The January figures will be released this month.

To Thornberg, the jump in unemployment is the clearest sign that the economy has gone into a recession.

"The only time the unemployment rate jumps more than 1 percent in a year is when the economy is heading into a recession or is already in one," he said.

Thornberg forecast a recession in both California and San Diego through autumn. The economy will struggle through the doldrums through 2009 and then begin to pick up in 2010, he said.

By the time the downturn hits bottom in 2009, Thornberg said, unemployment will hit 8 percent in California and 6.4 percent in San Diego County,

SEE **Economy, A8**

SAN DIEGO FORECASTS

Economists differ over the extent San Diego County will be affected by the economic downturn.

Alan Gin

University of San Diego

- Unemployment rate will peak at 5.5 percent this year.
- 5,000 to 8,000 jobs will be created this year.
- Home prices will decline from 5 percent to 10 percent this year before hitting bottom.
- Roughly 7,000 residential building permits will be granted.

Christopher Thornberg

Beacon Economics

- Unemployment rate will rise to 5.9 percent this year and peak at 6.4 percent in 2009.
- 10,000 jobs will be lost by 2009.
- Home prices will decline 20 percent by 2010.
- Roughly 4,000 residential building permits will be granted.

Marney Cox

San Diego Association of Governments

- Unemployment rate will average 5.8 percent this year.
- 8,000 to 10,000 jobs will be created this year.
- Home prices will decline from 5 percent to 7 percent this year before hitting bottom.
- Roughly 6,000 residential building permits will be granted.

fueled in part by job cuts at retail stores — as cash-strapped consumers cut back on spending — as well as at state and local governments.

In the past year, California's unemployment rate jumped from 4.8 percent to 6.1 percent.

Thornberg has long been downbeat about the economy,

warning about an impending housing bubble as early as 2003. But other economists share his view that the state is either on the verge of a recession or has entered into one.

"There's probably going to be a very mild, short recession in California beginning either this quarter or next," said Ste-

phen Levy, director of the Center for the Continuing Study of the Economy in Palo Alto. "I don't think San Diego is immune to that, partly because of the hit it's taking from home prices. Housing will turn around, but not in the next six to nine months."

Local economists, however, take issue with the idea that San Diego might fall into recession.

Gin said the local economy will continue to be buoyed by the tourism industry, aided by a weak dollar that will attract tourists from abroad. The military will also continue to be an engine of economic growth, he said. And an influx of venture capital money — which could top \$2 billion this year — will help keep the area's high-tech and biotech businesses running, said Marney Cox, economist at the San Diego Association of Governments, or SANDAG.

Thornberg agreed that the military and some tech sectors could remain mainstays during a recession. But he said tourism — one of San Diego's major employers — could be vulnerable.

"A lot of tourists to San Diego come from other parts of California," he said. "If those people have just been foreclosed on or if they can't tap into their home-equity line for cash, they might decide they

can't afford to haul their kids off to Legoland or SeaWorld."

At the depth of the last recession in San Diego in the early 1990s, restaurants and entertainment spots shed more than 1,000 workers.

"Tourism can soften during a recession because people stop spending on things that are not vital," said Jack Kyser, economist with the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp.

But Kyser added that even during a downturn, tourism in San Diego is buoyed by its proximity to Los Angeles. "Even if people don't have enough money to make trips overseas, people from L.A. can zip down to San Diego and vice versa," he said.

One thing the economists agree on is that the decline in residential real estate, which sparked the downturn, will continue.

Thornberg predicted that before the decline is over, the median price of a San Diego County home will drop an additional 20 percent to below \$346,000 by the end of 2010. Local economists are less dire, predicting new declines of between 5 percent to 10 percent. But Cox said those figures could change if there is a greater than expected rise of foreclosures in the market, which would drive property prices lower.

SAN DIEGO CLIPPING
SD Magazine

FEB - - 2008

Measuring San Diego

ANYONE WHO ATTENDS business conferences has heard the San Diego economy compared to a three-legged stool, the implication being that the area's economy is diversified enough to withstand the current real estate slump, just as it was in deflecting the dotcom bust of 2001. But what are the three legs, and is the analogy valid anymore?

Historically, the legs have been manufacturing, the military and tourism, but USD's Alan Gin would replace manufacturing with a technology category that ranges from telecom to biotech.

Kelly Cunningham says there are actually four legs to our economy—we now have a chair. "The economy was always thought of as defense, manufacturing and tourism, but in the last 20 years, technology-based services, research and high-tech have become a separate leg," he says. "Qualcomm, for example, went from being a manufacturer of phones to a service provider for manufacturers." He expects the trend to continue in the high-tech sector.

For his part, SANDAG's Marney Cox has heard enough about stools and chairs. "I've never been a big believer in the three-legged stool," he says. "Our diversified economy has many industries that need to be separately identified, like biotech, software, defense and telecom. Over time, you can't wrap all those into manufacturing; they don't fit well into the old categories. For example, with defense, we should separate uniformed military from defense contracts."

Sounds more like a sofa — even if there won't be much chance to recline this year.

Region Still Generating Jobs as Economy Declines

Expert: 11 Clusters Creating
Work With Above Average Pay

BY MIKE ALLEN

Yes, it feels a lot like a recession, but the region is still creating jobs, and the economy is nowhere near re-experiencing the dramatic declines of the early 1990s, said Alan Gin, speaking at the 2008 San Diego County Economics Roundtable.

At the annual event held at the University of San Diego on Jan. 25, Gin and other economics experts highlighted the turmoil in the national housing market as the primary cause for a downturn that has accelerated in recent months.

"It's almost all due to the housing market," said Gin, an associate professor of economics at USD.

With foreclosures continuing to break records (home values are down 13 percent year over year) and unemployment rising, the region is not likely to suffer an actual recession, which Gin defined as a net loss of jobs.

During the past 30 years, the region has gone through a net job loss only four times, but three of those were in the 1990s, Gin said.

In those years, San Diego was devastated by the loss of tens of thousands of jobs, mainly in the aerospace and defense industries. Since

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Economy:

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then, the region has undergone a restructuring, building a technology base along with a thriving tourism industry and stable defense industry, Gin noted.

Gin predicted San Diego should generate a net gain of between 5,000 and 8,000 jobs this year, below the net gain of 10,000 jobs in 2007.

Continue Rising

Unemployment should continue rising and get above 5 percent (it was 4.9 percent in December), home sales will remain weak and foreclosures will continue, Gin said.

James Hamilton, an economics professor at UC San Diego, was more pessimistic in his outlook.

"Last year, my prediction for 2007 was 'disappointing but not a disaster.' For 2008, this could well be a disaster," Hamilton said.

The region's housing boom that began about 10 years ago reached its peak in 2005 basically tripled the value of homes, but half of those gains have been given back

in the last two years, Hamilton said.

That bust is having all sorts of impacts, some of which are clearly evident, such as the loss of construction jobs and declining consumer confidence.

Hamilton placed the blame on the housing bust to a systematic change in the way mortgages are processed. In the past, mortgages were made and held by banks and savings and loans. But starting in the 1990s, more loans were sold to government-sponsored agencies such as the Federal National Mortgage Association, which bundled the loans and sold off parts to investors with a guarantee.

In this decade, investment banks got creative with mortgage securitizations, bundling subprime with traditional mortgages and selling them to investors, Hamilton said.

As long as housing values rose, the system worked well, but when values dropped and adjustable interest rates rose, it unleashed a surge of problem loans and foreclosures.

Housing values in San Diego have dropped 13 percent from their peak, and could drop much more, which occurred in an economy still technically growing,

Hamilton said.

"What happens if the economy goes into a recession? The worst is yet to come," he said.

Hamilton also pointed a finger at investors, particularly institutions that continued to chase after higher and higher returns with much higher risks.

He cited San Diego County Retirement Association as an example. The association's \$9.6 billion fund has racked up 14 percent annual returns over the past five years. However, among the investments for the pension fund is \$1.3 billion in higher risk vehicles.

Lost Bets

One investment, in a Connecticut hedge fund, blew up when a trader placed significant losing bets on oil futures, which caused the hedge fund to collapse. The county's pension fund sustained a loss of about \$100 million.

Marney Cox, an economist with the San Diego County Association of Governments, said policy-makers can alter the region in positive and negative ways in restructuring its economy, particularly in the types of jobs created.

While the region is doing well in produc-

ing a net gain of jobs in the past decade, there have been eight times more lower-paying than higher-paying jobs created, he said.

In fact, when including inflation, the average wage for San Diego was higher in 1972 than today, he said.

Because that average wage is below the national and state average, it would take 70 years for the region to double its standard of living, while the nation will reach that level in half the time, Cox said.

Cox identified 11 job clusters that are paying higher than average wages: communications, software, biotechnology, computers and electronics, financial services, environmental technology, defense and transportation, biomedical products, design, publishing and recreational goods. Using 2004 data, all 11 paid average wages ranging from \$52,000 to \$113,000.

Attracting these types of jobs does carry risk, Cox said. Companies with better-paying jobs sometimes fail or slow down, resulting in higher unemployment. However, the pluses outweigh the negatives, with the area's standard of living eventually rising, Cox said.

February 28, 2008

Now, the Hangover

By Don Bauder

Normally, consumers pull the U.S. out of a recession. This year, they may push us into one. Consumers have loaded themselves with far too much debt. With housing prices plummeting, the game of using the home as a piggy bank — financing con-

sumption by tapping rising home values — is over, while unemployment and inflation both rise. For years, consumption was buoyed by that

housing bubble. *POP!!* Trips to the shopping mall are already shorter and less frequent.

In theory, San Diegans should feel the pain more because they experienced the earlier ecstasy much more intensely. Some local economists, however, are keeping their fingers crossed. They hope that strength in industries such as telecom and tourism will offset the decline in consumer spending. None of these experts can be considered bullish, however. All expect an economic slowdown, and all realize that San Diego, the rest of coastal California, and the East Coast could be more vulnerable than inland areas that plodded along during the boom years.

Consumers are wading in deep debt dung, economist and *Forbes* columnist A. Gary Shilling of Springfield, New Jersey, points out. The payments that families make to service their mortgage and consumer debt are now within a hair of the all-time high of 140 percent of spendable income; in 1994 such payments were below 70 percent.

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Now the hangover

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The personal savings rate is zero. In the early 1980s it was above 12 percent. Shilling thinks a national recession has already started. He predicts that housing prices will decline 25 percent from their peak of October 2005 to a trough in 2010. "On average, anyone with a mortgage has only 31 percent equity, so a 25 percent price decline will be devastating," says Shilling. He predicts that housing sales will drop 60 percent over the period.

Shilling believes the recession will be the second worst since World War II. Economic growth will shrink by 3.4 percent from the fourth quarter of last year to the fourth quarter of this year. The only worse recessionary decline since the war was the 3.7 percent contraction in 1957–1958. In the current recession, he expects consumer spending to drop by 1.6 percent, peak to trough. In 1957–1958, consumer spending dropped by only 0.6 percent. Ditto for the severe 1973–1975 recession. In six of the other eight postwar recessions, consumer spending actually grew.

Today, "The states that had the biggest housing bubbles

are suffering the biggest busts," says Shilling. That includes California, of course. "In a number of cities, foreclosures for sale are more than 50 percent of listings," says Shilling. Uh-oh. That suggests San Diego is among the worst. It is. Foreclosures here are 49.7 percent of total sales listings. But if it's any comfort, the data are worse in other large California markets: Riverside-San Bernardino (55.2

percent), Sacramento (62.7 percent), and Oakland (63 percent).

San Diego's housing bubble expanded farther and faster than the bubble in almost any city. Already, prices are down more than 17 percent from the peak in fall of 2005. Home sales are already down 72 percent from the peak. So San Diego's price plunge is already getting close to Shilling's 25 percent prediction. The sales

drop has already exceeded Shilling's national forecast of 60 percent. And Shilling is known as a pessimist.

"San Diego had a bigger run-up in prices, so it's vulnerable to a bigger fall-down," says James Hamilton, economist at the University of California, San Diego, who specializes in studying both housing and economic contractions. "The data coming in suggest house price declines in Southern California are bigger than in most parts of the nation. I think there is reason to be more worried [about consumer debt] than elsewhere. To the extent our real estate price declines are going to be bigger, we are more vulnerable to a negative shock." Hamilton, however, is "not as certain as some people are that the equity withdrawal [from homes] was the whole story for the consumption boom, although it must have been part of it." One offset: San Diego's tech, biotech, telecom, and tourist industries are still strong.

Hamilton is not sure whether the United States will go into recession. His fellow UCSD economist, Ross Starr, thinks the national recession has already begun. It won't be particularly deep and will end in the middle of this year, "but then there will be a couple of years of what people will call a 'jobless recovery,' " because of continued weakness in housing. "Because San Diego and all of Southern California had such a vigorous residential sector the last five years, the decline in construction will have a strong regional impact."

Alan Gin, economist at the University of San Diego, says that San Diego's last downturn in the early part of the century was caused in part by the bursting of the stock

market bubble. "One of the things that helped lift us out was rising equity in homes," he says. People used a variety of financing methods to borrow on those rising values "and spent it on cars and remodeling." But he is not sure that in the 2002-2005 housing price run-up San Diegans pulled all that much out of their homes. "If somebody's house ran up from \$300,000 to \$700,000 and then dropped to \$500,000, how much equity did they tap?" he asks. Possibly in an

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Now the hangover

continued from page 8

economically depressed city such as Cleveland, people may have pulled out relatively more in a house that went up from \$150,000 to \$200,000. As Cleveland and other old industrial cities attest, some of the biggest foreclosure woes are in depressed cities. "In San Diego, East County and South County are where people are having the biggest problems. Those are lower-income areas."

Gin doesn't think San Diego will have a recession, "but it will feel like a recession to a lot of people," he says. Jobs will grow this year by only 5000. The county has been doing around 20,000 a year in this century and hit 50,000 in 1999 before the stock market and tech bubbles burst.

"Real estate will continue to suffer," he says, but the tech-related sectors should do well unless the U.S. economy becomes as weak as Shilling says it will. Then there could be problems.

Kelly Cunningham, economist for the San Diego Institute for Policy Research, says, "Things are slowing down. Before, people could spend because they could refinance their homes, get second and third mortgages." But now that spigot has been shut down. "Retail stores will see slower sales." San Diegans are loaded with debt: "We're overextended here more than in other places," he says. "We certainly had a bubble in housing prices that needs to be brought down to reality, although our reality is higher than the reality elsewhere."

Cunningham says San

Diego is not overbuilt in housing. "People still want to live here," he says. The county has to get back to a price/affordability equilibrium. Then those homes in inventory will be sold and more will be built. Although San Diegans are overleveraged and consumer purchases will slow, "Our economic drivers are not dependent on consumer spending," he says. (However, others point out that consumer spending is 72 percent of the U.S. economy and at least as much of the San Diego economy.) Cunningham thinks that strength in tech sectors will offset the weakness in construction and real estate. San Diego will add 14,000 jobs this year, up from 11,000 last year, he says. ■

February 9, 2008

Homeowners could catch a break

Stimulus package raises 'conforming loan' limit

By Roger Showley
 STAFF WRITER

Congress may be issuing \$600-per-person tax rebate checks this spring, but the temporary mortgage revisions in the economic stimulus package passed this week could have a greater effect on San Diego's economy, particularly its beleaguered

housing market.

That's because the package, expected to be signed next week by President Bush, could save some homeowners hundreds of dollars a month in mortgage payments and rescue other owners wanting to refinance out of adjustable-rate mortgages.

Specifically, the stimulus package temporarily raises the maximum size of mortgages that government-sponsored mortgage companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can buy and market as securities from \$417,000 to as high as \$729,750 in

expensive parts of the country, including some in California.

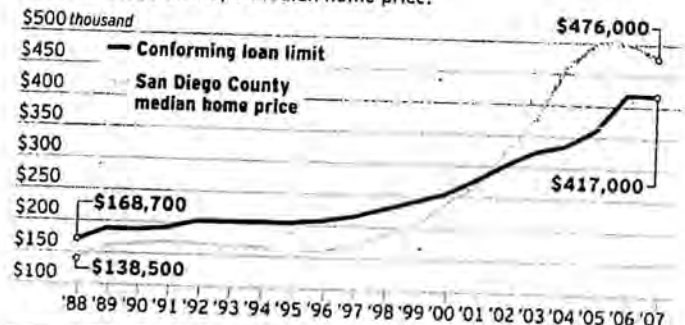
Lenders and real estate agents said that change in the "conforming loan" limit will allow more people to buy homes and refinance existing loans at a lower interest rate. Buyers needing bigger loans typically have to sign up for "jumbo" loans that have higher interest rates and tougher qualification requirements.

"For San Diego and other high-home-

SEE Loan limit, C3

Conforming loan limit

The conforming loan limit has not kept pace with San Diego County's median home price.



SOURCES: DataQuick Information Systems

AARON STECKELBERG / Union-Tribune

► **LOAN LIMIT** CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

Local Realtors expect president anticipates 'a spike up in sales'

price areas, that package is definitely more important than the tax rebate," University of San Diego economist Alan Gin said.

The consumer reaction has been almost immediate, said Sherm Harmer, president of the San Diego County Building Industry Association.

At two downtown projects Harmer oversees, several potential buyers said they are ready to sign sales contracts now that the higher loan limits will reduce their costs.

"They're paying attention," Harmer said. "Everybody wants to own a home. Who doesn't?"

However, the exact loan lim-

its for San Diego are unknown, because the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development won't announce them until early next month. Until then, mortgage brokers said they expect lenders to approve some loans in anticipation of what the new limits might be.

The amounts, which will be tied to median home prices in each metropolitan area, can vary between 125 percent and 175 percent of the median, but can be no higher than \$729,750. The legislation says eligible loans must be made between July 1, 2007, and Dec. 31 of this year, when the limits would revert to existing levels unless Congress extends the cutoff

date.

For San Diego County, the median price set by the Federal Housing Administration is \$505,000, said David Ledford, vice president for housing finance and housing policy at the National Association of Home Builders.

That means the limit for conforming loans in the county could rise to at least \$630,000, unless HUD issues other maximum loan limits for the area.

The gap in interest rates between jumbo and conforming loans has been stubbornly large for months. Last week, it was close to a full percentage point, compared with 0.2 of a percentage point in July, according to financial publisher HSH Associates. Freddie Mac's most recent weekly national mortgage survey placed the average 30-year, fixed-rate conforming loan at 5.67 percent.

Lower interest rates are cru-

cial to determining whether some buyers can afford the homes they want. They also affect owners who want to refinance out of adjustable-rate mortgages that are resetting to higher levels.

Martin Lopez, a loan officer at Park Avenue Mortgage, said several of his clients are eager to take advantage of the higher loan limits. One buyer in Poway stands to save as much as \$400 a month on a \$625,000 home, he said.

Lori Staehling, president of the San Diego Association of Realtors, called Congress' action "incredibly good news."

"I would anticipate a spike up in sales," she said.

In the past two or three weeks, lenders have reported an increase in prequalification loan applications, Staehling said.

"That's the first sign for us (of a possible turnaround)," she said. "I've also heard signs from real estate agents that open houses are being much more heavily attended."

According to DataQuick Information Systems, nearly 50,000 San Diego County homeowners who bought or refinanced in the past two years stand to benefit from the higher loan limits. If their credit is sound and they have the required equity in their homes, they could refinance their jumbo loans to lower-priced conforming loans. That was about 20 percent of the 258,607 home loans of all sizes and types made in 2006 and 2007.

The significance of the conforming-loan-limit increase becomes clear when comparing San Diego's housing prices and loan limits over time.

In 1988, the first year DataQuick began tracking San Diego housing, the median price stood at \$138,500, well below the conforming-loan limit of \$168,700. But starting in 2002, the local median exceeded the loan limit — \$320,000, compared with \$300,700.

As prices skyrocketed to a peak \$517,500 in November 2005, more and more buyers were forced to sign up for jumbo loans, peaking at 55.2 percent of the market that year, DataQuick figures show. Last year, 32 percent of buyers used jumbos.

Now, with the new limit higher than the local median, buyers will have more wiggle room.

"It's going to open up a window of affordability," said Greg Wickstrand of Home Services Lending.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

February 4, 2008



Thursday, Jan. 31

Region's Economic Index Falls: The University of San Diego Index of Leading Economic Indicators dropped in December, for the 20th month out of 21, the university reported.

The index dropped 1 percent to 128.8.

Consumer confidence and help-wanted advertising showed significant drops from November, while unemployment insurance, stock prices and the national economy reported declines of a lesser degree.

Building permits were up, though, by 0.74 percent.

Economist Alan Gin, a USD professor, compiles the index.

"Although the local economy is not in a recession in the sense that there has been a loss of jobs or a drop in Gross Regional Product, economic activity has slowed considerably," said a summary released with the index.

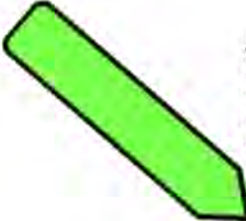
— Jaimy Lee

February 1, 2008

Data show an economy on the edge

Economist: Region may be OK, but 'it feels like a recession'

CHRIS BAGLEY
STAFF WRITER



SAN DIEGO — Tougher times are ahead for San Diego County's economy, with fewer employers hiring, more laying off, and consumers hesitant to spend, according to an economic index released Thursday.

The University of San Diego's Index of Leading Economic Indicators fell in December for the 20th time in the last 21 months, with all major indicators negative except for a small uptick in the number of permits for new homes.

Employers placed fewer help wanted ads late last year, while more laid-off employees sought unemployment benefits, two key components of the index. Consumer surveys also have shown increasing pessimism through the end of the year, a factor that particularly weighed heavy.

The region will probably avoid a recession, but things

haven't been this bad in a long time, said Alan Gin, the economist who compiles the index each month.

"It feels like a recession, compared to some of the good times we've had," Gin said.

A recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of declining gross domestic product — the dollar value of all economic transactions in the United States. The federal agency that measures GDP doesn't do so for individual metropolitan areas.

Economists instead point to the number of jobs added each month and each year, which are estimated by other federal and state agencies. The county's job base grew by just 10,700 last year, slowing from 17,800 in 2006.

Gin forecasted growth of 5,000 to 8,000 jobs this year, a pace that will almost certainly fail to keep up with the numbers of high school and college graduates entering the work force. Gin said that

► **ECONOMY, D-3**

► ECONOMY

Continued from D-1

will push up the region's unemployment rate, which, while low by historical standards at 4.9 percent, already has edged up from 3.7 percent in the last year.

During a mild national recession in 2001, blazing growth in the construction and real estate industries helped keep the San Diego region's economy afloat, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, which controls monetary policy in nine Western states. Gin said that won't be a factor this time around, with both industries flagging locally, but he added he said he believes it could become less of a drag by the end of the year.

Local governments issued building permits for 650 homes in December, a small increase from October and November, but still 30 percent below year-earlier levels, ac-

ording to construction industry data. Stimulus packages, now under discussion in Congress, could be of limited use to San Diego County, Gin said.

As proposed, about 13 million California households would be eligible to receive more than \$11.8 billion in rebates ranging from \$300 to \$600 for single filers and from \$600 to \$1,200 for married couples filing jointly.

He recommends that consumers use a proposed rebate this year to pay down debt. That would shore up their finances in the long run, but wouldn't necessarily prompt employers to add jobs this year, he said.

"People have been running up huge amounts of debt," Gin said.

Esmael Adibi, an economist at Chapman University in Orange, said he expects economic growth in the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino to remain similarly weak in the first half of the year, and Orange County to dip into a recession with the

rest of the nation.

On an official basis, Adibi said, job growth will probably end up at around 1.5 percent this year in the two inland counties — and doesn't include the large population of illegal immigrants who are now having increasing difficulties finding construction work and other day labor. Though many send a portion of their earnings back to their home countries, the weakened construction market has also left them with less to spend in the U.S., Adibi said.

"If you're not selling as many new homes, there's clearly not as much demand for landscaping," Adibi said.

"It's going to be an extremely weak economy this year," he added. "It's going to feel like a recession, even if it's not a recession by the technical definition."

The New York Times News Service contributed to this report. Contact staff writer Chris Bagley at 760-740-5444 or cbagley@nctimes.com.

February 3, 2008

Local economy likely in recession, index finds

An economic index released Thursday by the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego indicates the local economy has probably entered "the San Diego equivalent of a recession."

After two years of slowing, job growth has dropped beneath the rate of population growth and unemployment has hit a four-year high, leading USD economist Alan Gin to conclude that the economy may be in a San Diego-style recession.

But the local economy still does not match the technical definition of a full-blown recession because there has not been a year-to-year decline in employment or the gross regional product.

Gin predicted that conditions will not get that bad because of the county's diversified economy, strong technology sector, tourism industry and military bases.

February 1, 2008

'San Diego recession' may be here, report says

Index notes unemployment, drop in local job growth

By **Dean Calbreath**
 STAFF WRITER

With unemployment hovering near 5 percent and home foreclosures surging, the local economy has probably dipped into "the San Diego equivalent of a recession," according to an economic index released yesterday by the Burnham Moorés Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego.

After two years of slowing, job growth has dropped beneath the rate of population growth and unemployment has hit a

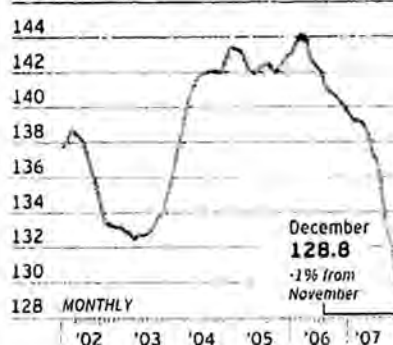
four-year high, leading USD economist Alan Gin to conclude that the economy may be in a San Diego-style recession.

Gin predicts local companies will hire only 8,000 people this year, compared with 10,700 last year and 17,800 the year before.

"That's not enough jobs, given our natural population growth and aging," Gin said. "And then there's also slower economic activity, including slower home sales."

But the local economy still does not match the technical definition of a full-blown recession because there has been no year-to-year decline in employ-

INDEX OF LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY
 146



SOURCE: University of San Diego UNION-TRIBUNE

SEE **Economy, C4**

► **ECONOMY**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

Indicators registering weaknesses

ment or the gross regional product.

Gin predicts that conditions will not get that bad because of the county's diversified economy, strong tech sector, tourism industry and military bases.

"In terms of an actual recession, I don't think that can happen," he said.

Other economists are more wary.

"I hope he's right," said James Hamilton, economist at the University of California San Diego. "But in some ways, I think we're more vulnerable to a downturn than a lot of other regions. We had a much bigger run-up in home prices and are having a bigger fall. There's a potential for much bigger price declines, which could have a big effect on consumer confidence and spending."

If there is a national recession, it could cut into the local tourism industry because fewer people would have money for

travel, Hamilton said.

Gin's index of leading economic indicators points at further weakness in the economy.

In December, the index fell for the 20th time in 21 months. Other than a slight rise in building permits, each of the leading indicators declined during the month:

- Residential building permits dropped 31 percent last year, with a decline of 26 percent for single-family units and 35 percent for multifamily units. Permits rose slightly in December, but not enough to make a dent in the earlier declines.

- Unemployment insurance claims rose for the 10th month in a row, pushing the jobless rate to a four-year high of 4.9 percent in December.

- Online and print help-wanted ads continued a 16-month decline.

- Consumer confidence fell for the eighth month in a row, ending the year 22 percent lower than 2006.

- Local stock prices slid in December.

- The national index of leading economic indicators fell in December for the third straight month.

"Economists consider three consecutive monthly changes in one direction (in the national index) as a sign of a potential turning point in the economy, so the latest index suggests a downturn in the national economy," Gin said.

But Gin stressed that the local economy will fare better than the national average.

"We don't have a concentration in the old-style, cyclical jobs that other regions have," he said. "Our industries are newer — biotech, research, software. Those will hold up better."

San Diego Daily Transcript

February 5, 2008



Director awarded fellowship

Simon Croom, executive director of the University of San Diego Supply Chain Management Institute has been awarded one of four fellowships from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply in the United Kingdom.

The fellowship will fund two years of research, education, networking and other activities related to corporate social responsibility and sustainability.

"This award is a great recognition of USD's supply chain institute," Croom said. "Issues of corporate responsibility and sustainability are at the forefront of challenges facing the corporate and public sectors so I'm very excited to begin this work." **Source Code: 20080204czw**

February 2, 2008

1 ZIP code, 2 disparate markets

ZACH FOX
STAFF WRITER

CARLSBAD — In the midst of a severe countywide housing downturn, Carlsbad stands out as a city where many homes have retained their value and have actually appreciated.

But even with strong median prices, the coastal city has seen some sales at a loss of 15 percent or more in value over the last three years, indicating that a real estate market can only be defined within a subdivision, not a city or a ZIP code.

"You're getting some very localized markets within Carlsbad that are getting nailed and some others are doing fine," said Norm Miller, a real estate professor with the University of San Diego Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate.

The 92011 ZIP code represents a snapshot of the city's strong housing

market, boasting the city's highest median price and about one-third of the city's sales in 2007.

Its median price for 92011 was \$872,000 in 2007 — practically identical to the 2006 median price — suggesting homes had maintained their value.

But of 71 homes sold in that ZIP code in 2007 that had previously sold in 2004 or later, 30 have lost value, according to data from Sandicor, the county's multiple listing service.

At the same time, the remaining 41 homes that resold last year either held their values, or gained in value.

Standing alone

"It is a little contradictory, but you have to say every house stands on its own right," said Carlton Lund, a Prudential real estate agent in Carlsbad.

Carlsbad's contradiction is in part

Carlsbad 92011



NORTH COUNTY TIMES

► DISPARATE, D-3



► DISPARATE

Continued from D-1

its range of homes, varying from manufactured homes near the Rancho Carlsbad Golf Course to gated communities with 4,000-square-foot homes overlooking the Batiquitos Lagoon.

Because the high-end homes attract more affluent homeowners who generally are not forced to sell, those sellers are less likely to reduce the price of their homes, real estate agents said. But that same philosophy makes it hard to tell whether the neighborhoods that have held

their value will continue to do so, Miller said.

"Some of those neighborhoods are stubborn and they'll just wait it out, so there's not much we can say because it's so thin and they're just not selling," he said.

Dave Zulick, a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker, sold the home that posted the largest decline in the ZIP code, a 22 percent drop. It lost \$300,000 over 10 months.

Not immune from slump

Zulick said the sale of the home was a special circumstance because its owner changed jobs and a relocation company bought the house,

but also that the sale showed Carlsbad was not immune from the housing slump.

"It was a vacant property in a declining market," Zulick said. "I wouldn't necessarily call it an anomaly. We have seen some correction in Carlsbad, but we haven't seen as much of a correction."

Housing industry analysts said Carlsbad has been able to stave off steeper price declines because it had fewer subprime loans, is a desirable coastal location and the affluence of many of its homeowners have allowed them to wait out a market not conducive to selling.

One buyer who is convinced of Carlsbad's relative

strength in the housing market is Sonjia Kurzepa, who plans to retire there when she moves from her current home in Denver. She recently purchased her soon-to-be primary residence in Aviara.

But she said she knows San Diego County is working through a housing depression and that some homes in the beach community will continue to lose its value — but not hers.

Kurzepa, a longtime real estate investor who also works in customer service, owns homes in Nevada and Florida, two states that have joined California in leading the nation in home-price declines. She said none of her homes have lost value.

It's all about location

"I could find a house in Carlsbad that would not retain its value," Kurzepa said. "It goes back to the old saying of real estate: location, location, location. ... I look at what does the community look like? If it's very well-taken care of, and if you look at every home in the community and you say, 'Wow, they all look brand-new,' that's a community that will retain its value."

Kurzepa defines communities not by city, but by individual subdivisions.

That is a philosophy shared by Prudential real estate agent Stacey Miller, who said the small communities where home values tend to hold or appreciate are those clustered around solid schools in established, well-developed neighborhoods.

"There are these little pockets, and that's what people have to pay attention to is the different pockets they buy into," Miller said. "The market has been depreciating for the last two years, but there are certain markets and certain areas that will always hold their value."

Contact staff writer Zach Fox at (760) 740-5412 or zfox@nctimes.com. Comment at nctimes.com.

February 17, 2008



GREEN BACKED

The University of San Diego's Norm Miller will answer "Does Green Pay Off?" at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the SDG&E Metro Administration Building, 735 33rd St. The local chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council is sponsor. Information and registration: usgbc-sd.eventbrite.com.

Los Angeles Business from bizjournals - February 25, 2008
<http://losangeles.bizjournals.com/losangeles/stories/2008/02/25/daily4.html>



Monday, February 25, 2008 - 11:11 AM PST

Report: L.A. has most environmentally-friendly buildings

Los Angeles Business from bizjournals - by Jennifer Dawson Houston Business Journal

Los Angeles is tops in the number of environmentally-friendly commercial buildings built nationwide, according to a report released last month by the **Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate** at the University of San Diego.

The report was based on information provided by CoStar, a national data base of commercial properties.

Cities were ranked based on how many of their buildings have either Energy Star or LEED status.

The report ranked Los Angeles as No. 1 nationwide, with 100 energy-efficient buildings consisting of 26.2 million square feet.

Houston ranks second in the number of LEED and Energy Star buildings, the report stated, with a total of 46 buildings consisting of 21.1 million square feet.

Washington, D.C. was a close third behind Houston. It has 19.8 million square feet of energy-efficient space in 61 buildings.

Rounding out the top five are New York (12.3 million square feet in 11 buildings) and San Francisco (11.9 million square feet) in 30 buildings.

Energy Star is a joint program of the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** and the **U.S. Department of Energy** that encourages the use of energy efficient products and practices to save money and protect the environment. The program measures a building's energy performance and recognizes top performing facilities with the Energy Star.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System from the **U.S. Green Building Council** is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

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Daily Business Report

February 5, 2008

REAL ESTATE

The co-author of a study that found "green" buildings superior in energy efficiency will speak at 7 p.m. Feb. 20 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the **San Diego Gas & Electric Administration Building**, 735 33rd St., San Diego (92102). Dr. **Norm Miller**, director of academic programs at **USD's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate**, and co-author **Jay Spivey**, senior director of product management at **CoStar Group**, compared office buildings that had been awarded the Energy Star label by the U.S. **Environmental Protection Agency** for superior energy efficiency to other similar office buildings based on size, height, class and year built.

Miller will give the results of the study. His presentation is produced by the **United States Green Building Council's** San Diego chapter as part of its monthly "GreenMeet" educational series.

The performance of 435 Energy Star-labeled buildings and 2,871 non-Energy Star buildings across the country were studied by Miller and Spivey. The 2007 research study, "Does Green Pay Off," presents evidence that:

- Energy Star-rated buildings have higher occupancy rates and lower operating expenses than non-Energy buildings.
- Energy Star-rated buildings observed higher rental rates by about \$2 per square foot per year net in the second quarter of 2007 and \$2.45 higher in the fourth quarter of 2007.
- Energy Star-rated buildings command sales prices of 15 percent more on average when compared with non-Energy Star buildings.

Daily Business Report

February 9, 2008

With a \$15,000 honorarium as prize, the **American Real Estate Society** is inviting research papers on “green buildings and sustainable real estate” to be included in a special issue of a real estate monograph series. **Norm Miller**, director of academic programs at **USD's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate**, will be editor of the monograph. **Daniel Kohlhepp**, regional v.p. of **Crescent Resources**, will act as co-editor. If the monograph is well-received, the publication could evolve into a **Journal of Sustainable Research**.

While the best research paper published will receive a \$15,000 honorarium, all papers accepted for publication will receive \$1,000. Authors are encouraged to submit original research that can help investors, developers, appraisers, lenders, asset managers, elected government officials and land use regulators improve their strategies, decision-making and understanding of the impact of sustainable real estate practices. Possible research areas include philosophical and definitional matters, regulatory issues, financing and valuation issues, green and sustainable strategies and policies, “green” measurement and certification systems, as well as case studies of innovative properties, products, design or management strategies.

Funding is by the **CoStar Group**.

Authors should submit their manuscript no later than May 15, 2009, to Norm Miller via e-mail at nmiller@sandiego.edu or by mail to: University of San Diego, Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, Calif., 92110-2492, Attention: Dr. Norm Miller.

58 of 61 DOCUMENTS

North County Times (Escondido, California)

Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Business News

February 13, 2008 Wednesday

Home sales tumble, inventory rockets

BYLINE: Zach Fox, North County Times, Escondido, Calif.

SECTION: BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL NEWS

LENGTH: 845 words

Feb. 13--NORTH COUNTY -- Home inventory across North County ballooned in January, increasing the downward pressure on sales prices and sending the county further into a market that favors buyers.

Inventory, the amount of time it would take to sell all homes posted for sale, jumped to 14 months in January, up 52 percent from nine months the same time a year ago, according to a report released Tuesday by the North San Diego County Association of Realtors.

The increase came from a divergence: Sales dropped to 365 in January -- down from 490 a year ago -- and active listings increased to 5,259 homes for sale in North County -- up from 4,657 a year ago. And the exorbitant inventory is not likely to deflate soon.

Another report released Tuesday showed that the number of foreclosure sales countywide reached a new high of 1,612, rocketing 343 percent from a year ago and up 47 percent from December's 1,096 sales. Typically, foreclosure auction sales are won by the lender of the mortgage, which will then sell it on the general market.

"It essentially makes a bad situation worse," said Sean O'Toole, founder of ForeclosureRadar, a Discovery Bay company that released Tuesday's report on foreclosures. "When you have a supply that is greater than demand, that will mean lower prices."

North County's median home price of \$562,500 is down 11 percent from a year ago, when the median hit \$625,000, and is at its lowest mark since April 2004.

January's high supply of homes did not significantly affect the median price, which slipped just 1 percent from December's \$569,000. But the high inventory -- which increased 26 percent from December's 11 months -- suggests sellers will need to continue slashing prices on homes. "There's no way to say a bottom is coming until inventory drops," said Norm Miller, a professor at University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate.

January's jump in the inventory was a result of a steep decline in the number of sales to 365 from December's 435 sales. January sales were down 25.5 percent from the 490 homes sold a year ago. For North County's housing market to start recovering, it will first need to work through its heavy inventory. Several real estate analysts said they consider anywhere from five to eight months of inventory to be a stable market.

Real estate agents differ on how long that will take. Optimists said the local housing market will see a turnaround by the end of the year and pointed to a significant uptick in sales and buyer interest over the last few weeks -- activity that will not show up in data for two or three months.

"It's going to take a shift in the public perception," said Dennis Smith, a real estate agent in Carlsbad, who expects sales to hit their lowest points within five to nine months. "And I go back to, the economy is not that bad. We still have jobs here. We're not like the Rust Belt where they don't have jobs to support buying houses at any price." Miller said he also believes that the housing market could start to turn around toward the end of the year and that it requires a dramatic change in consumer confidence.

"What will trigger that, I'm not sure," he said. "But give me some good news, like we start pulling out of Iraq and the economy looks better than we thought and oil prices are lower than we thought." On the other hand, pessimists said they think historical trends indicate that the local housing recession will not end until 2010 at the earliest. Lyle Anderson, a Realtor in Poway, said he thinks the local inventory will continue to balloon, in contrast to what other agents have said. "They think, 'Oh yeah, I've sold a house, so the sky is blue and everything is great,' " said Anderson, who believes the local housing recession will continue for two to three years.

"It's great to be optimistic, but you have to look at the long-term trends," he said. "Every seven to 10 years our market tends to double in value and then we have a three- to five-year dip period, and we're in that period."

Standard & Poor's has reported that San Diego County is less than two years into the recession, with average home prices declining for 17 straight months through November 2007, the latest data available. North County's condominium market is also plump with inventory. It would take about a year to work through all available attached homes at January's sales rate, the North County report by Cal State San Marcos professor Robert Brown showed.

And while the detached market essentially held its median price, the condominium market experienced a drastic 8 percent drop in its median price in one month to \$326,000 from December's median of \$355,000.

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Investors and Tenants Look for Opportunities in San Diego Office Market

Landlords offer concessions to fill space as vacancies rise and new buildings are delivered

BY MANDY JACKSON
 CREJ Staff Writer

The San Diego County office market is unlikely to see the same high level of investment in 2008 that was experienced last year, but buyers are still looking for opportunities.

Tenants also will be looking for bargains in certain submarkets as the housing downturn and subprime lending concerns force mortgage companies and home builders to vacate office space. Landlords in some areas are offering concessions to fill vacancies as millions of square feet of new buildings are delivered to the market.

According to New York-based Real Capital Analytics, San Diego County saw \$5.3 billion worth of office acquisitions in 2007, up 71 percent from \$3.2 billion a year earlier. However, last year's spending spree dropped off dramatically as 2007 drew to a close, with transactions falling from \$1.4 billion in the third quarter to just \$395 million in the fourth quarter.

The investment market started with a bang in 2007 after New York-based Blackstone Group closed its \$39 billion leveraged buyout of Chicago-based Equity Office Properties Trust in February. The Irvine Co. soon paid Blackstone a reported \$1 billion for the 17 San Diego office buildings in the Equity Office portfolio totaling 2.1 million square feet.

Prices for San Diego office property increased 28 percent in one year to \$362 per square foot on average in 2008, according to Bob White, founder and president of Real Capital Analytics, at the 12th Annual Real Estate Conference hosted by the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate on Jan. 22.

White said investors pay a premium to own office buildings in San Diego, but the difference between San Diego and the national average is not as great as it was a few years ago. A 10 percent adjustment in pricing is expected in 2008, but it is unclear as to whether prices will be up or down.

"Going forward, I don't know what the price correction will be in San Diego," White said. "San Diego will be on the lower side because capital is still there."

Discriminating View

Lynn LaChapelle, a managing director in the capital markets group at Jones Lang LaSalle in San Diego, said investors will be more discriminating when they look at potential acquisitions this year.

"I think people will be much more circumspect going into 2008 with respect to the submarkets they're buying into," LaChapelle said. "If there's a historical trend line, like barriers to entry in Del Mar Heights with good rent growth for the last five years, even with a little bit of vacancy right now I think investors will be pretty positive in that market."

Bob Prendergast, also a managing director in the capital markets group at Jones Lang LaSalle, said Kilroy Realty Corp.'s recent \$87.9 million purchase of 23 acres from Pardee Homes in Del Mar Heights shows that investors have



While 2008 San Diego County office investment is expected to be below the \$5.3 billion spent here last year, Jamison Properties started the year off with the \$29.3 million acquisition of downtown San Diego's Chamber Building.

confidence in the north San Diego submarket. The real estate investment trust owns 1.5 million square feet in Del Mar Heights and the former Pardee site is entitled for 500,000 square feet of office space.

"If [investors are] going to buy an asset, they need to focus on executing the strategy," LaChapelle said. "They have to underwrite the positioning effectively. The lender or whoever is underwriting that property is going to be much more disciplined. Lenders are lending on cash flow and income in place."

Lenders that provided up to 90 percent loan-to-value ratios until mid-2007 may only lend up to 65 percent loan-to-values now because of the credit crunch that took hold of the capital markets in August due to subprime residential mortgage concerns.

Prendergast said investors and their lenders will pay much more attention to the credit quality of a property's tenants, the terms of their leases and other basic underwriting standards emphasized in previous market cycles.

"We're projecting that because of the capital

markets and the lack of funds, there will be a 20 percent to 30 percent drop in [transaction] volume in 2008," LaChapelle said.

Nationally, Jones Lang LaSalle is predicting that the number of properties sold in 2008 will be somewhere between 2001 and 2006 transaction volume.

"After the first half of the year, people will feel better with where pricing is," LaChapelle said. "In the fourth quarter a seller may have wanted \$100 million and they got an offer that was \$97 million, so they waited. But after the first half of the year they might be more accepting of that pricing."

Pricing and investor interest will likely be impacted by office market conditions, which weakened in San Diego County last year.

According to Voit Commercial Brokerage, vacancy was 12.1 percent in fourth-quarter 2007, up from 11.2 percent a year earlier and 9.6 percent at the end of 2005. Net absorption increased last year to 1.7 million square feet from 870,507 square feet in 2006, but it was lower than the 2.5 million square feet of

absorption two years earlier.

New Construction

Voit reported that 3.8 million square feet of new office buildings were delivered in 2007, up from 2.7 million square feet a year earlier and 1.9 million square feet in 2005. However, the 2.9 million square feet under construction at the end of 2007 was lower than the pipelines during the past two years; more than 4 million square feet was under construction in both 2005 and 2006.

High construction costs proved to be a positive factor in the U.S. office market during the past few years, said Mary Ludgin, managing director in the U.S. private equity group at Chicago-based real estate investment management firm Heitman, at the USD conference.

"If we combined the liquidity we've seen with low construction costs, we would have a big amount of oversupply," Ludgin said.

A healthy office market has new buildings under construction that represent no more than 2 percent of the existing supply, she said. However, San Diego's new office buildings and projects under construction total 4.1 percent of the existing market, representing an oversupply.

New buildings are expected to add to San Diego County's increasing vacancy rate this year. As a result of the housing market slowdown and concerns about subprime residential mortgages that led to problems in the broader credit and debt markets in the summer, office vacancies increased from 10.6 percent in January 2007 to 14 percent at the end of the year, according to CB Richard Ellis.

Some of the highest vacancy rates around the region are 21 percent along the Route 56 corridor, 25.2 percent in Rancho Bernardo and Poway, 20.4 percent in Scripps Ranch and 24.3 percent in Carlsbad, where many new buildings are located.

Opus West, a division of Minneapolis-based Opus Corp., completed construction last year for several phases of Opus Point in Carlsbad. The 622,000-square-foot master-planned business park has a mix of office and research-and-development facilities.

The business park includes the Opus Collection with office condominiums in seven buildings totaling 62,562 square feet and two two-story multitenant or build-to-suit buildings totaling 235,547 square feet.

Chris Wood, vice president at Opus West in San Diego, described activity at the Carlsbad project as "pretty good." The company has sold 35 percent of its office condominiums and has proposals out to tenants for 35,000 to 45,000 of the multitenant space in Opus Point's first for-lease building.

In Scripps Ranch, an inland submarket in northern San Diego along Interstate 15, Opus is building Horizon Tech Center, a three-building, 157,884-square-foot office campus.

Wood said San Diego has very strong fundamentals to support the office market. Defense companies, financial back office operations and high-tech companies are all looking for space in Scripps Ranch. In Carlsbad, leisure sports, engineering, general contracting, defense and high-tech electronics companies are consider-

See SAN DIEGO, page 15



Chris Wood of Opus West said three companies have shown interest in leasing one, two or all three of the buildings at the developer's 157,884-square-foot Horizon Tech Center in Scripps Ranch.

SAN DIEGO

Continued from page 14

ing their space options.

"We're really seeing good broad-based growth coming from the users," Wood said. "Four or five months ago, we'd talk to a user in 20,000 square feet now and they were looking at 35,000 square feet to meet their growth needs, but they decided to renew where they are. Now, they're coming back to us and saying we need 40,000 to 45,000 square feet."

Wood predicted that San Diego County in general will see better absorption in 2008 than in 2007, but leasing activity will vary in different submarkets.

Tenant Activity

"Most of the clients that we're working with are probably making a lateral move or up to a 10 percent to 30 percent increase in their space, aside from a few technology firms we're working with that are busting at the seams, but most companies do not need a large amount of space," said Scot Ginsburg, principal at The Staubach Co. in San Diego.

Ginsburg said there are not a lot of office leases that are expected to roll over in 2008 or 2009. Most tenants with leases that aren't expiring are holding on to the space they have.

Landlords are getting nervous in North County markets such as Carlsbad, where new construction levels and vacancy are rising, so they're offering concessions. However, Ginsburg said market conditions vary in the central San Diego submarkets, with rents holding steady in Del Mar Heights and softening in Sorrento Mesa.

CB Richard Ellis reported that while rents were set to level out in early 2007, new projects were delivered to the market last year pushing average asking lease rates up 4.3 percent to \$242 per square foot per month by the fourth quarter.

"A lot of the companies that bought buildings in the last couple of years have pretty deep pockets," Ginsburg said. "I don't see rents adjusting, I see concessions increasing."

Landlords in the North County area are offering up to one year of free rent, while building owners a few miles to the south in Del Mar and Sorrento Mesa are beginning to offer four to eight months of free rent. Landlords have been much less likely to offer higher tenant-improvement allowances.

LaChapelle said the county is likely to see a mix of good and bad in terms of tenant activity in 2008. Mortgage companies continue to cut jobs due to ongoing concerns related to subprime lending. Homebuilders, residential real estate sales firms and title and escrow companies have also put space back on the market due to the slow housing market, especially in Carlsbad and the Interstate 15 corridor.

"On the other hand, we're seeing capital in-

flows into biotechnology and high technology. Sorrento Mesa and Torrey Pines have seen expansion of technology-oriented companies," LaChapelle said. "Barring a severe recession, I would think we'd be on track to lease consistently what we've leased on average during the last five years."

Dan Gaston, a principal in the Carlsbad office of brokerage Lee & Associates, said San Diego's coastal North County submarkets were suffering at the end of 2007 and he expects that slower activity in the office market will continue for a while longer.

"We got beat up on the subprime lending; people with residential mortgage groups and builders as tenants got a lot of product back," Gaston said. "We had a lot of new product hit the market too, so it was a double-whammy. Consequently, we saw vacancy rates get into the double digits."

Carlsbad was the hardest hit since that city saw a lot of new buildings open last year.

"Although the underlying economy is good and there are people moving and growing, the absorption has slowed down," Gaston said. "It will take a while to absorb space, but people feel that unlike the early '90s, the underlying economy is strong."

Future Phases

In terms of new construction, since there is a lot of new space on the market, North County developers are waiting to start new buildings or begin the next phase of projects already under way.

But on the Interstate 15 corridor, the San Francisco-based Jay Paul Co. is moving forward with the first structure in its \$1.2 billion, 3.2 million-square-foot office campus called Summit Rancho Bernardo.

The first five-story, 196,000-square-foot Class A office building should be ready for occupancy in November or December. In the third or fourth quarter of this year, construction is expected to begin for a 200,000-square-foot office building and a 40,000-square-foot amenities building.

"We've had a lot of activity, several tours and we have several transactions that we're engaged in right now," said Matt Lituchy, managing director at the Jay Paul Co.

No timeline has been set for the next phases of Summit Rancho Bernardo but the developer is working on build-to-suit proposals for future buildings, which may determine the second phase of the project.

Since Jay Paul is already working on a large project in San Diego, the company is less likely to start another large-scale development, but Lituchy said it is keeping a look out for opportunistic developments and acquisitions.

"We think, like many of the commercial real estate markets, things have slowed down somewhat," Lituchy said. "With the gloom about the economy, people are thinking long and hard about their space requirements and growth."

—E-mail Mandy.Jackson@DailyJournal.com

Seminar on re-building solutions kicks off week

On the Agenda

By Ann Chin

Earnings season continues with full force into the middle of the month as local companies hold workshops and events related to the state of the economy.

Local events

Explore re-building solutions related to the 2007 fires during a free Hallmark Communities seminar Tuesday beginning 6 p.m. at the Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Heald Lane.

For more information, visit hallmarkcommunities.com or call (760) 644-1803.

In an Extended Learning course at Cal State San Marcos Tuesday, participants will learn how written policies and procedures affect organizations. Also, find out how human resource professionals can minimize exposure to lawsuits. The three-hour class costs \$425 and begins 6 p.m.

For more information, call (760) 750-4020.

Recently elected Chairman Greg Cox and the county board of supervisors host the annual State of the County Address 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Balboa Theatre, 868 4th Ave., San Diego.

For more information, call (619) 531-5333.

The Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate designed a certificate program to provide competitive skills and strategies for today's market. The program cost \$450 and will be held Wednesday 6-8 p.m. at Manchester Executive Conference Center at USD, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego. For more information,

call Jodi Waterhouse at (619) 260-4231.

The UCSD Economics Roundtable will embark on its 18th year of the program Wednesday 7:30-9 a.m.

Gordon Hanson, director of the Center on Pacific economies and professor of economics will speak at UCSD Extended Studies, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla.

Cost ranges from \$50-\$150. For more information, call Edie Munk at (858) 822-0510 or e-mail emunk@ucsd.com.

Pacific Safety Council will hold its annual luncheon Wednesday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. This year the council will honor people with the Solar Turbines' Champion of Safety Award and the Good Samaritan Award. The luncheon costs \$35 and will be held at the Handlery Hotel & Resort, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego.

For more information, visit safetycouncilonline.com or call (888) 846-4200.

According to CommNexus, it has long been the goal of health care community leaders to put patients in control of their own medical records.

On Wednesday, find out how a Health Information Exchange can be realized in San Diego 5-7 p.m. at Qualcomm Auditorium, 6455 Lusk Blvd., San Diego. For more information, visit commnexus.org.

During a California Center for Sustainable Energy workshop on Thursday, participants will learn various approaches to establishing a carbon footprint and what the right approaches work best for organizations. It will be held at the center at 8690

Balboa Ave., Suite 100, San Diego 9 a.m.-noon. For more information, visit energycenter.org or call (858) 244-1177.

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PR Newswire

February 13, 2008 Wednesday 1:00 PM GMT

Chris Tihansky Appointed President of In Vivo Cellular Imaging Leader Cellvizio Inc.;

- Company Establishes U.S. subsidiary in Philadelphia Area -

LENGTH: 536 words**DATELINE:** PHILADELPHIA Feb. 13

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13 /PRNewswire/ -- Cellvizio Inc., a leader in in vivo cellular imaging, announced today the appointment of Chris Tihansky as its President. Cellvizio Inc. is the U.S. subsidiary of Paris-based Mauna Kea Technologies and develops and markets Cellvizio(R), a fundamentally new endoscopic imaging approach which improves patient care by eliminating the need for unnecessary biopsies and enhances the diagnosis of a broad range of diseases via in vivo cellular imaging.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20080213/NYW021>)

The appointment coincides with the company establishing its U.S. operations base in the Philadelphia area.

"Cellvizio is increasing its commercialization efforts in the U.S., and Chris is a great fit for leading this," said Sacha Loiseau, Ph.D., founder, president and chief executive officer of Mauna Kea. "He has a unique combination of expertise in the medical technology field, including general management, business development, sales, and product development."

"Cellvizio is an excellent example of a company that has successfully taken a cutting-edge technology from bench top to bedside," explained Chris. "I am very pleased to be leading our team in the U.S. It is our intention to make Cellvizio a standard of care so that as many patients as possible have access to the advantages this technology offers."

"The Philadelphia area is a perfect location for us to rapidly build our business," Chris stated. "It offers ready access to our customer base and a strong talent pool. Additionally, it is increasingly evident that Southeastern Pennsylvania offers a well-developed support infrastructure for emerging med-tech companies."

Chris has 20 years of experience in the emerging medical technology and healthcare financial services industries. He most recently served as President and CEO of Surgical Services Inc. (SSI), a division of Teleflex Inc. (NYSE:TFX). Chris received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA; a Master of Science Degree in Biomedical Engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia; and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of San Diego.

About Mauna Kea Technologies:

Mauna Kea Technologies leads the growing in vivo cellular imaging market enabling physicians to visualize, diagnose and treat pathologies that can not be seen using other imaging techniques. Mauna Kea Technologies' flagship Cellvizio(R) system provides microscopic visualization of mucosal tissue and promises to improve clinical outcomes by increasing the diagnostic yield of existing endoscopic procedures. With over 1000 Cellvizio procedures completed to date, Mauna Kea Technologies is currently focused on the gastroenterology and pulmonology markets. The company plans to expand into other markets in the future. The company also has a distribution agreement with Leica Microsystems to sell products for the Small Animal Imaging market in Europe, the U.S. and Japan. For more information about Mauna Kea Technologies: <http://www.maunakeatech.com/>

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Tuesday, Feb. 5 2008

New Directors Elected to California Healthcare Institute Board

BusinessWire
Comtex

LA JOLLA, CALIF., Feb 05, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) – The California Healthcare Institute today announced that John Cottingham, senior vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of Invitrogen, Louis Lange, M.D., Ph.D., chairman and chief executive officer of CV Therapeutics; and Thomas West, president of North America LifeScan, Inc., a division of Johnson & Johnson were elected to its board of directors. CHI is a non-profit public policy research organization, representing leading California academic institutions, biotechnology, medical device, diagnostics and pharmaceutical firms.

"As CHI prepares to celebrate our 15-year anniversary we are excited to welcome these innovative and accomplished pioneers to our board," said David L. Goldberg, M.D., CHI president and CEO. "As lawmakers in Congress and California work to address the significant challenges that face our economy and our nation, CHI is confident that these additions to our board will provide the insight and expertise necessary to advance biomedical innovation in our state."

John Cottingham is senior vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of Invitrogen Corporation, a life sciences company that develops, manufactures and markets research tools in kit form and provides other research products and services to biotechnology and biopharmaceutical researchers and companies worldwide. Prior to the merger of Life Technologies with Invitrogen, Cottingham was the general counsel and assistant secretary of Life Technologies. He has also served as an international corporate attorney with the Washington, D.C. office of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Cottingham received his bachelor's degree in political science from Furman University, his doctorate from the University of South Carolina, his master of law degree in securities regulation from Georgetown University, and his master of science in executive leadership from the University of San Diego.

Dr. Louis Lange is chairman, CEO and founder of CV Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company that applies molecular cardiology to the discovery, development and commercialization of small molecule drugs for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. CV Therapeutics led initiatives for U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for Ranexa, a first-in-class late sodium channel blocker and the first anti-anginal drug class approved in 30 years. Dr. Lange has 22 years of experience in academic medicine at Harvard and Washington University, and was one of the first academicians in molecular cardiology. Dr. Lange previously served on the faculty of the Washington University School of Medicine, including a position as chief of cardiology at the Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, and as a full professor of medicine. Dr. Lange is internationally recognized as an expert in the field of molecular mechanisms of cardiovascular disease and holds an M.D. from Harvard Medical School and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Harvard University.

Thomas West is president, North America LifeScan, Inc, a company that manufactures and markets glucose monitoring systems for people with diabetes. In West's 16 years with Johnson & Johnson he has held a broad range of leadership positions covering general management, marketing, international franchise management and business development. West has worked in consumer products, over-the-counter and prescription pharmaceuticals, and diagnostics at LifeScan. West holds a master's degree in business administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in political economy from Princeton University.

CHI represents more than 250 leading biotechnology, medical device, diagnostics, and pharmaceutical companies, and public and private academic biomedical research organizations. CHI's mission is to advance responsible public policies that foster medical innovation and promote scientific discovery. CHI's Web site is www.chi.org.

SOURCE: The California Healthcare Institute

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or
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Re: Fri, 02-01-2008 11:59, the latest Comtex SmartTrend Alert, an automated pattern recognition system, indicated a DOWNTICK on 02-27-2008 for CWTX @ \$5.59.

As of Friday, 02-01-2008 13:59, the latest Comtex SmartTrend Alert, an automated pattern recognition system, indicated a DOWNTICK on 02-01-2008 for JWC @ \$65.39.

For more information on SmartTrend, contact your resident data analyst or call 1-800-854-2222.



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PR Newswire

February 19, 2008 Tuesday 5:30 PM GMT

Grubb & Ellis Company Expands Corporate Services Capabilities With Hiring of Conrad Andersen and Larry Lawrence; Industry Veterans Join Company From CRESA Partners

LENGTH: 756 words

DATELINE: SANTA ANA, Calif. Feb. 19

SANTA ANA, Calif., Feb. 19 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Grubb & Ellis Company(NYSE:GBE), a leading provider of real estate services and investment firm, today announced that Conrad Andersen and Larry Lawrence have joined the Company as Senior Vice Presidents, effective immediately. Andersen and Lawrence bring extensive global corporate real estate experience and will focus on expanding the Company's corporate services delivery both domestically and throughout the Asia Pacific Region.

"The addition of Conrad and Larry is consistent with our commitment to the corporate services arena and our strategy to build a global service delivery platform," said Dylan Taylor, President, Corporate Services Group and acting President of Global Client Services. "They bring considerable corporate real estate experience and will play a key role in leading our client solution design and expansion."

Andersen, 52, and Lawrence, 56, will report directly to Taylor.

With more than 20 years of commercial real estate experience, Andersen joined CRESA Partners as Senior Vice President in 2004. In this role, he was instrumental in expanding CRESA's corporate services platform and had responsibility for major outsourced corporate real estate accounts. Andersen's background also includes director/senior manager positions with Cisco Systems and Bank of America. His areas of expertise include strategic planning, portfolio management, investment banking, land entitlements and construction management. Throughout his career, he has managed and disposed of billions of dollars of corporate real estate throughout the U.S., Europe, The Middle East, Africa, Asia Pacific and Latin America. Andersen holds a bachelor's degree and MBA from University of Redlands and a Juris Doctorate candidate from Taft School of Law. He is a member of CoreNet and the Orange County Bar Association.

Lawrence has 30 years of industry experience, including extensive expertise in Asia Pacific. At CRESA, he provided a full range of services to corporate clients, including strategic planning, site selection, portfolio management, acquisitions and dispositions. Prior to joining CRESA, Lawrence served as Intel Corporation's Director of Worldwide Real Estate with responsibility for all of the Company's real estate activities, which encompassed a 70-million-square-foot diversified real estate portfolio that spanned 60 countries. Earlier, he spent seven years in Hong Kong as Asia Director of Corporate Real Estate Services for Deutsche Bank. Lawrence also spent eight years at Bank of America in a number of real estate positions, including as Managing Director of the bank's Real Estate Investment Banking Group in Tokyo and Director of the bank's Asia Pacific Region, Corporate Real Estate Group in Hong Kong.

Lawrence holds a bachelor's degree from the University of San Diego and a law degree from Western State University. He is admitted to the State Bar of California and is a member of CoreNet, the American Bar Association and Orange County Bar Association.

About Grubb & Ellis

Grubb & Ellis Company(NYSE:GBE)is one of the largest and most respected commercial real estate services and investment companies. With more than 130 owned and affiliate offices worldwide, Grubb & Ellis offers property owners, corporate occupants and investors comprehensive integrated real estate solutions, including transaction, management, consulting and investment advisory services supported by proprietary market research and extensive local market expertise.

Grubb & Ellis and its subsidiaries are leading sponsors of real estate investment programs that provide individuals and institutions the opportunity to invest in a broad range of real estate investment vehicles, including tax-deferred 1031 tenant-in-common (TIC) exchanges, public non-traded real estate investment trusts (REITs) and real estate investment funds. As of December 31, 2007, nearly \$3 billion in investor equity has been raised for these investment programs. The company and its subsidiaries currently manage a growing portfolio of more than 216 million square feet of real estate. In 2007, Grubb & Ellis was selected from among 15,000 vendors as Microsoft Corporation's Vendor of the Year. For more information regarding Grubb & Ellis Company, please visit <http://www.grubb-ellis.com/>.

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Web site: <http://www.grubb-ellis.com/>

Company News On-Call: <http://www.prnewswire.com/comp/136726.html>

SOURCE Grubb & Ellis Company

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San Diego Daily Transcript

February 18, 2008



WEDNESDAY, FEB 27 - PRESENTATION

ECONOMIC FORECAST 2008

Join Gary London of the London Group and Professor Alan Gin of USD as they discuss the economic forecast for Southern California and overview the hot construction markets for 2008. **Organization:** SMPS (Society for Marketing Professional Services) **Information:** www.smpssd.org **Cost:** \$40.00- \$65.00 **When:** Hours: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **Where:** DoubleTree Hotel - Hazard Center, 7450 Hazard Center Drive, San Diego, 92108, Venue Phone - (619) 297-5466

CALIFORNIA
REAL ESTATE JOURNAL

February 19, 2008



USGBC GREEN PRESENTATION

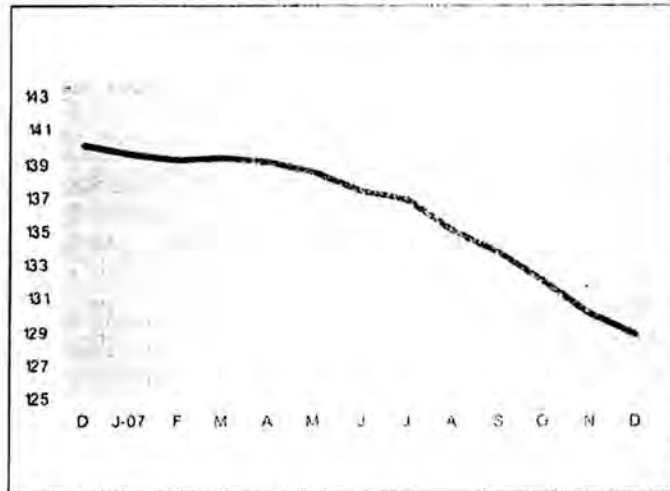
*Norm Miller, director of academic programs at the University of San Diego, Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate, and Jay Spivey, senior director of product management at CoStar Group, will discuss the book they co-authored "Does Green Pay Off?" The two will present their findings for building green at the **United State's Green Building Council's GreenMeet Forum.***

- 5:30 p.m. reception, 6 to 8 p.m. program
- San Diego Gas & Electric Administration Building at 735 33rd St., in San Diego
- Cost: \$15 members, \$25 nonmembers, \$10 emerging green builder
- Visit www.usgbc-sd.eventbrite.com

San Diego Daily Transcript

February 25, 2008

Leading economic indicators



Source: University of San Diego

The monthly changes in leading indicators (initial claims for unemployment insurance, local stock prices, outlook for the national economy, consumer confidence, building permits and help wanted advertising) of the San Diego economy as tracked by Alan Gin, an urban economics professor at the University of San Diego. The highest monthly rate is 140.4 in November 2006.

School of Law

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Sacramento Bee (California)

February 3, 2008 Sunday
METRO FINAL EDITION

Abuse case casts doubt about board; Inaction after chiropractor's convictions riles lawmaker.

BYLINE: John Hill jhill@sacbee.com

SECTION: MAIN NEWS; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 1637 words

In 2004, the state attorney general's office sent an alarming notice to the board that licenses California chiropractors: a Los Angeles practitioner had been accused of rape.

Thomas Dickershaid continued to practice for two more years, until four additional victims -- three patients and one job applicant -- reported that they had been sexually abused.

In fact, Dickershaid still has his license, first issued by the state Board of Chiropractic Examiners in 2000. But he is no longer treating patients in his office near the Los Angeles airport. He sits in a prison cell, sentenced in October to 24 years for sex crimes, including the 2004 rape.

The case is the worst to come to light since debate began last year about the board's growing leniency despite evidence of holes in its past enforcement.

Now, even as the board says it wants to plug those holes, it is hobbled by a 50 percent budget cut and drastically reduced enforcement staff. A state senator, meanwhile, has said the board needs to agree to outside oversight in order to have its money restored.

In a two-part investigation published in December, The Bee found that the board responsible for overseeing 15,000 California chiropractors has long taken a passive approach to discipline. The board missed civil cases that alleged fraud or sexual abuse. In criminal matters, it tended to wait for a conviction rather than act on its own.

The Dickershaid case offers a stark example of the shortcomings of that approach. Short of board staff initiating independent investigations, there is no guarantee a similar case will not slip by again.

"This is another appalling example of the board's failure to protect the public," state Sen. Mark Ridley-Thomas, D-Los Angeles, chairman of the Senate Business and Professions Committee, wrote of the Dickershaid case via e-mail. "It's inconceivable to me why it chose not to investigate the guy when the first incident was reported and subsequently four additional patients were attacked. It's unconscionable and reprehensible."

Ridley-Thomas, whose committee held hearings last year on problems with the chiropractic board, also pointed out that Dickershaid's case unfolded while the board's enforcement staff was at full strength -- in an era that the current board has described as overly punitive.

Recently, because of a dispute over the chiropractic board's future between Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Democratic legislators, the board's budget was slashed in half. The staff has shrunk from 17 to 6.

Rape in his office alleged

The first victim came forward in 2004, reporting to police that she had sought a spinal adjustment from Dickershaid.

Instead, he insisted on giving her a massage, then ripped off her clothes, forced her onto his treatment table, climbed on top of her, and raped her, according to a sentencing memo issued in October by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office.

The victim testified that her back injury prevented her from fighting off Dickershaid.

In an interview with The Bee, the victim, whose name is being withheld because she suffered a sexual assault, said she learned of Dickershaid through a locksmith friend who had helped the chiropractor after he locked himself out of his office.

The victim, then out of work on state disability because of back problems, said she didn't like it when Dickershaid called her to ask her on dates and suggested her back problems were caused by "sexual repression." But she kept going to him because she felt he was helping her degenerative disk disease.

After the rape, she said, "For about three months, I walked around in a fog. My sister came over and did my dishes. I wasn't functioning properly."

At his October sentencing, Dickershaid said he felt the sex was consensual, but he apologized to the woman, saying, "my behavior towards (her) has caused her great pain and distress." He is appealing the case.

The District Attorney's Office had initially decided against filing charges because of a lack of evidence to corroborate the woman's story, spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said. But the attorney general's office notified the state licensing board anyway.

The board does not have to meet criminal standards of proof to take away a license. It does not even need to prove a criminal act such as rape took place, only that a chiropractor had sex with a patient -- which Dickershaid later conceded in his criminal case.

Executive Director Brian Stiger, who was appointed this year, would not comment on details of the Dickershaid case, saying it occurred before his tenure and he didn't want to second-guess earlier staffs. But he added, "I'm very concerned about the fact that this happened."

Stiger and board members say they will not tolerate wrongdoing by chiropractors, and want to close enforcement loopholes.

"We want to get more out in front for consumers," Stiger said. "We may not be waiting for convictions. We may be doing an investigation on our own."

It's unclear how thoroughly the board investigated the Dickershaid case in 2004. Board records show no formal accusation against the chiropractor, the first step in revoking his license. Nor did the board use its power to temporarily suspend his license to protect consumers while it did a more thorough investigation.

Former board executive director Catherine Hayes said that, although she doesn't specifically remember the 2004 notice in the Dickershaid case, "we would have exhausted every avenue" to find out what happened. That would have included contacting the victim to find out if she would cooperate with a board disciplinary case, Hayes said, and figuring out whether evidence would support such a case.

Yet, the victim told The Bee she was never contacted by the board. If she had been, she said she would have cooperated.

"I wasn't believed," she said, "until two years later, he did it to someone else."

More sex allegations raised

Before long, Dickershaid again came to the attention of authorities. According to the district attorney's sentencing memo:

In October 2005, the chiropractor grabbed a woman's breasts during an X-ray. After Dickershaid left the room, the woman picked up his cell phone, thinking it was hers, and found photographs of other women, apparently patients, in various stages of undress.

In August 2006, Dickershaid ran his hands over another patient's breasts during an exam, according to the same memo, based on courtroom testimony. Afterward, that patient wrote a letter to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners, which she

shared with The Bee, complaining that he asked personal questions, did not have a nurse or a receptionist in the office during exams and insisted on hugging patients.

"I feel that he leans into his patients far too much when he performs his adjustments and trying to 'Hug' patients is both unethical and unprofessional," she wrote. "Heaven forbid he ever treats a child or a teenage girl."

In September 2006, the memo continued, Dickershaid insisted that a new patient who had found his name in the Yellow Pages take off her clothes and put on a gown. He fondled her breasts, the memo said, and when she tried to get up, forced her back onto the table, put his fingers into her vagina and made her hold his penis.

That same month Dickershaid persuaded a woman, who had come to his office to ask about a job, to accept a free spinal adjustment, the memo said. He fondled her breasts, too, asked whether he could perform oral sex on her, took off his clothes and lay next to her, wrapping his arms around her. She escaped when Dickershaid answered a phone call.

A Los Angeles police detective investigating the new complaints found a computer record of the 2004 report in which the 60-year-old victim first claimed rape, according to a deposition in the case, and connected it with the other cases.

All the charges were included in the criminal case against Dickershaid, who was found guilty last September of 11 felony sex crimes against the five victims.

At the October hearing where he was sentenced to 24 years in prison, the victims talked about the impact the assaults had on their lives.

"I am nervous to have a repairman in my house alone, constantly looking over my shoulder," one victim said.

"I have sciatica and ... I am scared to get treatment because I don't know what may happen," said another.

At the same hearing, Dickershaid denied that he coerced any of the women into sex acts, saying that none was the 2004 encounter consensual, but the other four women lied.

"They will forever have to live with the lies they told," he said.

In prison; license still valid

Licensing boards frequently wait to act until after a practitioner has been convicted, according to Julie D'Angelo Fellmeth, administrative director at the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego. At that point the boards don't have to prove anything, she said, beyond that there was a conviction.

"It's easy," Fellmeth said.

But in the absence of criminal charges, the boards are obligated to protect the public, she said, adding that "other boards would have gone after" Dickershaid.

Ridley-Thomas, the state senator, said the case illustrates the need for greater oversight of the board. He said that negotiations are under way to restore the board's full budget if it agrees to continued oversight by the state Department of Consumer Affairs and to use the department's investigators in disciplinary cases.

In the case of Dickershaid, the board -- forced to prioritize cases by its slashed budget -- has not yet filed its accusation. Because he is in prison and can no longer endanger the public, Stiger said, other cases are more pressing. As a result, anyone checking his license on the board's Web site would find it in good standing.

"You're kidding," said the 2004 victim. "How can that happen?"

Call John Hill, Bee Capitol Bureau, (916) 326-5543.

LOAD-DATE: February 4, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

February 28, 2008

Budget may undercut child abuse services

■ County could lessen standards for how it responds to complaints

GIG CONAUGHTON
STAFF WRITER

In an alarming preview of looming state budget cuts this week, San Diego County officials said social workers may not act on all their suspicions of child abuse starting July 1.

Jean Shepard, director of the county's health and human services agency, said her warning was intentionally alarming: County officials

hope to rally public opposition to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget cuts to pressure state lawmakers to quash them before they are adopted for the new budget year that starts July 1.

State officials said they hoped reduced funds wouldn't force county officials to sacrifice child safety. But a legal analyst and child-welfare advocate said counties have the discretion to lower their standards for how they respond to child-abuse complaints.

Meanwhile, a labor union seeking a wage increase from the county accused county officials of using the proposed cuts to child-protective

► CHILD, A-5

► CHILD

Continued from A-1

services as a ploy to deflect their demands, a claim vigorously denied by the county.

Fearing state cuts

At Tuesday's San Diego County Board of Supervisors' meeting, Shepard said \$10 million in proposed state budget cuts could mean that social workers would no longer order counseling in cases when they suspect abuse but aren't sure, or when children aren't considered in immediate danger.

"We'll be able to respond to hot line (calls)," Shepard said, "but we'll only be able to take action on very high-risk cases. If we go into a home and there's a 2-year-old with bruises on their arm ... we may not be able to serve that family."

Shepard's comments came a month after Schwarzenegger proposed \$83.7 million in child welfare cuts in an attempt to shrink a \$14.5 billion budget shortfall.

Shepard and Mary Harris,

director of the county's child welfare services, said the cutbacks could shrink the county's 762-person pool of social workers, and also cut back on the counseling contracts the county uses to provide parenting classes.

Shepard said that if the state cuts the county's \$64.5 million child welfare budget by \$10 million, social workers would take direct action only in situations in which abuse or neglect is apparent. She said they would probably not be able to act in cases in which social workers only had suspicions of abuse, or where children were not considered in imminent danger.

County supervisors could take money from other programs, or from reserves, to "backfill" state budget cuts. But supervisors have a long-standing policy of not doing that, saying that spending reserves to bail out long-term state program cuts could put the county in the same financial jeopardy the state faces.

'Unfunded mandate'

State and legal officials said

counties, which manage the state's child protective services, have the leeway to make determinations about which cases require official action.

"You're getting into the realm of discretion here," said Bob Fellmeth, a University of San Diego law professor with the Children's Advocacy Institute. "They have a certain amount of discretion under the law."

Fellmeth said even advocates willing to sue to force counties to expand and improve social services empathize when counties are faced with numerous "unfunded state mandates."

"That's when counties look at us and shrug their shoulders and say, 'You tell us what to do,'" Fellmeth said.

Shirley Washington, a spokeswoman for California's department of social services, said the state had given counties the "flexibility" to decide how they'll implement proposed budget cuts — rather than ordering cuts in specific areas within welfare services. She said the state hoped that flexibility would let counties

maintain cutbacks and maintain present service levels.

"Child safety is our top priority," Washington said. "We're going to do all we can to protect kids."

Harris said San Diego County social workers handled 69,690 calls to child abuse hot lines in 2006-07, and investigated 50,856 cases. She said 2,258 families attended voluntary counseling each month, and that the county filed 2,114 court petitions to remove children from abusive homes.

Aimed at which audience?

But another group seeking more state funding administered by the county said county officials' comments about looming cuts to child welfare services seemed to have a less noble cause than alerting the public.

Karen Keeslar, a consultant with the United Domestic Workers — the union that is representing 22,700 San Diego County in-home caregivers in their demands for wage increases — said it appeared the county was using

the child welfare issue as a negotiating tool.

In-home support workers earning up to \$9.25 an hour are trying to negotiate a contract that would pay them up to \$12.15 an hour.

At the last supervisors' meeting two weeks ago, County Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard said the pot of money the county uses to pay for child protective services — known as realignment money — is the same pot the county uses to spend \$38 million for the caregivers' program.

Ekard said the county would have to take more money away from child protective services to give the caregivers a raise.

After Shepard's comments at Tuesday's meeting, Ekard said he hoped caregivers' representatives would hear concern about child welfare services.

After the meeting, Keeslar said, "The governor's proposal to cut (child protective services) has nothing to do with in-home support workers."

But county officials said they were just trying to raise

public alarm over the protective services cuts.

"That's my highest-risk program," Shepard said.

Harris said county social workers respond to and investigate police and hot line complaints lodged when children are suspected of being abused.

She said if the reports seem credible, social workers go out and conduct safety and risk assessments. The social workers can order counseling that would be monitored by the county to determine if parents or caretakers are participating. They can also take parents and caretakers to court to remove children and seniors.

Harris said county social workers try as often as possible to steer parents toward counseling, even in cases in which they don't think they have enough evidence to convince a family court judge to remove the child. She said county officials are worried that the state cuts could eliminate that ability.

"It's disturbing," Harris said. "It's very frustrating to just sit and watch things get worse where a child is involved."

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The Washington Post

washingtonpost.com

The Washington Post

February 12, 2008 Tuesday
Suburban Edition

Lerach Gets Two Years In Prison for Kickbacks; Prominent Plaintiff Lawyer Loses Appeals for Leniency

BYLINE: Carrie Johnson; Washington Post Staff Writer**SECTION:** FINANCIAL; Pg. D01**LENGTH:** 769 words

William S. Lerach, who won billions of dollars for defrauded investors in class-action cases, was sentenced yesterday to two years in prison, ending up on the wrong end of the justice system after a legendary legal career.

The prominent California plaintiff lawyer recovered more than \$7 billion for Enron shareholders before pleading guilty to a conspiracy charge last October. He will serve his time in a facility to be determined by prison officials.

The sentence imposed by U.S. District Judge John F. Walter in Los Angeles yesterday was far higher than the six months in prison and six months' home detention that Lerach had sought. In selecting the maximum term, the judge decried as "breathtaking" the cash kickbacks that Lerach and others at his former law firm paid to plaintiffs in an effort to gain control of big lawsuits and win larger fees in 150 cases over 20 years.

The scheme "corrupted the law firm, and it corrupted it in the most evil way," the judge said.

Lerach, 61, continued yesterday to challenge the motivation of federal investigators, who had been trailing him for nearly a decade. In court, he apologized to his family and his former law partners. He shook hands with reporters as he left the building but declined to offer extensive public comments.

Lerach's success made him the nemesis of executives at troubled companies and his legal victories brought him tens of millions of dollars, which he shared with Democratic politicians. Presidential candidate John Edwards vowed last year to return thousands of dollars Lerach had contributed.

In late December, authorities suspended Lerach's license to practice law, and legal experts said he is almost certain to be disbarred. Federal prosecutors in Los Angeles noted that Lerach "now stands in disgrace before the profession of which he considered himself a national leader."

"Mr. Lerach manipulated the court system for his own personal gain," U.S. Attorney Thomas P. O'Brien said in a statement. "Now, after telling lies, and encouraging others to lie, to federal judges around the country, he will pay the price."

True to form, the aggressive advocate refused to stand on the sidelines while awaiting his fate. Instead, Lerach wrote opinion pieces in The Washington Post and other newspapers in which he condemned executive greed at a time when millions of Americans are losing their homes to foreclosure.

In recent months, he also lectured to students at the University of San Diego law school, near his mansion in the exclusive Rancho Santa Fe suburb. Lerach lives there with his wife, Michelle, and his daughter Shannon, who is studying for her doctorate in abnormal psychology. He is likely to report to prison in April, lawyers said in court yesterday.

Lerach's lead defense lawyer, John W. Kecker, told the judge in court filings that Lerach had rehabilitated himself through service to ordinary investors and that he would like to teach, on a volunteer basis, at his alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh, when he is released from prison.

Such luminaries as consumer advocate Ralph Nader, Sen. Carl M. Levin (D-Mich.) and financial affairs columnist Ben Stein wrote letters supporting Lerach's plea for leniency, as did defense lawyers who had squared off against the brilliant, abrasive advocate over the years. Lerach and his onetime firm, Milberg Weiss, often won far more money for investors than did government agencies, which lacked the resources to mount large-scale investigations. Milberg Weiss continues to fight criminal charges related to the kickbacks.

Retired California court of appeal judge, Edward J. Wallin, said that Lerach was "by far the most effective advocate for wronged investors in the history of our profession." Ralph C. Ferrara, a Securities and Exchange Commission official turned defense lawyer, said that corporations have lost a "magnificent adversary."

Employees of Lerach's new law firm, renamed Coughlin Stoia after Lerach's departure last summer, wrote testimonials describing how he had offered them no-interest loans for down payments on their homes. His personal driver and longtime office assistant implored the sentencing judge for mercy.

But prosecutors said going light on Lerach would do little to deter others from cheating the system. In court papers filed last month, Assistant U.S. attorneys Richard E. Robinson and Robert J. McGahan said the plea deal, combined with a lengthy prison term, "sends a compelling message to every lawyer, no matter how prominent or powerful, that a jail cell awaits those who choose to abuse the privilege of practicing law by engaging in criminal conduct."

LOAD-DATE: February 12, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

DISTRIBUTION: Maryland

GRAPHIC: IMAGE; William Lerach is likely to report to prison in April, lawyers said.

IMAGE; By Mario Anzuoni -- Reuters; William Lerach won more than \$7 billion for Enron shareholders before pleading guilty to conspiracy in October.

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

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PR Newswire

February 13, 2008 Wednesday 2:54 PM GMT

NextPhase Wireless Appoints Nicholas J. Yocca as New Independent Member of Board of Directors

LENGTH: 756 words

DATELINE: ANAHEIM, Calif. Feb. 13

ANAHEIM, Calif., Feb. 13 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- NextPhase Wireless, Inc.(OTC:NPHS)(BULLETIN BOARD: NPHS) , a nationwide developer of WiMAX-ready networks and provider of advanced wireless broadband solutions, today announced that Nicholas J. Yocca has been appointed as a new independent member of the Company's Board of Directors, effective March 1, 2008.

"As we make important strides in building NextPhase into a world class company with noted leadership in the emerging WiMAX industry, it is also essential that we implement and exercise only industry best practices in board governance and corporate stewardship. Moreover, given our goal to make application to a national exchange later this year, it is particularly important that we expand our board with a slate of highly qualified independent members who can provide our management team with perspective, oversight and strategic direction. In this regard, we are very pleased to welcome Nick to our board," stated Tom Hemingway, Chairman and COO of NextPhase.

Yocca is a partner in The Yocca Law Firm, LLP. Receiving the highest rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the firm specializes in securities, mergers and acquisition, business litigation, intellectual property and employment. Yocca's practice is focused on corporate governance, corporate securities law, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, tender offers, emerging growth companies, strategic alliances, employment, technology licensing and commercial transactions. A Harvard graduate, where he received an A.B. degree in History, Yocca attended law school at the University of San Diego and was admitted to the bar in California in 1986. Prior to co-founding his current firm in 2000, he was an Associate at Stradling Yocca Carlson and Rauth, P.C., where he specialized in corporate and securities law for 15 years.

In addition to practicing law, Yocca is also a successful entrepreneur, having co-founded Domini Communications, Central Communications and DNN Communications. He is also a noted lecturer, writer and panelist.

About NextPhase Wireless, Inc.

With a mission to build a device-agnostic, WiMAX-ready, wireless broadband connectivity/content delivery platform serving all 48 contiguous U.S. states, NextPhase Wireless, Inc. is focused on delivering integrated Internet, voice, video and managed services to its fast growing customer and client base which currently numbers more than 10,000. Engaged in designing, deploying and operating its own WiMAX-ready wireless networks and providing advanced wireless technology solutions to both businesses and municipalities, the Company is currently providing wireless broadband coverage in California and Nevada and Internet Service Provider (ISP) coverage in 19 states throughout the country. For more information, please visit <http://www.npwireless.com/> and <http://www.speedfactory.com/> and <http://www.jersey.net/>.

This press release includes statements that may constitute "forward- looking" statements, usually containing the words "believe," "estimate," "project," "expect" or similar expressions. These statements are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements inherently involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. Factors that would cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, acceptance of the Company's current and future products and services in the marketplace, the ability of the Company to develop effective new products and receive regulatory approvals of such products, competitive factors, dependence upon third-party vendors, and other risks detailed in the Company's periodic report filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. By making these forward-looking statements, the Company undertakes no obligation to update these statements for revisions or changes after the date of this release.

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The Providence Journal (Rhode Island)

February 18, 2008 Monday
All Editions

POLITICAL SCENE - Carr succeeds Guglietta as counsel to House leader Fox

BYLINE: CYNTHIA NEEDHAM, KATHERINE GREGG and EDWARD FITZPATRICK, Journal Staff Writers

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. C-01

LENGTH: 1045 words

After toiling away in the basement of the State House for 10 years as chief legal adviser to the House Finance Committee, lawyer and Pawtucket City Councilman Robert E. Carr is getting a promotion.

House spokesman Larry Berman confirmed last week that Carr will succeed William Guglietta as chief legal counsel to House Majority Leader Gordon D. Fox. Guglietta was, of course, sworn in last Friday to a new spot lawmakers created for a chief magistrate in the state traffic court.

As of late last week, Berman said, Carr's new salary had not yet been nailed down, but it will probably be somewhere between the \$92,917 a year he has been making in his Finance Committee role and the \$134,153 paid to Guglietta, a former state prosecutor who once ran for attorney general.

Carr holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Notre Dame, a law degree from the University of San Diego and a master's of law degree in taxation from Boston University Law School.

He is a native of Pawtucket, where he has been a member of the City Council since 1998. But he has announced that he does not plan to seek reelection in November and that he and his wife and three children are moving to Cumberland.

As legal counsel, Carr has drafted the last nine state budgets and has worked on all initiatives that have come out of the Finance Committee over that span, including the tax-cutting "flat tax" option for the state's wealthier taxpayers, the "pension reforms" of 2005, and the legislature-approved agreement that paved the way for BLB Investors to buy the former Lincoln Park.

Like Carr, Guglietta also got his start at the State House as the legal counsel to the Finance Committee under former House Finance Chairman Antonio Pires, D-Pawtucket.

Rehnquist's R.I. visits

Did you ever run into a guy named Bill at T.F. Green who seemed to be keeping a low profile and carrying legal briefs?

Well, it might have been the late United States Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

On Tuesday, Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. kicked off the centennial celebration of the federal courthouse in downtown Providence, marking the first time that a sitting Supreme Court chief justice had visited Rhode Island on official business in more than two centuries.

But unofficially, Rehnquist flew in and out of the airport in Warwick four or five times, according to Senior Circuit Judge Bruce M. Selya. Rehnquist would rent a car and drive to Sharon, Mass., to see his son, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren, he said.

Selya, who lives in Providence, said Rehnquist used to complain to him about flying into Boston's Logan International Airport and about all the traffic delays stemming from Boston's Big Dig. So Selya told him: "I can solve that problem for you. We have an airport in Rhode Island that is just as close to Sharon, and it's much more user-friendly."

Selya said Rehnquist told him: "Fine. Just don't tell anyone I'm going to be doing this."

So Rehnquist - who was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1972, became chief justice in 1986 and died in 2005 - would slip in and out with no security. Selya said he joked that he would provide Rehnquist with a big nose and mustache as a disguise.

Williams missed chief justice's appearance

On that same trip to Rhode Island last week, Chief Justice Roberts was talking about Abraham Lincoln. So where was Rhode Island's top jurist, a Lincoln expert and collector?

As it turns out, Supreme Court Chief Justice Frank J. Williams was in Kentucky, where Lincoln was born, for the inaugural ceremony of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial, a courts spokesman said.

Roberts launched the centennial celebration of the federal courthouse in downtown Providence and, noting that Tuesday was the 199th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, he delivered a speech that traced Lincoln's career as a lawyer.

Williams would have liked to have been here, courts spokesman Craig N. Berke said. But the chief justice is a member of the national Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and he was scheduled to take part in ceremonies in Hodgenville, Ky., along with First Lady Laura Bush and Law & Order star Sam Waterston.

Williams did end up speaking at an event, Berke said. But according to the Associated Press, "Ice coated the birthplace site near Hodgenville, leading officials to cancel a late-morning ceremony promoted as a kickoff of a two-year national bicentennial commemoration of the nation's 16th president, who spent part of his childhood in Indiana. First Lady Laura Bush postponed her visit to the Lincoln birthplace amid a treacherous combination of snow and ice that hit the region." The News-Enterprise in Elizabethtown, Ky., reported the cancellation in a story under the headline "Lincoln Letdown."

Assembly leaders decry governor's aid-cut plan

House Speaker William J. Murphy and Senate President Joseph Montalbano's joint appearance on talk radio Friday was, by most accounts, a sedate affair.

Chatting with Providence's former mayor on WPRO's Buddy Cianci Show, the legislative leaders offered few clues about their priorities for this session.

But Murphy did drop a quick hint that made city and town officials sit up a little straighter.

The speaker called it unfair of Governor Carcieri to propose cutting almost \$13 million in nonschool municipal aid with less than five months left in the fiscal year.

Noting that Carcieri was the one who suggested increasing local education aid by 3 percent last year - a plan the Assembly then rejected in favor of level funding - Murphy criticized Carcieri for then proposing to reduce another portion of the local aid pie so late in the game.

"We think it's not fair at this point," the speaker told Cianci.

But pressed for details, House leaders backed off the point over the weekend.

Finance Chairman Steven M. Costantino would not say for sure whether the House supports protecting this year's nonschool local aid, repeating his now familiar catch-phrase "everything is still on the table" when it comes to the governor's mid-year budget revision plan. Murphy himself could not be reached for comment.

A House spokesman said the Assembly hopes to vote on Carcieri's supplemental budget plan next month.

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Virginia Lawyers Weekly

February 18, 2008

Virginia Lawyers in the News: February 18, 2008

BYLINE: Virginia Lawyers Weekly Staff

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 723 words

Former Fauquier County attorney James P. Downey and Warrenton attorney George Mayhugh of O'Connell & Mayhugh PC in Warrenton have formed the law firm of Downey & Mayhugh PC. The firm will practice general business law and litigation, land use, real estate development and estate planning.

* * *

Jayne A. Pemberton, an attorney with the risk management practice group at Sands Anderson Marks & Miller, was honored as Big Sister of the Year by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Virginia. The award was presented to Pemberton for her mentoring and volunteer efforts. She currently serves on the organization's board of directors.

Pemberton's practice is focused on insurance litigation, toxic torts and other complex civil actions. She earned her law degree at the University of Richmond in 2001 and holds undergraduate and master's degrees from Baylor University.

* * *

Melanie Lyon and Luke Mullet have joined the Harrisonburg law firm of Wharton Aldhizer & Weaver. Both attorneys will focus on civil litigation and employment law. Lyon earned her law degree from the University of Chicago and is admitted to practice in Illinois. Mullet earned his undergraduate degree from Eastern Mennonite University and his law degree from Notre Dame.

* * *

Sarah E. Spiers has joined the Richmond law firm of CowanGates PC as an associate. Her practice focuses on commercial and residential real estate, property rights and contract law. She also serves as executive director for Attorneys for Family-Held Enterprises. Spiers earned her bachelor's degree from Mary Washington College in 1997 and her law degree from the College of William & Mary in 2006.

* * *

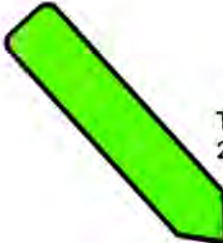
Thomas M. Lucas has joined the Norfolk office of Willcox & Savage as a partner. He was previously a partner with Troutman Sanders LLP. Lucas represents management exclusively in the full range of labor and employment law matters, including employment discrimination and traditional labor law. He graduated from the Catholic University of America law school in 1981. He received a master's from Cornell University in 1978 and received his undergraduate degree from Hobart College in 1970.

* * *

B. Randolph Willert has joined the Roanoke office of Spilman Thomas & Battle PLLC as an associate. His primary areas of practice are corporate and business law, real estate transactions, estate planning and administrative law. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California. He received his law degree from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law and his LL.M. in Taxation from the University of San Diego.

San Diego Daily Transcript

February 20, 2008



TUESDAY, MAR 11 - LECTURE

24TH NATHANIEL L. NATHANSON LECTURE

Robert Bennett will present this annual lecture, on the subject "Originalism: Lessons from Some Things That Go Without Saying". Reservations are required; reserve your spot today. **Organization:** University of San Diego, School of Law **Information:** (619)260-4868 usd-lawevent@sandiego.edu **Cost:** No Cost **When:** Starts: 6:00 PM **Where:** Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, USD, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, 92110, Venue Phone - (619) 260-7509

San Diego Daily Transcript

February 13, 2008



TUESDAY, MAR 11 - LECTURE

24TH NATHANIEL L. NATHANSON LECTURE

Robert Bennett will present this annual lecture, on the subject "Originalism: Lessons from Some Things That Go Without Saying". Reservations are required; reserve your spot today. Organization: University of San Diego, School of Law Information: (619)260-4868 usdlawevent@sandiego.edu Cost: No Cost When: Starts: 6:00 PM Where: Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, USD, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, 92110, Venue Phone - (619) 260-7509

FINANCE & LAW

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LAW SCHOOLS

UPPERMERE COURT REPORTS
LAWYERS' EDITION

Listed by Total Enrollment

	School Name Address Phone, Fax E-mail, URL	Total Enrollment # of Full Time Enrollment	Distinguished Faculty	Executive(s) & Title(s)	Year Established	
1	Loyola Law School Los Angeles 919 Albany St. Los Angeles CA 90015-1211 (213) 736-1000, (213) 304-1669 aloisn.tsklu@lls.edu, www.lls.edu	1,077	ABA, AALS Roger W. Frindley, Laurie L. Levenson, Georgene Vairo, Stan Goldman, Richard Hasen	David W. Burcham, Dean; Victor Gold, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs; Ken Ott, Assistant Dean for Development; Graham Sherr, Assistant Dean, Career Services	1920	
2	University of California, Los Angeles School of Law P.O. Box 951476 Los Angeles CA 90095-1476 (310) 825-5441, (310) 206-5422 admissions@law.ucla.edu, www.law.ucla.edu	80	ABA, AALS Eugene Volokh, Stephen Yeazell, Lynn Stout, Mark Grady, Lynn LoPucki, Stephen Bainbridge	Michael H. Schill, Dean; Devon Carbedo, Academic Associate Dean; Barbara Varot, Associate Dean; Myra Saunders, Associate Dean; Elizabeth Chadde, Assistant Dean, Students; Susan Cordell Gilg, Assistant Dean, Clinical Programs; Beth Moeller, Assistant Dean, Career Services; Laura Parker, Assistant Dean, Development and External Affairs; Rob Schwartz, Assistant Dean, Admissions	1949	
3	University of San Diego School of Law 5938 Alcalá Park San Diego CA 92123 (619) 266-4600, (619) 260-2319 sdinfo@sandiego.edu, www.sandiego.edu/usdlaw	1,074 175	ABA, Committee of Bar Examiners- State of California, member of the Order of the Coif	Law faculty ranked 22nd in the U.S., according to a recent survey of more than 150 leading law professors nationwide; 11 faculty members belong to the presti- gious law reform group, the American Law Institute	Kevin Cole, Dean; Mary Jo Wiggins, Associate Dean; Mike Kelly, Associate Dean; Teresa O'Rourke, Assistant Dean for Academic Planning and Graduates Programs	1954
4	Southwestern Law School 3060 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90010-1108 (213) 738-0700, (213) 383-1888 admissions@swlaw.edu, www.swlaw.edu	972 140	ABA, AALS	Nationally recognized experts in antitrust, criminal, environmental, family, housing and urban development, intellectual prop- erty and entertainment, international and taxation law	Bryant G. Garth, Dean; Lisa M. Gear, Interim Director of Admissions; Linda A. Whisman, Director of the Law Library; Gary Greener, Assistant Dean, Career Services; Debra Leathers, Director of Development; Leslie Steinberg, Director of Public Information	1911
5	California Western School of Law 225 Cedar St. San Diego CA 92101-3408 (619) 238-0251, (619) 525-7092 admissions@cwsl.edu, www.californiawestern.edu	907 150	ABA, AALS	Michal Belknap, Robert Bohrer, Janeen Kerper, Chin Kim, Katharine Rosenberry, Francisco Valdes, Janet Weinstein, William J. Aceves, Thomas D. Benton, Laurence A. Benner, Arthur W. Campbell, Susan A. Channick, Barbara J. Cox	Steven R. Smith, Dean; Janet M. Bowermaster, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs; Mark I. Weinstein, Associate Dean, Administration; Louis W. Helmuth, Assistant Dean; Phyllis Marlan, Director of Law Library	1924
6	Thomas Jefferson School of Law 2121 San Diego Ave. San Diego CA 92119 (619) 257-9700, (619) 254-4713 info@tjsl.edu, www.tjsl.edu	775 72	ABA, Committee of Bar Examiners	Kenneth Vanderveide, William Stomanson, Marjorie Conn, Susan Tiefenbrum	Rudolph C. Haas, Dean/President	1965
7	Pepperdine University School of Law 24255 Pacific Coast Highway Malibu CA 90263 (310) 506-4611, (310) 506-4266 saadms@pepperdine.edu, www.pepperdine.edu	708 108	ABA, AALS	Harry Caldwell, Carol Chase, Jack Coe, Bernard James, Douglas Kiniec, Edward Larson, Samuel Levine, Antonio Mandera, Gregory Ogden, Robert Pushaw	Kenneth W. Starr, Dean; Tim Perrin, Vice Dean; Carol Chase, Associate Dean, Academic; Jim Gash, Associate Dean of Student Life; Richard Cup, Associate Dean for Research; Selina Farrell, Associate Dean, Career Development; Shannon Phillips, Executive Director, Admissions and Records; Kathy Marcus, Director of Financial Assistance	1963
8	University of Southern California Law School 589 Exposition Blvd., MC 0071 Los Angeles CA 90089-0071 (213) 740-7331, (213) 740-5502 admissions@law.usc.edu, www.law.usc.edu	691 160	ABA, AALS	Jody Armour, Alexander Capron, Susan Estrich, Elizabeth Garret, Edward McCaflery, Edwin Smith, Matthew Spitzer, Christopher Stone	Robert K. Rasmussen, Dean; Scott A. Altman, Vice Dean	1909
9	University of La Verne College of Law 320 E. D St. Ontario CA 91764 (909) 462-2000, (909) 460-2082 lawadm@ulv.edu, law.ulv.edu	306 n/a	ABA, WASC, ACE, ACU, ICSC	Dean Donald Dunn, Professor Ashley Lipson, Professor Diane Klein	Donald J. Dunn, Dean; H. Randall Rubin, Associate Dean; Vronio San Juan, Asst. Dean of Schools; Alexis Thompson, Asst. Dean of Admissions; Abbie Adams-Yaffe, Assistant Dean of Career Services and Alumni Relations; Kenneth Rudolf, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law; Doug Frost, Director of Development; Colleen Murray, Registrar	1970
10	Whittier Law School 3333 Harbor Blvd. Costa Mesa CA 92626-1501 (714) 444-4141, (714) 444-0855 info@law.whittier.edu, www.law.whittier.edu	232 88	ABA, AALS, WASC	Michael Bazyley, International Law; Judith Deas, Bioethics; I. Melson Ross, Gambing; Deborah Fortman, Family Law; Howard Fox, Commercial Code; Mary Ellen Gale, National Board of ALLC	Neil H. Cogan, Dean/VP for Legal Education; Betty Vu, Director of Admissions; Edith Warkentine, Associate Dean for Student Services; J. Denny Naythorn, Associate Dean for Library & Info Resources; Mariane J. Bridges, Assistant Dean for Business and Support Services; Bonnie Sello, Director of Career Services; Jonathan Estrella, Director of Facilities Management; Andrea Susan Funk, Director of the Legal Writing Program; Mario Mainiero, Director of Academic Success Program; Jennifer Pham, Director of Financial Aid; Phyllis Sanda, Registrar; Calvin Peeler, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs	1887
11	The University of West Los Angeles 1155 W. Arbor Vitae St. Inglewood CA 90301-2902 (310) 342-5251, (310) 342-5295 lfresman@uwlax.edu, www.uwlax.edu	225 40	CBE, WASC	The Hon. Ira Blank, The Hon. Pam Foust, The Hon. Richard Walton	Robert W. Brown, President; Anne Arvin, Dean, School of Law; Kathi Cervi, Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs, School of Law; Jimmy Rimonte, Librarian	1968
12	Ventura College of Law 4475 Market St. Ventura CA 93003 (805) 658-0511, (805) 658-0529 vc@venturalaw.edu, www.venturalaw.edu	128 2	CBE	The Hon. Herbert Curtis, III, The Hon. Steven Hintz, The Hon. John Smiley	Richard Goldman, Dean; Barbara Doyle, Assistant Dean, Administration; Deirdre Oliver, Librarian	1969
13	Glendale University College of Law 220 N. Glendale Ave. Glendale CA 91208 (818) 574-5330 (Office of the Registrar), (818) 247-0872 admissions@glendalelaw.edu, www.glendalelaw.edu	125 3	CBE	N/A	Darrin Gritzer, Executive Dean; Judytha Gritzer, VP; Kimberly Gritzer, Director of Admissions; Kimberly Gritzer, Career Services	1967
14	Santa Barbara College of Law 20 E. Victoria St. Santa Barbara CA 93101 (805) 966-0010, (805) 966-7181 sbcl@santabarbaralaw.edu, www.santabarbaralaw.edu	115 3	CBE	The Hon. Herbert Curtis III, Ventura County Superior Court; The Hon. Denise de Bellefeuille, Santa Barbara County Superior Court; The Hon. Steve Hintz, Ventura County Superior Court; The Hon. Frank Dohov, Santa Barbara County Superior Court	Heather Georgakis, Dean; Mary Osborne, Assistant Dean; Deirdre Meadows, Librarian	1975
15	Southern California Institute of Law - Ventura Campus 877 S. Victoria Ave., Suite 111 Ventura CA 93003 (805) 644-2327, (805) 644-2367 scileregistrar@lawdegree.com, www.lawdegree.com	71 2	State Bar of California	N/A	Stanislav Pulla, Dean; Desmond O'Neill, Administrator; Chevonne Brandon, Registrar; Robert Anderson, Librarian; Richard Walton, Alumni Relations Director	1986

Data Source: The S. Bonds and their Web sites, Listed by Total Enrollment. This is a partial list, a more complete listing can be found at www.law.ucla.edu, www.whittier.edu, www.pepperdine.edu, www.usd.edu, www.usc.edu, www.uwlax.edu, www.venturalaw.edu, www.glendalelaw.edu, www.santabarbaralaw.edu, www.lawdegree.com.
 Note: This list is not intended to be a ranking of law schools. We do not have the data to rank law schools by their law school's ranking. We do not have the data to rank law schools by their law school's ranking. We do not have the data to rank law schools by their law school's ranking.

School of Leadership and Education Sciences

RANCHO SANTA FE NEWS

February 8, 2008

Las Patronas luncheon

Las Patronas, an organization that provides financial assistance to San Diego non-profits, held a luncheon Jan. 16 to celebrate its beneficiaries. In 2007, Las Patronas granted funds to dozens of organizations including Helen Woodward Animal Center, The Old Globe and Camp Fire USA. Beneficiaries were honored at Jewel Ball 2007. At the luncheon, held at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, organizations shared how the grants have aided their community services programs.

1. From left, Leanne Cortniglia of San Diego, Alison Helm of San Diego, Bruce Potenza from the UCSD Regional Burn Center and Dana Weintraub of San Diego.

2. Former president of Las Patronas Terry Cooper of La Jolla and current president of Las Patronas Barb Mulligan of La Jolla.

3. From left, David Gillig, senior vice president of Rady Childrens Hospital; Marsi White, Rady Children's Hospital grants officer; Claudia Johnson of La Jolla; and Sallie Warren of La Jolla.

4. From left, Sheryl Duncan of La Jolla, David Smith of Rancho Santa Fe and Las Patronas co-chair Tracy Lyons of La Jolla.

5. From left, Jona Newcomb of Oceanside with Camp Fire USA, Carlyne Hultgrene of San Diego and Katie Zolezzi of Camp Fire USA.

6. From left, Kim Alessio of La Jolla, Dean Paula Cordeiro of University of San Diego and Gary Neiger, director of development at University of San Diego.

7. La Jolla residents Colleen McNally and Cathie East.

Photos by Adrienne Kulner



Daily Business Report

February 4, 2008

BUSINESS & EDUCATION

A panel of school principals will be featured at a Feb. 12 San Diego Area Town Hall Forum sponsored by the **San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce** and the **Center for Business for Education Excellence Foundation**. Business leaders will have the opportunity to discuss successful education models in the region and how educational institutions can better prepare students for the work force. Nine schools will participate in the discussion.

The forum will be from 9 a.m. to noon at the **USD School of Leadership and Education Sciences** auditorium in **Mother Rosalie Hill Hall**, Room 116, on the USD campus. RSVP by Feb. 8 to rsvp@cbee.org. For more information, call Shanna Everts at (916) 498-8980.

School of Nursing

February 25, 2008

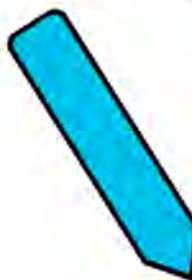
A good way to fight childhood obesity

Regarding "Oceanside school unveils new track": I applaud the efforts of Karen Johnson and the Gibraltar Foundation in bringing attention to the important issue of childhood obesity. It is refreshing to see that as an Ivey Ranch parent, Karen Johnson has been able to make a difference at a local level as the co-founder of the Gibraltar Foundation.

The track and field provided to students at Ivey Ranch Elementary School implies that not only is the health of children important, but it also lets children know that they matter and many are willing to donate money because they matter.

As a nursing student at the University of San Diego, I am able to see the emotional effects, as well as the physical effects, of childhood obesity. In many cases, childhood obesity will increase the cases of heart disease and diabetes, many of which would not be present had childhood obesity been properly addressed. It looks like the track and field is already working. ...

LAURA SULLIVAN
student, University of San Diego School of Nursing
Encinitas



School of Peace

February 29, 2008

SAN DIEGO

Anti-genocide author finishes month at USD

Talks on Sudan, screenings held

By **Tanya Sierra**
STAFF WRITER

Students at the University of San Diego this month received firsthand tutelage on working toward solutions for the plight of Africa and the horrors of genocide from human rights activist and author John Prendergast.

The university's budding Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies hosted Prendergast — whose work to bring international attention to genocide in Sudan is highly regarded — as its first peace scholar in residence.

Throughout the month, Prendergast held office hours, screened films on genocide in Rwanda and Darfur and inspired student discussions with the resiliency of hope.

His goal, he said, was to "deepen the conviction for students to be agents of change."

Prendergast is co-chairman of the ENOUGH Project, based in Washington D.C., which focuses on ending genocide in Africa. His book, "Not on Our Watch, co-written with actor Don Cheadle, won the NAACP Image Award.

His passion for helping Africa began at age 20, sparked by images of famine in Ethiopia.

"I hope that the seeds that I've tried to plant will germinate in the form of fairly serious present and future activists," Prendergast said.

He's already inspired Summer Buckley, 20, who tutors students at a Sudanese community center in City Heights.

This summer she is planning a trip to Sudan with the center's director to help rebuild a school and work on getting clean water in wells there.

"Having John here, who is doing what I'd like to do, shows me this is possible," Buckley said. "It's living proof that you can make a difference."

Buckley has tried making her own difference on campus. In October, she started the USD chapter of STAND, an anti-genocide coalition.

Formerly known as Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, the USD chapter has raised awareness through a film screening, a fundraiser for women in Sudan and a cultural festival.

The School of Peace Studies, which was launched in August, is dedicated to helping prepare people to resolve conflicts at all levels. Students in the peace and justice master's program spend a year studying peace-building.

The school's dean, the Rev. William Headley, said he hopes to host other in-residence peace scholars such as Prendergast in the future.

"It has been quite a broad range of opportunity," Headley said. "We're just getting under way."

Prendergast, who said he travels to give talks about three times a week, will leave San Diego on Sunday.

"I like this," he said. "I'm enjoying being more present in one place and cultivating talent and interests, instead of a hit-and-run."

Tanya Sierra: (619) 498-6631;
tanya.sierra@uniontrib.com

February 12, 2008

Working afar to secure San Diego

By John Prendergast

Secretly providing suitcases full of money for warlords. Helping to overthrow a popular government. Endorsing the results of a deeply flawed election and then recanting. Making deals with officials of a genocidal government.

All these and much more have been the lowlights of American policy over the last few years in the strategically important but perennially war-torn neighborhood of northeast Africa, across the Red Sea from Saudi Arabia. These blunders result from a U.S. counterterrorism policy focused on eradicating small al-Qaeda cells that — rather than making us safer — is actually undermining our long-term security interests.

Why does this matter? It's simple. Iraq is just the tip of the iceberg. If we aren't able to help secure places like Somalia halfway around the world, then places like San Diego are less secure in the long run, vulnerable to the growth of terrorist networks. Also, longer and more costly overseas deployments will be required of the men and women serving in uniform in already stretched places like Camp Pendleton.

Having spent decades being victimized by the American and Soviet chessboard of the Cold War, the people of this region of Africa and other hot spots around the world are witnessing a U.S. counterterrorism policy that echoes the old Cold War-style support for dictators that fuels repression and conflict. Unlike the Cold War, however, the consequences of our current policies will not be localized "over there." Repression, instability and hopelessness will be the fuel that fires the engine of extremism, mass violence and terrorist recruitment for decades to come.

The idea that we need to do all we can to combat terrorism is uncontroversial. The huge problem lies in how we carry out this war. Just as in Iraq

Prendergast, co-chair of the ENOUGH Project, is the first Peace Scholar at the new Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies at the University of San Diego. The ENOUGH Project seeks to end genocide and crimes against humanity.

If we aren't able to help secure places like Somalia halfway around the world, then places like San Diego are less secure in the long run, vulnerable to the growth of terrorist networks.

where a military strategy with little political depth has helped fertilize the ground for extremism and violence there, so, too, will American policy in places such as northeast Africa do the same — in slow motion.

U.S. foreign policy is increasingly seen as being driven by security concerns with overly militaristic responses. Providing uncritical backing to governments that support U.S. counterterrorism strategies means that the United States becomes enmeshed with those governments' policies. America's closeness to Ethiopia has entangled it with the latter's disastrous support for hated Somali warlords and eventual military intervention in Somalia, as well as repression within Ethiopia itself. As a result, extremism is on the rise in both countries, the Ethiopian- and U.S.-backed government in Somalia is in tatters, and 60 percent of the civilian population of Mogadishu — a city made infamous in the 1990s by the U.S. military intervention there and the "Black Hawk Down" tragedy — is displaced by this latest fighting, fertilizing the ground for future terrorist recruitment.

In neighboring Sudan, U.S. counterterrorism cooperation with regime officials there has trumped American support to confront the genocide in Darfur beyond annual State Department mentions. U.S. support for Kenya's pro-American government led State Department officials to prematurely accept the results of a deeply flawed election, hurting U.S. credibility and undermining America's capacity to help prevent at an early stage the killing that ensued.

To counter terrorism in vulnerable regions of Africa and other parts of the globe, more than the iron fist of American military force is needed. A velvet glove is much more crucial in the long run, one that prioritizes diplomacy, development and democracy.

Sadly, America is reducing its presence in these places, because so many U.S. diplomats have been reassigned to Iraq. To counter this dangerous and shortsighted trend, active and retired Foreign Service officers along with regional experts should be deployed to war-torn countries where terrorism has the best chance of taking root. Having diplomatic teams visibly responding to crises as or before they emerge would help counter the instability the terrorist recruiters require.

Development and democracy-building efforts have been inconsistent. Programs for supporting good governance have been gutted. America must stand with the dispossessed millions in their demands for honest government and decent jobs. The United States could invest much more in the democratic institutions that provide people a stake in decision-making, from parliaments to civil society groups to justice systems. And we could support the World Bank and others to do much more in helping to build the transport and communications networks that will help Africa compete in the 21st century, providing opportunities for the younger generation now subject to the pull of criminality, violence and even terrorist recruitment.

The United States needs to be at the forefront of supporting the diplomatic engagement necessary to promote stability, the democratic demands necessary to promote equality and the development investments necessary to promote a stake for young people in their future. These are the priorities that are required to truly prevent the incubation of extremist ideology and recruitment that will rebound eventually in further attacks on America and its interests. From a pure national security post-Sept. 11, 2001, framework, that is the investment America ought to be making in the world.

Published: February 20, 2008 6:00 a.m.

Ending genocide without leaving home

By Stacey Stumpf

Hoosiers wanting to do something about genocide in Darfur don't have to travel to Africa. Human rights advocate and Indianapolis native John Prendergast explained to an audience at Manchester College that there are effective ways for ordinary people to use their political clout to help stop crimes against humanity.

Prendergast spoke about the genocide in Darfur at Manchester College on Monday. My interest in hearing Prendergast speak – aside from the opportunity to visit my alma mater – is that he is the co-author of "Not on Our Watch: The Mission to End Genocide in Darfur and Beyond." He wrote the New York Times bestselling book with actor Don Cheadle, who starred in "Hotel Rwanda."

Prendergast served as an adviser to the U.S. State Department, the White House and the National Security Council during the Clinton administration. He co-founded ENOUGH, a joint initiative of the International Crisis Group and the Center for American Progress to end genocide and crimes against humanity. The group's current focus is the conflicts in Chad, eastern Congo, Sudan and northern Uganda. He was also instrumental in the making of the award-winning HBO documentary about Darfur titled, "Sand and Sorrow," which is narrated by George Clooney.

A former carrier for The Journal Gazette, Prendergast is now serving as the visiting scholar at the University of San Diego's Institute of Peace Studies.

Prendergast said there are more the 2.5 million people who are homeless because of the genocide in Darfur. He told the heart-wrenching story of a woman he met in a refugee camp who lost two of her four children when Janjaweed militia forces attacked her village in the middle of the night. He called the Janjaweed the Sudanese version of the Ku Klux Klan. The Janjaweed carries out atrocities against non-Arabs in the Darfur region with the support, including arms and impunity, of the Sudanese government.

He noted that this is the first time in history that political leaders, including President Bush, have specifically called the atrocity a "genocide" while it was occurring. But, he said, the world – and the U.S. in particular – is doing too little to end it.

The reason we don't do more is because too many people think "Africa is hopeless." But "If I've learned anything over the last 25 years it is that it is not hopeless," he said.

Like many people, I've seen the movies "Hotel Rwanda," "Blood Diamond" and "The Last King of Scotland." My head nodded in agreement when Prendergast talked about the overwhelming nature of the problems in Africa and the temptation to write the genocide in Darfur off as hopeless. But he also spoke of some of the achievements in Africa. And he spoke about those steps that people – ordinary people who will never be able to go to Africa – can do to put an end to the genocide in Darfur and prevent future crimes against humanity.

"There are a number of things we – you and me – can do. And none of these things take much time," Prendergast said.

He suggested:

- Joining a group such as STAND, the Student Anti-Genocide Coalition or Save Darfur.
- Writing, calling, faxing and e-mailing your government representatives. "It works. When there is a surge of constituent interest, it always gets their attention. I've noted it all the years I advised in Congress. If you demand Sen. Bayh get involved in this, he's going to have to take an interest," he said.
- Protest against the 2008 Beijing Olympics to force the Chinese government to withdraw its support of Sudan.
- Get involved in the presidential campaign and ask candidates their position on these international issues.
- Join the divestment movement that calls for pulling investments from Sudanese interests that support the genocide.

He also suggested contacting local media and asking for more coverage of the genocide and surrounding

16 of 19 DOCUMENTS

BusinessWeek

Business Week

February 18, 2008

ON THE BORDER: THE 'VIRTUAL FENCE' ISN'T WORKING; Presidential candidates talk big about security to the south, but so far electronic surveillance costing millions is doing little to keep illegals out

BYLINE: By Geri Smith and Keith Epstein

SECTION: In Depth; Pg. 44 Vol. 4071

LENGTH: 2158 words

It's a scene replayed often along the southwestern border of the U.S. Helicopter-borne Border Patrol agents cruising above a stretch of harsh Sonoran Desert known to immigrants as la puerta dorada (the golden door) spot a white Ford F-150 pickup truck packed with a dozen Mexicans barreling northward on Arizona's State Road 286. The migrant smuggler driving the truck whirls around, floors the accelerator, and zips 20 miles back to the border, swerving wildly to avoid tire-puncturing metal spikes placed on the two-lane highway. Two helicopters and five patrol cars follow in hot pursuit. The truck screeches to a halt at a brand-new border fence, and four of the men, including the suspected smuggler, scramble onto the cab's roof, shimmy over the barrier, and drop to the Mexican side.

The 18-foot fence--an impressive-looking series of vertical steel bars, three inches in diameter, filled with concrete and reinforcing rods--is a prototype designed especially to thwart climbers. As shotgun-toting agents arrest the eight migrants left behind, the four who got away watch from a hilltop on the Mexican side until a Chevy Suburban pulls up next to them, doubtless ready for the next run around the seven-mile-long barrier. "Border fences don't keep people out--they just slow them down," muses Jesus Rodriguez, a 15-year Border Patrol veteran, after the Jan. 23 chase near Sasabe, Ariz., one of the most popular crossing points for migrants trying to get to prized jobs as cooks, nannies, and construction workers. "People who want to get into the U.S. really badly won't let something like a fence get in the way."

AN IFFY PROPOSITION

That's not exactly how Republican Presidential candidates make it sound these days with their tough talk about "sealing off the border." Some 12 million or so unauthorized immigrants are already in the U.S., and nearly half a million more sneak across the border every year. Comprehensive immigration reform is stalled until a new President takes office, so Republican candidates are racing to offer simpler solutions. On the stump, John McCain, once a booster of more sophisticated remedies, now pledges that "as President, I will secure our borders" first. Fellow GOP candidates Mitt Romney and Mike Huckabee also call for a fence. Huckabee blames a "dysfunctional" government for failing to keep migrants out.

Anyone who has spent any time along the no man's land separating Mexico and the U.S. realizes that the proposition of a sealed border is iffy at best. From Tijuana to Texas, along nearly 2,000 miles of scorching desert, steep canyons, winding rivers, and urban mazes, Federal agents routinely strive for the unattainable--to stop the flow of people so desperate for better lives that they will climb, run, swim, tunnel, bribe, and even hide in car undercarriages to get into the U.S. In the past 15 years the government has erected nearly 300 miles of fencing, including sturdy sheet-metal barriers. The number of Border Patrol agents has almost doubled since 2000, to 14,900, supplemented now by up to 3,000 National Guard troops. Still, migrants continue to cross. And they'll continue to as long as Mexico's per capita income remains one-fifth that of the U.S.--and employers in El Norte welcome them.

The latest chapter in the effort to seal the border is an experiment called Project 28. No one thinks building a metal fence

along the entire border is practical. It would cost billions to build and tens of billions more to maintain, and migrants would still climb over it at unpatrolled spots. So the Bush Administration has embarked on what it hopes is a lower-cost, more effective alternative, borrowed from Pentagon plans for future warfare. The idea is to connect a web of radar, infrared cameras, ground sensors, and airborne drones to extend the eyes and ears of the Border Patrol. This "virtual fence" is taking shape along a 28-mile stretch of the border just south of Tucson--right where the high-speed chase occurred. Nine futuristic towers rise 98 feet above the desert. Each is equipped with radar, cameras, and Wi-Fi transmitters assembled by aerospace and defense giant Boeing to beam images and information to a command center in Tucson and to laptops installed in 50 patrol cars.

But Project 28 is failing to do the job even on the small pilot patch it is meant to fortify. The effort has been "more challenging than we anticipated," concedes Deborah D. Bosick, senior communications manager for the Boeing unit that is stitching together the government's Secure Border Initiative. Embarrassing equipment and software glitches have plagued Project 28, troubles Bosick attributes to the difficulty of quickly "integrating complex, off-the-shelf technology." Congressional investigators have warned that if the system fails a series of tests now under way, they may urge pulling the plug. Homeland security officials, meanwhile, want to stick with Boeing and are spending an additional \$64 million to come up with another, more reliable version.

NOT READY FOR PRIME TIME

The contractor believed its expertise assembling complicated surveillance systems and software for the armed forces would help it build the better barrier of the future. But Boeing lacked much awareness of how the Border Patrol operates and, with only an initial \$20 million fixed contract, Boeing "did it on the cheap," says Alison Rosso, staff director of a Democratic-controlled House homeland security subcommittee. That conclusion is echoed by investigators from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Homeland Security Dept.'s Inspector General. Boeing responds that it is spending more than \$40 million of its own money on the prototype and that it's trying to do a lot on a tight deadline.

Among Project 28's problems: Wind and rain affect the cameras' image quality. Radar has been unable to distinguish between mesquite bushes and clusters of people or animals. In early tests, the laptops in the patrol cars couldn't take the jostling of rough terrain. And Boeing has had trouble bundling infrared images, radar scans, and ground sensor readings so that they reach the Border Patrol in time for agents to pursue targets. "It blows the mind, the issues they've had," says Rosso. Boeing's Bosick says the glitches have been "ironed out."

If Project 28 does, in the end, produce technology that can be deployed along the whole border, some specialists estimate that the Border Patrol would need an extra 100,000 agents to go after all the migrants spotted by enhanced technology. Even then, undocumented migrants would find golden doors, say experts like Wayne A. Cornelius, who teaches the political economy of immigration at the University of California at San Diego. Sealing the border would simply displace illegal traffic to the Gulf and Pacific coasts, he says. Already, smugglers' small boats are transporting migrants to California from the Baja peninsula. "Building an effective Fortress America," says Cornelius, "is a project that would require many years and huge expenditures, with dubious prospects of success."

Some advocates still urge a focus on real walls, whose effectiveness, they say, has been amply demonstrated near heavily populated areas. One of the more celebrated physical fences is a 14-mile-long barrier the federal government built along the border between San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico, a decade ago at a cost of \$9 million per mile. The 10-foot-high double fence, made of steel mesh and welded metal panels--surplus airplane landing mats from the Vietnam War--dramatically cut the number of illegal crossings from Tijuana, the Border Patrol says. Still, many migrants find a way across, sometimes through tunnels. As Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, a Democrat, has said: "Show me a 50-foot wall and I'll show you a 51-foot ladder." Fences also force migrants to cross at more remote, dangerous locales in the mountains and deserts.

MORE BOOTS AND BINOCULARS THAN EVER

The bigger problem may be those who don't bother with tunnels and ladders. Immigration specialists estimate that one-third to one-half of undocumented migrants in the U.S. didn't scale any border fence. They are believed to have entered the country legally and then just overstayed their visas. Some critics, including former Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda, think the rise in patrols and fence-building has actually encouraged unauthorized migrants to put down permanent roots in the U.S.--these Mexicans dare not travel home and run the risk of capture while trying to cross back north. "We have more boots and binoculars down at the border than we've ever had, yet we have a larger immigrant population than ever before," says Angela M. Kelley, director of the Immigration Policy Center, a pro-immigration Washington think tank.

The most effective solution would probably include increased border vigilance, better workplace enforcement, and more visas for the many unskilled workers needed by the U.S. economy. The comprehensive immigration-reform bill pushed by

McCain that failed to pass Congress last year included 200,000 two-year visas for temporary workers, a path to legal residence for undocumented migrants if they paid a fine and agreed to learn English, and a requirement that companies ensure their employees were in the country legally. "You would do so much to secure the U.S.-Mexico border if you just widened the legal path to enter and work in the U.S.," says David A. Shirk of the University of San Diego's Trans-Border Institute. "If you had wide legal gates, you wouldn't need high walls."

"WILL AND MONEY"

Democratic Presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama favor comprehensive immigration reform more than a single-minded focus on border enforcement. But the GOP candidates have insisted the effort must start at the border. Kevin Madden, a spokesman for Mitt Romney, says that while his candidate favors sending millions of undocumented workers home, "the first line of defense has to be a robust approach to border security. It's important to show voters you have a strong approach." Douglas J. Holtz-Eakin, a senior economics adviser to McCain, acknowledges that the goal of sealing the border is "a formidable task." But he adds: "If you use all of the tools--fencing, more agents, unmanned aerial vehicles, ground sensors, aerial barriers, and so forth, you can establish control over the border. It's just a matter of will and money."

Do fences ever work on borders anywhere? The threat of lethal force makes sealed-off borders such as the DMZ between the Koreas and the Palestinian-Israeli barrier highly unusual cases. Along the Strait of Gibraltar and around the Canary Islands, Spain built a chain of high-tech radar stations to deter migration from Africa--only to watch illegal-immigrant traffic flow to other sea lanes.

Ordinary Mexicans, meanwhile, seem unfazed by all the efforts to wall them out. Ramiro, who didn't want to give his surname, is a 21-year-old born in the Mexican state of Guerrero. He was deported from Arizona in mid-January after police pulled his sister's van over for expired license plates and discovered he was there illegally. Ramiro has lived in Phoenix since he was 7, and he has no intention of staying in Mexico, where he feels out of place. Scarfing down beans and rice at a charity shelter for migrants in Nogales, Mexico, Ramiro says he plans to head back to the U.S. in a couple of days. What about the new fence and a beefed-up Border Patrol? "I'll just find a path around the fence, or I'll climb it at night," he says, shrugging. "There's always a way to get around obstacles."

Sure enough, three days later, Ramiro leaves Nogales at 3 a.m., walks just west of a new section of fence under construction, and in five hours reaches the town of Rio Rico, Ariz., where that night he hops a freight train for Phoenix. Time elapsed: 26 hours. "Mexican ingenuity," says Ramiro, laughing, when contacted on a friend's mobile phone. That's ingenuity even the powerful U.S. cannot fence out.

LINKS

WHAT ABOUT THE NORTHERN BORDER?

Mexico isn't the only challenge for the U.S. The federal government is also trying to figure out how to secure the border with Canada--and it's not easy, reports Washington Technology magazine (Oct. 15, 2007). In a Senate hearing last fall, legislators viewed a video of a government investigator posing as a terrorist sneaking in from Canada. The video shows the investigator lugging a duffel bag with fake radioactive material into the U.S. without being stopped. And when it comes to surveillance, the heavily forested Canadian-U.S. border poses different problems from the vast stretches of arid desert on the border with Mexico. Sensors may have to be mounted on trees to detect problems from the vast stretches of arid desert on the border with Mexico. Sensors may have to be mounted on trees to detect movement, and some companies are developing foliage-penetrating radar. Meanwhile, the U.S. Coast Guard wants to incorporate the latest surveillance technology into its patrols of the Great Lakes.

LOAD-DATE: February 14, 2008

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GRAPHIC: photograph, Photograph: Arizona: "Show me a 50-foot wall and I'll show you a 51-foot ladder," says Governor Napolitano Photographs by Jeff Topping
 photograph, Photograph: Right: Safely back on the Mexican side Below: Surveillance tower with radar and infrared cameras Photographs by Jeff Topping
 photograph, Photograph: Headed home: Mexicans seem unfazed by the new enforcement efforts, saying they'll find a way around them Photographs by Jeff Topping

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US Fed News

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STATE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, FEB. 15**BYLINE:** US Fed News**LENGTH:** 2494 words**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON

The U.S. Department of State issued the following transcript of the daily press briefing:

Sean McCormack, Spokesman

TRANSCRIPT:

12:37 p.m. EST

MR. MCCORMACK: Good afternoon, everybody. I do have something to start with today - travel announcements, long awaited. Secretary Rice will travel - she'll travel to South Korea, China and Japan. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will travel February 23rd to the 28th to the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China and Japan. Secretary Rice will lead a presidential delegation to attend the inauguration ceremony and inauguration dinner of incoming President Lee Myung-Bak on February 25th.

While in Seoul, she will also meet with senior officials to discuss regional security and bilateral relations, including the six-party talks and the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. In Beijing Secretary Rice will meet with senior Chinese officials to discuss a wide range of international, regional and bilateral, political and economic issues, including the six-party talks and Iran. And finally, Secretary Rice will arrive in Tokyo on February 27th to meet with Foreign Minister Komura and other officials. Consultations with this close ally will include exchanging views on a broad set of issues, including our security cooperation and the six-party talks and other global, regional and bilateral matters of mutual concern.

And for anybody who missed it, the White House did put out this morning the list of the official presidential delegation that will be attending the inauguration of the new President of South Korea. With that, I'm happy to take your questions.

Samir, you're the winner.

QUESTION: Did the Secretary - did Secretary Rice meet with the Saudi Foreign Minister yesterday and if so, can you give us a readout?

MR. MCCORMACK: I'm not sure if she had a meeting with him. I know that there is - he is in town. He is having some meetings. I don't have any particular readout of those meetings, though, Samir.

QUESTION: Can you give us a readout on the dinner yesterday with the Secretary General of the UN? Have they touched on the Lebanon tribunal?

MR. MCCORMACK: Well, just very generally. They did talk about the tribunal and I know that the Secretary General made some very important announcements yesterday. We also made some very important announcements yesterday, concerning funding for the tribunal. I know that others are making contributions to the funding of the tribunal. This is a very important step forward and I would draw your attention to the announcement of the Secretary General yesterday regarding the tribunal. As for the dinner, they talked about a whole host of issues. I don't - I'm not going to get into the specifics because they had a private conversation, but they did talk about Kosovo, they talked about Sudan, talked about Iran, Afghanistan, global climate change. And I'm sure there are a few other things that I'm missing here. But it was a really wide-

ranging discussion. Of course, the Secretary General had a meeting with President Bush this morning as well.

QUESTION: Sean, just for the - just for clarification, you don't know if the Secretary had a meeting with the Saudi Foreign Minister?

MR. MCCORMACK: Let me check to see. We'll take a look at her schedule.

QUESTION: Would you and, you know, give us an answer one way or the other?

MR. MCCORMACK: I will.

QUESTION: Thank you.

MR. MCCORMACK: I will.

QUESTION: Could you tell us what the U.S. hopes and concerns are for the voting in Pakistan on Monday?

MR. MCCORMACK: Well, we talked about this for a few weeks. And ultimately the bottom line measure is for the Pakistani people to make. This has to be an election in which they have confidence. And we all will look for the election to produce a government in which the Pakistani people can have confidence.

As for the electoral process, we would say about this election what we would say about virtually any other election around the globe and that is you want to see the candidates have access to media. You want to see people be able to freely express themselves in a peaceful manner - free from threat of violence or intimidation. They should be able to peacefully assemble. There should be a set of procedures surrounding election day, which the Pakistani people can have confidence that their ballot will in fact be faithfully reflected as part of the results of the election. And of course, we are all hoping that the electoral process can play out in a way that is free from violence. Nobody wants to see - nobody wants to see that violence.

The election will take place on Monday. We have observers out on the ground. We have embassy observers that will be fanning out to various locations throughout the country. Statistically speaking, there'll be a relatively small number of places that they are able to visit. When you look at the entire universe of polling places, there are going to be some members of Congress that are going to be on the ground there. They'll be part of the observation mission, if you will.

The United States Government has provided quite a bit of funding for the training of the Pakistani election observers. And we were working with the Government of Pakistan to ensure that those observers would have access to polling places and be able to do their jobs. And of course, the international system has a number of different efforts underway as well.

QUESTION: I think Secretary Rice said the other day that she hoped that moderate voices would be represented in the new government. I wonder if you can elaborate on what she meant. Was that a reference, perhaps, to the late Benazir Bhutto's party or any elaboration -

MR. MCCORMACK: Well, I don't want to go much further than what she said because I don't want to, in any way, lend - give the perception at all that we are trying to influence the composition of the future Pakistani Government beyond encouraging moderate forces within the Pakistani political system to bond together, work together to help govern that country and put it back on the pathway to democratic rule, a democratic rule that is committed to working on behalf of the Pakistani people and to broadening and deepening political and economic reform.

Of course, prior to her assassination, we were encouraging President Musharraf and former Prime Minister Bhutto to work together in her political party, to work with his political party. I think that we would certainly continue to urge that as well as all other moderate voices within the Pakistani political system to work together for a better future for Pakistan.

QUESTION: Same subject?

QUESTION: You have the same subject? Go ahead.

QUESTION: (Inaudible.) Pakistan's Ambassador was observed coming into the building this morning. I wonder if you knew who he saw.

MR. MCCORMACK: I don't know. It wasn't the Secretary. I'm not sure whom - with whom he met.

QUESTION: And (inaudible) I mean, the recording of the Pakistani attorney general predicting the elections will be rigged, are you following that up in any way?

MR. MCCORMACK: I haven't seen the report. Of course, if we would -

QUESTION: He says massively rigged.

MR. MCCORMACK: We have talked to the Pakistani officials and we have talked to - in public about the fact that these are elections in which the people need to have confidence. You need to - you need to - Pakistani people should have a reasonable degree of assurance that their ballot will, in fact, be reflected in the results and that they're - the overall will of the Pakistani people is reflected in these results. Look, you know, there have been, in the past, irregularities within the Pakistani electoral process. One would hope that they can improve upon past performance in a sort of subtly increasing trend line. That is certainly our hope for all elections around the world in developing democracies. You hope that one election is a little bit better than the next. We'll see. We'll see what the results of this election yield.

QUESTION: Are there any foundations for hoping that they will be a bit better?

MR. MCCORMACK: Well, let's see. I don't want to prejudge the outcome of an election. We'll see what happens on election day. We'll, of course, have our - some of our own resources in - that will feed into making that judgment. We'll be talking to others who are on the ground there and able to observe what occurs. And I would expect in the days that follow the election, we'll have our own assessment of what kind of election this was, our own assessment of whether or not there were irregularities in the election and if there were, what were the extent of those. And I would fully expect that the participants, the Pakistani political parties, will have their own assessment of the electoral process as well.

QUESTION: Sean -

MR. MCCORMACK: Yeah, Charlie.

QUESTION: - you made reference to - that we have spent a lot of money or funding for training of Pakistani elections or -

MR. MCCORMACK: Mm-hmm.

QUESTION: Do you know how much, how many were trained?

MR. MCCORMACK: Let me find out for you, we - how much money we spent. I think roughly we trained about 20,000 electoral - Pakistani electoral observers. It's a, you know, give or take. But we'll find out how much money we spent on the program.

Yeah.

QUESTION: Do you feel like you - I mean, you also said you - statistically, you wouldn't have that many people, you know, watching the election, although there are -

MR. MCCORMACK: U.S. Government employees.

QUESTION: Right. Do you feel, though, that you will be able to adequately assess how fair this election is?

MR. MCCORMACK: We'll - you know, we'll see. I think that taken as a whole the observation effort will probably provide a pretty good picture that will allow us to make some judgments about the process as a whole. I emphasize the fact that, you know, we're going to get input from our U.S. Government employees. We'll get input from Pakistanis as well as others in the international system who have observation efforts underway. So I think, taken as a whole, when you are able to collect all that data and observations and anecdotes, you'll probably get a pretty good picture of what kind of electoral process they've had.

Charles.

QUESTION: Well, I was going to say thank you.

MR. MCCORMACK: Oh, no. We've got Lambros here, waving his hands behind you.

Yeah.

QUESTION: Mr. McCormack, any readout on yesterday's talks between Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and the Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyannis, including her talks with the Deputy Secretary John Negroponte and Under Secretary Nicholas Burns?

MR. MCCORMACK: I talked to neither the Under Secretary or the Deputy Secretary about their meetings.

QUESTION: Thank you.

MR. MCCORMACK: And Secretary Rice and the Greek Foreign Minister had a one-on-one meeting for about half an hour, then they called the staff in and they recapped their conversation in brief for about ten minutes afterwards. It focused on the issues that you would expect: They talked about Kosovo; they talked about NATO accession for Macedonia, as well as the sub-issue of the so-called name issue. And regarding that issue, the Secretary, as she did with the Macedonian Foreign Minister, urged the Greek Government to work in good faith with Ambassador Nimetz in that process.

QUESTION: And the last one. The UN Security Council yesterday failed to reach an agreement in order prevent the Serbian province of Kosovo from declaring independence soon. Any comment on this decision?

MR. MCCORMACK: It's been an ongoing two-year effort to try to find some mutually agreeable solution between Pristina and Belgrade. You know what our policy is. We support the implementation of the Ahtisaari plan. It's an issue that is, I would expect, going to be much discussed in the coming weeks. At this point, however, I don't have anything further to add than the simple restatement of what our policy is, and you know what that is.

QUESTION: Thank you.

QUESTION: Do you have any more clarity on the Secretary's schedule in Kenya yet?

MR. MCCORMACK: I don't, other than the elements that were - that we talked about yesterday: meeting with the president, meeting with Mr. Odinga, meeting with civil society, and of course former Secretary General Annan, some press component there. I'm sure - look, there's probably going to be some on-the-ground changes, I would expect, and she's going to remain flexible in her schedule. She's going to do what she thinks she needs to do in order to be effective and support Secretary General - former Secretary General Annan in his efforts to bring the two parties together.

QUESTION: Flexible, like staying overnight or something?

MR. MCCORMACK: I wouldn't - at this point, I wouldn't foresee that. But I think the overall stay is now scheduled for about six hours, something on that order. You know, it could go - you know, it could go longer. You know, again, she views this as an important effort to support the mediation efforts of former Secretary General Annan and to bring these two parties together so there's a political solution and therefore an end to the violence and an end to the risk of further outbreak of violence. So she's going to - she's going to do what she thinks she needs to do in order to accomplish those goals.

QUESTION: Thank you.

MR. MCCORMACK: Oh, in the back, yes.

QUESTION: Do you have any updates on Chris Hill's schedule?

MR. MCCORMACK: Oh, yes, I'm glad you asked. I have it right here. You're going to be sorry you asked; it's sort of long. (Laughter.)

Okay, Chris's travel schedule: Leave this Sunday, February 17th, for travel to Beijing February 18th and 19th Seoul; February 20th in Tokyo, February 20th and 21st; then he's going to come back to the U.S., go to Los Angeles for a speech at the Pacific Century Institute and on February 22nd, he'll speak at the University of San Diego School of Peace Studies. He will leave from there, depart on the 23rd to go to Seoul to join with Secretary Rice and her traveling party and be with her at all three stops - Seoul, Beijing and Tokyo. Then from Tokyo, he will travel to Bangkok February 28th to March - through March 2nd; Hanoi, March 2nd through - and March 3rd; Ho Chi Minh City, March 3rd and 4th. The discussions there will be

- will center on matters of bilateral and regional concern.

So my advice to you, if you want to talk to Chris Hill, catch him either today or tomorrow, then you can try to follow him around the globe.

QUESTION: He won't be coming back to Washington -

MR. MCCORMACK: What's that?

QUESTION: He won't be coming back to Washington for -

MR. MCCORMACK: No, I don't think we're going to see him - see him for a while. March - he'll be back in Washington on March 5th. But he'll be back in the U.S., as I stated, for those stops in California. So we'll put out an APB for him.

QUESTION: Thank you.

(The briefing was concluded at 12:52 p.m.).

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February 8, 2008

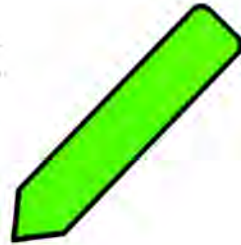
Story of Japanese Community in Tijuana Revealed

*Premier screening of the
documentary : "The closest
point in Mexico to Japan"*

The first documentary ever made on a rather unknown history of the Japanese community in Tijuana, Mexico, will be screened at University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice Theatre, at 7pm, Wednesday, February 13th, 2008. The event is free of admission and open to the public. Parking is available in the Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice and the west parking structure.

This documentary directed and produced by Shinpei Takeda reveals the history of the Japanese community in Tijuana that has existed since the 1920s. The documentary weaves the images taken by the first documentary photographer of Tijuana, Kingo Nonaka with testimonials from the first, second and the third generations of Japanese descendants. The documentary also highlights the history of the post-globalized city and the city of immigrants, Tijuana by shedding light on stories such as the plight of the Japanese community during World War II, and the story of contemporary economical and cultural connections between Japan and Mexico.

University of San Diego
Trans Border Institute, Joan B.
Kroc Institute of Peace and
Justice Theatre, 5998 Alcalá
Park, San Diego, CA 92110.
Tel: 619-260-4090



YOUR DAY

TAKE 5 Today's events

1 Now that's Italian! Pasta e Fagole cook-off by the North County Italian Association, 5:30 p.m., Heritage Hall, Magee Park, Carlsbad. Cost: \$5. (760) 942-1536.

2 Let it roll. Happy Hour Bunco Party presented by the Moonlight Angels Auxiliary, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista. Cost: \$20. Proceeds benefit the Moonlight Cultural Foundation. (760) 439-7950.

3 Roses are red, violets are blue. Barbara Conrad will present a program on planting African violet seeds for miniature and standard plants, 10 a.m., Vista branch library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave. Free. (760) 945-1247.

4 Don't worry, be happy! "Envision Life Success with Happy Feelings," 6 p.m., Sacred Pathway Bookstore, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Suite 103, Carlsbad. Free, but donations accepted. (760) 505-0834.

5 Across the border. The Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo will present Robert Donnery of the Trans-Border Institute, USD, to discuss the "Mexican Criminal Justice System," 1:30 p.m., Remington Club, 16916 Hierba Drive, Rancho Bernardo. Cost: \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers. (858) 592-6087.

North County Times

February 24, 2008

Center offers lectures for adults

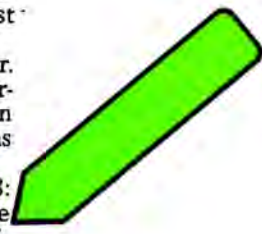
RANCHO BERNARDO — The Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo will offer these lectures for adults.

■ 10 a.m. Feb. 26: Karen Longstreth, who volunteered as a nurse while living with a Palestinian family, will describe "Life on the West Bank."

■ 1:30 p.m. Feb. 27: Dr. Michael Ramsey, who formerly clerked for Justice Antonin Scalia, will offer "Reflections on the Roberts Court."

■ 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28: Robert Donnelly of the Trans-Border Institute, University of San Diego, will present "The Mexican Criminal Justice System."

Lectures are held at the Remington Club Phase II, 16916 Hierba Drive. Fees are \$7; \$5 for members. Information and registration: (858) 487-0464, www.cecrb.org.



February 28, 2008

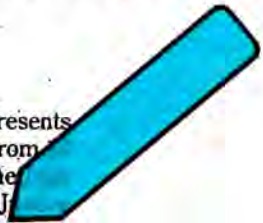
SHORT TAKES | SAN DIEGO NEWS IN BRIEF

**Davis to discuss
trip to Afghanistan**

SAN DIEGO: Rep. Susan Davis presents "Perspectives on Afghanistan," from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the B. Kröc Institute for Peace and Justice Theater, 4998 Alcalá Park at USD.

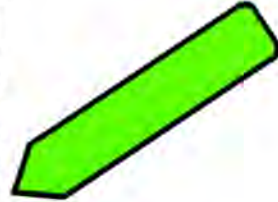
Davis, chair of the House Subcommittee on Military Personnel, will discuss a recent trip to Afghanistan, where she led a bipartisan congressional delegation.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to speak and ask questions. Information: (619) 260-7509.



Comunitario

■ La organización Sobrevivientes de Tortura, Internacional presenta **Celebración de Esperanza y Sanación, una charla con Carlos Mauricio, sobreviviente de tortura de El Salvador.** La cita es el domingo 24 de febrero de 2 p.m. a 5 p.m. en University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110. Precio por boleto: \$50.00 dólares, cupo limitado. Para informes: (619) 278-2400 o www.notorture.org



enlace

February 16, 2008

Globalización

El Trans-Border Institute de la Universidad de San Diego tendrá dos videoconferencias sobre la economía binacional con la Universidad Iberoamericana Tijuana el martes 19 de febrero (Globalización) y el miércoles 20 (Neoliberalismo). Ambos eventos gratuitos son de 8 a.m. a 12 p.m. en el Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice de la Universidad de San Diego. Informes: (619) 260.4090 o sandiego.edu/tbi.

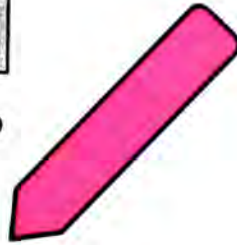


February 21, 2008

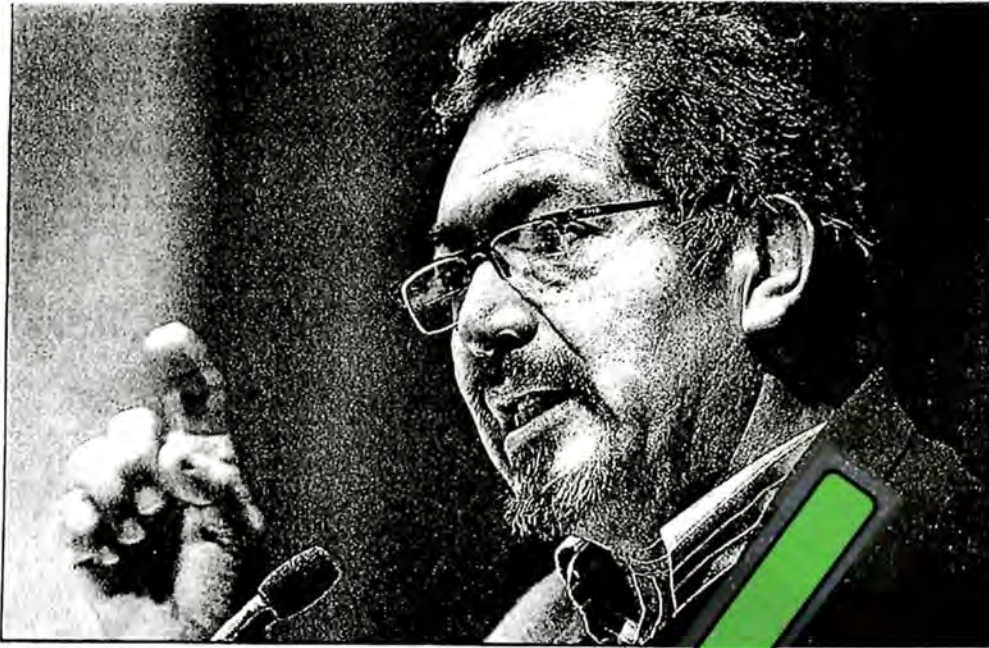


SURVIVOR CELEBRATED

Carlos Mauricio, is the featured speaker at Survivor's Celebration of Hope and Healing at 2 p.m. Sunday at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice. Mauricio was abducted in El Salvador 24 years ago while working as a professor at the University of El Salvador. Taken to national police headquarters, he was tortured for nearly two weeks. Upon his release he fled to the United States, went to graduate school and became a teacher. Tickets are \$50, with proceeds benefiting programs that help survivors of political torture. Information: notorture.org or (619) 278-2400.



February 25, 2008



STORY OF SURVIVAL

Carlos Mauricio was the featured speaker at the Survivors' Celebration of Hope and Healing event yesterday at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice. He was abducted in El Salvador 24 years ago, tortured for nearly two weeks, released and eventually came to the United States. Mauricio helps other survivors tell their stories. *Sean M. Haffey / Union-Tribune*

Tortura, violación de derechos

**En San Diego hay al menos
unos 11 mil sobrevivientes
de tortura**

Antonio Sánchez
El Latino

“Era un olor...un olor raro, era un olor a muerte, lo que se percibía en ese lugar mezclado con humedad corporal, los humores de la gente; era un miedo indescriptible, oía quejidos de gente siendo torturada y esa fue la primera parte de mi tortura”, dijo Carlos Mauricio recordando episodios oscuros de una tortura sin fundamentos a la que fue sujeto.

Mauricio, uno de los pocos sobrevivientes de tortura de El Salvador y del mundo entero, vive con miedo, con lagunas mentales que poco a poco va recordando o que le vienen a la mente tras ser propiciadas por cualquier actividad y cuando menos lo piensa.

Fue un día normal cuando pasó, jamás pensó que sería el último de su vida. Mauricio llegaba a la universidad en su carro, esa tarde en particular llegó temprano y se encontró con unos compañeros y se puso a platicar.

“Iba a mi curso de pedagogía, rentábamos un edificio cercano a la institución porque la Universidad

Nacional de El Salvador estaba militarizada. Me puse a hablar con mis colegas y me percaté de un hombre que no era del grupo pero no le puse atención. Cinco minutos antes de iniciar la clase, el hombre se acercó a mí y me dijo que mi carro estaba bloqueando el suyo, así que salí a la carrera a moverlo y lo dejé a tras pero cuando llegué a mi carro me di cuenta que no estaba bloqueándolo, entonces entré en duda, al voltear, el tipo me iba a agarrar, en ese momento lo empujé y lo tiré al piso, luego me eché a correr y un escuadrón militar salió a detenerme, pero yo iba con una adrenalina que nadie me podía parar, hasta que me agarraron de los pies y caí. Ahí yo empecé a gritar a pedir ayuda y el escuadrón se enojó y me empezó a golpear enfrente de la gente con una pistola hasta que me esposaron y me metieron a una van”, recordó Mauricio.

Desde ese instante, inició lo que sería su tortura durante nueve días.

“Tenía los ojos vendados, me colgaron, me patearon, me quebraron tres costillas, me tenían con los brazos para atrás, oía que otras personas estaban recibiendo electroshock, las estaban asfixiando o waterboarding, como le dicen aquí, a las mujeres las estaban violando y había mucho grito”, contó él, quien aún no sabía por qué lo estaban golpeando.

► Pág. 9



Tortura, violación de derechos

► Portada

Ahora pensando en esas atrocidades, duda si también fue víctima de algunos otros métodos de tortura, pero nunca lo sabrá ya que su mente las borró de su memoria.

"Después de tres días me dieron de beber agua pero tenía droga porque al momento de tomarla, empecé a ver millones de imágenes como si estuviera viendo una película, veía casas, paisajes, carros, era una histeria de imágenes, estaba cansado de ver tantas cosas que quería contar la que estaba viendo, para eso era la droga", relató.

"Al beberla, me empezaron a golpear y preguntarme si conocía a ciertas personas y cuando les decía que no, más me pegaban", dijo él.

Puieron nueve días sin dormir, los que tuvo que soportar.

"Se siente bien feo y un cansancio, me tenían esposado y mi mano derecha estaba esposada con una pipa cerca de una pared, cuando intentaba recargarme para dormir, me golpeaban así que me obligaron a estar parado", contó Mauricio como si hubiese sido ayer pese haber ya pasado 15 años de su tortura.

Mauricio dice que el uso de la venda debe ser denunciado porque además de servir para que el torturado no vea es parte de la impunidad.

"Estando vendado uno está separado del ambiente, se pierde el sentido del tiempo y espacio, más tarde uno pierde la sensación de uno mismo, pierde la sensación de la humanidad, uno cree que es ciego, nadie pues, entra una sensación de desamparo, como si tuviera uno un cuchillo metido en el corazón, me sentía abandonado", dijo con una voz quebrantada.

Mauricio, quien hasta esta fecha no sabe la razón específica de su tortura, cree que logró sobrevivir porque ya no tenían como chantajearlo, pues les decía que estaba muerto y su familia huyó cuando se enteró del secuestro.

"Eso les enojaba mucho a los torturadores. Yo terminaba aceptando todo lo que se me acusaba porque era así como dejaban de torturarme y cuando querían saber más pues les volvía a decir que no sabía nada, el método de tortura no sirve porque uno dice que sí a todo para evitar los golpes, esas técnicas no sirven", aseveró Mauricio.

Sin embargo, él cree que el secuestro y tortura es por haberse manifestado en contra del gobierno en El Salvador.

"Mataron a unas 100 mil personas en los años 80 cuando los militares se apoderaron de la universidad por unos seis años, atacaron a la universidad por ser una institución de ideas donde se condenaba el gobierno, para callar a la gente tenían que destruirlos, así mismo mataron a muchos sacerdotes, doctores para imponer miedo", pensó Mauricio.

Los torturadores alegaban que Mauricio había estado en Cuba y con ciertas personas, pero nunca ha estado en el país.

"Yo sí estuve fuera de El Salvador, pero me fui a estudiar tres años en Yucatán", alegó.

Conferencia de tortura



- **Evento:** Celebración de Esperanza y Sanación
- **Orador invitado:** Carlos Mauricio, sobreviviente de tortura de El Salvador.
- **Dirección:** University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110
- **Fecha:** Domingo 24 de febrero
- **Hora:** 2 a 5 p.m.
- **Para información:** (619) 278-2400

■ **Sobrevivientes de Tortura, Internacional Siempre en busca de servicio de psiquiatría, interpretación y asistencia legal. Para información (619) 278-2400 o www.notorture.org**

Mauricio cuenta que lo trasladaban de uno a otro sitio, pero en una de esas le quitaron la venda supo que todo este tiempo estaba en la cárcel en una celda común. Pero también sabía que lo llevaban a una celda de tortura subterránea por el olor y porque alcanzaba a tocar las paredes estrechas.

"Nunca me dejaron dormir, nunca me dieron comida, no puede usar el baño y me torturaron a morir, es más en la celda subterránea había miles de cucaracha moviéndose tan cerca de mi cabeza", volvió a recordar.

Un día que lo subieron a la celda común, se toparon con la cruz roja internacional que lo estaba buscando.

"Eso realmente salvó mi vida, la cruz roja llevaba días buscándome en la cárcel y por eso me subieron. Mi foto estaba en la universidad, en la comisión de derechos humanos, en las calles todos estaban preguntando por mí, mi ex mujer es hija de un ex militar y ella también me estuvo buscando", relató él.

En ese entonces recuerda él, que el go-

bierno estadounidense estaba por retirar su ayuda militar por violaciones a los derechos humanos y como prueba de que el gobierno salvadoreño sí respetaba los derechos, lo dejaron ir.

"Al salir de la cárcel un custodio me dijo, 'eres un hombre de mucha suerte, la próxima vez será diferente, vete del país, y pues yo ni loco me iba a quedar en El Salvador', dijo.

Tus su salida, pudo conseguirse una visa de turista por parte del consulado mexicano, con quienes tenía relación por haber estudiado en aquel país.

Mauricio volvió a Miami y en autobús se fue a San Francisco a visitar a su familia.

"Me destruyeron completamente, yo tenía una educación, una maestría y llegué a Estados Unidos a lavar platos porque me quedé al expirarse mi visa y me fue negada la visa de refugiado, fue muy difícil empezar de cero. En las tardes volví a la escuela a estudiar inglés, me fui a la Universidad de Berkeley, obtuve otra maestría, aquí mis credenciales para ser maestro,

hasta el 2002 volver a reajustar mi visa aquí.

En San Diego, Mauricio dio con la organización Sobrevivientes de Tortura, Internacional (Survivors of Torture, Internacional) por medio de un contacto, ahí le dieron apoyo, consejería y aún ve a psicólogos para recuperar su vida.

"Ahora, enseño ciencias como maestro sustituto, porque he decidido ser activista; me dedico a los derechos humanos y a contar mi experiencia", agregó.

Mauricio dice que aún teme por su vida pese a exponer su caso ante la gente.

"Temo por mi vida, pero me mueve ser uno de los pocos sobreviviente que puede contar su historia; estoy contando lo que miles no pueden, para mí es una cuestión de responsabilidad, si yo me quedo callado quien va a denunciar", cuestionó.

"La meta de estas conferencias es que la gente hable, y cuando lo hacen eso me da valor para seguir hablando, la gente necesita el apoyo", continuó.

Parte de su recuperación y lo que lo ha ayudado a superar el trauma que siente por la gente uniformada y eventos violentos es haber atestado sobre su tortura en la Corte Federal en Florida en el 2002 donde enfrentó a dos ministros de defensa de El Salvador. El jurado encontró culpables a los dos generales como responsables de tortura, violación y otras atrocidades.

Como parte de sus conferencias y de la organización Survivors of Torture, Internacional, Mauricio participará en el evento The Owl & Panther Project en San Diego para hablar de su vida y también se ofrecerá consejería y servicios comunitarios para ayudar a familias afectadas.

De acuerdo a la organización, se estima que en San Diego hay al menos 11 mil sobrevivientes de tortura y de 400 a 500 mil es el país.

"Para muchos torturados, San Diego es casa de estos refugiados, sé que hemos ayudado a muchos sobrevivientes de Argentina, El Salvador, Guatemala, México, Chile, Perú y Colombia", dijo Maren Dougherty, vocera del centro, mismo que lleva desde 1997 en la ciudad ofreciendo ayuda a la gente.

Survivors of Torture Internacional ha ayudado a lo largo de 11 años, 750 personas de 50 países distintos.

Pese a que Estados Unidos siempre ha denunciado la tortura como método para obtener la verdad, aún se ven estos casos y sus prácticas, mismas que han sido denunciadas por Amnesty International y otras organizaciones.

El abuso de los prisioneros de Abu Ghraib en Irak por parte de militares estadounidenses ha ocasionado controversia mundial, así como el comportamiento que estos han tenido al lidiar con los prisioneros y sospechosos de actos terroristas en Guantánamo.

"Yo he visto las fotos de los presos en Abu Ghraib y te puedo decir que son las mismas prácticas de tortura que se llevan a cabo en El Salvador, y quienes los entrenaron, pues los estadounidenses", aseveró Mauricio.

Cabe recalcar que el candidato a la presidencia John McCain, es un sobreviviente de tortura. McCain fue prisionero de guerra en Vietnam y ha apoyado leyes que prohíben el uso de actividades inhumanas o degradantes contra un detenido para obtener la verdad, como la que se aprobó en el 2005.

■ La organización **Sobrevivientes de Tortura, Internacional** presenta **Celebración de Esperanza y Sanación**, una charla con Carlos Mauricio, sobreviviente de tortura de El Salvador. La cita es el domingo 24 de febrero de 2 p.m. a 5 p.m. en University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110. Precio por boleto: \$50.00 dólares, cupo limitado. Para informes: (619) 278-2400 o www.notorture.org





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San Diego News

Tortured Man Uses Experiences To Help Others

POSTED: 4:14 pm PST February 26, 2008
 UPDATED: 6:40 pm PST February 26, 2008

SAN DIEGO – It was a time of civil war and death.

Carlos Mauricio was a professor at the University of El Salvador in the early 1980s.

It was a time when he said the army was killing thousands of innocent people.

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Video: Tortured Man Uses Experiences To Help Others

"It's very hard not to say anything in that situation. And I spoke publicly against it," said Mauricio.

Mauricio believed this made him a target of the military.

As a professor, he was about to start a class when he was approached by a man who asked for a favor.

"He said, 'Could you please move your car? Your car is blocking mine, and I cannot drive it.' So, I was naïve," said Mauricio.

Once outside, Mauricio realized his life was about to take a drastic turn.

He said a group of heavily armed men grabbed him and threw him into a van.

It was June 13, 1983 -- the beginning of the worst two weeks of Mauricio's life.

"I was taken to a very horrible place. I heard people being given electroshocks, I heard people being beaten, and women being raped, and people being asphyxiated. And I knew that I was next," said Mauricio.

Mauricio was next.

He was tortured for nearly two weeks before his release.

He came to the U.S. where he began to hear about his torture.

"In a way, telling my story, although it was painful, was a way of healing," said Mauricio.

Years after his own torture, Mauricio dedicates his life to helping other survivors begin to tell their stories.

At the University of San Diego, he spoke during a celebration of hope and healing.

"The only way to come out of the prison is to tell the story. And I did it," said Mauricio.

He believes others could do the same.

Mauricio's message to survivors is one of hope and determination to overcome their past.

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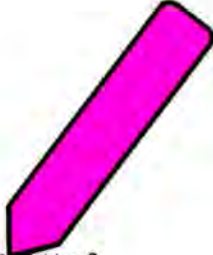
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CELEBRATION OF HOPE AND HEALING at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace, **USD**, Linda Vista. A discussion of international torture with speaker Carlos Mauricio, presented by Survivors of Torture International. Concluded with live music, wine and dessert. From 2 to 5 p.m. **Sunday, Feb. 24.** 619-260-7509, www.notorture.org. \$50.



MEDAL OF PEACE CEREMONY at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace, **USD**, Linda Vista. The award is presented to Ambassador Christopher Hill for his peacemaking efforts in North Korea. At 6 p.m. **Friday, Feb. 22.** 619-260-7509, www.sandiego.edu



USD FACULTY RECITAL at Founders Hall, **USD**, 5998 Alcalá Park, Linda Vista. Pianist Grace Ho performs pieces by Bach, Schubert, Lisopounov and Ravel. At noon **Thursday, Feb. 21.** 619-260-4681, www.usd.edu. \$5.

Other

February 20, 2008

3 guilty in rape, robbery of USD students in 2006

By **Tony Manolatos** and **Dana Littlefield**
 STAFF WRITERS

Three men were convicted yesterday in a rape and robbery home-invasion case in Mission Beach that horrified just about everyone who heard about it.

Local politicians quickly paid for new security cameras and more lighting to calm residents in the boardwalk community where college students, tourists and crime intersect.

Willie Louis Watkins, 32, Donald Duante Smith, 20, and Antonio Washington, 19, were convicted on all counts, a total of 76 felonies. Sentencing was set for March 17; the men are facing life in prison.

After two days of deliberations, a jury determined the three gang-raped two 18-year-old women while holding their friends, two men ages 18 and 19, at gunpoint.

"This is the worst sexual-assault case I've ever prosecuted," Deputy District Attorney Patrick Espinoza said outside the courtroom. He cited the number of sex acts and the number of defendants.

One juror, who declined to

Beach crime in San Diego

People are much more likely to be victimized in Mission Beach than in San Diego's other beach communities.

CRIME RATES

Per 1,000 people

Neighborhood	Violent crime		Property crime	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
La Jolla	2.42	2.21	51.84	40.38
La Jolla Village	1.43	3.14	54.80	37.12
Mission Beach	15.31	14.32	108.10	92.79
Ocean Beach	5.97	7.58	39.61	50.10
Pacific Beach	6.54	6.30	48.05	45.93
Citywide	4.94	4.83	34.94	33.69

SOURCE: San Diego Police Department

Data analysis by DANIELLE CERVANTES / Union-Tribune

give her name, said the guilty verdicts were easy to reach thanks to DNA evidence, confessions by Smith and Washington and testimony from the victims.

"I feel pleased with the way the jury handled the case," the 43-year-old San Diego woman said. "It was very difficult subject matter."

Defense attorneys and relatives of the defendants did not address reporters, but family members clearly objected to the verdicts. Some wept in

court and while leaving one shouted: "White jury! Everything is white!"

Although the victims are white and the attackers are black, race was not a main issue during the two-week trial. The jury wasn't all white, but it did not include any black members.

The attacks occurred at 2:30 a.m. on Oct. 15, 2006, inside a Mission Beach condominium that rents for \$2,000 a month

SEE **Verdict, A10**

► VERDICT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Defense argued DNA testing inconclusive

and is a stone's throw from the beach.

The victims attend the University of San Diego. They took some time off after the attacks but are back in school, three at USD and one in Arizona. One of the men lived in the condo with a roommate, but they moved out the day after the attacks.

The only victim in court yesterday leaned forward in her seat while her father rubbed her back and the judge announced each verdict.

The aftershocks

The case may be ending, but the attacks left a mark on Mission Beach and USD, a 10-minute drive from the coast.

San Diego police held a series of town hall meetings and beefed up patrols in Mission Beach after the attacks. They now monitor five security cameras along the boardwalk.

Police crime rates show people are much more likely to be victimized in Mission Beach than they are in San Diego's other beach communities. Even so, San Diego's beaches attract 22 million visitors a year, and the neighborhoods that touch sand are relatively safe when compared to most inland communities.

Incidents in Mission Beach account for 1 percent of San Diego's crime. Mission Beach is home to 5,400 people — or less than a half-percent of the city's 1.3 million residents, according to police.

With a seaside wooden roller coaster and kitschy shops and bars, Mission Beach attracts a range of people looking to unwind, have fun and live near the beach.

A new beachfront condo complex, for example, is selling its last unit for \$3.4 million. The complex is next to the building where the students were attacked.

Some locals, including Andreas Heyde, 36, see Mission Beach as paradise. But others hold a different view.

"It's somewhat of a dangerous



Antonio Washington, Willie Louis Watkins and Donald Duante Smith were convicted yesterday in a rape and robbery case. In court were (from left) Washington, attorney John O'Connell, Watkins, attorney Knut Johnson, attorney Marc Levinson and Smith. *Earnie Grafton / Union-Tribune*

"This is the worst sexual-assault case I've ever prosecuted."

PATRICK ESPINOZA, Deputy district attorney



San Diego Superior Court Judge John S. Einhorn read the guilty verdicts in court yesterday. Earnie Grafton / Union-Tribune photos



Deputy District Attorney Patrick Espinoza prosecuted the case.

area," said USD senior Kyle Canepa, 22, who lives in the four-unit complex where the attacks occurred.

On campus, the case still terrifies students such as Amanda Fernandez.

"It freaked me out, and every time I go to the beach, it comes to mind," said Fernandez, a 20-year-old sophomore.

Although Fernandez reports being "100 times more vigilant," she admitted that last year, she and a friend let their guard down when they walked back to a Mission Beach home to retrieve her cell phone after a party. It was 3 a.m. The door was unlocked and everyone inside was sleeping.

Fernandez said students who are 21 and older, and those with fake IDs, tend to hang out in Pacific Beach. Everyone else "flocks to Mission Beach. There, or TJ (Tijuana)," she said.

School officials held a meeting for students after the attacks.

"You don't want to scare them," USD spokeswoman Pamela Gray Payton said. "But you do want to make them aware that there are bad people in the world."

Boardwalk robbery

Thirty minutes before the students were raped and robbed, the defendants and as many as seven other men

met near Belmont Park and robbed three young men on the adjacent boardwalk, according to court testimony.

At least two of the robbers were armed with pellet guns.

The testimony described what happened next.

Watkins, Smith and Washington split near the group. They soon came upon the condo on San Fernando Place, which borders the south side of Belmont Park.

When the defendants peered through a window, they saw a man and a woman seated on a couch. The other two students were in an upstairs bedroom.

One of the three men turned the door handle. It was unlocked.

The woman on the sofa, a freshman at the time, testified she was watching a movie, "The Breakfast Club," and chatting on her cell phone when the front door burst open. Two strangers walked in and started shouting.

"Both of them had guns in their hand," the woman testified.

Police didn't recover any weapons.

The intruders ordered her and the man beside her, a USD sophomore, to lay face-down on the kitchen floor.

"They kept asking us where the money was," the woman testified. "I kept telling them that I just had my

phone."

A third man entered the condo and everyone soon moved upstairs. The women were repeatedly raped and forced to commit other sex acts. One of the women was sodomized and one of the male victims was forced to have sex with one of the women.

"I just kept asking them to stop," one of the women testified.

The other female victim said she told the intruders to take her car. She also gave them directions to an ATM, along with her debit card and the pin number.

"I just wanted them to leave," she testified.

Eventually the men did leave, taking cash, credit cards, cell phones, a 37-inch television, an Xbox 360 console, video games and DVDs, authorities said. Two of the intruders left with the women, forcing them to walk about a half-block.

The men ran away when they saw police, who were in the area investigating the earlier robbery on the boardwalk.

Smith and Washington met up with two juveniles in a nearby car. Within seconds, they were gone.

While in the car, a 17-year-old identified as Smith's roommate, used one of the victim's cell phones to call his brother. San Diego police traced the

Online: For safety tips and the University of San Diego's guide to off-campus living, go to uniontrib.com/more/usdguide

call, tracked down the juveniles and arrested them.

The juveniles testified they met up with the defendants again at a home in City Heights the night after the attacks. Watkins, the juveniles said, bragged about the rapes and told everyone to keep quiet. Watkins and Washington are from City Heights. Smith lived in Point Loma.

Defense attorneys argued in court that the juveniles could not be trusted because they struck a deal with prosecutors in exchange for their testimony.

Originally, the teens faced a string of robbery charges and a maximum sentence of 25 years in prison in connection with the boardwalk robbery. But prosecutors agreed to try them in Juvenile Court on lesser charges, and both received probation.

Smith and Washington admitted to police that they raped and robbed the students, authorities said. Watkins admitted only to stealing a television.

Espinoza argued that DNA evidence linked all three men to the rapes. The female victims were examined by specially trained nurses who collected traces of bodily fluids on cotton-tipped swabs.

In laboratory tests, Watkins, Smith and Washington could not be excluded from many of the swabs taken from the victims, prosecutors said.

In court, defense attorneys argued that many of the DNA tests were inconclusive.

They also said the victims were never able to positively identify their attackers, who wore hoodies and bandanas to cover their faces.

Staff writer Jose Jimenez contributed to this story.

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February 19, 2008

CUTTING TRAYS, CUTTING WASTE

By Sherry Saavedra
STAFF WRITER

A universal fixture is disappearing from dorm dining halls: the tray.

College cafeterias nationwide are going to trayless dining in an effort to reduce waste. The rationale is that students won't load up on large portions in all-you-can-eat settings if they can't stack their dishes on a tray.

Although most students aren't as gluttonous as the notorious John "Bluto" Blutarsky, who piled his tray high with cafeteria fare in the movie "Animal House," dining hall workers tire of seeing students toss untouched sandwiches, salads and cereal into the trash.

It's the newest trend in greener dining, as college cafeterias from California to Connecticut are looking for ways to be more eco-friendly.


Dining hall directors say eliminat-

SEE **Trays, A10**

▶ TRAYS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

SDSU students are eating less, director says



ing trays has the added bonus of helping students cut down on calorie consumption while saving thousands of dollars annually in food bills.

San Diego State University took away trays in its main dormitory dining hall last fall — saving more than 11 tons of food. Next month, the University of San Diego plans to go trayless on Fridays. Cafeterias in at least a dozen other colleges around the country, including New York's Skidmore College and San Francisco State University, have jettisoned trays. Harvard University and the University of Connecticut are ditching trays on a trial basis.

At SDSU, dining hall workers first tried asking students to take only what they planned on eating. Then they plastered signs around eating areas with the same message.

Nothing changed.

With six food stations and more than a dozen beverage choices in the main residential area dining hall, students would heap their trays high, said Paul Melchior, director of dining services. Then they would return to their tables, nibble on everything and toss the rest.

The university decided to stop being an enabler by getting rid of the trays.

"It was fairly rough the first three days," Melchior said. "The returning customers were saying: 'Where's the trays?'"

Where's the trays? Where's the trays? New customers were looking for trays. But we wanted to give this time."

Freshman Dave Brager still hasn't adjusted.

"I'm someone who eats a lot," he said. "I have to make like four trips for food."

But the results favor going trayless. The amount of waste amassed over the fall semester fell by roughly 200 pounds per day from the same period the year before, according to a university analysis. Lines also are shorter and students are eating less, resulting in a \$14,000 savings on food.

Melchior said cleaning crews are using less water and dishwashing soap.

And the lack of trays isn't scaring off customers. The dining hall sold 3,000 more meals last semester over fall 2006, resulting in a \$90,000 increase in revenue.

The savings is going into better food, including fresh fish.

The trayless cafeteria is part of a movement that in recent years has seen colleges adopt greener practices. Some are converting grease into biodiesel to power automobiles. Many are composting cafeteria food waste. Simultaneously, dining halls are serving up more organic fare, unrolling re-

usable-drink-container promotions and using more eco-friendly dish detergent.

Some schools had already tried out smaller trays and plates.

Matthew Biette, director of dining at Middlebury College in Vermont, couldn't ignore the carbon footprint that trays were leaving.

"We serve 1.5 million meals a year, and if 80 percent of people use trays, that's washing 1.2 million trays," he said. "Think of the hot water, the soap, the handling, the expense, the heat load from the dishwasher and the cooling of the building after that's done."

By eliminating trays, Biette said, he initially became the scourge of the cafeteria. There were articles in the school newspaper and angry e-mails and comment cards.

But nobody could deny there was less waste.

"Before kids had the opportunity to take whatever they wanted because they had a place where food could land," Biette said.

Schools are continuing to provide trays for the disabled.

USD plans to ease students into the change, eliminating trays once a week at first, then three days a week next fall, before going completely tray-

less by June 2009, when the new dining hall is built.

"We want to bring them softly into this process because it's a big departure for cafeterias," said André Mallié, executive director of Auxiliary Services, which oversees campus dining. "But we want to reduce water usage, reduce food, reduce electricity. It's all about sustainability."

Given the environmental benefits, many students have been asking why USD is still using trays, Mallié said.

At some schools, such as the University of California San Diego, trays are used but don't affect food waste because dining facilities have a la carte menus rather than all-you-can-eat programs.

At SDSU, some students took the loss hard.

"I was angry at first because it's more trouble," said sophomore Nick Sandberg. "It's a juggling thing, carrying all these plates."

But Sandberg admits he was wasteful.

"I used to get some of everything, and I'd probably eat like 30 percent."

Even without a tray, Sandberg wasn't exactly cleaning his plate, leaving behind a slice of pizza, half-eaten lasagna and his veggies after one recent lunch.

Some students said juggling so many plates has led to some dropped plates and spilled drinks.

But many customers say it makes a lot of sense.

"I saw a lot of wasted food before, even by me," said sophomore Melanie Jones.

Sherry Saavedra: (619) 542-4598; sherry.saavedra@uniontrib.com

Wednesday, Feb. 27 2008

23rd Annual Kyoto Prize Winners to Attend San Diego's "Kyoto Laureate Symposium" March 12-14

BusinessWire
Context

SAN DIEGO, Feb 27, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) – The Inamori Foundation and the Kyoto Symposium Organization today announced that they will host the seventh annual Kyoto Laureate Symposium here March 12-14, 2008, spotlighting the 23rd annual laureates of the Kyoto Prize--Japan's highest private award for lifetime achievement--in a three-day celebration of the laureates' lives and works. Admission to most events is free, with registration available online at www.kyotoprize.org.

A fund-raising benefit gala, "The Kyoto Prize: Celebrating Outstanding Human Achievement," will officially open the Symposium at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 12, at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. Complimentary public presentations by each laureate will follow, March 13-14, at San Diego State University, University of California, San Diego, and University of San Diego.



The Latest Kyoto Prize Laureates

Dr. Hiroo Inokuchi, a chemist and professor emeritus at University of Tokyo, is the 23rd Kyoto Prize laureate in "Advanced Technology." Dr. Inokuchi began studying electrical conductivity in organic materials during the 1940s. Over six decades, his research made an essential contribution to the development of "organic molecular electronics." Resulting technologies now play a key role in the latest consumer electronics, and promise history-making advances for tomorrow's fuel cells, solar energy systems, microprocessors and robots. Dr. Inokuchi will speak Thursday, March 13, 9:30-11:00 a.m., at San Diego State University. As part of his presentation, a representative from Sony Electronics Inc. will discuss practical applications of Dr. Inokuchi's groundbreaking work by showcasing the world's first TV using organic light-emitting diode ("OLED") technology in a screen just three millimeters thick.

Dr. Hiroo Kanamori, a geophysicist and professor emeritus at California Institute of Technology, is the 23rd Kyoto Prize laureate in "Basic Sciences." Dr. Kanamori established, almost single-handedly, the field of Great Earthquake Seismology. His research has yielded epoch-making progress in understanding great earthquakes and tsunamis--from measuring magnitude to minimizing human suffering. Perhaps above all, his work in "real-time" seismology has contributed to today's most successful earthquake- and tsunami-warning systems. By providing early notification of destructive earthquake motions immediately before they arrive, such systems offer great potential to improve human well-being through effective hazard mitigation. Dr. Kanamori will share his insights Thursday, March 13, 4:00-5:30 p.m., at University of California, San Diego.

Ms. Pina Bausch, an international choreographer and artistic director, is the 23rd Kyoto Prize laureate in "Arts and Philosophy." Recognized among the world's most influential performance artists, Ms. Bausch established new dimensions in the theatrical arts that transcend conventional concepts of dance and theater. Credited with inventing the new performance genre of "Tanztheater" (dance theater), she fearlessly explores human identity and the difficulty of creating mutual understanding. Abandoning traditional ideas and images, she uses motifs from everyday life as springboards into human consciousness to lead the dance scene in the 21st century. She once famously stated, "I'm not interested in how people move, but in what moves them." Ms. Bausch will explore this as she demonstrates her unique choreographic process in an unprecedented, live workshop-style presentation with her dancers titled, "What Moves Me," 3:30 p.m., Friday, March 14, at University of San Diego.

"Each year, we are enormously enriched as San Diego's Kyoto Laureate Symposium celebrates the world's finest minds in technology, science and the arts," said Malin Burnham, noted philanthropist and chair of the non-profit Kyoto Symposium Organization. "This year is no exception; each laureate's presentation promises a one-of-a-kind experience not available anywhere else in the world."

Dr. Irvin Jacobs, chairman of Qualcomm Incorporated, reprises his role as the benefit gala's honorary chair. This event will fund the 2008-'09 Kyoto Scholarships for area students. These \$10,000 scholarships are awarded annually to three San Diego and three Tijuana-area high school seniors who have been inspired by their study of a Kyoto Prize laureate to work toward the betterment of society - in the broad fields of advanced technology, basic sciences, or arts and philosophy. The gala is dedicated to the memory of Tom Fat, Esq., longtime event chair and Symposium supporter.

"San Diego is a gateway to the Pacific Rim and Latin America, so it is fitting that we unite the U.S., Japan and Mexico for this celebration of human achievement," stated Robert Horsman, president and CEO of San Diego National Bank and Symposium board member. "Further, as the first city outside of Japan to host the Kyoto Prize laureates, San Diego can showcase its thriving hi-tech, science and arts communities on the global stage."

The Kyoto Prize

The Kyoto Prize is presented annually by the Inamori Foundation to individuals and groups worldwide that have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the betterment of humanity. Consisting of academic honors, a 20-karat gold medal and a cash gift of 50 million yen (about \$470,000), it is Japan's highest private award for lifetime achievement. One emblematic feature of the Kyoto Prize is that it is presented not only to recognize outstanding achievements, but also in honor of the excellent personal characteristics that have shaped those achievements. The laureates are selected through a strict and impartial process considering candidates

recommended from around the world. As of November 10, 2007, the Kyoto Prize has been awarded to 74 individuals and one group - collectively representing 12 nations. Kyoto Prize laureates range from scientists, engineers and researchers to philosophers, painters, architects, sculptors, musicians and film directors. The United States has produced the most recipients (32), followed by Japan (12), the United Kingdom (nine), and France (seven).

The Inamori Foundation

The non-profit Inamori Foundation was established in Kyoto, Japan, in 1984 by Dr. Kazuo Inamori, a Japanese entrepreneur and humanitarian. Dr. Inamori created the Kyoto Prize in 1985, in reflection of his belief that human beings have no higher calling than to strive for the greater good of society, and that mankind's future can be assured only when there is a balance between our scientific progress and our spiritual depth.

The Kyoto Symposium Organization

The Kyoto Symposium Organization is a San Diego-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization established to support the Kyoto Laureate Symposium and Kyoto Scholarship programs

Download photos at: <http://www.kyotoprize.org>.

SOURCE: Inamori Foundation

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Published: February 4, 2008

Authentic Catholic teaching

Cardinal Christoph Schönborn on three-city tour to acquaint Californians with Austrian theological institute

[[AustrianCardinal.jpg]] Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna, Austria, will be making his first public appearance on the West Coast in San Diego on Tuesday, Feb. 12. The Cardinal is visiting San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco to introduce the International Theological Institute to Californians.

The Institute, set up under the inspiration of Pope John Paul II in 1996 to promote authentic Catholic teaching, especially on the issues of marriage and the family, operated for the first 10 years in the mountain town of Gaming, Austria, an hour and a half from Vienna. In October 2007, the institute signed a contract to purchase land and lease buildings from the Cistercian monks of Heiligenkreuz, just outside of Vienna. The closeness to Vienna will allow the Institute, whose students come from Eastern and Western Europe and the U.S., to play a more prominent role in the re-evangelization of Europe.

Cardinal Schönborn served from 1987 to 1992 as the editor of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and was the author of *Chance or Purpose* (Ignatius Press, 2005) based on a series of Sunday evening lectures at St. Stephen's cathedral in Vienna. Schönborn attracted attention to the topic after he wrote an op-ed piece in the *New York Times* in July 2005 that challenged "neo-Darwinian" evolution.

Schönborn was a graduate student of then-Pope John Paul II in Regensburg in the early 1970s, and his closeness to now-Benedict XVI was shown in April 2005, when Schönborn was chosen to introduce Benedict's book, *Jesus of Nazareth*, to the world press in Rome.

The cardinal's talk in San Diego, titled "Signs of Hope for Europe," will take place in the baroque Founders Chapel at the University of San Diego at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 12, followed by a question-and-answer session. The talk will be preceded by singing by the schola from the Gregorian Chant Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary in San Diego. San Diego Auxiliary Bishop Salvatore Cordileone will introduce Cardinal Schönborn.

Admission is free. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Article URL: <http://www.catholic.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?id=92b21dcb-86a1-4ce5-962f-c3d86727be1a>

February 2, 2008

RELIGION CALENDAR

CITY

Co-Ed Drumming Circle A blend of Japanese, Middle Eastern and African traditions will be performed at noon tomorrow at Vision, a Center for Spiritual Living, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Information: visioncsl.com or (619) 303-6609.

Options 2008 Anita Diamant, award winning journalist and author of the best-seller "The Red Tent," will be speaking from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, 10950 N. Torrey Pines Road. Cost is \$55 and includes a kosher lunch and coffee hour. Information: (858) 571-3444, ext. 56.

about faith The University of San Diego is hosting several events this month: "Gathered in Prayer, Reverencing Creation," an annual prayer service that celebrates the start of spring semester at 12:15 p.m. Thursday at The Immaculata Church at the university. Information: (619) 260-7431. "Exploring Leisure as a Lenten Practice," lecture, discussion, prayer and faith sharing from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 9 at USD University Center, Forum A. \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. Information: sandiego.edu/ccs or (619) 260-4784.

"To Be God's Heart on Earth: A Fresh Interpretation of Devotion to the Sacred Heart," a presentation in word and image from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at Salomon Hall, Bishop Maher Hall at USD. \$10 advance, \$15 at the door. Information:

sandiego.edu/ccs or (619) 260-4784. "Opting for the Poor: Ecological Justice," by John Hart, professor of Christian ethics at Boston University, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at USD University Center Forum A/B. Free. "Burning Bushes, Surging Seas: Global Warming and Catholic Faith," by John Hart at 7 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice Theatre, USD. Free. Information: sandiego.edu/cst.

Free lecture "The 23rd Psalm: Inner Peace Is the Path to World Peace" will be given by international speaker and writer Marta Greenwood at 2 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. Information: (858) 456-4588.

EAST

Breakfast meeting Hosted by East Valley Christian Fellowship at 8 a.m. today in the Fellowship Hall, 14069 Ridge Hill Road, El Cajon. Information: evcf.com or (619) 390-2734.

Concert Elaine Harper and Richard Wilkie will perform folk songs and ballads along with Phoenix-based trio Halfway Home at 7 tonight at Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 8778 Cottonwood Ave., Santee. Tickets are \$15, children under 12 are free. Information: summitarian.org or (619) 562-0833.

Football and God: Chargers team pastor Shawn Mitchell will be the guest preacher at Skyline Church's services this weekend - 5 and 6 p.m. today and 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. tomorrow. Skyline is at 11330 Campo Road in La Mesa. Details: (619) 660-5000 or skylinechurch.org.

Lenten season The United Church of Christ of La Mesa invites the community to participate in Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at 5940 Kelton St. Information: (619) 464-1519.

Hot topic "The Bible's Take on Homosexuality," what does the Bible really say about being gay or lesbian will be discussed at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the United Church of Christ of La Mesa, 5940 Kelton St. Information: (619) 464-1519.

"Friends of Music" The Choral Scholars, University of San Diego's

singing group, will perform at 4 p.m. tomorrow at La Mesa First United Methodist Church, 4690 Palm Ave. An offering will be taken. Information: (619) 466-4163.

February 2, 2008



NOW SEE THIS: ALL FAITHS

The University of San Diego will celebrate its 15th annual All-Faith Service at 12:15 p.m. Thursday at the Immaculata Church on campus. This year's gathering will include a Muslim call to prayer, a Buddhist chant, a Hindu reflection, an Orthodox Christian chant, American Indian storytelling and a Jewish blessing.

February 24, 2008

ESCONDIDO

Bosnian baby touches volunteer

USD graduate helping kids in eastern Europe

By **Steven Mihailovich**
TODAY'S LOCAL NEWS

In November, an infant named Irena entered Lucy Eagleson's life.

Eagleson, 22, an Escondido resident, was volunteering at Mother's Village, a home for 55 abandoned and orphaned children in Medju-

gorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Irena, then 14 weeks old, slept in a crib next to Eagleson's bed. When the baby developed a bad case of diarrhea, Eagleson stayed awake all night for nearly two weeks to care for the baby.

"I'm not her mother, but I'm raising her like I'm her mother," said Eagleson, who is home visiting her family for a month.

"I spend every moment with her. I'm worried that I might get too

attached. But I never knew I could love another human being as much as I love her. At some point when I leave, it's going to be very difficult for me. The way that I look at it, I'll need her more than she will ever need me."

Eagleson joined Mother's Village in August when she arrived in Medjugorje, home to a famous Roman Catholic shrine honoring a reported



Lucy Eagleson held Irena, a girl she cares for at Mother's Village, a home for abandoned and orphaned children in Bosnia. *Lucy Eagleson*

SEE **Volunteer**, Page 3

► VOLUNTEER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Working in Bosnia proves challenging

...sighting of the Virgin Mary. Mother's Village was founded in 1993 during the Bosnian civil war, and is supported by local Franciscan priests and nuns.

Eagleson said she volunteered at the orphanage after earning a bachelor's degree in communication from the University of San Diego last summer.

"I finished school and I wanted to go out of the country," she said. "When you go to college, you're so focused on yourself and what you need to do as a student that it was time for me to go out and serve others."

Eagleson was told about Mother's Village through Rob Gilmore, a resident lay minister at the university. Gilmore said Eagleson had done community service in Tijuana.

"She is such a gifted young woman with so much passion for what she does," Gilmore said. "Helping people, that's what she does. I've seen it time and time again."

Eagleson was new to the volunteer work at Mother's Village, but she wasn't new to Bosnia. In summer 2005, Eagleson said she spent one month at a summer camp for children in Rakovica, near the capital, Sarajevo, where she was camp counselor to eight girls.

Eagleson said that was her first trip outside the United States. As her airplane circled over Sarajevo, Eagleson



Lucy Eagleson and her mother, Mary Ann Eagleson, have been catching up with each other's lives this month. Lucy has been volunteering in Bosnia, where she will return this week. *Stephanie Parry / Today's Local News*

noticed what seemed to be the white-washed homes of large neighborhoods circling the main city. But as the plane descended, she said, tears rolled down her face when she realized they were tombstones.

"I'm lucky that I got to see it at 19 years old," Eagleson said. "It was an honest reality, and it hit me where it counts. The reality was that I was not in the U.S., I was out of that pocket and comfort zone. I knew it was going to be different and I was on my own."

Her adventures have continued in October to provide services for a month at the orphanage, Eagleson said she was made the dental assistant. Eagleson said she impressed the dentist enough that he asked her to

do the job again when he returns in April.

"I had never done it before," Eagleson said. "I had never been around blood much. But life takes its course. One minute you're taking care of kids, and the next minute you're wearing latex gloves and loading anesthesia."

In October, Eagleson learned about the San Diego County wildfires from an e-mail. She worried about her parents and other family members.

As Eagleson tells it, the Roman Catholic priests and nuns at the local church noticed her mood and asked Eagleson what was causing the apprehension. Because no one spoke English, questions were being asked in the native language.

Using her rudimentary Serbo-

Croatian language skills, Eagleson tried to tell them that there were eight fires burning in San Diego. However, in Serbo-Croatian the words for "fire" and "door" sound similar to those new to the language.

"I was saying, 'In my city, there are eight large doors,'" Eagleson said. "To this day, they've never let that go."

Mary Ann Eagleson, Lucy's mother, said she supports her daughter's work because it gives her experiences she wouldn't find in the United States.

"She throws herself into situations, and 'no' isn't an answer," Mary Ann Eagleson said. "I don't think I could have done it. Our feeling is that she's on loan to us. We have to share her. When she first told me, I felt if I couldn't let go of her then, I never would be able to."

Lucy Eagleson leaves for Irena and Mother's Village on Wednesday. She has learned that Escondido and even the United States feel a little less like home now, even though Bosnia is not her new home, either. Eagleson said she is feeling most comfortable on her journey through life.

"Home doesn't quite feel the same," Eagleson said. "I can see so many things I have here that I don't need. Over there, I wake up in the morning and I don't have a watch or a cell phone."

"I don't know what my day will be like. I love not knowing what I'm going to do. I'm going to the unknown part of myself. The journey on the inside is more important than the one on the outside."

Steven Mihailovich: (760) 752-6753; steven.mihailovich@tnews.net

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Business Wire

February 12, 2008 Tuesday 9:01 PM GMT

Mission Federal CEO Ron Martin Announces His Retirement

LENGTH: 402 words**DATELINE:** SAN DIEGO

Mission Federal Credit Union ("Mission Federal") today announced that after a career spanning 38 years of service to the financial industry, Ron Martin, President and Chief Executive Officer will retire. His retirement is set for April 30, 2008.

Martin has led Mission Federal for over twelve years, during which time the credit union experienced a three-fold increase in assets and equity, to its present \$192 million in equity and \$1.8 billion in assets, placing it among the nation's 50th largest credit unions. Also during this time, it expanded to 23 branches, and introduced its members to the benefits of electronic and online banking. In 2003, Mission Federal received a Federal Community Charter to serve all of the 2.8 million residents of San Diego County. One of Martin's proudest achievements, though, is that Mission Federal has been a frequent recipient of awards acknowledging its efforts in promoting Financial Literacy among youth.

"Mission Federal is well-positioned to continue and expand upon its tradition of outstanding service to its members and to San Diego County," said Martin, in explaining the timing of his decision. In retirement, Martin intends to "broaden and diversify" his career, by spending additional time dedicated to community service and his growing family. "I have five grandchildren calling my name," he said.

"Ron's tenure with Mission Federal has been a time of growth, and accomplishment," said D. Shelton, Mission Federal's Chairman of the Board. "He has been a responsive associate of our Board and a champion for our members. Mission Federal Credit Union has the infrastructure and personnel to make this transition seamless. It is an exciting time of continued growth and service for Mission Federal and its members."

Martin has been an active participant in organizations supporting the educational community. He served as Chairman of the Board of the Joe Rindone Regional Technology Center Classroom of the Future Foundation, opened by the San Diego County Office of Education. He chaired the Executive Committee for University of San Diego BusinessLink for three years and remains a member. Mr. Martin serves on the Board of Directors for the College of Business Administration at San Diego State University and participates as an Executive Committee member of Palomar College President's Associates.

CONTACT: Mission Federal Credit Union
Tricia Link, 858-546-2297

URL: <http://www.businesswire.com>

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Jerome's Furniture, San Diego Named as WHFA 2008 Retailer of the Year

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

By: Furniture World Magazine

The Western Home Furnishings Association (WHFA) announced that Jerome's Furniture of San Diego is the winner of its annual Retailer of the Year Award. Lee Goodman, President & CEO of Jerome's Furniture, along with store owners Jerry Navarra, Chairman, and Ann Navarra, Vice-President of Finance, will be honored with the award.

"It's such a special feeling, frankly, to be recognized by the industry you love so much and enjoy being such a part of," said Goodman. "For each of our employees, this is a tremendous honor that everyone greatly appreciates," said Goodman.

Jerome's Furniture was founded in 1954 by Jim & Esther Navarra, and is still owned and operated by the Navarra family. The 370 employee company features seven Navarra family members, four of whom are third generation retailers. Jerry and Ann Navarra joined the business in the early 1970's and oversaw the opening in 1979 of their first satellite store in San Marcos. Over the next 10 years, new Jerome's locations were added in Chula Vista, El Cajon and Scripps Ranch. In 2000, the original store in downtown San Diego was replaced with a large format unit on Morena Boulevard. In 2005, the company streamlined its operations by opening a 450,000 square foot distribution center.

Connection with family continues to play an integral role in the management of Jerome's and their dealings with their extended workforce. "The strong intra-family ties and commitment to ethical standards are heavily infused into the company's foundation," said Jerry Navarra. "Our success resides in our long-term commitment to our customers, community, employees and their families," said Navarra.

Honoree Lee Goodman, himself a fourth generation member of the industry, also appreciates the values instilled in him by his family and their direct link to his success. Having entered the industry at age seven, emptying ash trays and filling coffee cups in his grandfather's store, "Summerfields Furniture" in Boston, MA, he fondly recalls his first sale of a lamp at age eight. "I still have my little blue commission tag," said Goodman.

"When you grow up in this industry, it becomes part of your DNA. It's just in your blood," said Goodman. "My earliest childhood memories all involve my grandfather's store and family celebrations at Washington's Birthday sales. The industry has been my family ever since I can remember. It was always such a natural feeling. Through my family, I really gained a great exposure to the industry," said Goodman.

A 1993 graduate of the University of Connecticut, Goodman worked his way through the ranks from his earliest position at his father's (Joe Goodman) store, Bob's Discount Furniture in Connecticut, and developing into Jerome's Chief Operating Officer in 2006. He accepted his current position of President & CEO in July 2007.

As a company, Jerome's has always taken an active role in their community through the local Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) programs, the San Diego Women's Foundation and the Business Link at University of San Diego which fosters relationships and collaboration between the University and corporate community.

Recently, Jerome's partnered with local ABC television news affiliate, 10 News, on their program Extreme Makeover My Hometown, with a donation of over \$10,000 worth of furniture to the project to redo a San Diego women's shelter. Most recently, Lee Goodman worked with the San Diego



Furniture Bank (SDFB) founded in November 2007, in connection with the National Home Furnishings Association (NHFA). The SDFB assists victims of all national disasters. Goodman sits on the NHFA Board of Directors, executive committee and is chairman of the NHFA industry technology committee. Goodman also serves on the National Furniture Bank Association (NFBA) task force. Jerry Navarra has been a member of the San Diego Better Business Bureau Board of Directors for more than 10 years. Ann Navarra sat on the Board of Directors for both NHFA and WHFA throughout her career of 35 years and was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the City of Hope in 2001.

Jerome's also participated in 2007 San Diego wildfire relief programs to benefit hundreds of residents who lost homes in the wildfires with special tax consideration to Red Cross and FEMA beneficiaries and discounts on furniture and delivery. The tragedy touched the company in a personal way when a long-time employee of 24 years and his family lost their home in the fires. "Jerome's warehouse was closed for three days and our business was evacuated. The blessing was that we were able to support our employee. We went through a very tumultuous time during that period, making this award even more special," said Goodman.

Jerome's Furniture was selected as Retailer of the Year based on their contributions to the home furnishings industry, service to their community and their personal business achievements and company leadership. Goodman and the Navarra's will be honored on May 20, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona with an exclusive dinner celebration and awards presentation. The event will take place as the grand finale to WHFA's May 18-20 all-new 2008 conference & expo.

For more information on Jerome's Furniture, please contact Adeline Williams, Public Relations Director for Jerome's Furniture at (858) 753-1549 or anwilliams@jeromes.com.

For more information on taking part in the Retailer of the Year dinner celebration on May 20, 2008 please visit www.WHFAconference.com or call Cindi Williams, WHFA Events Manager at (800) 422-3778.

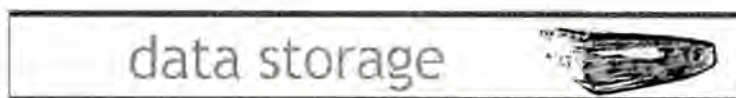
About the WHFA and NHFA

The Western Home Furnishings Association (WHFA) is the largest affiliate of the NHFA, representing more than 1,100 independent home furnishings retailers in more than 2,800 stores in 12 western states.

National Home Furnishings Association (NHFA) is the nation's largest organization devoted specifically to the needs and interests of home furnishings retailers. NHFA's membership comprises 2,800 corporate entities representing 10,000 stores in all 50 states and several foreign countries.

End

Contents Copyright Furniture World Magazine



Furninfo.com is the website of FURNITURE WORLD Magazine, a trade publication founded in 1870. The magazine has BPA audited, circulation of 20,000 with 17,500 copies directed to retail furniture store subscribers in the US and Canada. The magazine is also distributed at major and regional furniture shows. For more information on FURNITURE WORLD and furninfo.com Click on the red "About FW" button at left.

50 of 61 DOCUMENTS

Connecticut Post Online (Bridgeport, Connecticut)

February 14, 2008 Thursday

Is Business Education An Oxymoron

SECTION: BUSINESS

LENGTH: 1169 words

While speaking with a rather successful business owner (who preferred not to be identified) over a hotel lobby breakfast before heading to a morning meeting, the entrepreneur and I engaged in a discussion around the state of preparedness of recent graduates to enter the workplace, the role of higher education in preparing students for careers, and the obligation businesses should uphold in that outcome. Needless to say, it was a conversation that reached no resolution and only served to raise complex issues that are likely being played out in many business owner' minds, employees' souls, and students' psyches.

Role of Education

Central to the discussion is the understanding the purpose of higher education institutions. Some people will align with the thought that the education system from the elementary grades through to the undergraduate years should be focused on developing the students' ability to reason, think, express him or herself via the written word, and expand their intellect as they develop good citizenship, respect for the values and morals of the country, etc. The preparation for a career or the need to act as a "feeder system" to commerce and industry is contrary to the mission of the educational institutions. With the exception of specifically designated Trade Schools or those careers that require very specific licensure and training, such as Physician, Engineer, Attorney, Accountant - most Liberal Arts schools or programs within larger institutions would sniff derisively at the notion of sacrificing the pursuit of knowledge for knowledge sake and replacing it with concrete career building skills.

On the other side of the discussion is the eventual employer complaining that the product being produced by the schools is not sufficient to meet the needs of the business. Students are not as well prepared for assuming management level jobs upon graduation and are often requiring training or remedial instruction, all at the expense of the business, to learn what was expected to have been mastered while in school. Many schools have recognized this deficit and have placed greater emphasis on ensuring certain fundamentals are covered successfully within classes and that graduates have basic skills for entering the workplace that extend beyond the facts regurgitated on a test comparing Plato to Socrates or Roosevelt to Truman. While there still remains an open debate as to what the appropriate focus should be within educational institutions, it is not exclusively a one-sided responsibility.

The Business Responsibility

The business owner sharing breakfast with me was quick to point out that while he has been disappointed with the caliber and quality of many of the graduates applying for jobs at his \$100 Million Dollar multi-national company; he also recognized that he has a responsibility to engage both the students and the administration of the local schools in order to correct the misalignment. To that end, he has done the following:

- Created an internship program to give students in their Senior year of school a chance to experience and gain exposure to the skills required to succeed in practice and not simply academically.

- Meets with the faculty and student organizations on campus to talk about issues as they relate to curriculum, class assignments, and requirements.

- Instituted a "shadow" program where students could follow a particular employee for a day that worked in an area of interest to the student in an effort to expose that student to the reality of the job and provide a mini-mentoring relationship between employee and student.

Not simply content to work passively with the schools to address the issue, the business owner also works with the University of San Diego as an adjunct Faculty member to conduct seminars and workshops for owners of Family Owned Businesses to help them transition from generation to generation, as well as working with non-family employees and management in their companies. Owning his own business and having hired both family and non-family members into his company, his voice is one of experience.

As I listened to this committed business owner tick off the actions he has taken to bridge the gap between school and work environments, I was struck by how few businesses ever take those steps. Sure, it is easy to complain about the mismatch between expectations and capabilities, but most business owners would rather curse the darkness than try to light a candle to help illuminate the path forward. Regardless of company size, there can almost always be an opportunity to work with educational institutions to improve the student's understanding, but also the business' functionality, capabilities, or performance.

Level of Commitment

One organization that works tirelessly to promote the blending of academic preparation with the practical know-how of business is the Students in Free Enterprise or SIFE (www.sife.org). Relying on donations and grants from private businesses as well as governmental funding, SIFE is committed to providing students with opportunities to learn first hand about:

1. Market Economics
2. Success Skills
3. Entrepreneurship
4. Financial Literacy
5. Business Ethics

Corporate advisory boards, comprised of small, large, for profit, and charitable organizations support the students with their time, energy, guidance, and mentorship to assist the students in learning how to transition from the classroom to the business floor. The experiences gained from this association certainly help build the strengths of the students participating, but they also serve to strengthen the bridge between business and academic organizations and is rewarding in its own right.

Having personally participated in evaluating presentations at competitions between teams representing their schools before, I can attest to the sense of affinity, pride, and dedication that the students, advisors, and others that support them feel with each team's presentation. The learning that occurs is tangible, but more importantly perhaps is the sense of confidence that students feel from participating in the endeavor. And, many a new hire was chosen on the strength of observing them in action versus peers. My breakfast companion ended the conversation by commenting how he has come to doubt much of the fodder on resumes, but he still recognizes talent when he sees it stacked up against others with his own eyes.

So, while not every lofty cerebral thing learned on the campuses of institutions of higher learning may be directly applicable to the practical world of business, but by working toward a common goal, business and education do not have to be polar opposites that never come together and share a successful outcome.

David Zahn is a serial entrepreneur and consultant to Fortune 100 businesses (www.zahnconsulting.com) as well as entrepreneurial startups (www.startupbuilder.com).

The opinions expressed are the author's and not necessarily those of connpost.com. Please direct comments to cdauber@ctpost.com.

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February 26, 2008

Diane Bell

Stowaway hops aboard rescue helicopter flight



Firefighter/paramedics never suspected they had a stowaway aboard their helicopter as they took a car-

accident victim from Otay Mesa to Sharp Memorial Hospital the other day.

When the chopper landed on the hospital's rooftop heliport, a somewhat dazed rabbit popped out of the tank that drops water

on fires and scampered away. It apparently had hopped aboard the open, empty tank at Montgomery Field, where the copter is stationed.

As soon as the accident victim, who had minor injuries, was taken care of, paramedics tried to capture their furry free-loader — with no luck. San Diego Fire Capt. Tom Stephenson hopes the bunny scurried to freedom through the parking

SEE **Diane Bell, B8**

► DIANE BELL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Snow chains, and swimsuits, needed in S.D.

structure below.

Despite the water bucket ride, he says there's no truth to the urban legend that a scuba diver once was unknowingly scooped out of the ocean and unwittingly dropped on a forest fire. The rumor, circulating since 1987, claims that the charred remains of a man in scuba gear were found in a tree after a California forest fire.

An opera note

With only two days to spare, San Diego Opera's Ian Campbell flew in a substitute to take the place of ailing opera diva Angela Gilbert in the "Mary Queen of Scots" opening performance this month. However, there was no time to remake Gilbert's costumes for the very petite Albanian substitute, Ermone-la Jaho. So numerous calls later, Campbell managed to solve the problem. He borrowed costumes used in N.Y. Metropolitan Opera's "Il Pirata," which were shipped to San Diego overnight.

Diane Bell's column appears

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Fax items to (619) 260-5009, call (619) 293-1518 or e-mail to diane.bell@uniontrib.com.

Cleaning up at Oscars

One University of San Diego student won't soon forget Sunday's Oscar ceremony. On a whim, sophomore Christina Printz, 20, entered a contest to create a Dove soap commercial. She wrote the ad, starred in it and filmed it, balancing her camera on a towel bar in her bathroom.

Christina's ad was among five semi-finalists featured in TV promos leading up to Oscar night. The contestants were honored at a party at the Beverly Hilton hotel when the top two ads were broadcast at the Oscars. Academy Awards viewers then selected their favorite in a live vote, and actress Amy Brenneman announced the winner.

Christina didn't win, but she had a fun-filled, expense-paid five-day trip to Los Angeles. "It was one of the best experiences of my life," she said by phone yesterday from Disneyland. "I hope my teachers forgive me," the English/communications major added. "I've missed some classes."



February 1, 2008

Choices abound

It is the sign of the times but there are other alternatives.

California Community Colleges offers parents and students great value for their money. Tuition is \$20 per unit. Students can apply for FAFSA to attend community colleges or either on their own or with assistance from their parents pay tuition and book costs out of their pocket. Students can now rent books for a semester at SWC. This helps to reduce paying for new or used books.

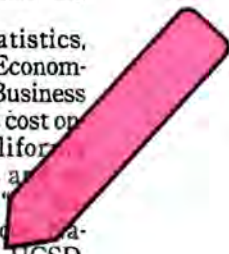
If a student right out of high school attended 2 years of Community College completing all required General Education courses and taking some of their major courses, they can reduce their higher education costs by

half compared to attending and paying tuition and book costs at a 4 year university (public and private) right out of high school. That student could still attend community college to continue taking courses that are required for their major (as long as those courses are accepted by 4 year university they are transferring to).

A good example, Statistics, Pre Calculus, Calculus, Economics (Macro and Micro), Business Law, etc. These courses cost only \$20 per unit at California Community Colleges as long as you pass with a C- at SU, Cal State San Marcos, Alliant International University, USD, UCSD, will accept these courses when a student is accepted and transfers into those respective schools.

As a Veteran who retired with 22 years of service in 1999, I did not receive GI Bill Benefits as a

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



LETTERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

result of Congress decision to retroactive GI Benefits to all Active Duty from 2000 on. I have attended SWC to complete both remaining General Education requirements and courses that applies to my desired major (International Business Management or Business Management). I've

paid tuition and book costs out of my own pocket.

I am now applying for FAFSA to attend Alliant International University classes at SWC and online to finish work on remaining core requirements for my Bachelors. If I am not approved for FAFSA, then I will have to complete my objective on a part time basis by returning back to work and taking evening and online courses and using my employer's tuition re-

imbursement benefit to pay for tuition costs.

Moral of the story, have a plan B and C ready to implement if plan A (four-year university) does not work out. California Community Colleges does offer great value for your money for those who want to attain a college degree.

ELROY KIHANO
Chula Vista

19 of 23 DOCUMENTS

Copley News Service

February 15, 2008 Friday 12:04 PM EST

A nun's life is a 'full-time God quest'

BYLINE: Sandi Dolbee

SECTION: TODAY'S SCENE

LENGTH: 797 words

The coffee pot was on. There were pastries and pamphlets and souvenir pens laid out on one table. All that was left for the four nuns to do was wait.

And wait.

No one came.

Three women were supposed to attend a recent informational retreat near San Diego for the Sisters of the Precious Blood, a small Catholic religious order based in Dayton, Ohio.

They had R.S.V.P.'ed for the event, a daylong, free program for women who wanted to learn more about life as a Catholic sister. It was to be an informal gathering, with prayer and reflection and visiting with the sisters. But the women didn't show.

It's happened before. Another time, four women said they would attend one of these exploration programs. But they didn't.

"It's a hard sell," says Sister Mary Yarger.

"Yeah, it really is," says Sister Katie Lett.

But the nuns say they weren't discouraged.

"If it's a call of God, you have to let God work on his time schedule, not ours," Yarger says.

The call is being heeded by fewer and fewer Catholic women. The numbers for the Sisters of the Precious Blood are emblematic of the U.S. trend: There are 196 in the order now, compared with about 900 in the 1960s; the median age of nuns in the order is about 75 today, compared with 37 in the 1960s.

The four nuns who visited pleasantly on folding chairs in the San Juan Diego Center at Mission San Antonio de Pala have more than 150 years combined in their order.

Yarger, a native of Pala, Calif., is 58 and teaches algebra at a Catholic high school in nearby Riverside. Lett, 76, attends Blessed Sacrament near San Diego State University and serves as a chaplain at the county jail in downtown San Diego. Sister Terry Maher, 52, works at a church in San Bernardino County. And Sister Carolyn Hoying, 65, is vocations director for the order (she came out from Dayton for the retreat).

Over the decades, they've witnessed many changes. Among them: the shedding of habits for civilian clothing and the fanning out into the greater community, often leaving behind traditional jobs such as teaching in parochial schools.

Another change is the declining numbers. The reasons for that, they say, have to do with society, family and image.

For one thing, joining a religious order isn't as appreciated as it used to be, the nuns say. Blame it on the fallout from the recent sexual abuse crisis or the reality of smaller families, which puts more pressure on the children to make their parents grandparents.

"It's not seen as a positive life choice," says Maher. Next to her, Hoying nods her head. "It used to be looked up to."

They also point out that over the years nuns have helped train lay people to take a more active part in parish life, which also may have diminished the need to go into full-time religious life. "I like to say to people that we did such a good job, we worked our way out of a job," Lett says, laughing.

Yarger offers a broader explanation. "I always compare everything to married life," she begins. "Tell me where the commitment is in married life? We're in a throwaway society, and commitment means nothing."

Hoying nods about that, too. She remembers speaking to a woman about religious vocations. When it got to the point of telling her it was a commitment for life, the woman paled. "For life?" she had asked, as if she had not heard right. Yes, for life.

As for these four women, they are happy with their vows and their commitment. Lett remembers being torn before taking her vows because she had a serious boyfriend. "When the bishop put the ring on my finger, I had a peace," she says.

Hoying knew what she wanted as a little girl. Yarger felt the call when she was 18. Maher was 25, after feeling the tug of God while attending the University of San Diego. "If God wants us, God's going to get us," she says.

They shake their heads when asked if the celibacy requirement is a stumbling block. "I don't think you could have what I would term divided attention," Maher says. She adds a few minutes later, "We get to do a full-time God quest. I like that."

They defend the wearing of civvies. They are dressed in pants, with sensible shoes and crosses hanging from their necks.

"I'm more accessible," says Maher, who was wearing a gray turtleneck under a button-up sweater. "They feel they can talk to me and approach me."

Besides, says Lett, "It's amazing how many people recognize you." She had on a white sweat shirt, with the words "Love, Faith, Peace, Joy" on it.

The nuns waiting in the empty room say they cannot get anxious about the future. Instead, they recount their works around the country - and in other parts of the world - to help people.

"Whether we go out of business or don't, I think we've done a good job," says Lett.

But, says Maher, "we're not going to give up."

Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.

LOAD-DATE: February 21, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

GRAPHIC: FULL-TIME GOD QUEST - Sister Terry Maher works on a table featuring a statue of Maria Anna Brunner, a Swiss woman who founded the Sisters of the Precious Blood in 1834. CNS Photo by John Gastaldo.

A NUN'S LIFE - At 76, Kate Lett serves as a chaplain at San Diego County Jail in downtown San Diego. As a young woman, she was torn before taking her vows because she had a boyfriend. CNS Photo by John Gastaldo.

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newswire

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February 10, 2008

FOR THEIR BENEFIT

For Their Benefit is a weekly listing of activities sponsored by nonprofit organizations to raise funds for programs that serve San Diegans.

Thursday

"Second Annual Puppy Love Party," benefiting **The San Diego Humane Society & SPCA**. 7 to 11 p.m. Thursday at The Witherby, 526 Market St., downtown. \$35-\$75. Information: buymelovebenefits.com or sdhunane.org or (760) 412-0055.

Feb. 24

"Celebration of Hope & Healing," benefiting **Survivors of Torture,**

International. 2 to 5 p.m. Feb. 24 at the **University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice**, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego. \$50, limited seating. (619) 278-2400 or notorture.org.

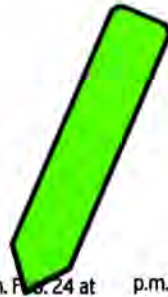
Second annual "A Night at the Oscars," benefiting **Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego County**. 5 to 9 p.m. Feb. 24 at The Witherby, 526 Market St., San Diego. \$30-\$35, cocktail attire and jackets required. ypcsd.com.

"Applause for a Cause," benefiting the **Women's Resource Center and community programs supported by San Luis Rey Rotary**. 5 to 10

p.m. Feb. 24 at the Sheraton Carlsbad Resort and Spa, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive, Carlsbad. \$75, semiformal, black tie optional. (760) 757-3500.

Benefit concert, featuring jazz and blues artists Earl Thomas and Amber Ojeda, benefiting the **North County Community Services Food Bank**. 7 p.m. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach. \$28. Information: (760) 707-4942.

Items for For Their Benefit should be submitted at least three weeks in advance and may be sent by e-mail: fortheirbenefit@uniontrib.com, or by fax to (619) 293-5093.





Friday, February 08, 2008

editor@sddt.com

http://www.sddt.com

Source Code: 20080208czj

A more efficient border in the works

By ANN CHIN, The Daily Transcript
Friday, February 8, 2008

Gathering recommendations to create a Border Master Plan was the objective of elected officials Friday in a series of panel discussions at the United States-Mexico Border Efficiency Conference at the University of San Diego.

About 120 federal, state and municipal leaders were invited to attend what the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's president described as a working meeting to identify problems and solutions related to the California-Baja California border.

"We do not need a lot of people, we need the right people," chamber President Ruben Barrales said of participants at the conference, which was organized by the chamber's Mexico Business Center and USD.

Over the course of four hours, panelists from the county and Mexico presented an overview of projects and studies on their respective ports of entries with the hopes of informing federal and Mexico City officials about the need for reducing border wait times.

Ports of entry discussed at the conference were Imperial County/Mexicali-Algodones; Tecate, Calif./Tecate, Baja California; Otay Mesa/Mesa de Otay; and San Ysidro/El Chaparral. According to the chamber, these border crossings are the busiest in the world, collectively.

These ports are in the midst of expanding, improving and conducting studies for long-term solutions. Short-term plans such as double stacking booths, extending hours and segmenting lanes were recommended to help alleviate delays more immediately.

A cross border terminal with Tijuana International Airport was also proposed at the conference to ease the growing number of travelers at Lindberg Field. The San Diego International Airport Authority projected the location to reach capacity between 2015 and 2022. The authority forecast a demand of 30 million annual passengers by 2030.

An airport border crossing would also help with border delays. In an Infrastructure Management Group cross-border market demand study, 42 percent of the people that fly to Mexico from Orange County drive to the Tijuana airport.

In another border study funded by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), it found every trip coming into the United States is worth on average almost \$169 and about \$190 going into Mexico.

Pedro Orso-Delgado, director of Caltrans, said the study also found a combined annual output lost from delays results in \$4.56 billion in California and \$2.2 billion of potential loss for Baja California.

Orso-Delgado stressed this is not just a local issue. In the same study, the country's potential loss is \$5.35 billion while \$3.25 billion was estimated for Mexico.

The average wait time at the border for 2007 was 45 minutes. According to Orso-Delgado, traffic delays and economic losses are currently expected to double over the next 10 years from last year's levels.

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez and Mexico's Secretary of the Economy Eduardo Sojo will present the results of the conference to President Bush and President Felipe Calderon this spring.

February 8, 2008

Border Efficiency Conference to be held at USD

By ANN CHIN
The Daily Transcript

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's Mexico Business Center will host the United States-Mexico Border Efficiency Conference on today at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice.

Under the direction of Mexico's Secretariat of Economy and the U.S. Department of Commerce, the conference will focus on how to make the California-Baja California border operate more efficiently.

According to the chamber, collectively the border crossings are the world's busiest and have damaged the regional economy.

The adverse impact from recent wait times exceeds \$4 billion per year across the region, according to estimates by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

An integrated program to reduce border wait times will stem from recommendations made by federal, state and municipal authorities at the conference. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez and Mexico's Secretary of the Economy Eduardo Sojo will present the results to President Bush and President Felipe Calderón this spring.

Speakers at the event include San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders, Tijuana Mayor Jorge Ramos and other regional government leaders. Participants from Washington, D.C.,

Conference —

Continued from Page 1A

include Cameron Cushman, U.S. Department of Commerce; Daniel Darrach, U.S. Department of State; Albert Bullock, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Susan Pepler, U.S. General Services Administration; and Jose Luis Paz, NAFTA Office, Embassy of Mexico.

ann.chin@sddt.com

Source Code: 20080207czj

See **Conference** on 10A

56 of 61 DOCUMENTS

The San Diego Union-Tribune

February 14, 2008 Thursday

Southwest High wins academic decathlon again

BYLINE: Chris Moran, STAFF WRITER

SECTION: LOCAL; Pg. B-3

LENGTH: 327 words

DATELINE: SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO -- Southwest High School, in the south San Diego neighborhood of Nestor, has continued its dominance of the county academic decathlon with its sixth straight championship.

The victory also extended the winning streak by South County high schools to nine years.

Event organizers announced the winners at a ceremony Tuesday night at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice Theater at the University of San Diego.

The Academy of Our Lady of Peace finished second and Fallbrook High School finished third.

Teams from 17 high schools competed Feb. 2 in 10 academic events through written tests, speeches, interviews and a buzz-in event called Super Quiz.

Southwest built on its streak with an almost entirely new team. Only senior Felisa Leonard, 17, was on last year's championship team. It was also the first year coaching a decathlon for Oliver Chico, 26, a rookie history teacher at Southwest. Chico had been a student of Ken Boulton, who coached the five previous championship teams, in the late 1990s.

Chico attributed the students' success to hard work.

"I think it's really just their determination to prove to everybody that they can do it," Chico said.

Chico said that despite the school's dynasty in the competition, each year the decathletes strive to dispel a negative perception of their school because of its high poverty and low test scores.

Southwest has produced stellar academic decathletes by putting them through a rigorous class schedule during the day and practice after school. The decathletes take two periods a day of competition preparation -- one for credit during the school day and another after school. They also all take Advanced Placement English together, and many of them take AP art history.

In addition to Felisa, Southwest's team features 16-year-old junior Norman Kollner; 17-year-old seniors Jose Diaz, Paula Martinez, Raymon Zuilan, Melanie Eclarino, Alicia Tingzon and Jayson Lagula; and 18-year-old senior Gail Salido.

LOAD-DATE: February 16, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

February 16, 2008

**February, Project Heart to Heart sponsored by
US Filipino Ugnayan Student Organization**

The FUSO, an Outstanding Organization Awardee, will host Project Heart to Heart on Saturday, Feb.23 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the University of San Diego, Serra Hall. The participants consist of high school and college students, young adult professionals, parents and grandparents. PROJECT HEART TO HEART is designed to bridge the generational and cultural gap between parents and their children, to enhance and to nurture their relationship. The workshops are highly interactive, personal, heartwarming, and dynamic! It is for FREE and the public is invited. For info call (858) 484-5524.

February 21, 2008

"The Story Drum: Taiko and Tales from Japan" Storyteller Katy Rydell pairs up with the all-female Japanese-American performance ensemble Shin3 for a program of Japanese performing arts including taiko, storytelling, traditional folk music and dance for Storytellers of San Diego. Performance takes place in Manchester Conference Center. Suitable for adults, children over 12. 619-298-6363. Saturday, February 23, 7:30 p.m.; \$10. USD: University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (USD)



Athletics

February 29, 2008

Busy weekend for local basketball

College basketball and prep basketball will have to coexist this weekend.

With the San Diego State and University of San Diego men's basketball teams both playing at home Saturday, the CIF San Diego Section boys and girls championships — to be played at Cox Arena — must contend with the Aztecs and Toreros.

A 7 p.m. tipoff for the



**JOHN
MAFFEI**

Aztecs-Colo-
rado State
game Satur-
day
means the
CIF will
play six ti-
tle games
today, be-
ginning at
9:30 a.m.
and finish-
ing with
the boys

Division I title game at 9 p.m. There are four prep games Saturday, starting at 8:30 a.m. The last game starts at 1:45 p.m. to accommodate the Aztecs.

Because of the odd prep schedule and a conflict with USD, Channel 4 will televise just four games today — the Division III girls game between Mount Miguel and Cathedral Catholic at 1:30 p.m.; the Division III boys game between La Jolla and University City at 3:30 p.m.; the Division I girls game between Poway and Bonita Vista at 7 p.m.; and the Division I boys game between El Camino and San Diego at 9 p.m.

Since Channel 4 will carry Saturday's Pepperdine-USD game at 6 p.m., there will be no TV of the day's four prep title contests.

"With our commitment to USD, it's just not possible for us to carry those Saturday prep games," said Dennis Morgigno, the Channel 4 station manager. "We just don't have the personnel to do multiple games from different sites on the same day.

"So we'll do the best we can on Friday."

John Kentera of XX Sports 1090 will be the analyst for all four games, working with Steve Quis on the boys games and Paula Bott on the girls.

Kentera will have a particularly busy weekend.

He has been in Arizona for his radio show this week, but will be at Cox Arena all day Friday. He'll fly back to Arizona early Saturday morning to call the Padres-Mariners game on 1090 with Jerry Coleman. He'll join Andy Masur on the radio Monday to call the Loyola Marymount-USD men's basketball game on 1090.

"I love working the prep games, but getting the chance to work with Jerry Coleman on an entire game broadcast is a lifetime opportunity," Kentera said. "As a kid, I'd listen to him on a little transistor radio I had hidden under my pillow.

"My grandfather used to come into my room and make sure I was covered up. I'd pretend I was sleeping, and he'd turn off the radio.

"He'd leave the room, and I'd turn the radio back on. I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to working with Jerry."

With Masur calling USD games and Ted Leitner working San Diego State men's basketball games on KOGO (600), the Padres' spring radio crew will be somewhat flexible. Mark Grant is scheduled to work some games with Coleman, and other partners may be added.

With Padres spring games generally at 12:05 p.m. on weekdays, Kentera will work a 7-10 p.m. shift Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week instead of his regular noon-3 p.m. slot. His last High School Scoreboard Show of the season airs a week from tonight at 10.

John Maffei's TV/Radio Column appears every Friday. He can be reached at (760) 740-3547 or jmaffei@nctimes.com. Comment at sports.nctimes.com.

February 26, 2008

Gaels get coveted WCC bye with win



By Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

MORAGA — USD's men's basketball team didn't do the right things before, or during last night's West Coast Conference showdown here with No. 25 Saint Mary's.

And as a result, the Toreros are the odd team out of the three-way fight for the top two spots in the conference's regular-season standings and consequent advantageous seedings for next week's WCC Tournament at the Jenny Craig Pavilion — a double bye into the Sunday semifinal round.

With a chance to stay in the mix, the Toreros played the first 4:38 of the game with three regular starters — Brandon Johnson, Gyno Pomare and Rob Jones — on the bench for an unspecified violation of team rules following Saturday night's victory over Santa Clara that clinched a no-worse-than third WCC regular season standing.

With seniors Tron Smith and Todd Golden combining for 25 points in their final game at McKeon Pavilion and Diamon Simpson counting his third straight double-double (15 points, 11 rebounds) and 13th of the season, Saint Mary's toughed out a 61-54 victory that clinched a No. 1 or No. 2 seed for the Tournament.

Saint Mary's (24-2, 11-1 WCC) plays at Gonzaga (22-6, 11-1) on Saturday in the game that will determine the league champion and No. 1 seed. USD (16-13, 9-3) closes the regular season with home games against Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount next Saturday and Monday.

USD coach Bill Grier said

Loss to Gaels takes USD out of top-two mix

the short-term benching of Pomare, Johnson and Jones was for "nothing more than a violation of team rules. I hope they learn from it. I hope the team learns from it."

Brandon Johnson called it a message to "stay home, keep to the basics and be better leaders."

In place of its three leading scorers, the Toreros' starting lineup had walk-on freshman Devin Ginty, freshman Clinton Houston, who had averaged 5.2 minutes per game in the previous 10 conference games; and redshirt sophomore forward Chris Lewis, making his second conference start and ninth of the season.

Johnson, Pomare and Jones went in at a clock stoppage with 15:22 to play and the Toreros trailing 7-2. Grier said he didn't have a time determined to hold the three out.

At full strength, USD hung with the Gaels, who finished the season 15-1 at home, for the first 28 minutes. Behind Smith (15 points) and Golden (10), Saint Mary's was able to build a four-point halftime lead to 14 with 8:16 remaining.

USD got to within 56-53 on a Lewis three-pointer with 28.3 seconds to play and was within 58-54 and had the ball following a turnover with 14.7 to play.

Brandon Johnson (15 points), missed a three-pointer that would have brought USD to within one, and Saint Mary's made 3-of-4 free throws in the closing seconds.

"I certainly felt we had our opportunities," Grier said. "We missed at least six point-blank shots that we should have made and then we missed (9-of-20) free throws.

"You can't do that against a team as talented as they are, especially on the road."

As the No. 3 seed, USD will commence play in the second round of the WCC Tournament a week from Saturday. Winning the tournament will require three wins in as many nights.

"For us there's a big difference between the No. 3 and No. 1 or No. 2 seeding," Grier conceded. "We don't have the depth the two teams above us have and now we have to win three nights in a row.

"But at least we have it on our court."

In last night's other WCC games, No. 24 Gonzaga kept pace with a 73-51 victory at Portland, and Santa Clara built a 28-point halftime lead and coasted past cold-shooting San Francisco 87-55.

Hank Wesch: (619) 293-1853;
hank.wesch@uniontrib.com

WCC

	Conference		Overall			
	W	L	Pct.	Pct.		
St. Mary's	11	1	.917	24	4	.857
Gonzaga	11	1	.917	22	6	.786
USD	9	3	.750	16	13	.552
Santa Clara	6	6	.500	14	13	.519
Pepperdine	4	8	.333	10	18	.357
USF	3	9	.250	7	20	.259
Portland	2	10	.167	8	20	.286
LMU	2	10	.167	5	23	.179

Yesterday's Results

Saint Mary's 61, USD 54
Santa Clara 87, San Francisco 55
Gonzaga 73, Portland 51

Saturday's Games

Pepperdine at USD, 6 p.m.
Saint Mary's at Gonzaga, 5 p.m.
Santa Clara at Portland, 7 p.m.
LMU at San Francisco, 7 p.m.

USD SUMMARY

Saint Mary's 61, USD 54

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	A	F	Pts
Lewis	17	2-5	3-4	0-4	0	3	8
Jackson	26	0-5	0-0	3-4	0	2	0
Houston	10	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	3	2
Ginty	17	0-1	0-0	0-1	1	2	0
T.Johnson	37	3-11	4-5	0-0	0	2	11
B.Johnson	34	4-14	4-9	1-4	3	4	15
Brown	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Pomare	34	7-13	0-2	4-8	2	1	14
Jones	23	2-8	0-0	5-7	0	5	4
Totals	200	19-58	11-20	14-33	6	23	54

Percentages: FG .328, FT .550. 3-Point Goals: 5-18, .278 (B. Johnson 3-8, Lewis 1-3, T. Johnson 1-6, Jackson 0-1). Team Rebounds: 4. Blocked Shots: 1 (Houston). Turnovers: 7 (B. Johnson 3, T. Johnson, Jackson, Brown). Steals: 6 (Pomare 2, B. Johnson 2, Jackson, Jones). Technicals: None.

SAINT MARY'S

	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	A	F	Pts
O'Leary	23	3-4	0-2	3-10	0	1	6
Simpson	37	6-10	3-4	0-11	2	2	15
Samhan	18	3-4	1-2	3-6	1	1	7
Mills	31	1-3	0-0	0-1	5	3	2
Golden	25	2-4	5-6	1-5	1	4	10
Hughes	19	0-2	3-4	0-0	3	4	3
Y.Smith	21	1-6	1-3	1-4	1	1	3
T.Smith	26	5-11	4-6	0-1	1	3	15
McConnell	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Totals	200	21-44	17-27	8-38	14	19	61

Percentages: FG .477, FT .630. 3-Point Goals: 2-9, .222 (Golden 1-3, T.Smith 1-3, Y.Smith 0-1, Mills 0-1, Hughes 0-1). Team Rebounds: 0. Blocked Shots: 6 (Simpson 3, Y.Smith, T.Smith, Samhan). Turnovers: 16 (Simpson 3, Golden 3, Mills 2, Hughes 2, T.Smith 2, Samhan 2, O'Leary). Steals: 5 (Mills 2, O'Leary, Golden, Hughes). Technical Fouts: None.

USD 19-3, 16-13
Saint Mary's 11-1, 24-6
26 28 - 54
30 31 - 61

A-3,500. Officials-Dick Cartmell, Michael Eggers, Thomas Wood.

February 26, 2008

Gaels gain revenge on Toreros

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tron Smith scored 15 points in his final home game, and No. 25 Saint Mary's avenged the only conference loss of its remarkable season with a 61-54 victory over the University of San Diego men's basketball team on Monday night at Moraga.

Diamon Simpson had 15 points and 11 rebounds, and he made two key plays in the final seconds as the Gaels (24-4, 11-1 West Coast Conference) survived another quiet game from star freshman Patty Mills, their leading scorer.

Todd Golden added 10 points for the Gaels, who will visit No. 24 Gonzaga — a 73-51 winner over Portland on Monday — this Saturday night for a showdown likely to decide the WCC regular-season championship.

Just two days after losing a BracketBuster home game to Kent State, Saint Mary's went nearly 8 minutes without a field goal down the stretch against the Toreros. But the Gaels played solid defense and got heady play from Simpson to improve to 7-1 in February.

Brandon Johnson scored 15 points and Gyno Pomare added 14 for the Toreros (16-

13, 9-3), who will head to the WCC tournament as the No. 3 seed. USD beat Saint Mary's at home 63-55 on Jan. 28, but couldn't take advantage of Mills' struggles and the Gaels' inability to score late.

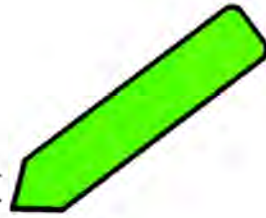


North County Times

February 26, 2008

Aztecs take 3-of-4

The San Diego State baseball team finished its four-game series with the University of San Diego by beating the Toreros 7-1 at USD's Cunningham Stadium. The Aztecs took 3-of-4 from the Toreros.



February 25, 2008

Can USD sweep at Saint Mary's?

By **Hank Wesch**, STAFF WRITER

SAN FRANCISCO — A month after notching only the third victory over a nationally ranked team in the school's Division I history, the USD men's basketball side takes a shot at doing it again tonight.

Same team, No. 23-ranked Saint Mary's, whom the Toreros felled 63-55 on Jan. 28.

Different venue, the 3,500-seat McKeon Pavilion in Moraga that will be packed to the rafters with Gaels fans saluting the playing of their final home game and chanting "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie" or "Oi, Oi, Oi" every time Australian import freshman star Patrick Mills scores.

"It's going to be a really, really tough game," USD head coach Bill Grier said. "They're a terrific team and they've done a great job of making that a difficult place to play.

"It's a smaller gym, their students are right on top of you, and it's extremely loud."

The Gaels (23-4, 10-1 WCC) were undefeated (14-0) at home, with a big victory over Oregon on the record, before incurring a 65-57 loss to Kent State Saturday night in a nonleague "Bracketbuster" matchup.

Junior forward Diamon Simpson had a 24-point, 15-rebound, four-assist night against Kent State but Mills was held to five points on 2-for-11 shooting and the Gaels went 3-for-16 on three-pointers.

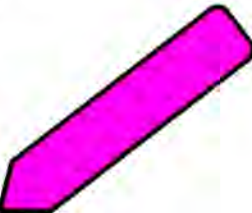
Mills came in leading the Gaels in scoring (15.2 ppg) and as the reigning WCC Player of the Week for averaging 20 per game in league victories over Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine the previous weekend. Saint Mary's was also the WCC's third-most prolific three-point shooting team, averaging better than eight three-pointers per game.

USD has its own concerns regarding leading scorer (15.3 ppg) Brandon Johnson, who went 2-for-15 through a loss to Gonzaga a week ago and 0-for-8 in the first 28 minutes of Saturday's 66-62 win at Santa Clara.

Johnson ended the game 4-for-15.

However, his six free throws in as many attempts, seven assists and five steals were major contributions to the victory, which assured USD will finish no worse than third in the regular-season standings and receive no worse than a No. 3 seeding, and first-round bye, for the WCC Tournament it will host starting March 7 at the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

"He definitely is in a shooting slump," Grier said. "It's kind of a fault of coaching that you want to help as much as you can to get him out of it but you wind up possibly giving too much input.



"It happens to the best of them. He needs to find his way out, and get his stroke back, and I'm sure he will."

Hank Wesch: (619) 293-1853;
hank.wesch@uniontrib.com

USD men at No. 23 Saint Mary's

Site/time: McKeon Pavilion, Moraga / 7 p.m. today

TV/radio: None / 1090-AM, 105.7-FM

Records: USD 16-12, 9-2 WCC; Saint Mary's 23-4, 10-1

Outlook: Battle for higher regular-season finish and WCC Tournament seeding. Saint Mary's suffered 65-57 home loss Saturday to nonleague Kent State.

North County Times

February 25, 2008



Toreros Report

... at No. 23 Saint Mary's
... 7:05 p.m. at McKeon
Pavilion, Moraga

Records: USD, 16-12, 9-2 West
Coast Conference; Saint Mary's
23-4, 10-1

Radio: 1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: The University of
San Diego clinched no worse
than a third-place finish in the
West Coast Conference regular-
season standings with Satur-
day's 66-62 win at Santa Clara.
The Toreros sit one game behind
Gonzaga (21-6, 10-1) and Saint
Mary's, who are tied for first. ...
USD beat Saint Mary's 63-55 on
Jan. 28 for only its third win over
a nationally-ranked team in pro-
gram history and its first at Jenny
Craig Pavilion. ... The Toreros
have received increased produc-
tion in recent games from a pair
of true freshmen. **Rob Jones**, a
6-foot-6 forward, led the Toreros
with 24 points against Santa
Clara and PG **Trumaine Johnson**
had 17 in the Toreros' 59-55
loss last week to Gonzaga.

— Tom Shanahan

February 24, 2008

USD fends off Broncos, stays in title chase

By **Hank Wesch**
STAFF WRITER

SANTA CLARA — "No worse than third" wasn't the battle cry of the USD men's basketball team going into last night's West Coast Conference game here against Santa Clara.

Toreros
66

Santa Clara
62

But it could have been.

The Toreros went in knowing that a victory would assure them of finishing no worse than third for the WCC regular season and no worse than a No. 3 seeding and opening-round bye in the WCC Tournament they'll host in two weeks.

USD got what it wanted, parlaying 24 points from Rob Jones, who led four Toreros in double-figure scoring, some smart defensive work and clutch late free-throw shooting into a 66-62 victory before 2,724 at the Leavey Center.

The Toreros (16-12, 9-2) thus opened up a four-game advantage on fourth-place Santa Clara (13-13, 5-6) with three games remaining in the regular season. USD faces No. 23 Saint Mary's tomorrow night in Moraga. Saint Mary's and Gonzaga both have only one loss in WCC play.

"We're fighting for something now," said Jones. "We knew that a win tonight would clinch third, but we're still fighting for first. You never know what might happen."

Jones, the San Francisco Bay Area Player of the Year last season at Riordan High, put on a show for what he estimated were a dozen or more immediate or extended family members who had made the short trip south.

"This is only the second time

my mom has seen me play in person (as a collegian)," Jones said. "My dad was at the San Francisco game (with her) and he came down to San Diego for one game."

"But I have a cousin who goes to school here, and I don't know how many people there were on my mom's side (in the crowd)."

Jones was a sizzling 8-for-9 from the field in scoring 16 points in the first half, opened the second half with a slam dunk that put the Toreros in front, and hit two free throws with 34 seconds remaining that helped keep the scrambling Broncos at bay.

USD, sixth in the eight-team conference in free throw shooting (68.3 percent) coming in, made 9-of-10 in the final 42.6 seconds to complete a home-and-home sweep of Santa Clara. USD edged the Broncos 53-51 in January at the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

The win took some of the sting from Monday's loss to Gonzaga, the Toreros' first home loss of the season in WCC play.

"It's a credit to these kids that they didn't dwell on the loss," USD coach Bill Grier said. "They've done a good job of staying focused after big wins. What we challenged them on this week was how do we respond after an emotional loss like that, on the road against a team that's really tough to play."

Santa Clara came in as the top-ranked three-point shooting team in the conference. Last night the Broncos went 9-for-19 from three-point range and USD was able to hold 6-10, 305-pound center John Bryant to a mortal 18 points and six rebounds. Bryant was coming off a 36-point, 15-rebound effort in Santa Clara's recent win over LMU.

USD took a 51-50 lead in what had been a game of momentum swings on a driving layup by Brandon Johnson (14 points; 7 assists, 5 steals) with 6:13 to play and held to it tenaciously.

Santa Clara had 20 turnovers, which the Toreros converted into 22 points and despite Bryant's presence, USD gained a 30-30 push on points in the paint thanks to Jones and Gyno Pomare (10 points, 8 rebounds).

Brandon Johnson's shooting struggles, which started with a 2-for-15 performance on Monday against Gonzaga, continued through most of the game. Johnson was 0-for-6 from the field in the first half and missed his first two attempts in the second as well.

He made two crucial scoring drives in the final six minutes and also went 6-for-6 from the free throw line in the final 2:27, however.

"I plead guilty, I'm in a shooting slump," Johnson said. "If I'm not shooting well, I have to do other things and try to create."

Pepperdine 72, LMU 63

Tyrone Shelley (Crawford High) had 17 points and 12 rebounds to lead host Pepperdine to victory over Loyola Marymount.

Rico Tucker (USDHS) and Ryan Holmes each added 15 points for Pepperdine (10-18, 4-8 West Coast Conference).

Holmes went 7-for-8 from the line in the final 2:30 to help the Waves to their third win in four games.

Marco Deric and Quentin Turner each scored 12 points for Loyola Marymount. LMU's leading scorer Orlando Johnson missed all nine shots he took and went scoreless for the first time this season.

USD SUMMARY

USD 66, Santa Clara 62

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	A	F	Pts
Pomare	33	2-5	6-9	1-8	1	3	10
Jones	39	10-12	4-4	1-4	1	2	24
Jackson	27	5-8	0-0	1-2	0	3	11
B.Johnson	35	4-15	6-6	0-4	7	3	14
T.Johnson	36	0-1	2-2	0-0	0	1	2
Ginty	10	1-1	0-0	0-1	1	0	3
Lewis	5	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Brown	7	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0
Houston	6	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
Lozeau	2	0-0	2-2	0-0	0	0	2
Totals	200	22-43	20-23	3-20	12	14	66

Percentages: FG .512, FT .870. 3-Point Goals: 2-7, .286 (Ginty 1-1, Jackson 1-2, Brown 0-1, B. Johnson 0-3). Team Rebounds: 0. Blocked Shots: 1 (Lewis). Turnovers: 13 (Jones 7, B.Johnson 3, T.Johnson, Pomare, Lewis). Steals: 9 (B. Johnson 5, Jones 2, Pomare 2). Technical Fouls: None.

SANTA CLARA

Min	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	A	F	Pts	
Dowdell	34	5-7	1-3	1-3	2	5	11
Henke	34	6-11	0-0	5-9	1	5	16
Bryant	29	8-17	2-4	3-6	1	3	18
C.Johnson	19	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	4	0
Angley	40	5-7	0-0	0-8	6	1	14
Higgins	5	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Gundersen	27	1-5	0-0	0-1	2	0	3
Mbanugo	7	0-0	0-0	2-2	1	1	0
Santos	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Latimer	5	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Totals	200	25-50	3-7	11-29	13	21	62

Percentages: FG .500, FT .429. 3-Point Goals: 9-19, .474 (Angley 4-5, Henke 4-6, Gundersen 1-5, Latimer 0-1, Dowdell 0-1, C.Johnson 0-1). Team Rebounds: 0. Blocked Shots: 1 (Bryant). Turnovers: 20 (Bryant 6, Dowdell 3, Mbanugo 2, C.Johnson 2, Angley 2, Higgins 2, Henke 2, Gundersen). Steals: 6 (Angley 3, C.Johnson, Latimer, Henke). Technical Fouls: None.

USD (9-2, 16-12)	29	37	66
Santa Clara (5-6, 13-13)	30	32	62

A-2,724. Officials—Milt Stowe; Brian Rood, Mike Peterson.

WCC

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Saint Mary's	10	1	.909	23	4	.852
Gonzaga	10	1	.909	21	6	.778
USD	9	2	.818	16	12	.571
Santa Clara	5	6	.455	13	13	.500
Pepperdine	4	8	.333	10	18	.357
USF	3	8	.273	7	19	.269
Portland	2	9	.182	8	19	.296
LMU	2	10	.167	5	23	.179

Yesterday's Results

USD 66, Santa Clara 62
Pepperdine 72, Loyola Marymount 63
Kent State 65, Saint Mary's 57

Tomorrow's Games

USD at Saint Mary's, 7:05 p.m.
San Francisco at Santa Clara, 7 p.m.
Gonzaga at Portland, 8 p.m.

February 24, 2008



Jones scores 24 to lead Toreros over Santa Clara

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA CLARA — Rob Jones scored a game-high 24 points to lead the University of San Diego to a 66-62 win over Santa Clara on Saturday night.

Brandon Johnson added 14 points and seven assists for USD (14-12, 9-2 West Coast Conference), which is in third place in the conference having won seven of its last eight games.

Santa Clara center John Bryant scored 18 points and Mitch Henke had 16 points and nine rebounds for the Broncos (13-13, 5-6), who have lost three of their last four games.

Santa Clara briefly took the lead on a 3-pointer by Henke with 6:44 to play. But the Broncos were held score-

less for over three minutes as the Toreros took a five point lead with 3:32 remaining.

Bryant finally scored for the Broncos with 3:27 to go on a hook jumper, trimming the lead to 55-52. Bryant added a layup with 35.6 seconds remaining to give him 1,000 points for his career.

But Jones made two free throws to make it a six point USD lead with 34 seconds remaining.

After a Henke 3-pointer, the Toreros tried to waste time off the clock before Johnson was fouled and made two more from the line with 10.6 seconds left. Santa Clara ran a fast break and Henke scored a layup with 3.3 left, pulling Santa Clara to within three, 65-62.

Gyno Pomare (El Camino High) was fouled on the inbounds pass, and made one free throw to seal the victory.

North County Times

February 23, 2008



Toreros Report

Today: at Santa Clara

Tipoff: 7:05 p.m. at the Valley Center in Santa Clara

Records: USD 15-10, 2 West Coast Conference; Santa Clara 13-12, 5-5

Radio: 1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: USD is 1½ games behind West Coast Conference co-leaders Saint Mary's (23-3, 10-1) and Gonzaga (21-6, 10-1) with four games remaining. Time may be short in the chase for the WCC regular-season title, but the difference between second and third place in the standings is the difference between a bye into the quarterfinal round of the WCC tournament and a bye into the semifinals. ... After today's visit to Santa Clara, the Toreros journey to Moraga to face 23rd-ranked Saint Mary's on Monday. The Toreros swept Santa Clara (53-51) and Saint Mary's (63-55) at home. Since then, Santa Clara extended Gonzaga to double-overtime before falling, but also lost 64-58 to lowly Pepperdine (9-18, 3-8). On Monday, Santa Clara beat Loyola Marymount 64-55 as 6-foot-10, 305-pound C **John Bryant** recorded his conference-leading 13th double-double of the year with 36 points and 15 rebounds. ... Against USD, Bryant scored 17 points with 13 rebounds, but the Toreros countered by slowing down the Broncos' guard play. Senior G **Brody Angley** (12.6 ppg) had only seven points and was 1-of-7 from 3-point range. ... USD is coming off a 59-55 loss to Gonzaga.

— Tom Shanahan

February 23, 2008

Motion offense in slo-mo for Grier's Toreros

Players still struggling
incorporating back

By Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

Bill Grier was hired last March, becoming the first men's basketball coach in USD history.

He arrived with the primary credential of having been the "defensive coordinator" for Gonzaga's string of upper-tier teams over the past eight years and with plans to run a "motion" offense.

That offense would be unfamiliar to the three returning starters and eight returning lettermen — none of them seniors — from last season's 18-14 team, not to mention the five freshmen who'd eventually join them on the final roster.

So maybe it shouldn't be a surprise that the Toreros' defense has been ahead of the offense through the course of a 15-12 overall and 8-2 West Coast Conference season that continues.

SEE **Toreros, D4**



Bill Grier's offense emphasizes the fastbreak, with the next option being a series of screens and cuts. Despite struggling offensively, USD is 8-2 in conference play. *Union-Tribune photo*

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Local Division I games today:

BYU at SDSU men

Site/time: Cox Arena/8 p.m.

TV/radio: CSTV/600-AM

Records: BYU 21-5, 10-1 MWC; SDSU 17-9, 7-5

Outlook: Mountain West leader BYU has won nine straight, its past seven by an average margin of 15.1 points. With four games remaining, SDSU still has a chance to post its third consecutive 20-win season and improve its seeding in advance of next month's conference tournament in Las Vegas.

USD men at Santa Clara

Site/time: Leavey Center/7 p.m.

TV/radio: None/1090-AM, 105.7-FM

Records: USD 15-12, 8-2 WCC; SCU 13-12, 5-5

Outlook: This figures to be a tough final trip for the Toreros, who are 4-1 away from home in WCC play. No. 23 Saint Mary's looms Monday.

Saint Mary's at USD women

Site/time: Jenny Craig Pavilion/2 p.m.

Webcast: www.usdtoreros.com

Records: Saint Mary's 13-14, 5-6 WCC; USD 14-11, 5-6

Outlook: Seniors Amanda Rego and Alcha Strane will be honored before this final home game of the regular season.

SDSU women at BYU

Site/time: Marriott Center/1 p.m.

Webcast: www.goaztecs.com

Records: SDSU 13-11, 4-8 MWC; BYU 12-11, 6-5

Outlook: The Aztecs go for a season sweep of the Cougars, who lost at Cox Arena, 62-39.

► TOREROS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Grier says Pomare needs to be more aggressive

ues tonight at Santa Clara.

At the start of the week, USD ranked 58th among 328 NCAA Division I teams in scoring defense, allowing 63.3 points per game, and 262nd in scoring offense (64.1 per game).

In the WCC, USD ranks sixth of eight teams, just ahead of Santa Clara, in scoring offense and third in scoring defense (Santa Clara ranks first).

When asked for a "motion-for-dummies" seminar on the new USD offense awhile ago, Grier laughed and said, "You mean on our lack of offense" before complying.

"First of all we want to push the ball," Grier said. "And if we don't have numbers on the transition break, then we want to run our secondary break, and then go into the motion.

"It's kind of similar to what Coach (Roy) Williams runs at North Carolina and ran before that at Kansas for years."

In the best-case primary break, the point guard gets position near the sideline and as near the midcourt line as possible to catch the outlet pass, turns and looks downcourt. The first "big" (front-line) player out has instructions to head straight for the basket and look for a pass. If that doesn't work out, the guard brings the ball up via the dribble and if a direct attack on the basket is thwarted by the defense, the secondary break is the next option.

The object is to get the ball to the inside player who has secured the best position for an entry pass or, if that's prevented, work it around the perimeter with the inside "big" (usually junior Gyno Pomare) getting a look, and if possible a pass, from every player who touches it.

Should a shot fail to materialize off the secondary break, the Toreros go into their motion offense.

Without getting overly technical, it's a series of screens and cuts off the screens with options for how the defense plays the movement — "switching" from one man to another or attempting to have each individual defender have to fight through the screens to stay with his man.

"In theory, any way they play you is wrong," Grier said. "Our guys are supposed to communicate, with hand signals and verbally, so the passer knows what they're doing when they come off the screen and can read what the defender is doing.

"And there's an inside and outside action off every screen."

The essence of the motion is one action leading to one reaction according to how each player "reads" the defense.

"That's where we've had some struggles," Grier said. "Motion is hard to teach and it's hard to learn. It just takes a lot of time because there are so many reads.

"I think the thing that we've struggled with is that they so much want to put the ball on the floor and start dribbling that they don't allow the action to happen and take place.

"Then, when they're dribbling and the guy comes open — uh, oh — in the time it takes to go from dribble to pass, he's not open."

^ In the midst of the action Pomare, an All-WCC first-team selection last season, is heavily engaged in both screening and maneuvering to get open for passes that create close-range chances.

Pomare ranks sixth in the conference in scoring average (13.9) and third in field goal percentage (54.0) but has had subpar performances in three of the past four games because of foul trouble and defensive pressure.

"Gyno has been getting better at the things we want him to do in there," Grier said. "But he's got to be more aggressive and do a better job of getting open and available for the entry pass."

USD's struggles before WCC play were largely attributed to a schedule heavy with strong and defense-oriented teams. The Toreros have fared better in WCC play, but have been held to 55 points or fewer three times.

"The thing about motion is that if you spread a team out with it, there's a lot more freedom for the player to go and make plays," Grier said. "There's been progress, but there have also been times when it looks like we've never done it at all before, not even in practice.

"What I've seen is game slippage, where we do it well in practice, but then try and go a little faster or get impatient because things aren't happening in the game like they were in practice."

At the season's outset, unfamiliarity with the offense was a handy explanation for USD's struggles. Not anymore.

"We've been running it for months now," Pomare said. "It's just a matter of executing it."

Said Grier: "It doesn't really matter what offense you run, if you execute it well, it's tough to stop and if you don't execute it, you're not going to score."

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February 22, 2008

**HIGH SCHOOL
BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS**

Talented transfer fits in at San Diego

By Steve Brand, STAFF WRITER

Kenny Roy thought he was going to have a pretty good basketball team before the school year started in September, but when the San Diego High coach saw Patrick McCollom practice, he was stunned.

McCollom was pretty impressed, too. He walked into the Cavers gym, took one look at 6-foot-11 sophomore Jeremy Tyler, and smiled.

Talk about a perfect fit.

Although San Diego had solid guards returning, a team can always use one of the best players in the state of Washington. And that same guard would soon learn the joy of playing on a team with a good big man.

"I couldn't believe my eyes," Roy said of the 6-foot-3 McCollom, who transferred over the summer after starring at Mount Tahoma High in Tacoma. "Now we went from people saying San Diego might be pretty good to really being good.

"You could see right away that even if he gets frustrated, he'll make a play. He never stops. He brings intensity like no one I've ever seen."

Although McCollom averaged better than 25 points and 12 rebounds a game for Mount Tahoma, he quickly discovered it was his senior leadership that was needed on a San Diego team which had lost one of the region's best players, Jamelle Horne, to graduation and the University of Arizona. Everything else was in place.

McCollom lives with his grandparents, who may spend their retirement in San Diego. After his transfer was processed by the San Diego Unified School District and the San Diego Section, McCollom was cleared to start the season. In recent weeks, his case was scrutinized by the district again, but he has remained eligible.

McCollom, 18, said basketball in Washington is more physical than in San Diego.

"There is more running," he said, "but the players here are bigger. The biggest guys on my teams were 6-6, 6-7 and that allows us to open things up a little. Here I can play inside and out, but in Washington I played more inside."

There are still reminders of that style.

Against Carlsbad in Tuesday's Division I playoff opener, the Lancers double- and triple-teamed Tyler, who was drawn out-



Patrick McCollom, who has attracted interest from USD and SDSU, will lead San Diego against Escondido in the Division I quarterfinals. Earnie Grafton / Union-Tribune

U-T BASKETBALL WEB SITE

Online: Check out the Union-Tribune's high school basketball Web site for standings, statistics, rosters and boxscores of this season's boys and girls games. Go to utprepsports.com/basketball

Online: High school sports schedules are available at utprepsports.com

side when the Cavers played man-to-man defense as well. Without Tyler inside, the rest of the Cavers had to pick up the slack.

McCollom started driving and hitting short jumpers, showing off his athleticism on one reverse layup following a steal that drew "oohs and aahs" from the home crowd.

He finished with 12 points and six re-

bounds in a 75-47 win that moved San Diego (19-4) to the quarterfinal game at 7 o'clock against Escondido (17-10).

"Having Jeremy has helped me a lot because we have that inside-outside game," said McCollom. "Being the No. 1 sophomore in the country has attracted scouts, and while they're watching him, they see me, too."

USD and SDSU have shown interest in McCollom as have Purdue and Long Beach State.

Before making a decision on next year, McCollom has clear goals for this season.

"I've never been to a state tournament or even a section championship, and that's our goal," he said with enthusiasm. "First we want to get there. Then we want to win it."

February 22, 2008

The mtn. vie makes one jealous of USD

If you enjoy men's college basketball and you live in this county, you were probably glued to the TV for Monday's West Coast Conference showdown between the University of San Diego and Gonzaga. At worst, you popped in to take a peak.

The game had several things going for it — foremost was first place in the conference. Beyond that, however, was the fact it was on ESPN2, a network most people have heard of, and more-importantly, a network most people get in their homes.

Sure the game tipped off at 8 p.m. — a nightmare for sportswriters on deadline and viewers on the East Coast.



**JOHN
MAFFEI**

But — win or lose — the fact of the matter is that the Toreros were on ESPN's "Big Monday".

The school's beautiful on-campus Jenny Craig Pavilion was jammed to capacity, making a positive impact on viewers.

And maybe, just maybe, the exposure will help USD coach Bill Grier when he knocks on a recruit's door and introduces himself and his program.

At least he can tell a prep player and his parents they can catch the Toreros on a network 85 million people in this country actually get.

Across town at San Diego State, Aztecs coach Steve Fisher has no such advantage.

Aztecs games are on the mtn. and CSTV — networks I get at home, but I only have three chairs and a couch and can't fit the entire county in the TV room. And I pay dearly for digital cable and the sports tier.

As much as I love sports, I probably wouldn't shell out the cash for those networks unless I could write it off on my taxes as a business expense because I write this column.

Next month, CSTV changes its name to CBS College Sports. Billy Packer — one of CBS' lead basketball analysts — has even been assigned to Wednesday's Tulsa-Memphis game on CSTV.

That doesn't change the fact CSTV is only available in about 25 million homes.

As far as I'm concerned you can put lipstick on a pig, put a dress on it and take it to the prom. But the bottom line

is that it's still a pig.

Four years ago, the Mountain West Conference, of which San Diego State is a member, signed off on an embarrassingly bad deal with CSTV and the mtn. The pitch was to get away from ESPN and 9 p.m. tipoffs so teams could play games when they wanted and not when the networks dictated.

What a crock.

It doesn't matter what network carries your games, when that network says jump, schools say how high.

If your network says you're playing at 8 a.m. or 8 p.m., that's when you play.

Thursday, Aztecs athletics director Jeff Schemmel an-

nounced that the mtn. had signed a deal with DirecTV.

"I'm so happy the distribution of (the mtn.) network will be nationwide on DirecTV," Schemmel said.

For the record, Schemmel had nothing to do with the horrendous TV position SDSU and the Mountain West are in.

And I doubt he thinks this is a great deal.

The DirecTV deal is a step in the right direction.

It gives the conference some TV exposure in the Dallas-Fort Worth area where Texas Christian is located. It also expands the station's presence in Utah, home of Brigham Young and the University of Utah.

Still, I have a hard time believing that the 16 million or so families across the country with DirecTV are jumping up and down with joy over this deal.

And if you want DirecTV and don't have it, it will cost \$300 or more.

The bottom line here is that no matter what the mtn. and CSTV/CBS College Sports Network calls itself, being on ESPN is better. So USD is the clear winner over San Diego State.

Staff writer John Maffei's TV/Radio Column appears every Friday. He can be reached at (760) 740-3547 or jmaffei@nctimes.com. Comment at sports.nctimes.com.



February 21, 2008

Toreros fall to Gonzaga 59-55

Chuck Karaszia

The USD Toreros hosted the formidable Gonzaga Bulldogs (21-6, 10-1 WCC) in a packed house of 5,100 at the Jenny Craig Pavilion on the campus of USD in an exciting and entertaining basketball game that went down to the wire.

Toreros junior stars Gyno Pomare and Brandon Johnson had an off-night shooting going 4-for-25 from the field, but San Diego got scoring from promising freshman point guard Trumaine Johnson (17 points) and junior guard Danny Brown (11 points).

Their three-point efforts kept USD in the game after trailing 54-46 with two minutes left. A backdoor reverse lay-up by Bulldog junior guard Matt Bouldin iced the game with 26-seconds left, giving Gonzaga their 13'th straight victory over the Toreros.

"We had some good looks at the rim and perimeter. It just wouldn't go down. It's disappointing because you have some good looks. If we knock one or two down, it's a different story. We weren't crisp enough offensively tonight. It's unfortunate as hard as we battled," said the former Gonzaga longtime assistant, Toreros Head Coach Bill Grier.

But it was the USD matador defense that stepped up all evening limiting the high scoring Bulldogs to 20-points off their season average, getting in the passing lanes with 8-steals, swatting away 7 blocked shots.

"Defensively we did some

really good things," said Grier. "But we also did a couple of crazy things. We are not a denial team. We got beat on four backdoors. That's just them trying to play really hard and we certainly can't fault their effort. They just kept fighting, scratching and clawing and got it to 2 (points). The backdoor Bouldin job was huge.

The game was won and lost on the free throw line with the USD making only 50 percent of 14 charity stripe shots, while the Bulldogs made 16-of-24.

"In the first half we were able to spread them out get to the line but we didn't hit our free throws. It's a free throw. You have to step up and make those" said the first year head coach.

USD was out rebounded 41-34 and allowed Gonzaga way too many second chances for points.

Promising is the recent play of USD freshman Trumaine Johnson.

Lighting fast and dangerously deceptive Trumaine Johnson has excellent ball handling and passing skills. This is not to take away from the point guard's excellent shooting abilities, especially from three-point land (5-for-8 in the game).

Grier complimented the young player saying, "He had a really good weekend. He's been working harder on his balance on his stroke. They left him wide open and he stepped up and made the first one (three-pointer) and created some confidence off that.

Referencing the home crowd at Jenny Craig Monday, Toreros Head Coach Bill Grier said, "The great thing about being here was the environment. It was awesome to see our student turnout. That is what college basketball is supposed to be. It's what we want to see here every game. People were getting into the game."

Gonzaga is tied with St. Mary for first (10-1), and the Toreros are third at (9-2) in the WCC conference.

The Toreros face a challenging two-game road trip at Santa Clara this Saturday, then at co-conference leader St. Mary's, before winding up the season against Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount at home.



USD Toreros playoff bound. Photo by Chuck Karaszia

February 21, 2008

▶ HEARD ON UTSTREET.COM



Our post on school spirit at USD's b-ball match with Gonzaga has the campus listening:

From USD guy: Stunning ... the students are coming out to the Gonzaga game. Is this article for real? Any tool can get thousands of students to the Gonzaga game. Could it be the team has won 7 games in a row? These guys might have something rolling, what about the crickets during intercession four weeks ago? Come on now.

From USD student: I don't know why USD hasn't clued in sooner. Alcohol + sports = the winning combination. Great article, and good to see the stands getting packed!

February 21, 2008

Christian High junior commits to Teros

Christian High junior center Vander Joaquim has made an oral commitment to play basketball for USD starting with the 2009-2010 season.

The 6-foot-8, 17-year-old Joaquim, a native of Angola, enrolled at Christian High in El Cajon last summer and has averaged 20.8 points for the 19-8 Patriots.

Joaquim, who played for the Angolan national team, was guided to the United States and to Christian High by an uncle in Brazil who had played college basketball at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas.

"Mostly, my parents wanted a better lifestyle for me in

USA," Joaquim told the *San-Tribune* in a January story.

Joaquim and his uncle found Christian on the Internet and Joaquim enrolled there last summer. Christian is affiliated with Shadow Mountain Church in El Cajon, which is sponsoring his stay and made arrangements for him to live with church member Rubens Ferreira.

"I think at the next level he'll be a No. 3 (small forward)," Christian coach Kelvin Starr said.

An oral commitment is nonbinding and not recognized by the NCAA National Letter of Intent program.

— HANK WESCH

February 19, 2008

Gonzaga strikes again

Bulldogs grab early lead in Slim Gym, won't let go

Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

USD got the kind of game it wanted, before the kind of home crowd it wanted, and lost to Gonzaga anyway last night.

In a defensive slugfest where baskets came about as easily as answers to an astrophysics test, perennial West Coast Conference power Gonzaga defeated USD for the 13th straight time, 59-55 before a sellout 5,100 at the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

"The tempo was really in our favor," said USD coach Bill Grier. "We fought really well at the defensive end, and we had some good looks on offense, and we missed some free throws.

"Against a team like that, you have

AZTECS MEN AT WYOMING

When: 6 p.m. today

TV/radio: the mtn./600-AM

Records: SDSU 16-9, 6-5 MWC; Wyoming 10-14, 3-8

Inside: Aztecs plan to go with new guard tandem of D.J. Gay and Matt Thomas against Wyoming. **D5**

to take advantage of those, but you can't fault our effort."

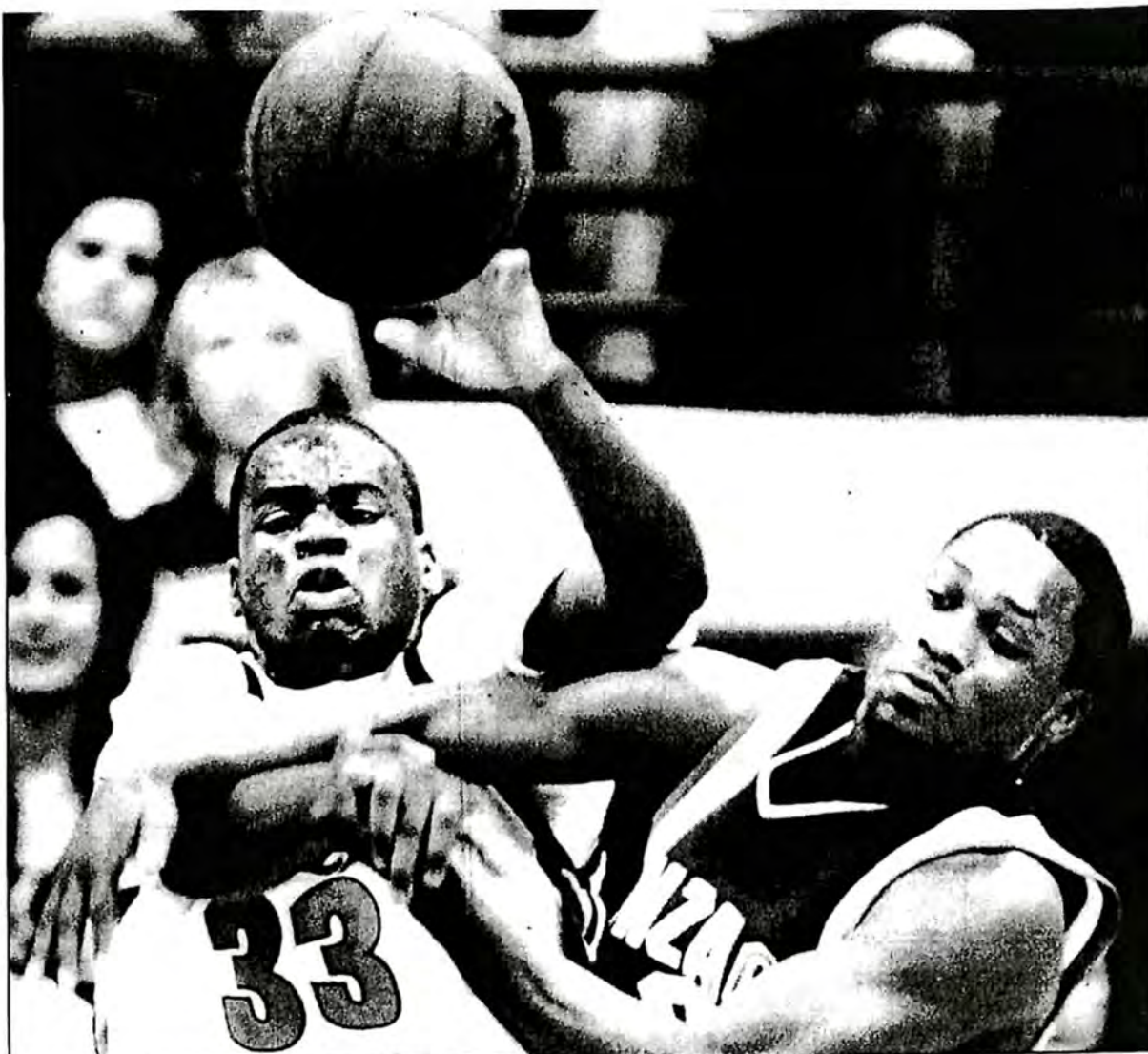
The win kept Gonzaga (21-6, 10-1 WCC) tied with Saint Mary's for the conference lead and dropped USD to 1 1/2 games off the pace. It was the first "service break" victory on the road in four games involving USD, Gonzaga and Saint Mary's.

Gonzaga sophomore guard Matt Bouldin managed to get to his 13-point scoring average with some last-minute heroics, including a back-door reverse layup with 29 seconds left that gave the Zags a 56-52 advantage they were able to protect the rest of the way.

USD saw its junior 1-2 punch of Brandon Johnson and Gyno Pomare more than neutralized. Johnson was 2-for-15 overall from the field and 2-for-9 on three-pointers in scoring eight points, Pomare 1-for-5 for four points.

But the Toreros (15-12, 8-2) got unexpected scoring production from freshman point guard Trumaine Johnson (17 points) and Danny

SEE Toreros, D5



USD's Clinton Houston (33) struggles against Gonzaga's Jeremy Pargo. *Sean M. Haffey / Union-Tribune*

► TOREROS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Three-pointers keep game close at end

Brown (11) to apply late pressure on a Zags group that handled it well.

Trailing 54-46 with under two minutes to play, USD got back-to-back three-pointers from Trumaine Johnson and Brown to get within 56-52 with 58.4 seconds to go before Bouldin went back-door on Brown for the crusher.

The Zags admitted later, it was in fact a broken play that was designed to be a pick-and-roll with freshman Austin Daye and point guard Jeremy Pargo.

"We just had to improvise a little bit," said Gonzaga coach Mark Few.

"That was a tough nail in the coffin," said Grier.

The USD student section in the sellout crowd was larger and more enthusiastic than any time in recent memory. Undoubtedly an overall help, but almost damaging to the Toreros' cause.

With USD trailing 41-36 and just under nine minutes to play, referee Dave Libby called time and asked Grier to address the crowd and request it to refrain from throwing things on the court, which Grier did. A minute or so later, Libby assessed a technical to the crowd.

Gonzaga's Steven Gray missed both of the technical foul shots, however.

Trumaine Johnson, who had hit 3-of-18 three-point shots before last night, went 5-for-8 from behind the arc. Brown, who was 14-for-41 went 3-for-6 in keeping the Toreros in the game.

"They were keying on Brandon and they just left me wide open," Trumaine Johnson said.

Gonzaga never trailed and led

25-20 at the half. The difference was that the Zags were better on the boards and at the free throw line.

Gonzaga outrebounded USD 25-16 in the first half, and made 7-of-8 free throws while the Toreros missed 7-of-12 free throw attempts. Those key areas held true for the game as well. Gonzaga outrebounded USD 41-34,

"This loss isn't going to define our season."

BILL GRIER,

USD coach

held the Toreros to 33.9 percent from the field. The Zags made 16-of-24 free throws, USD 7-of-14 for the game.

"Like I told the guys afterwards, the Kentucky win didn't define our season, and this loss isn't going to define our season," Grier said.

Other WCC games

Patrick Mills scored 18 points, Todd Golden added 15 and 10 assists, and No. 23 Saint Mary's hit a school record 17 three-pointers in a 100-64 win at Pepperdine. The Gaels went 17-for-29 from beyond the arc.

Saint Mary's used a 19-2 run in the first half to put the game away. The Gaels led by 30 at the half and never looked back. Saint Mary's hit 10 three-pointers in the first half and the Waves were 0-for-10.

• John Bryant scored a career-high 36 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead Santa Clara to a 66-46 victory over Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles. Bryant scored 13 consecutive points in a nearly four-minute stretch and accounted for 23 of his team's 34 second-half points.

• In the only conference game won by the home team, Danny Cavic had a career-high 25 points as San Francisco broke a four-game losing streak with a 73-60 win over Portland. USF coach Eddie Sutton won his 801st career game.

WCC

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Saint Mary's	10	1	.909	23	3	.885
Gonzaga	10	1	.909	21	6	.778
USD	8	2	.800	15	12	.556
Santa Clara	5	5	.500	13	12	.520
Pepperdine	3	8	.273	9	18	.333
USF	3	8	.273	7	19	.269
Portland	2	9	.182	8	19	.296
LMU	2	9	.182	5	22	.185

Yesterday's Results

Gonzaga 59, USD 55

Saint Mary's 100, Pepperdine 64

San Francisco 73, Portland 60

Santa Clara 66, Loyola Marymount 46

Saturday's Games

USD at Santa Clara, 7 p.m.

Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount, 1

Kent St. at Saint Mary's, 8:59 p.m.

SUMMARY

Gonzaga 59, USD 55

GONZAGA	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Pendergraft	29	3-6	2-2	2-5	0	3	10
Sacre	2	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Pargo	37	3-11	0-2	0-5	5	0	6
Bouldin	40	4-10	4-6	0-2	4	2	13
Gray	22	1-4	2-4	0-2	0	3	4
Daye	16	3-4	2-2	0-5	1	1	8
Gurganious	3	0-1	0-0	3-3	0	1	0
Downs	15	2-4	0-0	0-1	1	2	6
Kuso	23	0-1	5-6	0-5	0	3	5
Heytvelt	13	3-5	1-2	2-6	1	4	7
Totals	200	19-47	16-24	11-41	12	20	59

Percentages: FG .404, FT .667, 3-Point Goals: 5-15, .333 (Pendergraft 2-3, Downs 2-4, Bouldin 1-4, Pargo 0-1, Gray 0-1, Daye 0-1, Heytvelt 0-1). Team Rebounds: 6. Blocked Shots: 6 (Kuso 6). Turnovers: 17 (Bouldin 4, Kuso 3, Pargo 3, Daye 2, Gray, Gurganious, Heytvelt, Pendergraft, Downs). Steals: 6 (Pargo 2, Heytvelt, Daye, Kuso, Pendergraft). Technical Fouls: None.

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Jones	8	1-3	0-2	2-6	2	4	2
Jackson	35	3-9	1-2	1-4	4	3	7
Pomare	27	1-5	2-2	2-9	1	3	4
B.Johnson	39	2-15	2-5	1-3	3	4	8
T.Johnson	34	6-14	0-0	0-2	1	1	17
Lewis	27	0-1	2-3	0-3	0	4	2
Brown	17	4-7	0-0	0-1	0	1	11
Houston	13	2-2	0-0	2-3	0	1	4
Totals	200	19-56	7-14	11-34	11	21	55

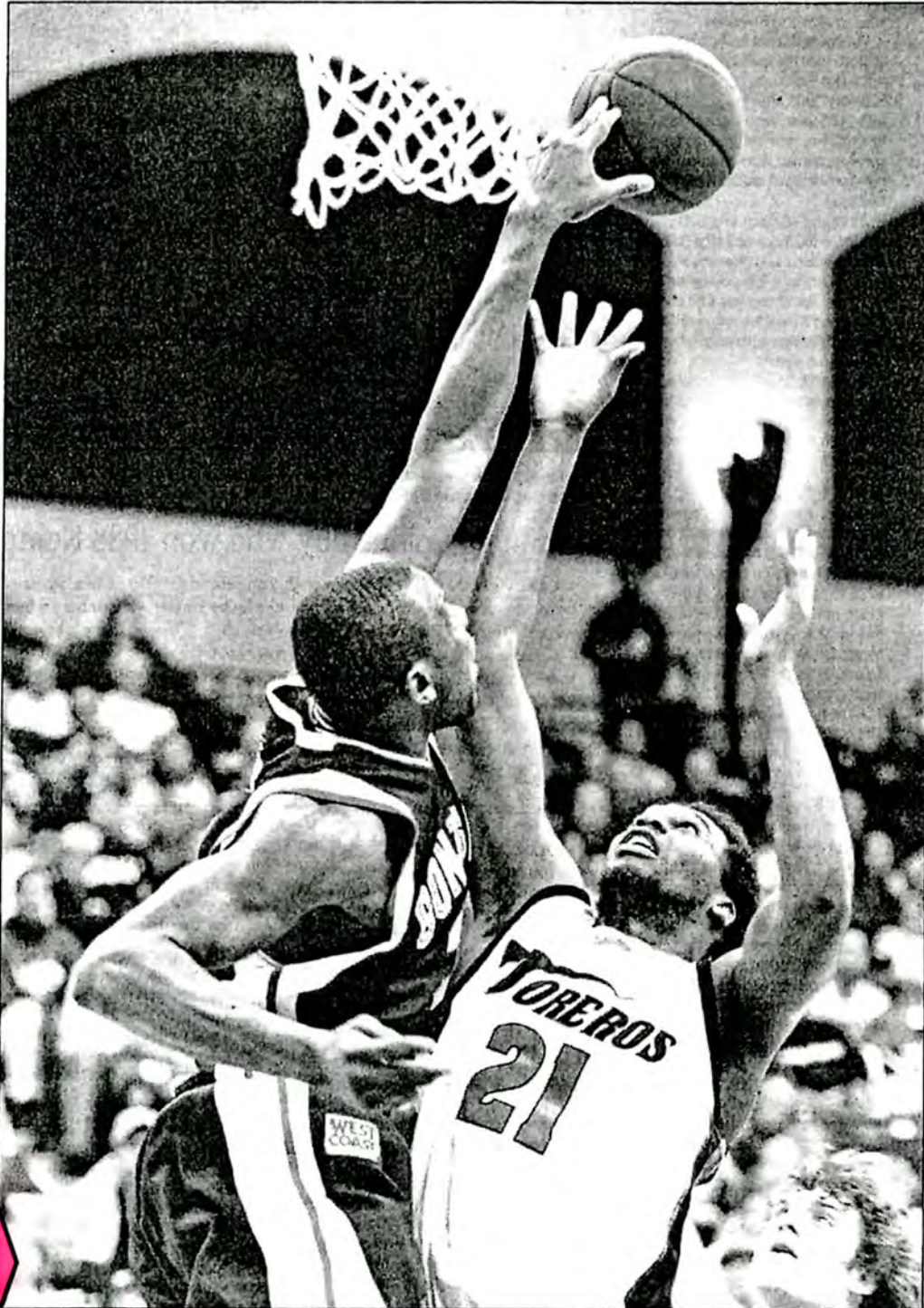
Percentages: FG .339, FT .500, 3-Point Goals: 10-24, .417 (T.Johnson 5-8, Brown 3-6, B.Johnson 2-9, Lewis 0-1). Team Rebounds: 3. Blocked Shots: 7 (Pomare 4, Houston 2, Jackson). Turnovers: 10 (Jackson 3, B.Johnson 2, T.Johnson 2, Houston, Pomare, Lewis). Steals: 8 (B.Johnson 3, Jackson 3, Jones, Pomare). Technical Fouls: None.

Gonzaga (10-1, 21-9)	25	34	59
USD (8-2, 15-12)	20	35	55

A-5, 100. Officials-David Libbey, Bruce Hicks, Scott Harris.

February 19, 2008

GONZAGA 59  |  TOREROS 55



USD's Gyno Pomare has shot rejected by Gonzaga's Abdullahi Kuso, who had six blocks. *Sean M. Haffey/Union-Tribune*

February 19, 2008

Battle-tested Gonzaga weathers USD

TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

SAN DIEGO — The University of San Diego's Jenny Craig Pavilion was sold out, the student section overflowed to six sections instead of the usual two and the game went down to the final minute.

But while it may have been something new for USD to be playing for first place in the West Coast Conference in mid-February, it



**Gonzaga 59,
USD 55**

Up next

USD at Santa Clara,
7 p.m. Saturday

was nothing unusual for Gonzaga.

The Bulldogs, veterans of nine straight NCAA tournaments,

overcame the hostile environment and USD's defense to beat the Toreros 59-55 Monday night before 5,100 fans and an ESPN2 national

television audience.

"We knew it would be tough, and I'm proud of our guys for the way they withstood all the rallies and adversity that San Diego brought at us," Gonzaga coach Mark Few said. "They had guys making 3s that hadn't made 3s all year."

Gonzaga (21-6, 10-1 WCC) and 23rd-ranked Saint Mary's (23-3, 10-1 WCC), which beat Pepperdine 100-64, remained tied for first place in the WCC.

The loss dropped USD to 15-12 overall and 8-2 in the WCC, with both conference losses to Gonzaga.

The Toreros have four WCC games remaining before the conference tournament, with an automatic NCAA tournament berth at stake, is staged here March 7-10.

"I thought the tempo was in our favor, and I thought we fought hard at the defensive end," said first-year coach Bill Grier, who spent 16 years as a

Gonzaga assistant. "We had good looks from the perimeter and on drives, but we didn't knock them down."

With USD junior point guard Brandon Johnson hitting only 2-of-15 shots for

➤ USD, C-6

USD guard Brandon Johnson has his layup denied by Gonzaga's David Pendergraft.

ROBERT BENSON
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES



➤ USD

Continued from C-1

eight points and the Toreros' guards struggling to get the ball inside to junior forward/center Gyno Pomare (four points, nine rebounds), USD had to search elsewhere for offense.

Gonzaga appeared to have put the Toreros away with a 52-43 lead with 3 minutes, 29 seconds left in the game, but USD rallied with 3-point field goals on consecutive possessions for one push.

Junior Danny Brown, a seldom-used reserve guard, sandwiched two 3-pointers around a 3 by true freshman point guard Trumaine Johnson to trim Gonzaga's lead to 54-52 with 58 seconds to play.

USD needed another stop, but Gonzaga point guard Jeremy Pargo ran the shot clock down before hitting Matt Bouldin on a backdoor pass under the basket for a re-

verse layup and 56-52 lead with 29 seconds remaining.

Bouldin led the Bulldogs with 13 points. David Pendergraft added 10 as eight Gonzaga players scored.

Trumaine Johnson led the Toreros with 17 points, including hitting 5-of-8 3-pointers. Brown was the only other USD player in double figures, scoring 11 points thanks to a 3-of-6 showing on 3-pointers.

"It shows some growth in our team," said Trumaine Johnson. "At the beginning of the season, I don't think we would have had the confidence to do that. But now we have people ready to step up."

USD also was hurt by early fouls on Pomare and freshman forward Rob Jones. Neither player scored in the first half, when Pomare played only 13 minutes and Jones just three.

Pomare attempted only five shots in the game, as the Toreros struggled to get the ball inside against Gonzaga's taller lineup.

February 18, 2008

Grier gets to measure squad vs. standard

USD coach's mentor, Gonzaga come calling

By Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

The Gonzaga men's basketball team that faces USD tonight does not possess a Top 10, or even Top 25, national ranking as has often been the case in recent years.

Despite already achieving the 20-win mark (20-6) for the 11th year in a row, the Zags have seen Saint Mary's, which dealt Gonzaga its lone West Coast Conference defeat, and upstart USD steal some of the limelight.

But Gonzaga is still Gonzaga. Still the one USD rival that can sell out the Jenny Craig Pavilion in advance of game day. Still the team that the Toreros have to beat — tonight, possibly again next month when USD hosts the WCC Tournament or most likely both times — in order to earn a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

"Taking nothing away from Saint Mary's, which I think is a very, very good basketball team, I think Gonzaga has the best overall talent in the league," USD coach Bill Grier said.

He ought to know. Grier spent the past 16 years as a Gonzaga assistant and had a major role in the recruitment and/or development of the talent to which he refers.

Grier has often heard comments from USD followers in the 11 months since his hiring that his insider's knowledge of

► TOREROS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Even unranked, Gonzaga figures as team to beat

everything Zaggy should bode extremely well for the Toreros whenever the teams play.

"You may know what the heck they're running, but you've still got to stop it," Grier said after USD's seventh straight win, Saturday over Portland. "We're going to have to play our best in order to have a chance."

Tonight's is the second head-to-head confrontation between Grier and his close friend, Gonzaga coach Mark Few. Gonzaga jumped to a 15-0 lead in the first five minutes and went on to an 80-70 victory when the teams met Jan. 19 in Spokane, Wash.

The Toreros are unbeaten since.

"San Diego is playing really well right now," Few said. "They kind of got on a roll starting the second half of our game in Spokane and they've sustained it very well."

Few said he is "not at all" surprised by what his long-time right-hand man, Grier, has been able to accomplish in his first year at USD.

"He's really good at what he does," Few said. "And he went into a good situation. If you're taking over a head coaching job it's kind of nice to have two of the top players in the conference (Brandon Johnson and Gyno Pomare) coming back. And if you could choose the two positions you'd want them to play, it would be point guard

and center.

"It's a shame they didn't do better (than 7-10) in preconference, but that's because it took awhile for everything to come together for them."

Expectations upon Grier's hiring were that the USD basketball system under Grier would be the spitting image of Gonzaga under Few. And Few says it is, to a point.

"It's pretty similar, but we've been teasing him about going over to the dark side and playing those games where they only score in the 50s and 60s," Few said. "That's not Gonzaga basketball."

Grier also came to USD with the label of the "defensive coordinator" for Zags teams that have qualified for the NCAA Tournament the past nine years in a row. Accurate, Few said, but only to a point.

"We've always divvied up the coaching responsibilities as we saw fit," Few said. "That thing (defensive coordinator tag) took on a life of its own after it showed up in the media guide one year. He's very balanced in his ability to coach offense or defense."

And regarding the unranked but never-to-be-overlooked 2007-08 Zags:

"I don't know of many teams that could have gone through a rash of injuries like this one — two starters (Josh Heytvelt, Steven Gray) out for the first 12 games — and done as well as this group has," Few said.

"It's a different Gonzaga team. There are long stretches of games where we have two true freshmen on the floor and shorter stretches where we have three."

It's a Gonzaga team without

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Local Division I game today:

USD men vs. Gonzaga

Site/time: Jenny Craig Pavilion / 8 p.m.

TV/radio: ESPN2 / 1090-AM, 105.7-FM

Records: USD 15-11, 8-1 WCC; Gonzaga 20-6, 9-1

Outlook: USD has won seven straight since an 80-70 loss to the Zags in Spokane on Jan. 19. Gonzaga has won the past 12 games in the series, dating to 2003. The game is a sellout. USD officials anticipate the Missions Garage closest to the JCP will be filled by 7, and advise that for later arrivals there will be trams to take fans from the west parking garage, accessed off Linda Vista Road at the west entrance to campus.

an Adam Morrison-type scorer, but one with seven players averaging between eight and 13 points. A team without Casey Calvary- or J.P. Batista-type muscle inside but eight players averaging 3.2 to 4.9 rebounds.

A team led by 6-foot-5 sophomore guard Matt Bouldin (13 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 2.84 apg), possibly the best all-around player in the conference.

That it isn't Top 10- or even Top 25-ranked is of no concern to Few.

"There are high expectations every year here and we try to get guys to not take the burden of those expectations too personally," Few said. "For the most part, this group has been very good about that and I'm proud of them."

Hank Wesch: (619) 293-1853; hank.wesch@uniontrib.com

SEE **Toreros, D3**

USD MEN VS. GONZAGA

Where: Jenny Craig Pavilion

When: 8 p.m. today

TV/radio: ESPN2/1090-AM, 105.7-FM

Records: USD 15-11, 8-1 WCC; Gonzaga 20-6, 9-1

February 17, 2008



USD coach
Bill Grier

Friends link these Few and far between



Up next

- Who: Gonzaga at USD
- When: 8 tonight
- TV: ESPN2
- Radio: 105.7 FM, 1090 AM
- Inside: Wake Forest knocks off No. 2 Duke, C-4

■ Grier readies USD to face his friend and mentor

TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

SAN DIEGO — Mark Few and Bill Grier, friends and coaching colleagues at Gonzaga University for 16 years, were back on the same basketball court late Sunday afternoon.

But it was only for a moment before their jobs forced them to head separate ways.

They're preparing to face each other tonight when the University of San Diego hosts Gonzaga in a game that could decide first place in the West Coast Conference.

Grier, in his first season as USD's head coach after 16 years at Gonzaga, was wrapping up practice at Jenny Craig Pavilion as Few arrived with his team for a workout.

"It's not fun," Few said.

"You'd rather play guys you don't like."

USD is enjoying its best start in WCC play since the 1986-87 season, and Grier's quick success has forced a showdown with Gonzaga sooner than expected. Tonight's game is sold out and will be televised nationally by ESPN2.

"He's done a great job, but I think it's what we all expected from him," Few said. "We knew he would, given time. I'm very happy for him."

Grier is Few's first assistant

to become a head coach from a program with an amazingly stable staff. Associate head coach Leon Rice is in his ninth year with the team, and assistant Tommy Lloyd is in his seventh.

"We worked really hard together for 16 years to build that thing up there," said Grier, referring to Gonzaga's status as a national power. "It's weird that he's up there and I'm down here. That's what makes it hard."

► USD, C-4

► USD

Continued from C-1

Grier said he and Few still talk about three or four times a week. Describing them as old friends doesn't tell the full story.

First they were roommates as young assistants and bachelors. When Grier got married, Few served as his best man, and Few's father, a Presbyterian minister, performed the ceremony.



Mark Few

But the element that really makes it hard for Grier is that Few is one of those rare bosses who spreads credit rather than taking it all for himself.

"None of my assistants work for me," Few said. "They work with me. That's the way it's always been up there. It's been a team."

This is the second Few-Grier reunion. USD visited the Bulldogs in Spokane, Wash., on Jan. 19, leaving with a 80-70 loss.

But USD has been much more cohesive since that game, reeling off seven straight victories, including a 63-55 upset of then-No. 21 Saint Mary's, only the third victory in school history over a ranked opponent.

The lessons Grier learned under Few helped him change the game of junior point guard Brandon Johnson. He now drives less, distributes the ball better and hits more jump shots. Early in the year, Johnson pouted at Grier's criticism until he bought into what the coach was teaching him.

Few taught Grier how to push, but not push too far.

"He understands how to push buttons better than anybody I know," Grier said. "He knows when to crack the whip and when to back off. You can see it in his teams. Every year they start peaking at this time of the year. That's what he's done a tremendous job of."

Now Grier is using many of those lessons at USD. And Few finds himself looking in the mirror when game-planning against the Toreros.

North County Times

February 17, 2008



Toreros Report

Today: vs. Gonzaga

Tipoff: 8:05 p.m. at Jenny Craig Pavilion

Records: Gonzaga 20-6, 9-1 West Coast Conference; USD 15-11, 8-1

TV/Radio: ESPN2/1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: The University of San Diego has won seven straight games to set up a showdown for first place in the West Coast Conference standings. Saint Mary's and Gonzaga are tied for first with 9-1 conference records, but USD's 8-1 mark is just a half-game back. ... Gonzaga's 83-63 win Saturday at San Francisco, behind 17 points from **David Pendergraft**, gave the Bulldogs their 11th straight 20-win season. ... USD started its seven-game winning streak following an 80-70 loss at Gonzaga on Jan. 19. ... The Toreros haven't beaten Gonzaga since the 2003 WCC tournament final at Jenny Craig Pavilion, a victory that sent USD to its last appearance in the NCAA tournament. ... If you don't have tickets, you'll have to watch the ESPN2 "Big Monday" telecast, because USD's 5,100-seat arena is sold out. ... When USD upset nationally ranked Saint Mary's on Jan. 28 at home, the late-arriving crowd of 2,787 had difficulty finding parking in time for the tipoff. With USD expecting the parking garage closest to the arena to be full by 7 p.m., the school will use four shuttles from the parking garage at the west entrance. A map with parking options is posted on USD's athletics Web site at www.usdtoreros.com. Parking also is available at the nearby lots for the San Diego County Office of Education and Mark Twain High.

— Tom Shanahan




February 17, 2008

Toreros make it lucky seven

■ USD's seventh win in row sets up Gonzaga clash

ASSOCIATED PRESS



SAN DIEGO — Brandon Johnson had 16 points and the University of San Diego men's basketball team scored the first 14 points en route to a 78-61 win over Portland on Saturday night.

USD (15-11, 8-1 West Coast Conference) won its seventh consecutive game, matching its best conference



**Toreros 78,
Portland 61**

Up next

Gonzaga at USD,
8 p.m. Monday

which has lost five of six games. Jared Stohl finished with 14 points.

The Toreros hit six of their first nine shots, including all three of their 3-point attempts, to jump ahead 14-0

start since the 1986-87 team lost its first game, then won its final 12.

Luke Sikma scored 17 points for Portland (8-18, 2-8 WCC),

nearly five minutes into the game. Rob Jones scored eight of USD's first 11 points and Johnson hit a pair of 3-pointers.

The Pilots missed all three shot attempts and committed five turnovers during the Toreros' run.

San Diego shot 57.1 percent in the first half, when it made 5-of-9 3-pointers and took a 37-22 halftime lead.

Jones and Trumaine Johnson each finished with 14 points for USD, which hosts co-conference leader Gonzaga on Monday night.

Brandon Johnson also had seven assists and four steals.

February 17, 2008

Toreros avoid trap, pummel Portland

By **Hank Wesch**
STAFF WRITER

Bill Grier didn't want to hear it.

Didn't want to hear about tomorrow night's home game

Toreros
78
Portland
61

against Gonzaga, the program he'd spent the past 11 years of his life helping build a power in the West Coast Conference. The team, along with Saint

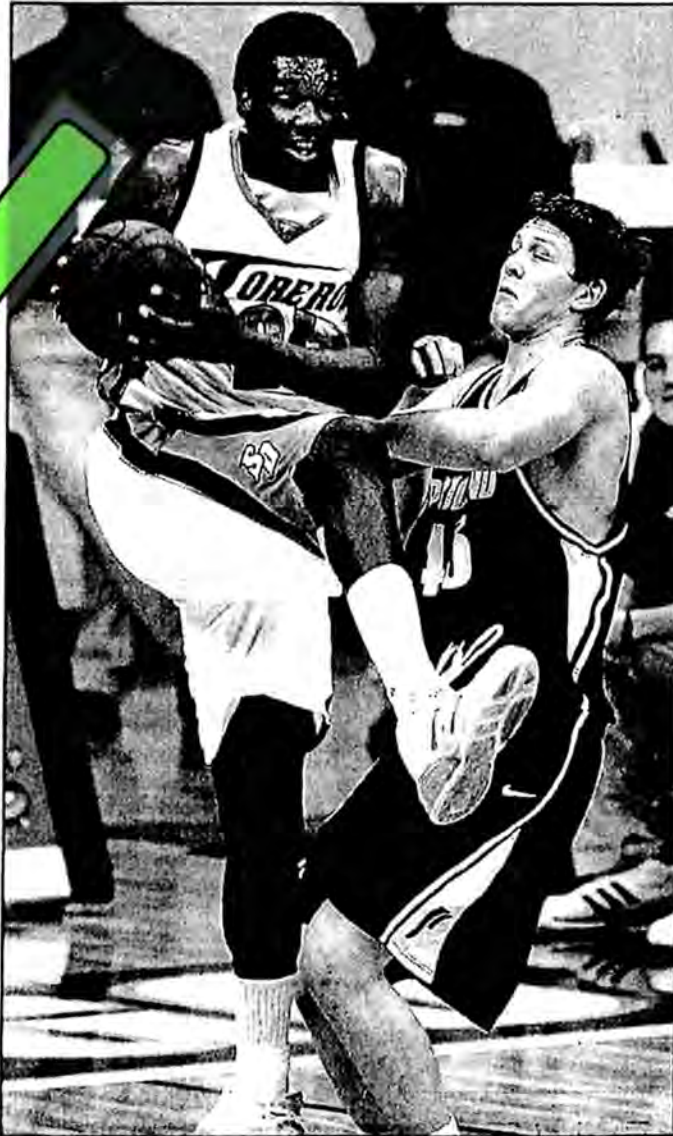
Mary's, Grier's USD Toreros are locked in battle with for first place in the West Coast Conference.

"Coming into this week, around here everybody wanted to talk about this game on Monday," Grier said. "All I tried to do was to get them to focus on Saturday."

Yesterday's opponent was Portland, an opposite-end-of-the-WCC-standings group that USD defeated last month in Oregon on a Brandon Johnson three-pointer to beat the final buzzer and avoid overtime.

Last night, before 2,638 at the Jenny Craig Pavilion, USD scored the first 14 points of the game and never let the Pilots within a double-figure margin of the lead. The Toreros' seventh straight victory was by a comfortable 78-61.

Cliche alert: Taking one game at a time, the Toreros (15-11, 8-1 WCC) made tomorrow night's sold-out matchup their biggest encounter in three weeks, or since they upset then-No. 21 Saint Mary's



USD's Gyno Pomare pulls a rebound away from Portland's Kramer Knutson during first half. *Scott Linnett / Union-Tribune*

SUMMARY

USD 78, Portland 61

PORTLAND	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Niedermeyer	24	1-5	0-0	1-2	1	1	2
Smeulders	25	4-11	3-4	1-8	1	2	11
Knutson	25	1-4	0-1	4-6	2	4	2
Raivio	28	4-13	0-0	0-2	3	2	8
Stohl	32	5-11	0-0	0-1	1	1	14
Ito	24	1-3	2-2	1-2	2	5	4
Watson	14	0-5	3-4	2-2	0	2	3
Sikma	21	8-10	0-0	3-6	1	5	17
Hannibal	7	0-1	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Totals	200	24-63	9-11	14-25	11	22	61

Percentages: FG .381, FT .727. 3-Point Goals: 5-16, .313 (Stohl 4-9, Sikma 1-1, Watson 0-1, Raivio 0-2, Niedermeyer 0-3). Team Rebounds: 4. Blocked Shots: 5 (Sikma 3, Hannibal, Smeulders). Turnovers: 12 (Ito 3, Niedermeyer 2, Sikma 2, Raivio 2, Stohl 2, Watson). Steals: 9 (Raivio 3, Sikma 2, Watson 2, Niedermeyer, Stohl). Technical Fouls: Bench.

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Jones	23	5-9	4-9	2-7	1	4	14
Jackson	20	2-3	0-0	0-2	0	1	5
Pomare	26	3-11	3-7	3-7	1	4	9
B.Johnson	37	6-9	1-2	0-0	7	0	16
T.Johnson	27	3-4	8-11	0-2	2	3	14
Ginty	15	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	1	0
Price	1	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Lewis	20	3-6	2-2	0-2	1	2	10
Brown	14	2-3	0-0	1-1	3	0	5
Houston	5	0-0	1-2	1-3	0	1	1
Lozeau	12	2-3	0-0	1-3	0	0	4
Totals	200	26-48	19-33	9-30	15	16	78

Percentages: FG .542, FT .576. 3-Point Goals: 7-13, .538 (B.Johnson 3-5, Lewis 2-4, Jackson 1-2, Brown 1-2). Team Rebounds: 8. Blocked Shots: 7 (Pomare 3, Lozeau 2, Jones, Brown). Turnovers: 13 (Jones 4, B.Johnson 4, T.Johnson 3, Pomare, Price). Steals: 6 (B.Johnson 4, T.Johnson, Brown). Technical Fouls: None.

Portland (2-8, 0-18)	22	39 - 61
USD (8-1, 15-11)	37	41 - 78

A-2,638. Officials-Ken Ditty, Sam Haddad, Jim Barrowsky.

WCC

	Conference		Overall	
	W	L Pct.	W	L Pct.
Saint Mary's	9	1 .900	22	3 .880
Gonzaga	9	1 .900	20	6 .769
USD	8	1 .889	15	11 .577
Santa Clara	4	5 .444	12	12 .500
Pepperdine	3	7 .300	9	17 .346
Portland	2	8 .200	8	18 .308
USF	2	8 .200	6	19 .240
LMU	2	8 .200	5	21 .192

Yesterday's Results

USD 78, Portland 61
Gonzaga 83, San Francisco 63
Pepperdine 64, Santa Clara 58
Saint Mary's 80, Loyola Marymount 49

Tomorrow's Games

Gonzaga at USD, 8 p.m.
Saint Mary's at Pepperdine, 7 p.m.
Portland at San Francisco, 7 p.m.
Utah St. at San Jose St., 7 p.m.
Santa Clara at Loyola Mary., 7:05 p.m.

here Jan. 28.

"I thought that the group did a nice job of having a good focus about them and got off to a good start and took care of the task at hand," Grier said. "It put us in a position for a big game Monday night."

Johnson scored 16 points, topping four Toreros in double figures, handed out seven assists and made four steals. True freshmen Rob Jones and Tru-maine Johnson had 14 points apiece and sophomore forward Chris Lewis added 10 points as USD shot 54.2 percent overall and 53.8 percent from three-point range.

Junior forward Gyno Pomare's offensive production of nine points was below par, for him, but the El Camino High product had three blocks and seven rebounds.

"To these kids' credit, they have learned to focus on the next opponent and forget about

the distractions around, everybody patting you on the back, and just take care of business," Grier said.

The Toreros' 8-1 start in league play is the school's best since the 1986-87 team, which began 1-1 and then won its final 12 WCC games. The victory also assured that USD will get a bye into at least the second round of the WCC Tournament it will host starting March 3.

USD hit seven of its first nine shots and forced five turnovers in taking a 14-0 lead.

Jones accounted for eight of the first 11 points, two of the baskets finishing fast breaks off assist passes from Brandon Johnson.

Portland (8-18, 2-8) missed three shots in addition to the five turnovers on its first eight possessions and went the first 5:26 before Luke Sikma (17 points, six rebounds) scored.

"This was a bigger game

(than Gonzaga)," said Brandon Johnson, who evidently listened to Grier's weeklong preaching. "I know my team can get up for Gonzaga. A lot of players can get up for those (premier opponent) games, but when it isn't a big-name team on the shirt they relax and get complacent.

"Tonight we showed we can come out and play hard against any team."

Said Jones: "Coach Grier has done a great job all week of keeping our minds focused on Portland. Starting (today) we'll get the scouting report and start getting ready on Gonzaga."

Now, Grier wants to talk about it.

More WCC games

GONZAGA 83, USF 63: David Pendergraft scored 17 points as the Bulldogs warmed up for

Monday's showdown with an easy road victory. Jeremy Pargo added 11 points, seven assists and three steals.

PEPPERDINE 64,

SANTA CLARA 58: John Bryant went 11-for-11 from the floor and scored 25 points for the Broncos, but Rico Tucker scored 19 points to lead the host Waves.

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The Associated Press contributed to this report.

February 17, 2008

Tim Sullivan

Gonzaga will encounter a far different USD team



The outlet pass was too long for Brandon Johnson, but not so long that he did not change for it.

USD's junior guard hit the floor near the half-court line with a resounding thud — the echo more obvious because of the empty seats at the Jenny Craig Pavilion — but then he bounced back up to give chase again.

In an act of athleticism and

Inside: USD scores first 14 points of game, defeats Portland 78-61 for Toreros' seventh straight win. **CB**

attitude, at the garbage end of a game already secure, Johnson caught up to Rob Jones' overthrow just as it reached the baseline beyond the Toreros' basket. He arrived too late to prevent a turnover, but in plenty of time to make a point.

"One play," Johnson ex-

SEE Sullivan, CB

► SULLIVAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

An 8-11 start has suddenly become 15-11

plained, "can make the difference."

With that, Johnson proudly pulled up his basketball shorts by a few inches to reveal a slight swelling above his left knee. This was his battle scar from the closing minutes of the Toreros' 78-61 victory over Portland last night, and it said as much as the stat sheet.

"That was a heck of a hustle play," Toreros coach Bill Grier said. "It kind of shows the heart that that kid has. I thought it was over when he fell down and he was able to get up and catch the ball. I don't know how many people are that quick."

Johnson scored 16 points against the Pilots, and assisted on seven other USD baskets. He was credited with four steals and clocked out with a game-high 37 minutes. Yet it was the effort he expended in pursuit of a bad pass that made the clearest statement.

To wit: Gonzaga is going to

be facing a resilient, relentless and growing Toreros threat tomorrow night.

Since they left Spokane on the short end of an 80-70 decision last month, USD has played seven games and won them all. During this span, the Toreros' shooting has sharpened, their defense has tightened, their freshmen have developed and their balance has become better.

Though Brandon Johnson thought his team succumbed to some lax moments last night, these are not the same Toreros who spotted the Zags a 15-0 lead on Jan. 19. Whether USD has improved enough to win the West Coast Conference title has yet to be determined, but the change in this team has been striking. As a metamorphosis, it's reminiscent of Kafka's cockroach, only in reverse.

Through the Gonzaga game, the Toreros were shooting .432 from the field. In the seven games since, they have shot .488.

USD opponents were shooting .449 after the first 19 games of the season, but only .409 in the seven games since.

As a statistical composite, that's practically a 10-percent swing. Which probably explains how a team that stum-

bled to an 8-11 start is now streaking at 15-11.

"There's been a period of time where I've been trying to figure them out as much as they're trying to figure me out," Grier said. "I think we're more on the same page than we were earlier . . .

"As a group, they're buying into it more."

Some of this is Grier's programming. Some of it is his personnel. A lot of it can be traced to the development of freshman guard Trumaine Johnson, whose expanding role has reduced the breadth of Brandon Johnson's responsibilities.

Trumaine Johnson started only once in the Toreros' first 19 games, averaging nearly one turnover for every assist and a modest 19.4 minutes per game. But as he's earned more of Grier's trust, and nearly 10 more minutes per game, the Toreros have been able to apply more pressure on the ball in the backcourt. Basketball history shows that this typically leads to more transition baskets and enhanced shooting percentages.

"I think it's freed Brandon up a little bit from the pressure of having to handle it all the time and having to guard the quickest guy all the time," Grier said.

"I think that was really wearing on him earlier in the year. (But) until Trumaine started figuring things out, we really couldn't do that."

When a coach has no choice but to rely on freshmen in important roles, he does so with the understanding that there will be some bumps. The benefit is that progress can come quickly, and that a team can be transformed in midseason.

"At the beginning of the pre-season, our freshmen (were) learning a lot," Brandon Johnson said. "Right now, Rob Jones, Trumaine and all are playing some good minutes for us . . . I think we're sharing the ball better. We've just got way more confidence and are shooting the ball pretty good."

Rob Jones said last night the Toreros were "a completely different team" than when they left Gonzaga, and that he could feel the difference in practice before it started to surface in games.

"We just got in practice, made some goals, figured out what we wanted to do," Brandon Johnson said. "Right now, we're coming together as a team, learning a new system and we're just clicking."

Floor burns tell you that whatever Grier is selling, his players have bought.

North County Times

February 16, 2008



Toreros Report

Toreros vs. Portland

Tipoff: 6:05 p.m. at Jenny Craig Pavilion
Records: Portland 8-17, 2-7 West Coast Conference; USD 14-11, 7-1
TV/Radio: 4 SD/1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: The University of San Diego enters a pivotal weekend in the West Coast Conference with a 7-1 league start that is the Toreros' best since the 1986-87 season, when they won the WCC regular-season title and advanced to the NCAA tournament. USD is tied in the loss column with defending champion Gonzaga (19-6, 8-1 WCC) and 25th-ranked Saint Mary's (21-3, 8-1), but the Toreros are officially a half-game out of a three-way tie for first place. ... USD needs to beat Portland, a team tied for fifth place, to set up a showdown with Gonzaga two nights later in an ESPN2 Big Monday telecast at the JCR ... When USD visited Portland last month, the Toreros needed a 3-pointer by junior G **Brandon Johnson** at the buzzer for a 64-61 victory. ... Johnson and 6-foot-8 junior F/C **Gyno Pomare**, an El Camino High alum, are a strong 1-2 punch as an inside-out combination. Johnson is averaging 16.9 points and 3.2 assists per game, while Pomare averages 14.4 points and 7.2 rebounds. ... Portland is led by sophomore G **Nik Raivio** (13.2 ppg). ... The Pilots have lost three of their last four after a split last weekend, with a 74-63 win over Loyola Marymount followed by a 71-66 loss to Pepperdine. ... Sophomore F **Robin Smeulders** averages 10.2 points, while sophomore F **Sherrard Watson** averages 10.0.

— Tom Shanahan

February 16, 2008

Freshman's rise bumpy

USD's Trumaine Johnson succeeds, weathering differences with Grier

By Hank Wesch, STAFF WRITER

Right now, USD men's basketball coach Bill Grier has praise for Trumaine Johnson.

For how far the freshman point guard has come in the first four months of his college career. For what Johnson is doing for a team that is 7-1 in West Coast Conference play and on a six-game winning streak.

And Johnson has nice things to say about Grier.

But both admit that getting to this point has been more akin to hacking through a thorny thicket than strolling down a primrose path.

"When he first came here he really, really fought coaching and struggled to figure out his role," Grier said. "There's a lot of responsibility on the point guard. It's the most important position in the college game. And for the first two months, we didn't see eye-to-eye."

"To the kid's credit, he decided he needed to listen, be more coachable and do what we want him to do on the court."

Johnson's side of the story: "High school player to college player is a tough transition. I knew I could get away with a lot of stuff in high school, like cutting corners. But Coach Grier, with his 16 years at Gonzaga, knew what it is to be a good college point guard and what it takes to get there."

"It took me awhile to realize that he actually knows what he's talking about and he actually knows how to make me a better player than I am. Right now, I'm starting to buy into it and we're starting to see eye-to-eye."

Johnson has accepted that his role is to be a point guard first — with its duties of floor generalship, ball distribution and strategy implementation — and a scorer as a lower priority.

"He stayed on me all the time," Johnson said. "At first, I was just hearing *how* he was telling me things and not *what* he was saying."

"I talked to my mom, and she said to listen to what he was saying, not how he was saying it."

Enter Shirley Johnson of Houston. A former three-sport high school standout, a volleyball and basketball player at Jarvis Christian College in Texas and, for the past 21 years, a high school or middle school English and P.E. teacher and coach.

Also a single mom to Trumaine and his younger sister, Mickayla, and the person Tru-



Trumaine Johnson

maine says "taught me everything I know about basketball."

"Trumaine's main reason for going to San Diego was that he wanted to play as a freshman," Shirley Johnson said. "And when he didn't step right in and start it was hard for him to take. But he called home and I told him, from my experience as a college player, it wouldn't be easy, but he had to remain humble and be prayerful and his time would come."

"He had to be true to himself and the things that had gotten him to where he is."

The turning point, Trumaine Johnson said, was a talk with Grier following a late-December trip on which Johnson, in keeping with the rest of the team, produced markedly up-and-down performances in a win at Kentucky and a loss at Marshall.

"I listened to him, talked to my mom and kind of bought into it overnight," Johnson said. "The next day at practice I figured I needed to step it up if I wanted to be a good player in this league and help the team."

Johnson, who played his senior season at Kingwood High in Houston, was recruited by Vanderbilt, Nevada and Brigham Young, among other schools. He was tapped to fill a priority that Grier had clearly stated upon his hiring last March.

Grier believed USD needed a point guard to take some of the burden off junior standout Brandon Johnson, who would be freed up to work at shooting guard.

It took some time to materialize, but the backcourt pairing of Johnson and Johnson — in a three-guard set with sophomore De'Jon Jackson — has been good medicine for the Toreros.

Trumaine Johnson has started the past four games as USD has built its six-game winning streak entering tonight's home game against Portland. His value, beyond the box score, was evident in the first of those four starts, a 63-55 upset of then-No. 21 Saint Mary's, when he was the primary defender on Gaels ace Patrick Mills, who was held to 13 points.

Also, since the start of WCC play, Johnson ranks third in the league with an assist-to-turnover ratio of 2.36 to 1.

"Now that he's in that (starting) position, I think he's been given an opportunity to show the coaches and the team overall what he can do," Shirley Johnson said. "He's helped them and they've helped him a lot and, as a mom and a coach, I'm just really excited for Trumaine and the team."

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February 15, 2008

Sports Media JAY POSNER

Gonzaga brings out the crowd for ESPN2

Stephen Bardo has never seen a game at the Jeremy Craig Pavilion, but thanks to two seasons of working WCC basketball for ESPN, he knows what to expect when he arrives Monday for the USD-Gonzaga showdown.

"For a program like San Diego, it's a great coming-out party," said Bardo, who will work the 8 p.m. ESPN2 telecast with Terry Gannon. "When you're on TV . . . some programs do not get that opportunity that often. The way they get into it is great. I love coming out west and doing these games.

"People recognize what kind of opportunity this is. The kids are excited, the players are excited. . . It's fun for everybody."

The atmosphere at Saint Mary's two weeks ago for the Gaels-Zags game looked crazy, and Bardo is expecting the same Monday at the Slim Gym, which should be sold out any hour now (just 250 tickets remained as of yesterday). And, while ESPN's "Big Monday" is a little different this year with the switch of the late game to ESPN2 and an earlier start time, it's still far bigger than any other regular-season telecast at USD's on-campus arena. ESPN2 is available in about 96.2 million homes, nearly five times ESPN's total of 20 million.

(It's also about 80 times the 1.2 million that receive The mtn., but that's another story.)

USD has lost 12 straight against Gonzaga since winning the 2003 WCC Tournament title game here, but as Bardo noted, the Toreros beat Saint Mary's, which beat Gonzaga. USD has won six straight entering tomorrow's game against Portland (6 p.m., Channel 4).

"I think the San Diego crew will be confident," he said. "They'll be jacked to get them at home on national TV."

Bardo saw USD nearly three months ago at the Anaheim Classic, but he knows this is a much different team now that it's had time to adjust to new coach Bill Grier.

"You could sense at some point it was going to click in," Bardo said. "Bill Grier has implemented a toughness and defensive mentality. It's easier to turn a program around when you hang your hat on tough, hard-nosed defense. You see results quicker. . . . So far I like what he's done."

Bardo, 39, is best known as the point guard on Illinois' "Flyin' Illini" team that reached the Final Four in 1989 before losing to eventual champion Michigan (and coach Steve Fisher). He has developed an appreciation for the WCC.

"I see a competitive level a lot of people around the country aren't aware of," Bardo said. "They're fighting the stigma of a one-team league, but San Diego and Saint Mary's are doing their best to dispel that with their play."

He added WCC schools are "always glad to see us coming. . . . And I'm a Chicago guy, so in the wintertime it's always good to come out west."

February 15, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

USD basketball team signs Texas JC forward

UNION TRIBUNE

The USD men's basketball team has signed Luciano DeSilva, a 6-foot-7, 200-pound forward from South Plains Community College in Levelland, Texas, to a letter of intent.

A native of Brazil, DeSouza will join the Toreros for the 2008-09 season and have two years of eligibility. At the start

eraging 9.6 points, 5.0 rebounds and 1.7 assists for a 20-3 team, according to the National Junior College Athletic Association Web site.

DeSouza's season field goal percentage was 47.9 and he was shooting 43.5 percent on three-pointers and 73.7 from the free throw line.

"He's got a chance to be a good player for us," USD

coach Bill Grier said. "He's long and bouncy and brings to the table some of the things we're going to need next year.

"We feel like we need to add a player with some experience on the front line, and the only way to get (instant) experience is to go the junior college route."

— HANK WESCH

February 12, 2008

Johnson scores late to help USD prevail

ASSOCIATED PRESS



SAN FRANCISCO — Brandon Johnson scored six of his 18 points in the final three minutes, and USD 73 San Francisco 62 the University of San Diego men's basketball team stayed close to front-running Gonzaga and Saint Mary's in the crowded West Coast Conference with a 73-62 win over San Francisco on Monday night.

Gyno Pomare, an El Camino High graduate, added 18 points and five rebounds for the Toreros (14-11, 7-1 WCC), who won their sixth straight despite a sloppy offensive performance in the first half when the team missed 9-of-10 3-pointers and committed nine turnovers.

USD tightened up its game in the second half, however, and rode the scoring from Johnson and a stingy defense that held San Francisco (6-18, 2-7) to one basket during a key five-minute stretch late in the game to hand the Dons their

third straight loss.

The Toreros, whose last loss came Jan. 19 against Gonzaga, stayed a half-game behind the Bulldogs and Saint Mary's in the chase for the conference's top spot and has a shot to close that gap with games against both teams in the next two weeks.

Dior Lowhorn had 17 points and Dean Hadley scored a career-high 12 for San Francisco.

The game marked the Dons' first appearance in San Francisco since notching interim coach Eddie Sutton's 800th career victory with a come-from-behind win at Pepperdine on Feb. 2. The Dons haven't won since, losing by five to Loyola Marymount before getting blown out by No. 23 Saint Mary's.

Before the game against USD, San Francisco honored Sutton — who took over the Dons when Jessie Evans took a leave of absence in December — with a plaque commemorating win No. 800 along with a ball signed by his current players.

February 12, 2008

USD runs hot, cold but collects 6th straight win



**TOREROS 73,
USF 62**

By **Damir Esper**, SPECIAL TO THE UNION-TRIBUNE

SAN FRANCISCO — Things started well last night for the San Diego Toreros men's basketball team. After San Francisco won the opening tip, Brandon Johnson stole the ball and then made a pretty one-hand bounce pass back to Rob Jones for an easy basket.

It turned out to be a pretty good omen. San Diego led for all but 84 seconds and was able to fend off a gritty Dons team for a 73-62 win at War Memorial Gymnasium.

USD is now 14-11, 7-1 in the West Coast Conference.

Junior post Gyno Pomare led the way for the Toreros with 20 points on 8-of-11 shooting. Junior guard Johnson added 18 points and nine rebounds.

"We played well for different parts of the game," Pomare said. "We've got to put it together for 40 minutes. No disrespect to that team but we should have beat them by more."

The Toreros are getting greedy, now that they've won six in a row. Gonzaga and Saint

SEE **Toreros, D3**

► TOREROS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Turn back Dons, remain in thick of WCC race

Mary's both won last night, so USD remains in third place in the WCC, one-half game behind the leaders.

San Diego hosts Portland on Saturday, then faces Gonzaga next Monday with a chance to avenge its only conference loss of the season. "All focus is on Portland," Toreros coach Bill Grier said. "That's the only thing we can worry about right now."

Added Johnson, "Hopefully, we can get a win on Saturday and go into the Gonzaga game with a lot of confidence."

The Dons held a brief 4-2 advantage last night but USD then went on a 12-0 run to take the lead for good. The Toreros wreaked havoc on the San Francisco offense for much of the half, disrupting the Dons' timing on several possessions. The anguish was clear on the face of Dons coach Eddie Sutton — you could almost hear him thinking, "I came out of retirement

SUMMARY

San Diego 73, San Francisco 62

USD	Min	FG		FT		Reb		A	PF	Pts
		M-A	M-A	O-T	A	O-T				
Pomare	31	7-10	4-6	2-5	1	2	18			
Jones	18	3-3	0-0	1-3	1	4	6			
B.Johnson	38	7-17	4-8	3-9	1	1	18			
T.Johnson	36	3-6	4-6	0-2	2	2	10			
Jackson	39	4-7	0-0	0-3	6	3	8			
Ginty	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0			
Lewis	21	3-5	2-2	3-5	0	3	9			
Brown	2	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	2			
Houston	9	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0			
Lozeau	3	1-1	0-0	2-3	0	0	2			
Totals	200	29-50	14-22	11-32	11	18	73			

Percentages: FG .580, FT .636, 3-Point Goals 1-10, .100 (Lewis 1-2, T.Johnson 0-1, Jackson 0-1, B.Johnson 0-6). Team Rebounds: 2. Blocked Shots: 3 (Jackson 2, Jones). Turnovers: 12 (B.Johnson 5, T.Johnson 3, Jones 2, Lewis 2). Steals: 7 (B.Johnson 3, T.Johnson 2, Lewis, Pomare). Technical Fouls: None.

USF	Min	FG		FT		Reb		A	PF	Pts
		M-A	M-A	O-T	A	O-T				
Lowhorn	38	7-17	3-10	1-2	1	0	17			
Cavik	22	1-2	2-2	2-3	1	2	4			
Taylor	19	2-4	0-0	0-6	0	4	4			
Quezada	31	4-7	3-4	1-2	5	1	11			
Strong	31	4-6	2-3	0-0	1	4	12			
Hernandez	15	1-1	0-0	0-2	3	2	2			
Morgan	19	0-3	0-0	2-4	0	2	0			
Hadley	21	5-7	2-2	1-1	2	2	12			
Brooks	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0			
Totals	200	24-47	12-21	9-24	13	18	62			

Percentages: FG .511, FT .571, 3-Point Goals 2-4, .500 (Strong 2-3, Lowhorn 0-1). Team Rebounds: 4. Blocked Shots: 1 (Hernandez). Turnovers: 15 (Quezada 5, Lowhorn 4, Strong 3, Cavik, Hadley, Taylor). Steals: 3 (Morgan, Hadley, Hernandez). Technical Fouls: None.

San Diego	25	48	- 73
San Francisco	20	42	- 62

A-1,436. Officials-Mike Peterson, Brian Road, Steven Dreher.

for this?"

However, USD couldn't take full advantage of its defensive effort. After the 12-0 run ended, the Toreros managed just 11 points in the final 13:46 of the half. By the break,

WCC

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Saint Mary's	8	1	.889	21	3	.875
Gonzaga	8	1	.889	19	6	.760
USD	7	1	.875	14	11	.560
Santa Clara	4	4	.500	12	11	.522
Pepperdine	2	7	.222	8	17	.320
Portland	2	7	.222	8	17	.320
USF	2	7	.222	6	18	.250
LMU	2	7	.222	5	20	.200

Yesterday's Results

USD 73, San Francisco 62
 Saint Mary's 54, Santa Clara 50
 Gonzaga 83, Loyola Marymount 50

appeared to be just toying with the Dons, quickly building the lead back up to eight.

"Defensively, the first half I thought we played well," Grier said. "The second half was one of our poorer halves. We let them drive in gaps and weren't helping."

Jones, a freshman forward, was playing at home for the first time after graduating from San Francisco's Riordan High last year. He got into foul trouble and finished with six points in just 18 minutes after earning conference player of the week honors last week.

"Oh man, I saw a lot of familiar faces in the stands tonight," Jones said. "Freshman year, I'm on a bit of a roller coaster."

San Francisco fell to 2-10 under Sutton, 2-7 in the WCC. The Dons (6-18) got 17 points from Dior Lowhorn, the WCC's leading scorer, and 12 apiece from Myron Strong and Dean Hadley.

Sutton was impressed with the Toreros.

"I guess San Diego is supposed to be the surprise team in this conference but I don't see why they're a surprise," said the man who recorded his 800th career coaching victory less than two weeks ago.

San Diego held just a 25-20 lead.

San Francisco showed some grit in the second half, improving its shooting and cutting the deficit to one point on two occasions. San Diego

February 11, 2008

USD starts stretch run tonight on USF floor

By Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

One week has passed since the USD men's basketball team defeated Pepperdine to complete the first half of the West Coast Conference season with a 6-1 record and a share of the league lead.

After rewarding his players with two days off, first-year Toreros coach Bill Grier spent the next five preparing them for the second half of the conference season, which starts tonight at San Francisco.

"I've tried to emphasize to them that while we've done a nice job of positioning ourselves at the turn, that's all we've done," Grier said. "We have to keep playing as well as we have on defense, and trying to improve on offense, to stay in the good position we are."

"This (tonight's) is a big game." USD's five-game winning streak is currently the longest of any WCC team. Three of the wins were on the road against second-division dwellers Portland, Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine. The two home victories were against more highly regarded Santa Clara and then-No. 21 Saint Mary's.

USF started the second half of its WCC season by being routed 76-51 at Saint Mary's on Friday. It was the Dons' second straight loss after they secured career win No. 800 for interim coach Eddie Sutton at Pepperdine on Feb. 2.

USF has only played two home WCC games, losing to Saint Mary's and Santa Clara. It features Texas Tech transfer Dior Lowhorn, the league's leading scorer at 21 points per game.

USD is 6-1 in league play for the first time since the 1990-91 season. The keys to the Toreros' current streak have been defense and the ability to pull out close games.

Five of their last six wins have been by eight points or fewer. For WCC games only, USD ranks first in scoring defense (56.3 ppg) and three-point defense (.269, 28-of-104).

The last two wins were encouraging for USD in that players other than junior forward Gyno Pomare and junior guard Brandon Johnson — one of the WCC's top inside-outside combinations — were the stars. Freshman forward Rob Jones had 27 points and 13 rebounds at Loyola Marymount and sophomore guard De'Jon Jackson scored a career-high 20 at Pepperdine.

Johnson is third in the WCC in scoring (16.9), and first in steals and three-pointers made per game. Pomare is seventh in scoring (14.3) and rebounding (7.2) but was limited to totals of 23 points and eight rebounds in the last two games.

"When you get into February you've been scouted to the point that everybody knows your offense, what you call your plays and everything else about you," Grier said. "The second time around the league, sometimes it will be a crusade to score unless you execute. If you execute, any offense will work."

"We're feeling confident as a group. In practice the guys are doing and saying all the right things. But you still have to get it done in the games."

USD MEN at USF

Site: War Memorial Gym

Time: 8 tonight

TV/radio: ESPNU/1090-AM, 105.7-FM

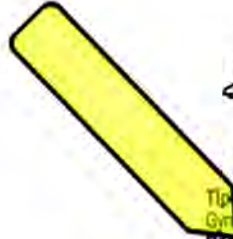
Records: USD 13-11, 6-1 WCC;
USF 6-17, 2-6

Outlook: The Toreros, winners of five straight, need a victory to maintain a share of the league lead with Gonzaga and Saint Mary's.

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North County Times

February 11, 2008



Toreros Report

Today: at San Francisco

Time: 8:05 p.m. at War Memorial Gymnasium, San Francisco
Records: USD 13-11, 6-1 West Coast Conference; San Francisco 6-17, 2-6
TV/Radio: ESPNU/1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: The University of San Diego begins the second half of West Coast Conference play with a 6-1 record, a half game behind Gonzaga and 25th-ranked Saint Mary's for first place. The Toreros had a bye Saturday, while Gonzaga (18-6, 7-1) and Saint Mary's (20-3, 7-1) both won, dropping USD out of a tie for first place. ... The 6-1 start represents the Toreros' best first half of conference play since the 1990-91 season. This year's showing includes an upset of Saint Mary's, which was ranked No. 21 when the teams met Jan. 28 at Jenny Craig Pavilion. It was USD's third win over a ranked team in school history. ... The Toreros beat San Francisco 46-41 on Jan. 12 in San Diego in their conference opener. USF was routed 75-51 Friday night at Saint Mary's, one game after the Dons beat Pepperdine 85-82 on Feb. 4 to make interim coach **Eddie Sutton** only the fifth coach to win 800 career games. ... USF sophomore **F Dior Lowhorn** leads the WCC in scoring (20.9 ppg). ... USD junior **G Brandon Johnson** was the WCC player of the month for January, while freshman **F Rob Jones** was named conference co-player of the week following the Toreros' road sweep of Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine last week. For the month, Johnson was second in the WCC in scoring, averaging 17.6 points per game, and led the WCC in steals (2.6 per game). Jones produced his first double-double with 27 points and 13 rebounds against Loyola Marymount.

— Tom Shanahan

February 5, 2008



Jackson scores 20 as USD holds off Waves

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU — De'Jon Jackson scored 20 points and the University of San Diego men's basketball team held off a second-half charge from Pepperdine for a 61-58 victory Monday night.

Rob Jones had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Toreros (13-11, 6-1 West Coast Conference), who won their fifth straight game. Guard Brandon Johnson added 11 points for USD.

Freshman Malcolm


Thomas had 18 points, 15 rebounds, six blocked shots and four assists for Pepperdine (7-16, 1-6). It was his fifth double-double of the season. Fellow freshman Tyrone Shelley added 14 points and seven rebounds.

The Waves trailed by 13 at halftime, 35-22, but fought back to within a point late in the second half, then missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have sent the game to overtime.

With the victory, USD moved into a three-way tie for first place in the WCC with Saint Mary's and Gonzaga.

Los Angeles Times

February 5, 2008



San Diego 61, Pepperdine 58 — De'Jon Jackson scored 20 points and San Diego held on for a second-half charge from Pepperdine in a West Coast Conference game at Malibu.

Rob Jones had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Toreros (13-11, 6-1), who won their fifth straight game.

Freshman Malcolm Thomas had 18 points, 15 rebounds, six blocked shots and four assists for Pepperdine (7-16, 1-6). It was his fifth double-double of the season. Freshman Tyrone Shelley added 14 points and seven rebounds.

The Waves trailed by 13 at halftime, but fought back to within a point late in the second half.

February 5, 2008

Win puts Toreros in tie atop WCC

By **Hank Wesch**
STAFF WRITER

MALIBU — In retrospect, USD men's basketball coach Bill Grier has no regrets about the difficulty of a preconference schedule from which his Toreros emerged with a 7-10 record.

Toreros

61

Pepperdine

58

"The pre-season schedule is starting to help us now," Grier said after USD's 61-58 victory over Pepperdine here last night.

"We've been in some tough environments and played some tough games and these kids have learned how to win."

Firestone Fieldhouse didn't exactly qualify as a tough environment. The official attendance total was 838 and, at the buzzer signaling the start of play there were by actual count 23 individuals in the Pepperdine student section.

But, after falling behind by 13 at halftime, the Waves (7-16, 1-6 WCC) came back to make several threatening runs. The outcome wasn't decided until Tyrone Shelley's three-point attempt bounced off the rim at the final buzzer.

In completing a sweep of a two-game Los Angeles road trip, USD moved to 13-11 overall and 6-1 in the West Coast Conference. The Toreros are tied with Gonzaga and Saint Mary's for first place in the WCC race. Saint Mary's beat Gonzaga last night in Moraga.

Four of USD's conference wins have come by five or fewer points and in three of those the outcome was in doubt until the final shot.

USD sophomore guard De'Jon Jackson scored a career-high 20 points and got support from Rob Jones (16) and Bran-

SCOREBOARD

USD 61, Pepperdine 58

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Pomare	26	3-7	3-4	1-3	1	4	9
Jones	33	8-16	0-0	3-7	3	4	16
B.Johnson	40	4-13	1-3	1-9	4	2	11
T.Johnson	30	0-2	0-0	0-1	5	3	0
Jackson	30	8-13	0-0	2-4	3	2	20
Ginty	20	1-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	3
Lewis	17	0-4	0-0	1-2	0	2	0
Houston	4	1-1	0-1	0-0	1	1	2
Totals	200	25-57	4-8	11-33	18	18	61

Percentages: FG .439, FT .500, 3-Point Goals 7-16, .438 (Jackson 4-5, B.Johnson 2-9, Ginty 1-1, Lewis 0-1). Team Rebounds: 7. Blocked Shots: 1 (Jackson). Turnovers: 16 (Ginty 4, B.Johnson 3, Jones 3, Jackson 2, T. Johnson 2, Pomare, Lewis). Steals: 6 (Jackson 2, T.Johnson 2, Jones, B.Johnson). Technical Fouls: None.

PEPPERDINE	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Shelley	34	5-17	2-3	3-7	2	4	14
Thomas	40	6-11	6-9	5-15	4	2	18
R.Tucker	28	2-9	0-0	1-3	3	2	6
Thompson	25	2-7	1-2	1-4	0	5	6
Hornbuckle	31	2-4	2-2	0-3	0	0	6
Reed	13	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Holmes	29	4-5	0-0	1-2	3	2	8
Totals	200	21-56	11-16	12-37	13	16	58

Percentages: FG .375, FT .688, 3-Point Goals 5-19, .263 (R.Tucker 2-3, Shelley 2-7, Thompson 1-6, Reed 0-3). Team Rebounds: 3. Blocked Shots: 7 (Thomas 6, Thompson). Turnovers: 15 (Holmes 4, Thomas 3, Shelley 3, R.Tucker 3, Hornbuckle). Steals: 10 (Shelley 3, Hornbuckle 3, R.Tucker 2, Thomas, Holmes). Technical Fouls: None.

USD (6-1, 13-11)	35	26	61
Pepperdine (1-6, 7-19)	22	36	58

A-838. Officials-Jim Giron, Mike Peterson, Paul Simpkins.

WCC STANDINGS

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Saint Mary's	6	1	.857	19	3	.864
Gonzaga	6	1	.857	18	5	.783
USD	6	1	.857	13	11	.542
Santa Clara	4	3	.571	12	10	.545
LMU	2	5	.286	5	18	.217
USF	2	5	.286	6	16	.273
Portland	1	6	.143	7	16	.304
Pepperdine	1	6	.143	7	16	.304

don Johnson (11) as the Toreros won their fifth straight.

Jackson had 13 points in the first half as USD went to the break leading 35-22. He added seven more in the first five minutes of the second half to take some of the sting from an 8-0 Waves run to open the period.

"Throughout the season the coaches have been telling me to be more aggressive on offense," Jackson said. "They were leaving me open at the three-point line early on so I took the shots."

Jackson, a 22 percent three-point shooter entering the contest, cashed all three of his attempts from beyond the arc in

the first half and then went 1-for-2 in the second. USD went 7-for-16 on three-pointers while Pepperdine, which makes the trey its forte, was only 5-for-19.

Still, a three-pointer by Shelley (Crawford High) with 2:26 to play pulled Pepperdine to within 58-56, and a Shelley layup with 1:18 got the Waves to within one at 59-58.

Pepperdine had three chances to tie or take the lead in the final minute, but turned the ball over once and missed three field goal attempts.

February 4, 2008

Waves have an S.D. look

Streaking Toreros must find way to deal with talented trio

By **Hank Wesch**
STAFF WRITER

LOS ANGELES — In order to maintain the momentum of a four-game winning streak and elite status in the West Coast Conference standings, the USD men's basketball team will have to deal with some San Diego-area players tonight at Pepperdine.

Pepperdine's top three scorers and top two rebounders were all prep standouts at city schools. Freshmen Tyrone Shelley and Malcolm Thomas were teammates at Crawford High last season, and junior transfer Rico Tucker graduated from USDHS before embarking on a two-college journey that has brought him to the Pepperdine campus on the hills above Malibu.

Shelley, a 6-foot-6 guard, leads the Waves in scoring at 15.5 points per game and is second in rebounding at 6.1. Considering conference games only, Shelley's 16.4 points-per-game average ranks second in the WCC.

"He's a heck of a player in about every area," said USD coach Bill Grier.

Thomas, a 6-8 forward, is second on the team in scoring at 13.6 and leads in rebounding at 8.5. He has been one of the most impressive freshmen in the conference, ranking among the WCC top 10 in four major categories.

"He's been very impressive to me from what I've seen on film," Grier said. "He can score and rebound and gives them a

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Los Angeles Division I game play

USD MEN at PEPPERDINE

Time: Firestone Rdhouse, Malibu / 7:05 p.m.

TV/radio: FSN-West / 10-AM, 105.7-FM

Records: USD 12-11, 5-1 WCC; Pepperdine 7-15, 1-5

Outlook: Toreros, winners of four straight, routed Loyola Marymount on Saturday. Waves' loss to San Francisco that day was career win No. 800 for coach Eddie Sutton.

real presence inside."

Tucker, a 6-foot guard, made an oral commitment to JSI while a junior in high school but reconsidered and went to Minnesota for two years before transferring to Pepperdine. He is No. 3 on the Waves' scoring list, averaging 10 points. Tucker leads the WCC in steals with a 2.1 average.

"Rico's a very good athlete and he causes trouble with his quickness in both the offensive transition game and on defense," Grier said.

All three have played in each of Pepperdine's 22 games. Thomas has 18 starts, Tucker 14 and Shelley 11. Pepperdine's season has had more than its share of turmoil and has not been easy for the newcomers from San Diego or several others on a young roster.

Just over two weeks ago, Vance Walberg vacated the head coaching position for personal reasons and assistant Eric Bridgeland took over on an interim basis. Pepperdine

comes into tonight's game fresh from becoming the answer to the trivia question: Which team did legendary coach Eddie Sutton defeat for career victory No. 800?

Sutton's San Francisco team prevailed 85-82 at Pepperdine on Saturday as the Waves blew a 19-point second-half lead.

"We're obviously going to have to do a good job on those three (San Diegans)," Grier said. "Beyond that, it's going to be a test of how much progress we've made in protecting the ball because they do get up in your face, take chances and try to create turnovers defensively."

USD climbed above .500 overall for the first time since Nov. 22 with a 72-48 victory Saturday at Loyola Marymount. USD is tied for second in the WCC, and a win tonight would ensure the Toreros of being in no worse than that position since Gonzaga (6-0) is at Saint Mary's (5-1) tonight in what figures to be one of the most significant games of the WCC season.

Particularly encouraging to Grier against LMU was his team's limiting turnovers (10) while being opportunistic enough to score 29 points off 18 MU turnovers.

"We've made progress; we're starting to play better offense," Grier said. "The team has a better understanding of what we want to do in this system and executing it."

Hank Wesch: (619) 293-1853; hank.wesch@uniontrib.com

February 3, 2008

USD frosh Jones has breakout game vs. LMU

By **Hank Wesch**
STAFF WRITER

LOS ANGELES — The breakout game from freshman Rob Jones that the USD men's basketball team has been waiting for happened last night.

Toreros
72

Loyola M.
48

Jones scored 27 points and corralled 13 rebounds, career highs both, for his first collegiate double-double and led the Toreros (12-11, 5-1 West Coast Conference) to a 72-48 victory over Loyola Marymount before 1,465 at Gersten Pavilion.

The previous bests for Jones, a 6-foot-6, 230-pound forward from San Francisco, had been 18 points and nine rebounds in an embarrassing home loss to Cal State Bakersfield on Jan. 9.

Last night, Jones passed the 18-point mark three minutes into the second half and made it into double figures in rebounds shortly thereafter as USD built on a 10-point half-time lead by outscoring LMU

18-3 to open the half.

"We played a lot of good team ball tonight," Jones said. "This road trip we want to come away with two wins. It would have been a shame, coming off the big win (Monday against No. 20 Saint Mary's) to have not played well."

The Toreros showed good focus and intensity on defense from the start and were thus able to get their transition game going as never before this season.

USD forced 18 LMU turnovers and turned them into 29 points. Jones was a frequent beneficiary, beating his Lions front-line counterparts down the floor and muscling home layups off passes from guards Brandon Johnson (seven assists), De'Jon Jackson (six assists) and Trumaine Johnson (five).

USD scored on six of its first seven second-half possessions. On three of them Jones streaked down the center of the key, caught passes from either Brandon or Trumaine Johnson and scored. On another,

Jones boarded a Trumaine Johnson miss and scored on the putback.

"They weren't getting back in transition, it was wide open and my teammates got me the ball," Jones said.

The Toreros had 23 assists on 33 field goals and outscored LMU (4-18, 1-5) 50-22 in the paint.

Gyno Pomare (14 points) was the only Torero besides Jones in double figures but eight USD players scored. Pomare's evening started ominously when he picked up two fouls in a span of 19 seconds, the second with 15:32 remaining in the first half.

Pomare took a seat for the remainder of the first 20 minutes, but Jones made sure Pomare wasn't missed too much.

"When Gyno picked up those two fouls in the first half, Rob did a great job of not only scoring but rebounding, defending and just being a man in there," USD coach Bill Grier said.

"He was aggressive and confident but also under control. There have been times when he's gotten out of control, but hey, he's still a freshman."

The Toreros remain tied for second with Saint Mary's in the WCC standings. They complete the two-game Los Angeles trip tomorrow night against Pepperdine in Malibu.

Sutton gets No. 800

Eddie Sutton became just the fourth coach to win 800 games as San Francisco (6-15, 2-4) came back from a 19-point second-half deficit to beat host Pepperdine (7-15, 1-5) 85-82 ... Austin Daye

WCC

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Gonzaga	6	0	.1000	17	5	.773
Saint Mary's	5	1	.833	18	3	.857
USD	5	1	.833	12	11	.522
Santa Clara	3	3	.500	11	10	.524
USF	2	4	.333	6	15	.286
Pepperdine	1	5	.167	7	15	.318
Portland	1	5	.167	7	15	.318
LMU	1	5	.167	4	18	.182

Yesterday's Results

USD 72, Loyola Marymount 48
Gonzaga 87, Santa Clara 82, 2OT
Saint Mary's, Calif. 86, Portland 49
San Francisco 85, Pepperdine 82

Tomorrow's Games

USD at Pepperdine, 7 p.m.
San Francisco at LMU, 7:05 p.m.
Gonzaga at Saint Mary's, 8 p.m.
Portland at Santa Clara, 8 p.m.

USD SUMMARY

USD 72, Loyola Marymount 48

USD	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Pomare	18	7-7	0-1	2-5	1	2	14
Jones	35	13-22	1-3	6-13	1	2	27
B.Johnson	32	3-14	0-0	0-6	7	0	9
T.Johnson	32	3-4	0-0	0-2	5	1	6
Jackson	30	1-9	1-1	1-2	6	2	3
Ginty	14	0-2	0-0	0-1	3	4	0
Price	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Lewis	21	3-4	0-0	0-1	0	0	7
Brown	4	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Houston	2	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	2
Lozeau	10	2-2	0-0	0-1	0	5	4
Totals	200	33-66	2-5	10-34	23	17	72

Percentages: FG .500, FT .400, 3-Point Goals: 4-18, 22.2 (B.Johnson 3-9, Lewis 1-2, Brown 0-1, Jones 0-2, Jackson 0-2, Ginty 0-2). Team Rebounds: 3. Blocked Shots: 5 (Pomare 3, Jones, Jackson). Turnovers: 10 (B.Johnson 3, Ginty 2, Jones 2, T.Johnson 2, Pomare). Steals: 9 (B.Johnson 3, T.Johnson 3, Jones 2, Pomare). Technical Fouls: None.

LMU	Min	FG-A	FT-A	R	A	F	Pts
Sweezy	11	0-2	0-0	0-1	0	2	0
Diederichs	22	3-6	4-4	1-2	0	1	10
Counts	31	3-4	0-0	0-2	1	0	7
Johnson	31	0-5	1-2	0-2	2	0	1
Deadwiler	24	2-4	0-0	1-2	5	3	4
Johnson	7	0-1	0-2	0-0	0	3	0
Turner	5	0-1	1-2	0-0	0	0	1
Craig	2	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Kanne	2	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Devic	13	4-5	1-1	0-1	0	2	9
Sutton	19	2-5	2-4	1-3	0	1	6
Walker	8	0-1	3-4	1-4	0	0	3
Ziri	18	0-3	3-4	3-11	0	0	3
Maynard	10	2-7	0-0	1-2	1	2	4
Totals	201	16-45	15-23	9-34	9	14	48

Percentages: FG .356, FT .652, 3-Point Goals: 1-7, 14.3 (Counts 1-1, Kanne 0-1, Walker 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Ziri 0-1, Deadwiler 0-2). Team Rebounds: 4. Blocked Shots: 3 (Sweezy, Johnson, Diederichs). Turnovers: 18 (Johnson 4, Sutton 3, Counts 2, Sweezy 2, Devic 2, Ziri 2, Deadwiler 2, Diederichs). Steals: 4 (Johnson 2, Walker, Counts). Technical Fouls: None.

USD (12-11)	34	38	-72
Loyola Marymount (4-18)	24	24	-48

A-1,465. Off-Rick Batsell, Sam Haddad, Jeff Ketchu.

scored 13 of his career-high 22 points in OT, including the go-ahead basket, as Gonzaga (17-5, 6-0) survived host Santa Clara's (11-10, 3-3) upset bid, escaping with a 87-82 victory.

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The Associated Press contributed to this report.

February 4, 2008



Toreros Report

Today: at Pepperdine

Tipoff: 7:05 p.m. at Firestone Fieldhouse, Malibu

Records: University of San Diego 12-11, 5-1 West Coast Conference; Pepperdine, 7-15, 1-5

TV/Radio: FSN/1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: The Toreros not only avoided a letdown on the road following last week's upset of No. 21 Saint Mary's, they routed Loyola Marymount 72-48. Freshman F **Rob Jones** led the Toreros with career highs of 27 points and 13 rebounds. ... The Toreros are playing better defense, especially against 3-point shooting. In USD's last three games, opponents have combined to shoot 9-of-42 from 3-point range. The Toreros won all three games and find themselves tied for second in the conference standings, one game behind Gonzaga. ... Freshman F **Tyrone Shelley**, the CIF San Diego Section career scoring record holder from Crawford High, leads Pepperdine, averaging 15.4 points per game. **Malcolm Thomas** (6-foot-8), Shelley's Crawford teammate, led the Waves with 18 points against Loyola in their only conference win. ... Pepperdine junior G **Rico Tucker** committed to USD as a junior at San Diego's University High (now Cathedral Catholic), but signed with Minnesota, where he played for two years before sitting out last season as a transfer. ... **Eric Bridgeland** is 1-3 since he took over as Pepperdine's interim head coach after **Vance Walberg** resigned on Jan. 17.

— Tom Shanahan

North County Times

February 3, 2008

Toreros cruise past LMU

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Rob Jones had a career-high 27 points and 13 rebounds to lead the University of San Diego to a 72-48 victory over Loyola Marymount in a West Coast Conference game on Saturday.

Jones, a freshman, scored 10 points during an 18-3 run to open the second half for the Toreros (12-11, 5-1), who have won four in a row.

Gyno Pomare (El Camino High) added 14 points and five rebounds for USD. Brandon Johnson had nine points, all coming

on three first-half 3-pointers.

Tim Diederichs scored 10 points and Jon Ziri had 11 rebounds for Loyola Marymount (4-18, 1-5), which has lost four in a row and 11 out of its last 12 games. It was the third time this season the Lions have been held under 50 points.

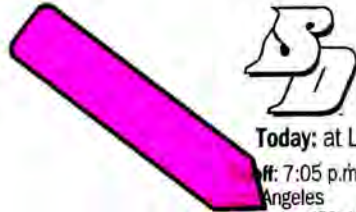
USD scored 29 points on 18 Loyola Marymount turnovers and dominated around the basket with a 50-22 scoring advantage in the paint.

The Toreros shot 50 percent from the field and had 33 field goals to the Lions' 16.

Loyola Marymount managed just nine assists in the game.

North County Times

February 2, 2008



Toreros Report

Today: at Loyola Marymount

Time: 7:05 p.m. at Gersten Pavilion in
Angeles

Records: USD 11-11, 4-1 West Coast
Conference; Loyola Marymount 4-17, 1-4

Radio: 1090 AM, 105.7 FM

At a glance: USD is coming off a 63-55 upset of No. 21 Saint Mary's on Monday night in a West Coast Conference game on its home court. The victory could turn out to be a seminal moment in first-year coach **Bill Grier's** building of a program, but only if the Toreros continue to build on the success. Earlier this season, USD posted a momentous victory at Kentucky, then played sluggishly two days later in a loss at Marshall. This time, Grier has had five days to counsel his players about avoiding a letdown and the Toreros are facing a struggling opponent in Loyola Marymount. The Lions have lost three straight. ... Freshman G/F **Orlando Johnson** (6-foot-5) leads the Lions, averaging 13.0 points and 5.5 rebounds per game. ... Although Loyola Marymount has won only four games, one of those victories came against a Boise State team that beat USD. ... Toreros junior G **Brandon Johnson** was named the WCC player of the week for scoring 25 points in a victory over Santa Clara on Saturday and 27 against Saint Mary's. ... USD junior F/C **Gyno Pomare** (El Camino High) and Johnson earlier in the season became the 21st and 22nd players in USD's 52-year history to score 1,000 career points.

— Tom Shanahan

February 29, 2008

Waves double USD

Pepperdine took a 34-17 halftime lead over USD and turned it into a 65-51 West Coast Conference win last night in Malibu. Amber Sprague (Mission Bay) scored 12 points, Brianna Estell added 11 and Sam Child scored nine points with 10 rebounds for the Toreros (15-12, 6-7). Miranda Ayim scored 24 points and had 13 rebounds for the Waves (9-17, 4-9).

BEACH & BAY PRESS

February 28, 2008



PAUL DOUGLAS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

SEASON CLOSER

USD point guard Amanda Rego (2) rallied the Lady Toreros from a 14-point halftime deficit to an 81-71 victory over St. Mary's Saturday, Feb 23, with a 14-point and 16-assist performance in her last regular home game. USD will host the WCC championships March 6-9.

February 24, 2008

USD women start to make their move



Nicole Vargas
WRITER

On nine occasions this season, the USD women's basketball team left the court down at halftime.

Toreros
81

Saint Mary's
71

On all nine occasions, the Toreros were unable to come back from that deficit and win the game.

USD, though, finally snapped that streak, proving it may be peaking at the perfect time.

Playing their final home game before hosting the West Coast Conference Tournament, the Toreros bounced back to upend Saint Mary's 81-71 yesterday.

A spirited crowd of 612, many on hand to honor seniors Amanda Rego and Alcha Strane, not only saw USD (15-11, 6-6) win its sixth game in seven tries, but saw Rego make school history at the same time.

The 5-foot-10 Mission Bay product — ranked No. 2 in the nation for assists — broke her own school record for assists in a game, finishing with 16. Rego added 14 points for her fifth double-double of the season.

"She's everything to us," said USD head coach Cindy Fisher of Rego. "She's our floor leader, our encourager, our enforcer. She just showed it (against the Gaels). She just dug down deep and was not going to let us lose this game. Both of our seniors, Rego and

Alcha, they're leaders."

Saint Mary's (13-15, 5-7) finished the first half making half of their 36 shots from the floor, including 9-of-12 from behind the three-point line, and building a 47-33 lead.

The Toreros, though, came out with a renewed focus on defense in the final period, and used a 16-0 run, capped by a jumper by junior Kiva Herman, to take a lead they would never again relinquish.

"We knew they couldn't shoot that same percentage in the second half," Rego said. "They were shooting lights out. We just had to play better defense."

USD did just that, with 10 blocks and nine steals, outrebounding Saint Mary's 40-28.

Junior Amber Sprague made all six of her field goal attempts for 13 points, while Herman scored 16 and freshman Sam Child led the team with 20 points.

The win, coupled with a 60-49 upset of third-place Loyola Marymount by last-place Pepperdine yesterday, means the Toreros are tied with the Lions for third place in the WCC.

USD visits the Waves on Thursday, before closing out the season Saturday at LMU.

Aztecs lose

BYU's Mallery Carling scored 20 points as the host Cougars (13-11, 7-5) edged SDSU 46-43 in a Mountain West Conference game. Jene' Morris scored 14 points for the Aztecs (13-12, 4-9).

February 24, 2008

WOMEN

Rego leads Toreros to victory over Saint Mary's

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Senior point guard Amanda Rego had 14 points and 16 assists to lead the University of San Diego women's basketball team to an 81-71 win over visiting Saint Mary's on Saturday.

Sam Child led USD (15-11, 6-6 West Coast Conference) with 20 points on 10-for-14 shooting. Kiva Herman added 16 points and Amber Sprague chipped in 13 points for the Toreros.

The Gaels (13-15, 5-7) had a 14-point halftime lead, but USD went on a 16-0 run to open the second half and take control.



The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

Toreros stun Santa Clara in 66-53 rout

WNBA-bound Parker lifts Tennessee

Mercury News Wire Services

Article Launched: 02/22/2008 01:40:15 AM PST

With an opportunity to all but lock up second place in the West Coast Conference race, Santa Clara fell into a big early deficit from which it could never recover in a 66-53 loss Thursday at the University of San Diego.

The Broncos (18-8, 7-4 WCC) have lost four of six and saw their lead over second-place Loyola Marymount cut to one game with three remaining.

SCU barely held off the Toreros (14-11, 5-6) last month at the Leavey Center, needing a pair of free throws with one second left to escape with a 66-64 victory. Thursday, the Toreros broke a 17-17 tie with a 13-3 run late in the first half and remained in control the rest of the way.

SCU cut the deficit to 42-36 on Jen Gottschalk's layup early in the second half, but San Diego responded with an 18-9 run and led by double digits most of the second half.

Tracey Walker led the Broncos with 12 points, while Gottschalk and Elizabeth Doran added 11 points each.

Tennessee 85, Alabama 58 :

On the day she announced that she's leaving for the WNBA draft and Olympic play after the season, Candace Parker scored 19 points to help lead the No. 3 Lady Vols (24-2, 10-1 Southeastern

Conference) rolled past the host Crimson Tide (8-19, 1-11).

Parker, the first woman to win a national slam dunk contest, announced earlier that she will skip her freshman season for the chance to play professionally. The redshirt junior will graduate at the end of this season and plans to participate in the Olympics and pursue a professional career. Parker redshirted her freshman season to recover from surgeries to repair a torn knee ligament.

Parker said she didn't really talk to anyone before making the decision to leave.

"I didn't really know it was that big of a deal," she said. "I really didn't think about it that much."

Coach Pat Summitt said she didn't try to talk Parker out of leaving. "If she feels like that's the best decision for her, then obviously I'm going to support her," Summitt said.

New Mexico State 81, San Jose State 65 : Myosha Barnes scored a season-high 17 points, but the Spartans (2-23, 1-11 Western Athletic Conference) had to play catchup most of the night against the third-place Aggies (19-6, 9-3) at the Event Center.

SJSU, which has lost seven in a row and 17 of 18, trailed 39-25 at halftime and faced as much as a 23-point deficit in the second half against the Aggies, who shot 48.2 percent from the field.



"It is frustrating when can score 65 points in a game but can't win because of defense," Coach Pam DeCosta said.

Natalie White, SJSU's leading scorer, returned after serving a four-game suspension for violating unspecified team rules and scored eight points on

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February 17, 2008



More women's basketball

Five Gonzaga players scored in double figures as the Bulldogs halted USD's four-game winning streak in Gonzaga's 76-60 win yesterday over the Toreros in a West Coast Conference game at Spokane, Wash.

Heather Bowman had 19 points to lead Gonzaga (19-7, 10-1) with Courtney Vandersloot and Tiffanie Shives each adding 14 points. Morgan Henderson scored 17 points and Amanda Rego added 13 for the Toreros (13-11, 4-6), who were down 50-29 at halftime and shot just 35 percent from the floor for the game.

February 15, 2008



SD women win

USD's Amber Sprague (Mission Bay High) scored 30 points and Amanda Rego had 11 assists as the Toreros beat host **Portland** 62-52 in a West Coast Conference game.

Kiva Herman added 20 points for USD (13-10, 4-5 WCC). Allyson Sievers led Portland (14-11, 4-6) with 14 points.

February 10, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

Rego's unusual triple-double (10-10-10) lifts USD

UNION-TRIBUNE

Senior Amanda Rego (Mission Bay High) had her second triple-double with 10 points, 10 assists and 10 steals as the host USD women's basketball team beat the University of San Francisco 67-48 in a West Coast Conference game.

Amber Sprague (Mission Bay) recorded a double-double with 12 points

and 12 rebounds for the Toreros (12-11, 3-5), and Kiva Herman had a game-high 16 points against the Dons (13-10, 4-4).

over USF

February 10, 2008

USD women finally living up to early billing



TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

SAN DIEGO — The University of San Diego's women's basketball team was ready for UCLA on Dec. 8 when it beat the Bruins by 14 points.

The Toreros were ready for then-No. 19 Texas on Dec. 30 when they took the Longhorns down to the final seconds before falling by two points.

But USD learned the hard way that it wasn't ready to wear the bull's-eye of pre-season favorite at the start of West Coast Conference play in January.

After a baffling 0-5 conference start, the Toreros beat the University San Francisco 67-48 Saturday afternoon for their third straight WCC victory before 425 fans at the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

"We've always been hunters and now we're being hunted," said senior guard Amanda Rego, who had a triple-double. "Now we're stepping up to playing against that type of pressure."

The Toreros (12-10, 3-5 WCC) turned the tables on San Francisco (13-10, 4-4) after opening conference play on Jan. 12 with an 80-62 loss against Dons.

That defeat was followed by four more against Gonzaga, Portland, Santa Clara and St. Mary's before the

Toreros stopped the bleeding last weekend with home wins against Loyola Marymount and Pepperdine to finish the first round of conference play.

USD coach Cindy Fisher shouldered some of the blame, saying her team wasn't ready for defensive and lineup changes she employed in hopes of crossing up WCC scouting reports.

"We did some full court stuff that we weren't ready for with our young kids," she said. "We went back to playing the way we're comfortable with."

Rego, a Mission Bay High alumnus and the team's only senior, finished with 10 points, 10 assists and 10 steals.

USD led 32-26 at halftime before putting San Francisco away with a 15-4 run for a 47-30 lead with 12:24 left in the game.

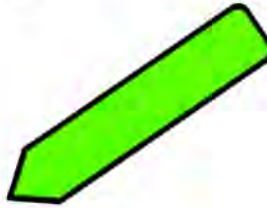
Fisher said she liked the confidence her team played with, especially after the Dons had cut the Toreros' lead to 27-26 at one point in the first half.

USD's Kiva Herman, a 6-foot junior forward, scored 10 of her team-high 16 points in the second half.

Amber Sprague, USD's 6-5 center from Mission Bay, added a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

"I think that was the best game we put together this year," Fisher said. "We played (with) great confidence the whole time. We knew they would make some runs at us, but we withstood it. We had good focus from beginning to end."

February 9, 2008



USF at USD women

Site/time: Jenny Craig Pavilion/2 p.m.

Records: USF 19-9, 4-3 WCC; USD 11-10, 2-5

Outlook: Fans who wear pink will be admitted free today as part of the "Think Pink" initiative to fight breast cancer.

February 3, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

Toreros down Pepperdine for second straight

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Four USD women's basketball players scored in double figures, led by Amber Sprague's 15 points and 16 rebounds, to help lead the host Toreros (11-10, 2-5) 83-72 over Pepperdine yesterday for their second straight West Coast Conference win.

Daphanie Kennedy was the game's leading scorer with 18 points. She

made 7-of-8 field goals and 2-of-3 three-pointers for the Waves. With the loss, the Waves fell to 6-14 overall and 1-6 in the WCC.

conference win

February 1, 2008

USD women get first conference victory

By Nicole Vargas
STAFF WRITER

On the recruiting trail, USD women's basketball coach Cindy Fisher knew she had found a player with real potential in a young forward named Sam Child.

Toreros

72

LMU

56

But even Fisher can't hide her excitement when she talks about the progress of the 6-foot freshman from

Portland.

"She plays like a veteran," said Fisher, who admits she sometimes forgets in practice that Child is playing just her first year of college basketball. "She shows up for big games."

In the biggest game of the season so far, Child put together a career night for the Toreros, leading USD to a 72-56 victory over Loyola Marymount in a nationally televised game at Jenny Craig Pavilion last night.

With the win, the Toreros (10-10, 1-5) finally broke through with their first West Coast Conference victory, giving a much-needed boost to the team picked early on to win the league.

"We just decided we were sick of losing," said Child, who tallied her second career performance in as many games. "This was our house and we were going to play our game."

Child's game seemed almost impossible for the Lions (11-10, 3-3) to contain, as the freshman bested her previous career high by nine points, finishing with 27.

That included making 3-of-4 three-pointers and pulling down nine rebounds, another career high.

Amber Sprague and Kiva Herman each added double-doubles, with Sprague scoring 11 points to go with 12 rebounds and Herman getting 14 points and 10 rebounds.

The Toreros finished with 47 rebounds, well ahead of LMU's total of 32. USD doubled the Lions in assists, finishing with 18, and its 52.7 percent field goal rate was considerably better than LMU's 32.4.

"They have stayed so focused,

and haven't gotten down," Fisher said. "They continued to believe.

"Sometimes, that first win is hard to get. They just needed a win."

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Toreros are tough, and that's no bull

By Jill Lieber Steeg, USA TODAY

SAN DIEGO — Rich Hill isn't a run-of-the-mill college baseball coach. The first clue is the stack of surfboards engulfing his University of San Diego office.

"Rich and I get to work early, between 6 and 6:30 a.m.," says Ky Snyder, USD's executive director of athletics. "We always bump into each other. He's either on the way out to the waves or on the way back in. It's tough to tell. The key? Is the wet suit hung up or is it in the car?"

There are other clues Hill breaks the traditional mold. That he trains his players like New-Age Navy Seals, putting them through high-intensity cardio workouts combined with old-school calisthenics, as well as yoga, breathing and visualization exercises. That he emblazons motivational mantras on pencils, plastic cups, bulletin boards and T-shirts. That he quotes everybody from Sir Francis Bacon to Kermit the Frog.

These days, he's high on a proclamation made famous by comedian Will Ferrell in the movie *Wedding Crashers*: "I'm just living the dream!"

No words could be more fitting.

Beginning his 10th season as USD's baseball coach, Hill, 45, has transformed the Toreros from an average West Coast Conference team that had never won a conference championship into an emerging national powerhouse.

USD, ranked No. 9 in the USA TODAY/ESPN Baseball Coaches Poll, opens the season Friday with a four-game series against crosstown rival San Diego State, coached by Hall of Famer and "Mr. San Diego" Tony Gwynn.

A year ago, USD posted a 43-18 record (its first 40-win season), won its third WCC title under Hill, had four players named to various All-America teams, four players drafted or turning pro (27 total in Hill's USD career) and became the first WCC school to receive a national seed in the NCAA tournament and the first school in San Diego to host an NCAA Regional.

The Toreros also signed the nation's No. 1 2008 recruiting class, according to *Baseball America*. They are led by three preseason All-Americans, including junior lefthander Brian Matusz, who could be the No. 1 pitcher taken in the June draft and possibly No. 2 overall. (Tampa Bay and Pittsburgh have the first two picks.)

Making the turn

USD's program began to make a dramatic turn upward about five years ago. Hill hired pitching coach Eric Valenzuela and a few years later added hitting coach Jay Johnson. Coming on board in Fall 2005 were Matusz and Josh Romanski, a left-hander/outfielder and preseason All-America.

Then, in February 2006, the Toreros put themselves on the map, sweeping defending national champion Texas in a three-game series at home. "It was shock-the-world stuff," Hill says. "We became a national-caliber team overnight."

Says Matusz: "That's when I knew we were a program on the rise. The team was very, very close. We decided we wanted to be in the national spotlight."

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VISTAGE

That they are. Perennial power Texas is ranked No. 7 in the USA TODAY/ESPN poll, and two-time defending national champion Oregon State is No. 11. All of which prompts Hill (309-219-3) to launch into a quote.

"As the *Sesame Street* song goes, 'One of these things is not like the others,' " Hill says. "Look at the schools that are 1 through 20! What's USD doing on this list?"

Unlike Texas, Oregon State and the other traditional powers that boast numerous national titles and appearances in the NCAA men's College World Series, USD does not come close to having their financial resources, state-of-the-art facilities or name recognition.

USD does not have a Bowl Championship Series football program to generate revenue for its athletic department. Its Cunningham Stadium seats just 1,200. To host last June's NCAA Regional, they had to rent Tony Gwynn Stadium from San Diego State, although Hill credits Gwynn for making it happen.

Gwynn, though, has not been able to capitalize on his fame. Since Gwynn (142-162) took over in 2002, the Aztecs have never been to an NCAA Regional and have had only one winning season. They received no votes in the poll. And Gwynn is 3-10 against Hill. Gwynn is in the final year of his contract, but athletics director Jeff Schemmel told *The San Diego Union-Tribune* he's "not on the hot seat."

"I was really happy for Tony when he got the job at San Diego State," Hill says. "I could see his passion and energy for starting something new. He was fired up for the next chapter in his life."

Omaha or bust

Being ranked among the giants doesn't faze Hill or his players.

"We don't look at rankings," says Matusz, 21, from Cave Creek, Ariz. Fellow junior Romanski, 21, from Corona, Calif., agrees; "We're focused on Omaha," site of the College World Series.

Still, Matusz and Romanski recently have been working overtime to soak up more of Hill's hang ten, er, hang loose attitude. Both communication studies majors with minors in leadership, they are enrolled in anthropology, "Surf Culture and History" and, among other things, are writing haikus.

"It's an intense course," Romanski says. "We had a 250-page book to read in the first two weeks."

To make sure the Toreros keep their eyes on the prize, Hill has taped three photos of Omaha's Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium to the board behind his desk. He also has printed up T-shirts, one with "OMAHA" written across the front, the other with "WHAT TIME IS IT? NOW WHERE ARE YOU? HERE" wrapped around the bottom.

"The media asks, 'What about the pressure of being ranked?' " Hill says. "They're all attachments to a task. We have a goal, but our focus shrinks with training and preparation. Rankings are so the experts can validate what you've done in the past. They help you attract recruits, but they don't help you play better, and that's what we're after."

Says Matusz: "Coach Hill instills in us to be great that day, to always stay in the moment."

Hence, his favorite Hill T-shirt creation: "M.A.G.I.C. TODAY" — for Make A Greater Individual Commitment Today.

To explain how the Toreros got to this point, Hill starts with a Bacon quote: "We rise to great heights by a winding staircase."

Hill is a Northern California beach boy who cut his coaching teeth at alma mater California Lutheran, the University of San Francisco and the Cape Cod League. He and his wife, Lori, a Southern California girl, and their children Robbie, 16, and Lindsey, 13, jumped at the USD opportunity and chance to embrace the San Diego lifestyle.

"I walked in and said, 'How are we going to compete at the national level?' " Hill recalls. He decided to focus on recruiting and development. "I went into hundreds of homes and told parents, 'We're going to make your son a ballplayer, perhaps even a big leaguer, and at the same time, he'll get an education that is unparalleled.'"

Hill put out "an extreme effort" with home visits and speaking engagements at every San Diego baseball or community function imaginable. As the established, big-time programs looked for blue-chip high school players, Hill beat the bushes for long-range prospects. Would they opt to sign pro contracts out of high school, or would they play college ball and be the right fit for USD?

"We didn't worry about recruiting against the West Coast powers," he says. "We were going to build this ourselves. We called it a paradigm shift. We adopted the mantra, 'Act as if ... ' Act as if we're a national contender. Act as if we're West Coast Conference champions. Act as if we're West Regionals champs."

He had those dreams printed on pencils and plastic cups. "It was important for (the players) to look at it 24/7," he said.

Now, they're in the top 10.

"They have one responsibility: Be great today," Hill says. "We demand maximum effort on the field, in the classroom and in regards to character."

Find this article at:

http://www.usatoday.com/sports/college/baseball/2008-02-20-sandiego_N.htm

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Toreros take top billing over Gwynn's Aztecs in San Diego baseball

Posted: Thursday Feb 21, 2008 5:42 PM

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SAN DIEGO (AP) -Sometimes, Rich Hill can't help but be amazed at how he's turned his University of San Diego baseball team into a national power.

After all, his Toreros should be the little guys in town. They're the ones from the Catholic school on the hill, playing in a stadium that doesn't have lights. Across town at San Diego State, Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn is the coach and the Aztecs have one of the nicest little ballparks around.



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MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

Funny, then, that it was the Toreros, not the Aztecs, who played in an NCAA regional last spring at Tony Gwynn Stadium.

Such is the state of college baseball in San Diego. Like any other surfer dude - Hill took up the sport about six years ago and keeps two surfboards in his office - the coach is going to ride this wave as long as he can.

"When you look at the national seeds from last year and you look at the national rankings for this year, and how we swept Texas two or three years ago, whatever it was, doing all these great things, it just doesn't add up," Hill mused recently while sitting near the pool in the middle of the sports complex on the picturesque campus not far from the Pacific Ocean.

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"With the resources and facilities we have compared to SEC teams, Pac-10 teams, Big 12 teams, ACC, it's a pretty phenomenal accomplishment."

Even with all that, the pitching-rich Toreros can - and feel they should - do more.

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The Toreros were on such a roll last year that they felt they were going to

make it all the way to the College World Series. The best season in school history included 43 wins, a No. 4 ranking in Baseball America's Top 25 and the No. 8 seed in the 64-team NCAA tournament.

Then their season ended with two shocking losses in the first NCAA regionals played in San Diego.

"It was such a phenomenal season and to have it end like that within a time frame of 24 hours was extremely disappointing," said Hill, who was Gwynn's teammate at San Diego State in 1981.

What was an open wound during the summer has, for the most part, closed.

"I think it was a great experience that our returning players can draw upon and that's all we should take from that regional," Hill said.

The Toreros, ranked anywhere from No. 5 to No. 12 in various preseason polls, aren't relying on any slogans for motivation. They're simply going to try again.

"So how do you top that?" Hill said about last year. "But that's our goal, is to top that, because the goal in this program is to get to the College World Series."

The Toreros hope to keep alive the buzz they created last year.

"I felt like for the first time, we had an emotional attachment with the community," said Hill, who's 309-219-3 in nine seasons at USD. "That was another disappointing aspect of the way the season finished in a puff of smoke. People were talking about the College World Series for the first time, the place was packed, the exposure was awesome."

The Toreros will be back at Tony Gwynn Stadium on Friday night for the opener of a four-game series against San Diego State. Each school will host a game Saturday, with the series finishing Sunday at USD.

Both schools would normally be about a month into their seasons by now. But the NCAA created a uniform starting date for Division I teams to create more competitive balance.

The Toreros' success starts with their pitching. Hill has assembled one of the nation's best staffs, led by left-hander Brian Matusz and lefty Josh Romanski, a two-way player.

Across town, Gwynn is trying to catch up to the Toreros. He is 142-162 in five seasons at his alma mater and has yet to get the Aztecs to the regionals.

At the very least, Gwynn likes the state of college ball in San Diego.

"Obviously the job Rich has done over there at USD, no question, helps, but we want to be part of that, too," Gwynn said.

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SDSU was 10 games over .500 late last season before collapsing offensively and winning only two of its final 15 games. The Aztecs were quickly ushered out of the Mountain West Conference tournament.

"Hopefully we can do a better job," said Gwynn, who in 20 seasons with the Padres hit .338, won eight NL batting titles and amassed 3,141 hits.

"People assume that because I'm here we're going to be one of the best-hitting teams in college baseball," Gwynn said. "Kids are just like adults, man. You go up there and make mistakes, you're going to make outs. The trick is getting those guys to trust what they do."

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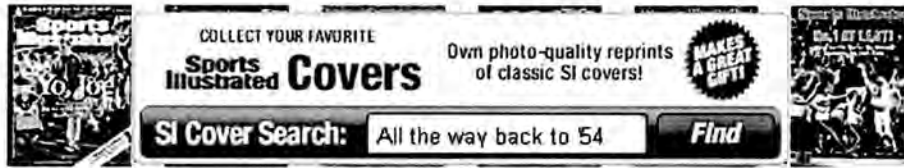
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February 24, 2008

Romanski powers USD, but Aztecs rally for split

JOHN MAFFEI
STAFF WRITER

SAN DIEGO — Josh Romanski banged a ball off his foot and rolled on the ground in pain for nearly five minutes.

Three pitches later, he banged an inside fastball off the dorms in right field.

His three-run, first-inning shot was the start of a 14-hit attack as the University of San Diego beat up San Diego State's pitching, posting a 17-

11 win in the day game of a day-night college baseball doubleheader Saturday.

The day game, a four-hour marathon, played before more than 1,000 fans at USD's Cunningham stadium.

San Diego State won the night game 5-2 behind an 18-

Romanski, USD's starting winning pitcher, also pitched in the fifth, a two-run shot, and had RBI singles in the sixth and eighth innings

► **BASEBALL**, C-7

► **BASEBALL**

Continued from C-3

to finish the game with seven RBIs.

"It hurt, but I thought, 'There is no way I'm coming out of this game,'" Romanski said. "Our trainer kept asking me, 'Does this hurt? Does this hurt? Does this hurt?'"

"After a few minutes, it went from pain to soreness, so I figured I'd be OK."

Romanski, a preseason All-American for the No. 11-ranked Toreros, also figured out what the Aztecs were going to throw him.

"I had a feeling they were going to throw me an inside fastball because that's what we'd do to a guy who just hit a ball off his ankle," Romanski said.

"I was looking for it, and jumped on it."

Romanski, who was 9-1 as a sophomore last season, said the ankle hindered him on the mound, and his line — five innings, seven hits, eight runs — backed that up.

"I think he lost a little command, especially on his

fastball," said USD coach Rich Hill. "When he went down, a lot went through my mind."

"I was especially concerned if he could pitch."

"So when his pitch count got up and he was struggling a little, we got him out."

Romanski's first-inning homer started a six-run USD inning as San Diego State starter Shane Kaufman lasted just two-thirds of an inning, allowing all six runs on six hits.

The Aztecs played sloppy defense, missing three balls that fell for hits that could have been caught.

"We could have gotten out of that inning with maybe two runs," said Aztecs coach Tony Gwynn. "We made a lot of mistakes, and they cost us."

"Every inning we scored, they answered with more."

"We scored a lot of runs, but we made too many mistakes to win."

USD catcher Logan Gelbrich finished the game with three RBIs.

San Diego State second baseman Garrett Green had a big game with a pair of homers and three RBIs.

Freshman Cory Vaughn blasted a two-run bomb over the batter's eye in center field.

Weather permitting, the four-game series concludes at 1 p.m. today at USD.

February 27, 2000



SD tops Long Beach

USD freshman third baseman Victor Sanchez displayed the power the Toreros saw when they recruited him, hitting the first two homers of his collegiate career in a 5-3 victory at No. 11-ranked Long Beach State.

Sanchez hit a solo homer in the second inning and added a two-run shot in a four-run fourth that also included Kevin Munoz's two-run double as No. 17 USD (2-3) built a 5-0 lead.

The Dirtbags (2-2) closed to 5-3 through six innings, but they couldn't get a hit off Matt Couch and A.J. Griffin over the final 3 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings.

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Baseball Rebounds To Claim 15-2 Decision Over University of San Diego

Green, Hanzawa lead 18-hit offensive attack in win over Toreros

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Feb. 23, 2008



Cameron Johnson was one of seven Aztecs with multiple hits in Saturday night's win over USD.

SAN DIEGO - San Diego State bounced back from a loss earlier in the season to claim a 15-2 win over the fifth-ranked Toreros of the University of San Diego to claim a 15-2 win over the fifth-ranked Toreros of the University of San Diego Saturday evening. The contest was the second game of a doubleheader between the two clubs that saw the Aztecs hand USD their second loss in as many days.

After dropping a 17-11 decision to San Diego in the opening game of the day that saw the teams combine for 25 hits, SDSU (2-1) got stellar pitching from starter Nate Solow and reliever J.R. Murphy. The twosome held the Toreros (1-2) in check on three hits with both runs scored by the visitors being of the unearned variety. In the mean time, the Aztec offense continued its hot hitting as it totaled 18 hits off five San Diego hurlers.

After a scoreless first inning in which Solow and USD starter Matt Couch retired the side in order, the visitors got on the board in the top of the second that began with a walk to Victor Sanchez, who promptly stole second base. On a third strike to the next batter, SDSU catcher Bubba Ruddy's toss back to the mound went over Murphy's head allowing Sanchez to break for third base. Shortstop Troy Hanzawa charged the ball and attempted to throw to third, but his errant toss past the bag allowed Sanchez to score to give USD a 1-0 lead.

The Toreros' advantage was short-lived, however, as San Diego State score four times in the bottom of the inning on RBI hits by Cameron Johnson, Ruddy (a double), Brandon Decker and Brett Takos. The Aztecs added three more to their total in the both the third and fourth innings to extend their lead to 10-1 as Couch ended his evening after 3.2 innings. The Torero senior was touched up for 10 runs (nine earned) on 10 hits as he took the loss to fall to 0-1.

WINNING SHOT SWEEPSTAKES

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Solow (1-0), meanwhile, allowed a Torero runner in each frame from the third through fifth, but only one advanced as far as second base. The sophomore lefty from Albuquerque went 5.1 innings, giving up both USD runs (the second being an unearned marker in the sixth) on a pair of hits with six strikeouts. Senior J.R. Murphy, who came on in the sixth in relief of Solow, finished the final 3.2 innings, allowing one hit and striking out three. In the process, he picked up his first save.

Every starter in the Aztecs had at least one hit on the night led by three apiece from Garrett Green and Troy Hanzawa, Green, who had four hits including a pair of homers in the early game, tallied a single, double and triple with three RBI and three runs scored. Hanzawa, whose three safeties included a double, also drove in three runs and scored twice.

The games marked the season starting debut of outfielder Cameron Johnson and Brandon Decker, both of whom saw significant playing time a year ago. Johnson chipped in with a pair of hits, two RBI and two runs scored while Decker went 1-for-3 with an RBI and run scored.

San Diego and San Diego State will conclude their four-game weekend series with a contest at USD's Cunningham Stadium on Sunday, Feb. 24, at 1:00 p.m. (PST).

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Toreros Fall to Aztecs, 7-1

SDSU claims the series with the win.

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Logan Gelbrech went 2-for-4 at the plate on the loss.

Feb. 25, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The 12th-ranked University of San Diego baseball team (1-3) was defeated by its cross-town rival No. 22 San Diego State University Monday afternoon in the final game of a four-game series, 7-1 at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

The Aztecs wasted no time in scoring as they were able to take advantage of two USD miscues in the first inning to push across two unearned runs. Brett Tanos led off the inning with a walk, then he moved all the way to third after a USD throwing error. Troy Hanzawa then hit an RBI single to left field to push across Tanos. The final SDSU run came on a Garrett Green RBI sacrifice fly to take a 2-0 lead.

After the Aztecs scored one run in the top of the fourth inning, the tacked on three runs in the top of the eighth inning to put the game out of reach for the Toreros.

USD did spoil the shutout in the bottom of the eighth inning as they scored their lone run of the game. Anthony Strazzara got things started with a single to left field and advanced to second on a wild pitch. Two batters later, Sean Nicks drove in Strazzara with a RBI single up the middle to cut the lead to five at 6-1.

San Diego State then added one more run in the top of the ninth inning on a Glover RBI ground out to put the game at its final of 7-1.

Offensively for the Toreros, Josh Romanski and Logan Gelbrech each went 2-for-4 as the only Toreros to record multiple hits.

Byle Blair (0-1) was saddled with the loss for the Toreros as he allowed three runs, one earned, on four hits while striking out eight in 6.0 innings of work in his first collegiate start. Jon Berger (1-0) was credited with the win for the Aztecs as he allowed no runs on four hits in 7.0 innings of work.

The Toreros will return to action on Tuesday with a trip to Long Beach State for a 6:30 p.m. game at Blair Field.

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Baseball Opens 2008 Campaign With Victory Over No. 5 San Diego

Aztecs tally 16 hits in 11-2 win over nationally-ranked Toreros

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Nick Romero's three-run homer in the third erased a two-run deficit and helped propel the Aztecs to an 11-2 win over fifth-ranked San Diego on Friday.

Feb. 22, 2008

SAN DIEGO - In what was billed as a matchup of two of the top-rated pitchers in the country, San Diego State's Stephen Strasburg bested University of San Diego ace Brian Matusz as the Aztec knocked off the fifth-ranked Toreros, 11-2, to open their 2008 season. Strasburg's pitching was complemented by an SDSU offensive attack that tallied 16 hits and scored all of its runs after falling behind by a pair of runs early in the contest.

Strasburg, who is rated as the third-best prospect among the nation's sophomores by *Baseball America*, walked the first batter he faced, but settled in after that, going eight innings with seven strikeouts while giving up two runs on five hits. Both of those runs came in the top of the third as a safety squeeze by Ryan Davis brought home the opening run and a steal of home by Kevin Munro accounted for the second.

San Diego State wasted little time in taking a lead of its own against Matusz. *Baseball America's* top-ranked junior pitcher, as it scored four times in the bottom of the third. After freshman DH Brett Tanbo was hit by a pitch to open the inning, Troy Hanzawa beat out a bunt to put runners at first and second. Third baseman Nick Romero then deposited a Matusz changeup over the left field fence to give the Aztecs a 3-2 advantage. SDSU tacked on a fourth run in the frame on a Garrett Green single followed by a triple from Brandon Glover.

The Aztecs upped their lead to 6-2 in the fifth with back-to-back RBI singles by Tanos and Hanzawa, both of which came off Torero reliever Kyle Blair. Matusz (0-1) ended his night going 4.2 innings and allowing with six runs on eight hits and four walks. He finished with seven strikeouts.

Strasburg (1-0), meanwhile, retired seven in a row after giving up the runs in the third before allowing a one-out triple to Josh Romanski in the sixth. The hit proved meaningless, however, as the Aztec right-hander struck out Victor Sanchez and Logan Gelbrich to strand the runner at third.

San Diego State put the game way in the seventh, scoring five runs on four hits, a walk, a hit batter and a Torero error as they sent 10 men to the plate. Hanzawa, Romero, Green and Pat Corwell all accounted for an RBI during that rally.

Nick Romero (four RBI), Troy Hanzawa (two runs, two RBI) and Brett Tanbo (two runs, RBI) had three hits apiece for San Diego State as the 11 runs was the most scored by SDSU in a season opener since 1995 when it defeated Grand Canyon, 11-5. In addition, two Aztec newcomers, freshman Cory Vaughn and junior Bubba Rusby had two hits apiece. Freshman Addison Reed, expected to be SDSU's closer this season, pitched the ninth inning, retiring the side in order with one strikeout.

USD and SDSU continue their season-opening four-game series on Saturday (Feb. 23) with a split doubleheader. The teams will square off at 1:00 p.m. (PST) at USD's Cunningham Stadium, then move back to Tony Gwynn Stadium on the SDSU campus for a 7:00 p.m. (PDT) contest.

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San Diego Splits Double-Header With Aztecs

USD claimed game one 17-11, then SDSU won game two 15-2.

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Josh Romanski went 4-for-7 with two home runs and seven RBI in the two games.

Feb. 23, 2008 SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The fifth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team (1-2) split a double-header with cross-town rival San Diego State University (2-1) Saturday. USD claimed game one 17-11 at Cunningham Stadium, before falling 15-2 in the night cap at Tony Gwynn Stadium. In the first game, right from the get-go, the Toreros put the pedal to the medal and bounced back from an 11-2 defeat a night earlier. After the Aztecs put up two runs in the first inning, the Toreros responded with a six spot in their half of the inning. Kevin Muno got things rolling with a stand-up double to left center. Ryan Davis then moved Muno to third with a single to right field. Sean Nicol drove in Muno with an RBI single to the shortstop. Both Davis and Nicol then moved up one base on a wild pitch and Josh Romanski fouled a ball off his own ankle, was down for a couple of minutes, then two pitches later, he turned on a pitch and rocketed the ball over the right field fence to give USD a 3-2 lead. San Diego wasn't down yet, as Anthony Struzzola singled to right field and moved to second on a James Meador walk. Kevin Haranen then drove in the final two runs on a two-run triple to right center to give the Toreros a 6-2 lead.

Heading into the fifth inning, the Toreros were leading 9-4 and they put the game out of reach with a four run inning. Muno led off the inning on a walk, then stole second and moved to third on a throwing error by the SDSU catcher. Davis then walked and advanced to second on a wild pitch. Nicol then brought in Muno as he reached on a fielders choice that also moved Davis to third. Davis would score on a balk, which also moved Nicol to second. Romanski then hit his second homer of the game, a two-run blast to push the Torero lead to 13-4.

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USD would go on to score three runs in each the fourth and sixth innings and added in one more run in the eighth to tally all 17 runs for the game. Romanski was the offensive hero of the game as he went 4-for-5 with two home runs and seven RBI. Nicol was also impressive with the bat as he went 3-for-5 with two RBI. Romanski (1-0) also picked up the win on the hill for the Toreros as he allowed eight runs, seven earned, on seven hits in 5.0 innings of work. Shane Kaufman (0-1) was saddled with the loss for the Aztecs as he allowed six runs on six hits in 0.2 innings of work. In the nightcap, the Toreros got on the scoreboard first as they put up one run on one hit in the second inning. Sanchez got things started with a single through the left side. Sanchez then stole second and moved two more bases on back-to-back fielding errors by the Aztecs to give

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USD a brief 1-0 lead. SDSU then responded with four runs in their half of the inning. The Aztecs' runs came on a Cameron Johnson RBI single, a Bubba Ruddy run-scoring double, Brandon Decker then drove in a run on a groundout to the second baseman and the final run came on a Brett Tanos RBI single to give SDSU a 4-1 lead. After the Aztecs ripped off eight more runs to take control of the game, the Toreros took back one run in the top of the sixth inning on a fielding error by SDSU. Matt Couch (0-1) was saddled with the loss for the Toreros on the mound as he allowed 10 runs, nine earned, on 10 hits in 3.2 innings of work. Nate Solow (1-0) was credited with the win for the Aztecs as he allowed two runs on two hits in 5.1 innings of work. The Toreros will conclude their season-opening series on Sunday against SDSU with a 1 p.m. game at Cunningham Stadium, weather permitting.

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Baseball Game vs. SDSU Postponed Until Monday at 2 p.m.

USD will conclude the four-game series with SDSU on Monday at 2 p.m.

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Baseball Game Postponed until Monday at 2 p.m.

Feb. 24, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego baseball game scheduled for today at 1 p.m. against San Diego State University has been postponed to Monday at 2 p.m. due to inclement weather in the greater San Diego area. The game will still be held at Cunningham Stadium.

The Toreros (1-2) and Aztecs (2-1) have played three games in two days to open the 2008 season with SDSU claiming both games at Tony Gwynn Stadium and the Toreros registering a 17-11 win at Cunningham Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

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February 25, 2008

Aztecs and Toreros

When San Diego State and the University of San Diego opened the college baseball season over the weekend with a three-game series, there were six former North County players in uniform — four for the Aztecs, two for the Toreros.

■ Sophomore **Erik Castro** (Fallbrook) started two games at first base for the Aztecs and saw action in relief in both games of Saturday's doubleheader. He had a pair of hits — his first for San Diego State — in Saturday's night game.

■ Freshman catcher **Kevin Silvett** (Torrey Pines) started the Saturday afternoon game for the Aztecs.

■ Junior right-handed pitcher **James McLaughlin** (Torrey Pines/Palomar College) saw action in relief for San Diego State on Saturday afternoon.

■ Aztecs freshman first baseman **Grant Alegre** (La Costa Canyon) is nursing an injury and didn't see action.

■ One man who didn't play was San Diego State catcher **Matt Parker** (Rancho Bernardo). Projected as the Aztecs' starter, he had surgery to repair a stress fracture in his right foot. He's on crutches and is lost for the season.

■ Sophomore **James Meador** (Ramona) started two games at first base for the Toreros and saw action in right field Saturday night.

■ Sophomore catcher **Nick McCoy** (Westview) played Saturday night for USD.

After a rainout Sunday, the teams will try to play at 2 p.m. today at USD's Cunningham Stadium. The Aztecs host USC at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Both the Aztecs and Toreros will be in action this weekend in San Diego in the USD Tournament, an event that includes Cal Poly, Fresno State, Missouri and California.

The award goes to ...

Longtime MiraCosta men's basketball coach **Clete Adelman** will be inducted into the California Community College Men's Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The ceremony will take place March 14 in Stockton.

Adelman, one of the most respected coaches in the game, retired in 2004 after 24 years as head coach of the Spartans.

Streaking Comets

The Palomar College women's basketball team finished the regular season on a 16-game winning streak, wrapping up a 14-0 Pacific Coast Conference season and the PCC title with Saturday's 93-41 win over San Diego City College.

Today, the Comets (26-5) will find out who they will face in the Southern California Regionals. A top-four seed would assure the Comets of a pair of home games.

Palomar should also make a decision on the status of **Nikki Boone** (Carlsbad). An MRI determined Boone has a torn anterior cruciate ligament, but there is a chance she could be back for the playoffs, playing in a brace.

— John Maffei

February 26, 2008

This time SDSU beats USD with pitching, defense

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

San Diego State proved it could hit — and hit and hit—in the season's first three games against USD.

The Aztecs proved they have some pitching and defense, too, after taking the four-game series with yesterday's 7-1 win at USD's Cunningham Stadium. "We told the players, 'Don't think that it's going to be this easy just because we

had our way offensively the first three games,'" said SDSU coach Tony Gwynn. "Sooner or later you know you're going to have to have some timely hitting and make some plays and today was that day."

Baseball America was among those who took notice after the Aztecs averaged 12 runs a

game over the weekend. The publication's latest rankings were published yesterday morning and SDSU was ranked No. 22 in the nation, the first time the Aztecs have cracked the top 25 since Gwynn became coach in 2003. USD dropped from No. 11 to No. 17 in the new rankings.

"You go from nowhere to people paying attention," Gwynn said. "More because of the team you beat than people knowing us. We put a lot of runs on the board and people saw that. They're going to see today we played a pretty solid game."

The Aztecs (3-1) gave up two runs or fewer in the three wins against the Toreros (1-3). Right-hander Jon Berger limited the Toreros yesterday to four hits in seven shutout innings. He struck out just three, but kept the Toreros off balance with breaking balls and a good change-up.

"My change-up is my bread and butter," said Berger, a junior from Las Vegas. "As long as I keep that down and kind of mix it up, I just roll with it. And the defense had my back."

SDSU center fielder Brandon Glover took a home run away from Toreros leadoff hitter Kevin Muno in the first inning and SDSU right fielder Cory Vaughn made a similar play on a deep drive by Logan Gelbrich in the second.

Highly regarded freshman Kyle Blair looked good in his first collegiate start for the Toreros, striking out eight in six innings while allowing one earned run.

Blair was undone by a couple of poor throws, beginning with his errant pickoff throw in the first inning, that helped SDSU to two unearned runs in the first. The Aztecs made it 3-0 in the fourth on a wild pitch by Blair that allowed Vaughn to score from third.

SDSU catcher Erik Castro highlighted a three-run eighth inning with a two-run homer to right-center that made it 6-0.

The Aztecs play host to USC today at 6 p.m. while the Toreros travel to Long Beach State for a 6 p.m. game.

Kirk Kenney: (619) 293-1825;
kirk.kenney@uniontrib.com

February 24, 2008

Resilient Romanski leads USD to a split

By Kirk Kenney
 STAFF WRITER

USD and San Diego State weren't even through the first inning of yesterday's doubleheader and there was the Toreros' Josh Romanski rolling around on the ground after fouling a ball off his right shin. Romanski tried to get up, then fell back on all fours and bowed his head to the turf. The overflow crowd of 1,200 at USD's Cunningham Stadium could almost

feel his pain.

Toreros coach Rich Hill, assistant coach Jay Johnson and trainer Joe Parry approached Romanski with concern.

When it's a two-way player of Romanski's caliber, an injury can be devastating.

"It's scary," said Hill. "I was just listening to our trainer say, 'Does this hurt? Does this hurt? Does this hurt? And everything was, 'No. No. No.' And finally he said, 'I'm all right. I'm good.'"

The left-handed Romanski walked it off and got back in the batter's box. Three pitches later he hit a three-run homer.

Romanski's efforts sparked the No. 11-ranked Toreros to a 17-11 win over SDSU at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

"What hurt more is I rolled my ankle on the play," said Romanski. "I'm like, 'No way. I have to come out of this game right now.' Second game of the season and I'm already down with an injury."

Romanski pitched the first five innings to get the win. He also homered twice and drove in seven runs, one off the school record.

"We made some mistakes, and they made us pay," said SDSU coach Tony Gwynn. "Every inning we scored, they

came back and scored more. You're not going to beat many people doing that. Plus, we didn't pitch worth a nickel.

"I liked the way we scrapped, but we're going to have to pitch a whole lot better than that if we expect to win some games."

The Aztecs got the pitching it needed a few hours later when the teams drove over to SDSU's Tony Gwynn Stadium. SDSU left-hander Nate Solow allowed two hits over five-plus innings and J.R. Murphy allowed one hit the rest of the way in the nightcap and the Aztecs pounded USD's vaunted pitching staff for a third straight game in a 15-2 win over the Toreros (1-2).

USD's pitching staff is regarded as the best in the nation by *Baseball America*, but the Aztecs (2-1) scored in double digits in each of the series' three games. Toreros starters Brian Matusz, Romanski and Matt Couch allowed six, eight and 10 runs in their respective outings.

SDSU's hitting highlights on the day included:

- A two-run homer by right fielder Cory Vaughn off Romanski in the first game that was still going up when it cleared the 395-foot sign in straight-away center.

- Second baseman Garrett Green homered twice in the first game (one more than he hit all last season) and was 7-for-8 with six RBI and seven runs scored in the doubleheader.

The teams are scheduled to complete the four-game series today at 1 p.m. at Cunningham Stadium, although rain is forecast.

Kirk Kenney: (619) 293-1825;
 kirk.kenney@uniontrib.com

SCOREBOARD

USD 17, San Diego State 11

San Diego State	200	204	012	-	11	11	3'
USD	600	343	01x	-	17	14	1'

Kaufman, McLaughlin (1), Miller (4), Pullen (5), Dixon (5), Thomas (8) and Silvelt; Romanski, Thomson (6) and Gelbrich. HR—Green (SDSU) 2, Vaughn (SDSU), Romanski (USD) 2, Gelbrich (USD). WP—Romanski (1-0). LP—Kaufman (0-1). Sv—Thomson (1).

San Diego State 16, USD 2

USD	010	001	000	-	2	3	2
SDSU	043	322	01x	-	15	18	3

Couch, Solis (4), DeNault (6), Winnick (7), Kohorst (8) and Gelbrich; Solow, Murphy (6) and Ruddy. WP—Solow (1-0). LP—Couch (0-1). Sv—Murphy (1). records: USD (1-2); SDSU (2-1).

BY THE NUMBERS

64 – Temperature for first pitch of first game.

45 – Minutes to complete first inning of first game.

69 – Steps from field up to press box at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

3 – Rest stops from field up to press box at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

9.7 – Miles from Cunningham Stadium to Tony Gwynn Stadium.

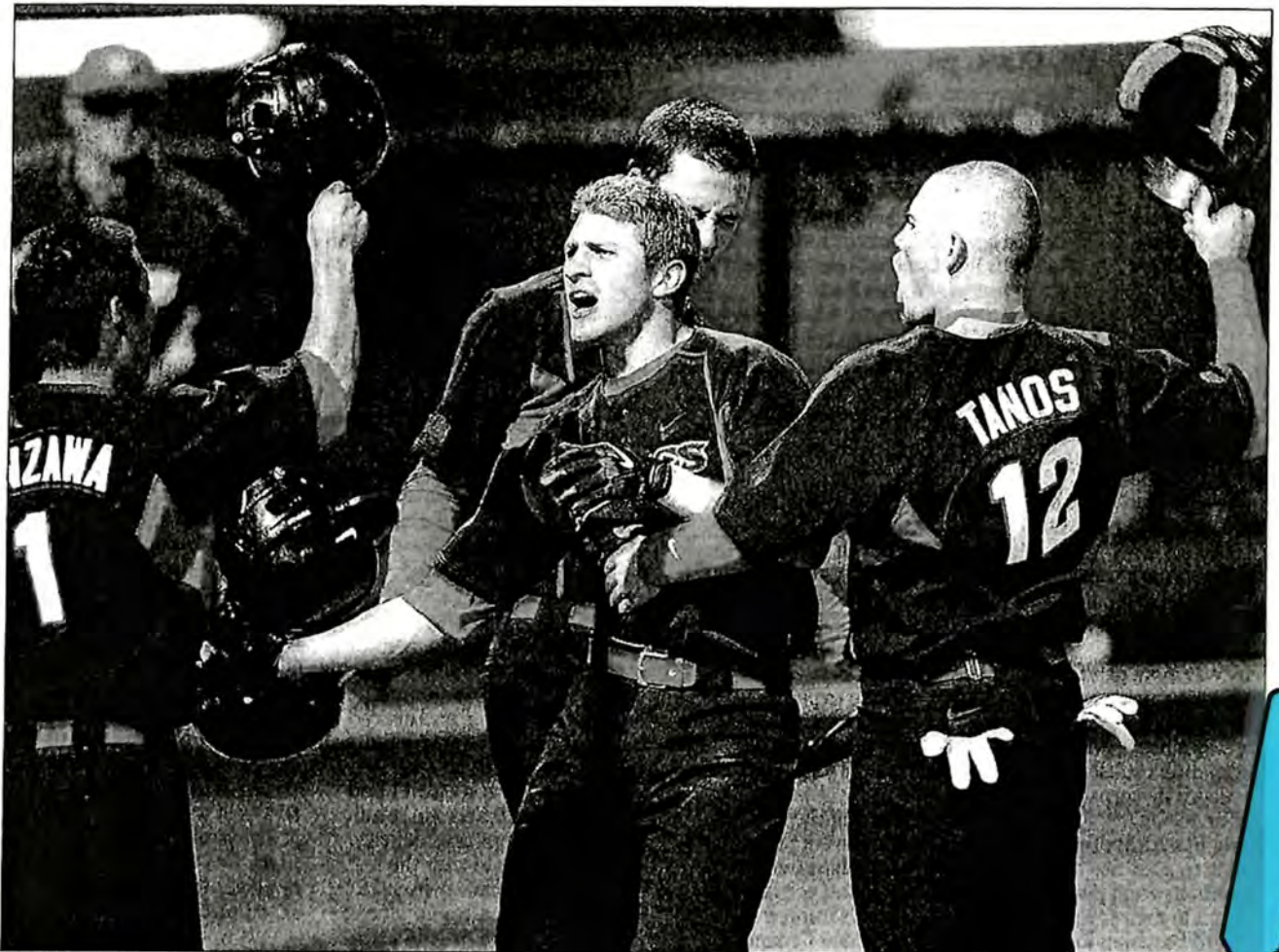
722 – Total pitches thrown in the doubleheader.

6:59 – Total elapsed time for the doubleheader.

February 23, 2008

 SAN DIEGO ST. 11 | USD 2 

Power play



ROBERT BENSON / FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

San Diego State's Nick Romero, center, is congratulated by teammates after hitting a three-run homer in the third inning against USD.

February 23, 2008

Romero, Strasburg lead Aztecs over USD

JOHN MAFFEI
STAFF WRITER

SAN DIEGO — The pitcher came from two sou... Friday — Nick Romero... the plate and Stephen... burg on the mound.

Romero slugged a... run homer in the... inning and Strasburg... a 98-mph fastball to... the University of... Diego baseball team as... Diego State beat crosstown rival and No. 11-ranked (Baseball America) USD 11-2 on a frigid evening before 1,427

Up next

■ Who: SDSU at USD, 1 p.m. today
USD at SDSU, 7 p.m. today
■ Radio: 1360 AM (7 p.m. game only)

at Tony Gwynn Stadium. It was the ninth largest crowd in Aztecs history, and it included at least 25 major-league scouts.

It was USD's fourth straight loss at Tony Gwynn Stadium, one to the Aztecs last season, then losses to Fresno State and Minnesota in an NCAA regional.

Trailing 2-0 in the third inning, Aztecs leadoff man Brett Tanos was hit by a fast-

ball from USD's preseason All-American left-hander Brian Matusz. Troy Hanzawa followed with a bunt single.

Romero then slugged a long, three-run homer over the left-field fence off Matusz, who was 10-3 last season.

It was a rare power surge for the Aztecs, who hit just 20 homers — six of those by Romero — in 59 games a year ago.

"It was just a really good night against one of the top pitchers in the country," said San Diego State coach Tony Gwynn. "We swung

the bats well, we were aggressive on the bases and we did a good job putting the ball in play."

Romero said he hit a hanging change-up from Matusz, who was clocked at 94 mph.

"Our motto this year is 'Finish it,' " Romero said. "They went up 2-0, but we knew it wasn't over.

"Every guy contributed. Everybody came through. We had a lot of clutch hits.

"We played really sound, fundamental baseball against a good USD team."

► BASEBALL, C-2

► BASEBALL

Continued from C-1

Asked if he knew the ball was out when he hit it, Romero said, "I knew I hit it well. But it was a line drive, and I didn't know if it had enough height to get out."

Strasburg surrendered two runs in the third before recording an out. Then he was dominant.

The sophomore, who was SDSU's closer with seven saves last year, retired the next 10 in a row before Josh Romanski tripled with one out in the sixth.

But USD's other preseason All-American was left at third as Strasburg struck out Victor Sanchez and Logan Gelbrich to work out of trouble.

Anthony Strazzara singled to start the USD seventh, but was wiped out on a double play.

In his first collegiate start, Strasburg allowed two runs and five hits over eight innings.



ROBERT BENSON / FOR THE NCT
SDSU's Stephen Strasburg delivers a pitch against USD.

He walked one and struck out seven with a dominant fastball and a sharp-breaking curve.

"I had a little bit of jitters early," said Strasburg, who threw 101 pitches. "But I got comfortable, then just trusted my pitches.

"And for us to answer the way we did after being down 2-0, was big.

"Nick really delivered a knockout punch."

The Aztecs added two runs in the fifth and sent 10 men to the plate, scoring five in the seventh.

Tanos was 3-for-4, scored twice and drove in a run. Hanzawa was 3-for-6, drove in two and scored two. Romero was 3-for-4 and drove in four.

Freshman Cory Vaughn, son of former big-leaguer Greg Vaughn, had two hits and scored twice as every Aztecs hitter in the starting lineup reached base and either scored a run or drove one in.

"My impression is that the Aztecs were extremely ready to play," said USD coach Rich Hill. "Their approach at the plate was phenomenal.

"And once Strasburg settled down, he was awesome."

The Aztecs and Toreros play the second and third games of the four-game series at 1 p.m. today at USD's Cunningham Stadium, and 7 tonight at SDSU.

The series concludes with a 1 p.m. game Sunday at USD.

February 23, 2008

Pitching showdown turns into Aztecs

BY **Kirk Kenney**
STAFF WRITER

The season opener between USD and San Diego State was billed as a duel between two of the nation's top pitchers.

The hitters had something to say about that last night at SDSU's Tony Gwynn Stadium, however. And it was the Aztecs whose bats spoke louder in an 11-2 win over the No. 11-ranked Toreros.

"We did a lot of things right



**AZTECS 11,
TOREROS 2**

TODAY'S DOUBLEHEADER

Game 1: At USD, 1 p.m.

Game 2: At SDSU, 7 p.m.

tonight," said SDSU coach Tony Gwynn. "Strasburg was outstanding and I thought we did a really good job trying to be aggressive (at the plate)."

Nearly three dozen major

league scouts were in the stands to watch the pitching matchup between USD's Brian Matusz and SDSU's Stephen Strasburg.

The rest of the crowd of 1,427 arrived a little late, perhaps put off by the rain that swept through the county earlier in the day.

Strasburg warmed everyone up on a cold night with a 95-mph fastball on the game's first

fireworks show

SEE **Baseball, D4**



Nick Romero knocks batting helmets with his Aztecs teammates in celebration of his three-run homer in the bottom of the third inning.
Scott Linnett / Union-Tribune

► BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Strasburg's heat warms up park

pitch. Matusz had a heater, too, and he used it to strike out four of the first six hitters he faced.

The offense stirred just when it appeared the pitchers were going to settle in for the expected duel.

USD used a lot of bunting and a little daring to take a 2-0 lead in the third inning. Three straight bunts produced the first run. Kevin Muno stole home to score the second one.

Strasburg seemed a bit startled when he walked off the mound at the end of the inning, but the Aztecs responded quickly.

Brett Tanos was hit by a pitch leading off the bottom of the third and Troy Hanzawa beat out an infield single before Nick Romero lined a three-run homer over the left-field fence.

Just like that the Aztecs had a 3-2 lead against the No. 1-ranked pitcher in the nation. SDSU added another run before Matusz could get out of the inning.

"You hear all this stuff about Matusz and how untouchable he is," said Strasburg, "but the way

Nick came in there and our other guys got after him, they really knocked him out.

"Then I'm going to go (back) out and throw it right down the middle and let them get themselves out. And that's what happened."

A rejuvenated Strasburg retired 14 of the 16 hitters he faced over the next five innings. He allowed five hits and struck out seven in eight innings.

Matusz departed with two outs in the fourth inning after throwing 99 pitches. Highly regarded freshman right-hander Kyle Blair replaced Matusz and the Aztecs added two more runs for a 6-3 lead.

"Whatever pitch I left up at the plate, they crushed it. They made us pay," said Matusz, who allowed six runs in 4½ innings.

SDSU scored five more runs in the seventh inning when it collected five of its 16 hits.

"Our whole motto this fall and spring has been for us to finish it," Romero said. "When they went ahead two runs, we knew the game wasn't over. Everybody really came through. It just shows the kind of team we're going to have this year."

The teams play again today in a day/night doubleheader, with a 1 p.m. game at USD followed by a 7 p.m. game at SDSU.

February 22, 2008



BRIAN MATUSZ, USD
6-5, 200, JR., LHP

The background: He was highly regarded coming out of St. Mary's High in Cave Creek, Ariz., three years ago. Slipped to the fourth round of the 2005 draft (Angels) because of signability questions. Followed up on a solid freshman season by going 10-3 last year with a 2.85 ERA and a school-record 163 strikeouts. Pitched for Team USA over the summer.

The buzz: He has three plus-pitches, a fastball that touches 94 mph, a terrific change-up and a good breaking ball. Scouts see a tall left-hander who is still growing into his body. *Baseball America* rates him as the top pitching prospect in the 2008 draft. Tampa Bay has the first pick.

Said a scout: "The Rays need arms more than bats. He makes a lot of sense at No. 1."

Buzz surrounds opening matchup

USD's Matusz faces SDSU's Strasburg

By **Kirk Kenney**
STAFF WRITER

USD's Brian Matusz and San Diego State's Stephen Strasburg have shared a mound before, but they've never shared a stage.

Matusz and Strasburg will share both when the Toreros and Aztecs open the 2008 college baseball season tonight at 6 at SDSU's Tony Gwynn Stadium. It is the first contest in a four-game weekend series between the crosstown rivals.

The season begins four weeks later than in past years because of the new NCAA-mandated uniform start date. This mound matchup makes it more than worth the wait.

"There's not a better pitching

USD AT SDSU

When: Today, 6 p.m.

Where: Tony Gwynn Stadium

matchup in the country to start Opening Day," said USD coach Rich Hill. "It's one of those great pitching duels that I'm sure will live up to all of its billing."

Those in attendance tonight could well be looking at the top overall picks in both the 2008 and 2009 major league drafts. If that sounds like hyperbole, understand that it is the buzz around college baseball. Much of the seating behind home plate will be reserved for area scouts, cross-checkers and

SEE **Baseball, D5**



STEPHEN STRASBURG, SDSU
6-4, 220, SOPH., RHP

The background: Went undrafted out of West Hills High two years ago. Developed into closer for the Aztecs as a freshman last season, with a 2.43 ERA and seven saves. Stock continued to climb over the summer when he played for the Torrington Twisters of the New England Collegiate Baseball League and was asked to join Team USA.

The buzz: Scouts like his prototypical body for a power pitcher. Hit 100 mph on the radar gun during the fall. Has a good breaking ball. Maturity has made the difference. *Baseball America* considers him the top pitching prospect for the 2009 draft.

Said a scout: "Eighty percent of the teams wrote him off in high school. Now guys are saying, 'I turned him in.' Oh, yeah, you thought he was going to throw 100. Bull!"

► BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Potential No. 1 draft picks are crosstown rivals

scouting directors coming to get a glimpse of the pair.

"Teams in the early picks are going to be very interested in this matchup," said a National League scout who has followed both pitchers the past two years. "It doesn't happen too often when you've got the potential two No. 1 picks the next two years in professional baseball facing each other."

Baseball America rates Matusz, a 6-foot-5, 200-pound junior left-hander who went 10-3 with a 2.85 ERA last year, the No. 1 pitching prospect in the nation.

"He's a very rare package," said *Baseball America* national college writer Aaron Fitt. "He's a workhorse who strikes out a lot of guys, which is a pretty good predictor of success.

"He doesn't have to go out and prove he is a winner. He already is a winner . . . He doesn't even have to be the Player of the Year to be No. 1. He's just got to come out and not drop off."

Strasburg, a 6-4, 220-pound sophomore right-hander who is not eligible to be drafted until next season, has something to prove since he is moving into a starter's role after closing for the Aztecs last season. He already has created a stir, with some pitches touching 100 mph on the radar gun during fall practice.

Baseball America rates Strasburg the No. 3 pitching prospect in the nation for next year's draft. The editors at *BA* were second-guessing themselves almost as soon as they made the decision.

"We thought hard about making him No. 1," Fitt said. "Maybe we should have. He's

got the prototypical body for a power pitcher, with all the velocity you could want and breaking stuff that's very good."

Matusz and Strasburg, who both earned All-America honors last season, have followed very different paths.

Matusz has progressed steadily since coming out of St. Mary's High in Cave Creek, Ariz., three years ago. Strasburg was undrafted out of West Hills High two years ago, but his stock has soared like few others in the past year.

Matusz, who set a school record last season at USD with 163 strikeouts, was selected in the fourth round of the 2005 draft by the Angels. He would have gone higher had teams not shied away from the reported \$1.5 million signing bonus he wanted to skip college. If things play out as expected, Matusz can expect to get three or four times that amount this time around.

Matusz and Strasburg were teammates briefly over the summer for Team USA.

Here's how it came to pass: Strasburg basically auditioned for the national team when his summer team in New England played Team USA.

"I believe he threw four or five innings," said Matusz, "and the first time through the lineup he struck out seven out of nine guys. Just absolutely mowed us down. And they beat us. They beat Team USA . . . He's just dominating, with an electric fastball and a great slider."

Strasburg is just as impressed with his USD counterpart.

"He's a left-handed power pitcher who really goes after hitters," said Strasburg. "It's kind of the same thing I like to do, challenge every single hitter no matter what the outcome is.

"It should be fun to face him."

And even more fun to watch them.

Kirk Kenney: (619) 293-1825; kirk.kenney@uniontrib.com

February 22, 2008

IN TODAY'S UNION-TRIBUNE

SPORTS

Top college pitchers show their stuff

The college baseball season begins today, and several pitchers will be on display this weekend. USD's Brian Matusz (left) and SDSU's Stephen Strasburg are likely to become first-round draft picks. The Toreros and Aztecs begin a four-game series today. **D1**





2008 AZTECS

Outlook: SDSU seemed to be putting it all together, compiling a 27-17 record last season before the offense went dormant and the team lost 13 of its last 15 games. The Aztecs were picked for third place – behind TCU and BYU – in the Mountain West Conference in a preseason coaches/media poll. The offense should be productive with several returning players, although it could be hindered by an absence of power. The defense appears improved again. The question is pitching (last year's strength), where the team's rotation has been plucked from the bullpen and other roles will need to be defined.

In the field: The Aztecs return five starters, led by All-MWC performers in junior third baseman Nick Romero (.319, 6 HR, 47 RBI) and senior center fielder Brandon Glover (.276, 40 RBI). Senior shortstop Troy Hanzawa (.307, 1, 28) and senior second baseman Garrett Green (.324, 1, 35) should make one of the better double-play combos around. Sophomore Josh Chasse is back in right field, but the left field situation might need some time to sort out. Fallbrook's Erik Castro, a sophomore transfer from Arizona, has earned the start at first base. The catching situation was thrown up in the air when sophomore Matt Parker was lost for the season with a stress fracture in his right ankle. Kevin Silveit, a freshman from Torrey Pines, is one of the candidates to replace him. Two freshmen with good bloodlines – Cory Vaughn (son of Greg) and Zach Babitt (son of Shooty) – bear watching.

On the mound: Former closer Stephen Strasburg (1-3, 2.43 ERA, 47 SO in 37 IP) moves from the end of the line to the front of the rotation in a starting group made up of former relievers. Sophomore left-hander Nate Solow (3-1, 4.50, 30) and senior right-handers Shane Kaufman (0-2, 3.92, 28) and J.R. Murphy (2-0, 5.40, 17) also join the rotation. The four combined for 81 appearances last season, but just four spot starts. Right-hander Addison Reed could be the closer, a lot to ask of a freshman. But, hey, it worked out for Strasburg.

2008 TOREROS

Outlook: USD won a school-record 43 games last season on the way to a West Coast Conference championship, NCAA Regional host berth and No. 4 ranking in the nation. This team could be even better. It will surely use last season's disappointing finish – losses to Fresno State and Minnesota in the regionals – to fuel the fire. USD was a unanimous pick in a vote of conference coaches to repeat as WCC champion. *Baseball America* regards the Toreros pitching staff as the best in the nation. Success will hinge on how the offense does after losing four of its top run-producers – catcher Jordan Abruzzo, first baseman Daniel Magness, second baseman Justin Snyder and right fielder Shane Buschini. They combined for 25 of the team's 37 homers and 188 of its 347 RBI.

In the field: USD has veterans up the middle. Senior Jordan Gelrich (.316, 4 HR, 38 RBI), who last season had one of the more dramatic home runs in school history in the ninth inning against Minnesota, takes over full time behind the plate. Junior Sean Nicol (.300, 5, 30) returns at shortstop and senior Kevin Hansen (.316, 34 RBI) moves from third base to second. Josh Romanski (.335, 3, 30) will again be in center field when he isn't pitching. Sophomore James Meador and freshman Victor Sanchez have earned the starts at first and third, respectively. Vanderbilt transfer Ryan Davis is in right field. Left field could be a platoon situation until someone steps up.

On the mound: Junior left-handed starters Brian Matusz (10-3, 2.85 ERA, 163 SO) and Romanski (9-1, 3.05, 92) and sophomore right-handed closer A.J. Griffin (6-2, 2.70, 65, 11 SV) all have earned preseason All-America honors from one publication or another. Senior right-hander Matt Couch (9-2, 3.60, 69) completes the veteran weekend rotation. Freshmen Kyle Blair, Samimy Solis and Darrin Campbell and sophomore Matt Thomson provide depth.

– KIRK KENNEY

AZTECS SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY: 22-USD, 6 p.m.; 23-at USD, 1; 23-USD, 7; 24-at USD, 1; 26-USC, 6; 28-CAL POLY*, 6; 29-MISSOURI*, 6.
MARCH: 1-CALIFORNIA*, 6; 2-FRESNO STATE*, 4; 4-at UC Riverside, 6; 7-SANTA CLARA*, 6; 8-LOYOLA MARYMOUNT*, 6; 9-OKLAHOMA STATE*, 10:00 a.m.; 10-OREGON STATE*, 2; 13-BYU*, 6; 14-BYU*, 6; 15-BYU*, 1; 17-SOUTHERN UTAH, 6; 18-at Long Beach State, 6; 20-at Utah*, 6; 21-at Utah*, 6; 22-at Utah*, 1; 25-UCLA, 6; 26-HARVARD, 6; 28-HOUSTON, 6; 29-HOUSTON, 1; 30-HOUSTON, 1.
APRIL: 1-at UCLA, 6; 4-NEW MEXICO*, 6; 5-NEW MEXICO*, 1; 6-NEW MEXICO*, 1; 8-ARIZONA, 6; 9-ARIZONA, 1; 11-UTAH*, 6; 12-UTAH*, 1; 13-UTAH*, 1; 15-UC RIVERSIDE, 6; 18-at UNLV*, 6:30; 19-at UNLV*, 2; 20-at UNLV*, 1; 22-at USC, 6; 25-TCU*, 6; 26-TCU*, 1; 27-TCU*, 1; 29-at Arizona, 7; 30-at Arizona, 1.
MAY: 2-at Air Force*, 2; 3-at Air Force*, 1; 4-at Air Force*, 12; 8-at BYU*, 7; 9-at BYU*, 7; 10-at BYU*, 1; 13-LONG BEACH STATE, 6; 15-at Cal State Fullerton, 7; 16, at Cal State Fullerton, 7; 17-at Cal State Fullerton, 1.
 All HOME games played at Tony Gwynn Stadium on the SDSU campus.
 +-Indicates USD Tournament
 #-Indicates SDSU Tournament
 *-Indicates MWC conference game.

TOREROS SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY: 22-at SDSU, 6:00 p.m.; 23-SDSU, 1; 23-at SDSU, 7; 24-SDSU, 1; 26-at Long Beach State, 6:30; 29-CAL POLY*, 10 a.m.; 29-FRESNO STATE, 2 p.m.
MARCH: 1-MISSOURI*, 1; 2-CAL*, 1; 4-at UC Irvine, 6; 6-SANTA CLARA*, 2; 7-OKLAHOMA STATE, 2; 8-OREGON STATE, 11 a.m.; 9-LOYOLA MARYMOUNT*, 1; 11-at Cal State Fullerton, 6; 13-WESTERN ILLINOIS, 2; 15-at Hawaii-Hilo (DH), 4; 16-at Hawaii-Hilo, 6; 17-at Hawaii-Hilo, 6; 18-at Hawaii, 6:35 p.m.; 22-HARVARD (DH), 11 a.m., 3 p.m.; 24-HARVARD, 2; 25-CAL STATE FULLERTON, 3; 27-HARVARD, 2; 28-SANTA CLARA*, 2; 29-SANTA CLARA*, 1; 30-SANTA CLARA*, 1.
APRIL: 2-USC, 3; 4-GONZAGA*, 3; 5-GONZAGA*, 1; 6-GONZAGA*, 1; 8-at UC Riverside, 6; 9-UC RIVERSIDE, 3; 11-at Portland*, 3; 12-at Portland*, 3; 13-at Portland*, 1; 15-UC IRVINE, 3; 18-SAINT MARY'S*, 3; 19-SAINT MARY'S*, 1; 20-SAINT MARY'S*, 1; 22-LONG BEACH STATE, 3; 25-LOYOLA MARYMOUNT*, 3; 26-LOYOLA MARYMOUNT*, 1; 27-LOYOLA MARYMOUNT*, 1; 29-at Cal State Fullerton, 6.
MAY: 2-at Pepperdine*, 3; 3-at Pepperdine*, 1; 4-at Pepperdine*, 1; 6-at UCLA, 3; 9-at San Francisco*, 3; 10-at San Francisco*, 1; 11-at San Francisco*, 1.
 All HOME games played at Cunningham Stadium on the USD campus.
 +-Indicates USD Tournament
 *-Indicates WCC conference game.



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2008 Journalist



Logan Gelbrich, University of San Diego



Logan Gelbrich is a senior catcher at San Diego. He played in 60 games a season ago with 56 starts and saw action as designated hitter and in left field as well as behind the plate. A native of Los Angeles, Gelbrich was named first team all-West Coast Conference in 2007 after hitting .316 with 67 hits, including 16 doubles, and 38 RBI. Gelbrich handles one of the top pitching staffs in the nation.

Entries

'And then the mood all changed' (2/7/08)

Editions of the North County Times Serving San Diego and Riverside Counties

Thursday, February 21, 2008

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Thursday, February 21, 2008

Last modified Wednesday, February 20, 2008 2:49 AM PST

USD pitching tandem set for another knockout season

By Tom Shanahan - For the North County Times



Photo by Robert Benson/For the North County Times/After pitching 8 innings, San Diego Toreros head coach Rich Hill takes pitcher Brian Matusz out of the game against the Minnesota Gophers at This June's Major League Baseball amateur draft will finally break up the University of San Diego's devastating 1-2 punch of All-American left-handed pitchers following a third and final college baseball season together.

SAN DIEGO ----

This June's Major

League Baseball amateur draft will finally break up the University of San Diego's devastating 1-2 punch of All-American left-handed pitchers following a third and final college baseball season together.

Brian Matusz and Josh Romanski, roommates as freshmen as well as this summer on the USA National Team which won a silver medal in the Pan Am Games in Brazil, both turned down signing after coming out of high school.

Matusz, a 6-foot-5, 200-pounder, was a fourth-round pick by the Los Angeles Angels. But after a sophomore season when he was 10-3 with a 2.85 ERA, he's projected as possibly the first pick overall in the draft.

Romanski, a 6-foot, 185-pounder, was 15th-round pick by the Padres. But after a sophomore season when he was 9-1 with a 3.05 ERA as well as batting .335 as a center-fielder when he wasn't pitching, he's also projected as a possible first-round pick as a pitcher.

"People can look at these two guys as a model of why you should go to college when you have the opportunity," USD head coach Rich Hill said. "Brian is 20 pounds heavier than when he came here. Josh has added 10 pounds of muscle to his frame just since last year."

Matusz and Romanski resume their 1-2 punch for the defending champions of the West Coast Conference this weekend when USD and San Diego State both begin their seasons with a four-game series over three days.

The opener is at 6 p.m. Friday at SDSU's Tony Gwynn Stadium. In Saturday's doubleheader, the 1 p.m. game is at USD's Cunningham Stadium and the 7 p.m. game back at SDSU. The Sunday game at 1 p.m. returns to USD's campus.

Matusz and Romanski earned All-American honors as sophomores and are preseason All-Americans as juniors. The Toreros are ranked No. 5 in the nation by Rivals.com and No. 7 by Collegiate Baseball.

Hill hasn't announced his starters, but last year Matusz was the Friday starter and Romanski the Saturday starter.

As high school seniors, Matusz, from St. Mary's High in Cave Creek, Ariz., and Romanski, from Norco High in Corona, followed each other from a distance, hoping they would be a tandem at USD. Both players had let pro scouts know they preferred a college experience, which knocked them down in the draft from their true ranking.

"We motivate each other," Matusz said. "We've been a good 1-2 punch, but we're different pitchers. I also admire him so much as a two-way guy to go out and play center field and then come in and throw on Saturday."

Added Romanski, "There is a sense of a friendly competition, which I think is good. We want each other to succeed to our fullest, so it's not a bitter rivalry. We push each other."

Matusz can touch the mid-90s with his fastball and has developed a changeup.

Romanski hits 90, but his exceptional location with changeups and cut fastballs separates him from other pitchers.

Hill expects his pitchers to build on their sophomore seasons.

"When we use the word expectation, it's all in regard to maximum effort in three areas: character, academics and baseball," Hill said. "Those two guys have really stepped up their training and preparation. From the time they came in as freshmen, they've made their biggest jump in maturity."


February 20, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

USD pitching tandem set for another knockout year

■ Lefties Matusz, Romanski head up Toreros' staff

TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES



SAN DIEGO — This June's Major League Baseball amateur draft will finally break the University of San Diego's devastating 1-2 punch of All-American left-handed pitchers following a third and final college baseball season together.

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Matusz and Romanski earned All-American honors as sophomores and are pre-season All-Americans as juniors. The Toreros are ranked No. 5 in the nation by Rivals.com and No. 7 by Collegiate Baseball.

Hill hasn't announced his starters, but last year Matusz was the Friday starter and Romanski the Saturday starter.

As high school seniors, Matusz, from St. Mary's High in Cave Creek, Ariz., and Romanski, from Norco High in Corona, followed each other from a distance, hoping they

would be a tandem at USD. Both players had let pro scouts know they preferred a college experience, which knocked them down in the draft from their true ranking.

"We motivate each other," Matusz said. "We've been a good 1-2 punch, but we're different pitchers. I also admire him so much as a two-way guy, to go out and play center field and then come in and throw on Saturday."

Added Romanski: "There is a sense of a friendly competition, which I think is good. We want each other to succeed to our fullest, so it's not a bitter rivalry. We push each other."

Matusz can touch the mid-90s with his fastball and has developed a changeup.

Romanski hits 90, but his exceptional location with changeups and cut fastballs separates him from other pitchers.

Hill expects his pitchers to build on their sophomore seasons.

"When we use the word expectation, it's all in regard to maximum effort in three areas: character, academics and baseball," Hill said. "Those two guys have really stepped up their training and preparation. From the time they came in as freshmen, they've made their biggest jump in maturity."

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News

Toreros Getting Attention

By Jim Stone

The college baseball season starts Friday when the Aztecs host the Toreros.

USD is getting a lot of national recognition and for good reason.



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They're coming off the first 40 win season in school history and the scary thing is, this year's USD ballclub could be even better.

"The offensive part of the thing is yet to be determined," said head coach Rich Hill. "The pitching I think is stronger."

Brian Matusz was a second team all-American last year. He went 10-3 and struck out a record 163 batters and still expects improvement.

"It's a whole new year," said Matusz. "Take it game by game and give your team a chance to win every Friday."

Josh Romanski, who is an outfielder on the days he doesn't pitch, is their best all around player.

"I think the guys that are coming back are more experienced, more seasoned," said Romanski. "We're ready to take on the task at hand."

The Toreros are a pre-season top 10 pick in three different polls but haven't forgotten the outcome the last time they played.

USD hosted a regional and lost to end the season. Just the same, the mantra this year isn't "unfinished business."

"A big game, the pressure, the expectations, that's for those other people to worry about man," said Hill. "The College World Series - that is the pinnacle of what we're doing and where we want to be."

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Video: Toreros Getting National Attention

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February 7, 2008

Baseball booster club golf tournament draws 30 foursomes

Joe Nalman
Village News Correspondent

The Fallbrook Baseball Club boosters program held its ninth annual golf tournament and drew 30 foursomes for the competition January 21 at the Vista Valley Country Club.

"Everything went well," said

Fallbrook Baseball Club president Laura Vandivort. "It was a great success. It seems everybody had a great time."

The tournament involves a shotgun start and utilizes a best ball format, in which members of a foursome tee off from the previous best shot of the group. The winning foursome consisted

of Donny Lucy, Pat Lucy, Dave O'Hagan, and Dave Dunn, who finished at 14 under par.

The Lucy brothers played baseball for Fallbrook High School, O'Hagan was a Stanford University teammate of Donny Lucy, and Dunn was on the University of San Diego team with Pat Lucy.

O'Hagan was also the winner of one of the "longest drive to the pin" contests. Kim Brockie was the winner of the "longest drive to the pin" contest.

New Fallbrook High School varsity head coach Jesse Schuveiller was the male who won the "longest drive" contest, while Kim Brockie was the female with the longest drive.

Although rain was a possibility that day, it did not affect the golf tournament. "The sky held for us," Vandivort said.

The golf tournament was followed by a dinner which included a raffle and auction.

"We'd just like to thank the community for all their donations," Vandivort said. "There was some lively bidding back and forth."

Parent Kim Murphy was in charge of obtaining raffle items. Former Fallbrook High School principal Bob Thomas served as the master of ceremonies for the dinner while assistant coach Gary Carter introduced Schuveiller before the new coach spoke to the audience.

"We're very thankful to Vista Valley. They always do a wonderful job," Vandivort said.

The Fallbrook Baseball Club raises money for the varsity, junior varsity, and freshman high school programs and for the off-season "Indians" club team. "It goes for maintenance of the field; it goes for uniforms, equipment," Vandivort said.

The proceeds from the 2007 golf tournament and banquet allowed for the purchase of a pitching machine and also for the acquisition of a new portable backstop for the varsity program, allowing the older backstop to become available for the junior varsity field.

New catcher's equipment is purchased every year to ensure the safety of the players behind the plate, and annual expenses also include balls, bats, travel, tournament registration fees, and umpire fees.

The actual high school baseball season will begin with tryouts February 16.

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CSU softball finishes 2-1 at San Diego tourney

By Coloradoan Staff and news services

SAN DIEGO - The final day of the University of San Diego softball tournament was cancelled Sunday, including Colorado State University's final two games, due to heavy rain.

The Rams finished 2-1 in the tournament with wins over UC-Riverside and Nevada and a loss to Loyola Marymount.

CSU (11-2) defeated the Nevada Wolfpack 3-2 on Saturday after losing by a 1-0 decision to Loyola Marymount earlier in the day.

Kim Klabough struck out 10 and gave up five hits in the Rams' loss to Loyola.

In the second game Saturday, Ashley Munoz scored off a single by freshman Eranne Daugharthy to cut the Wolfpack's lead to 2-1. On the next at bat, Kayla Kreutzman hit a two-run double to seal the win for the Rams.

The Rams take the field again March 8-9 when they host Utah State for three games at Ram Field.

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Freshman pitcher Brooke Turner threw a school-record 15 strikeouts in her first career start Saturday against San Diego.

Softball goes 2-2 in University of San Diego tournament

Wins over San Diego, Illinois-Chicago are offset by one-run losses to Stanford.

By: Bobby Chore

Posted: 2/11/08

The Long Beach State softball team  and finished its weekend with losses to No. 17-ranked Stanford at the University of San Diego Tournament, but was able to notch victories over host San Diego and Illinois-Chicago.

LBSU gave the Cardinal tough fights in both games, but was unable to score in either game. In the 49ers' season-opening 1-0 loss to Stanford on Saturday afternoon, LBSU allowed only six hits, but had only two for the game. The Cardinal's Rosey Neill scored the lone run in the second inning.

The 49ers bounced back from the tough loss to Stanford with a 6-0 rout of San Diego on Saturday evening. Senior leftfielder Lacy Tyler and junior third base Jennifer Griffin scored two runs apiece in the victory.

LBSU had 11 hits for the game, and a three-run eighth inning put the Toreros away for good. Freshman pitcher Brooke Turner pitched for seven innings and allowed only two hits. Turner's 15 strikeouts were the deciding factor in her first start.

The 49ers took the momentum from Saturday's wipeout of San Diego into Sunday's matchup with Illinois-Chicago, and were able to fend off a late rally by the Flames to win 5-4.

LBSU led 5-3 entering the seventh inning, but a run by the Flames cut the lead to one. The 49ers' clutch defense in the final inning secured the victory, despite sophomore pitcher Bridgette Pagano allowing 11 hits for the game.

February 25, 2008

Mixed results for local QBs at Combine

Aztecs' O'Connell does well, but USD's Johnson struggles

By **Kevin Acee**, STAFF WRITER

SEE **Combine, D4**

INDIANAPOLIS — Josh Johnson and Justin O'Connell both showed their immense talent yesterday at the NFL Scouting Combine. But another, more crucial aspect of the workout here had the two local quarterbacks moving the RCA Dome seemingly headed in different directions.

O'Connell, the former San Diego State QB, projected to be a late-round pick, probably raised his draft prospects with a strong session throwing the ball yesterday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, USD's Johnson, who entered the combine on the rise and needed to continue to show his passing skills on this stage after a career at the nonscholarship I-AA level, was hurt by his exceedingly poor throws.

"It was terrible when the spotlight was on," one personnel man said afterward.

His dismal showing — his balls floated and fell short, prompting some to speculate he might be hurt — was a hot topic among NFL people yesterday.

Johnson had the fastest 40-yard dash time of any quarterback. At 4.55 seconds, he was six-hundredths of a second faster than O'Connell, the second-fastest QB who ran at the combine.

But one NFL assistant coach who watched Johnson estimated just four of his 18 throws were "plus." Coaches also said his footwork was poor.

Numerous coaches and executives expressed surprise, saying what they saw yesterday was in dire contrast to Johnson's excellent throws on film and in last month's East West Shrine Game, of which he was the MVP.

"He did not help himself today," said one assistant who has seen Johnson play and expected a good workout. "He can make the throws he wasn't making today."

Now, to regain some of the momentum he lost yesterday, Johnson must have a solid Pro Day workout on March 7. But coming from where he is, he needed to impress on this stage, alongside players from big schools, under the lights, with the assembled NFL evaluators watching.

Johnson's 43 touchdowns and one interception, his running ability and strong showing at the Shrine Game had some speculating he could continue to ascend into the second round, though most NFL people surveyed here believe his ceiling to be the third. Some think the fourth or fifth is more likely.

"He needed to have a good workout here," one



USD's Josh Johnson works out at Combine. One NFL personnel expert judged his performance as 'terrible.' *Michael Conroy / Associated Press*

► COMBINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Pro Day workouts next for local draft hopefuls

coach said. "That really hurt."

Johnson did not respond to phone messages yesterday. Earlier in the week, Johnson acknowledged the importance of the combine for teams evaluating him because there are questions about the level of competition he faced at USD.

"It's always a what-if factor with a smaller-school guy," he said. "We can produce a lot, but it's a fact you're going against lesser competition. It's always going to be a different type evaluation."

But he also said this week was not the end-all.

"I get three opportunities," he said. "I had the East West Shrine Game, I've got the combine and I've got my Pro Day to prove myself."

Johnson was to return to Florida to continue training. O'Connell was on his way back to Arizona, where he has been training for his workouts.

"Now it's a matter of what I want to refine," O'Connell said. "We'll see if I want to do more testing at my Pro Day or just throw the ball."

After a weekend in which he met individually with eight teams, which he would not identify but which is believed to include the Chargers, O'Connell was pleased.

He knew he needed to show improved footwork when dropping back, and he said the coaches on the field told him they were impressed with the work he'd done since the season ended.

"People know I'm athletic and can run," O'Connell said. "But the NFL is more about what you do in the pocket."

O'Connell said he could have run a faster 40 but had focused more of his training on the



SDSU's Kevin O'Connell stops the clock at 4.61 seconds for 40 yards, the second-fastest time among QBs. *Michael Conroy / Associated Press*

throwing session. It paid off.

One coach estimated that 16 of O'Connell's 22 throws were good.

"He did enough for teams to be more interested in him," the coach said. "He did very well for himself."



Local QB prospects on display at Combine

Friday, Feb 22, 2008

By Casey Pearce, Chargers.com

Check out the Chargers.com [blog](#) from the Scouting Combine!

With Billy Volek set to become an unrestricted free agent next weekend, the Chargers could find themselves in the market for a backup quarterback when the NFL Draft rolls around in April. They may have to look no further than their backyard to find a worthy prospect.

Both University of San Diego quarterback Josh Johnson and San Diego State signal caller Kevin O'Connell are in Indianapolis this weekend for the NFL's Scouting Combine, hoping to establish and/or improve their status for April's NFL Draft.

"We are aware of both quarterbacks and they're very interesting players," Chargers General Manager A.J. Smith said. "We don't know what's going to happen with Billy. Our study is still ongoing on all the quarterbacks in the draft. I look at them both (Johnson and O'Connell) as draftable."

Smith confirmed that the Chargers will visit with both Johnson and O'Connell, both of whom met with the media Friday. Johnson has gathered quite a bit of buzz in recent weeks, particularly after being named Offensive MVP of the East-West Shrine Game last month. During his senior year with the Toreros, he threw 43 touchdown passes and just one interception.

"I like Josh a lot," said NFL Network Draft Analyst Mike Mayock. "The touchdown-to-interception ratio is ridiculous. I watched him in person at the East-West Shrine game. The word I would use is intriguing. I think he's helped himself."

O'Connell hopes that some strong comments from one of the greatest offensive minds in NFL history helps him build some momentum. Former Chargers Head Coach Don Coryell recently went on record saying that he believes the San Diego County native has the tools to become a quality pro quarterback.

"You ask anyone around here and (Coryell) is one of the most respected guys around," O'Connell said. "Hopefully the scouts and coaches warrant that for what it should be. He really does take a liking to our program still and comes and watches us."

Quarterbacks will workout on the RCA Dome turf Sunday, and both signal callers will look to have good showings. O'Connell, a strong-armed quarterback with a penchant for making plays with his legs, hopes the time he has spent working on his mechanics and fundamentals pays off.

"Athletically I should test really well," O'Connell said. "That's always been one of my strengths. More importantly than that is the throwing portion. I've worked really hard on my drop-back game. I'm kind of cleaning up my fundamentals. I've got to put on a show."

For Johnson, it's simply taking advantage of being on a bigger stage after playing at a non-scholarship I-AA school. While he may not have been the best-known player throughout his career, Johnson is grateful for the lessons brought by playing at a smaller school.

"The thing I got to experience at my school was, it was all people who loved to play football," said Johnson, who is the cousin of Buffalo Bills running back Marshawn Lynch. "No one came in with a five-star tag on them. No one was highly recruited. We were all paying for school. We all just wanted to play football in college."

Johnson didn't receive much attention coming out of high school due to his size. As a senior, he was just 6-0 and weighed only 150 pounds. Former Chargers quarterback Jim Harbaugh gave Johnson a chance, and he's now filled out to 6-3, 200 pounds, more than adequate size for an NFL thrower. Johnson's size and strong development of fundamentals is about to take him from a small-college player to living his dream in the NFL.

"I used to think he was a late second-day guy," Mayock said. "After the East-West Game he's got some momentum. I think somebody could reach into the third round and take him. He's raw, but he's got an upside. He's very intriguing."

Mayock loosely compared O'Connell to Browns quarterback Derek Anderson, a tall, athletic quarterback who has worked hard to improve his decision making since entering the NFL three years ago.

"(Anderson) was a guy that had a big touchdown-to-interception ratio," Mayock said. "He threw a lot of interceptions as did (O'Connell). I think O'Connell has some upside, too. He's a big, athletic kid."

Both quarterbacks admit that a chance to stay in America's Finest City would be quite a blessing, but both are trying to keep a level head about whatever chance of that happening might exist.

"I'm a big fan (of the Chargers)," O'Connell said. "It's a first-class organization and everything. The one thing people tell you first and foremost is you don't get to pick. They pick you. It's a lifelong dream to play. You're not going to be picky about anything. You just want an opportunity to learn the game and get better."

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Ravens weigh draft options

Quarterback class gives Baltimore plenty of options

By AARON WILSON. Landmark News Service

Published February 24, 2008

OWINGS MILLS - As the Baltimore Ravens' delegation of scouts, coaches and executives descend on Indianapolis later this week for the annual NFL scouting combine, they're expected to devote a heavy portion of their time toward evaluating the quarterback prospects.

That due diligence will include a long look at Boston College quarterback Matt Ryan, who's regarded as the top passer available by most draft analysts.

That interest is not only sparked by the Ravens' uncertain quarterback situation with veteran Steve McNair recovering from surgery to his non-throwing shoulder following a disastrous season marred by injuries, backup Kyle Boller's inconsistency and former Heisman Trophy winner Troy Smith being relatively unproven, but also Ryan's size, arm strength, accuracy and pocket presence.

It's considered a long shot, though, that Ryan will still be available when the Ravens are on the clock with the eighth overall pick in April.

"At No. 8, Baltimore would love to have Matt Ryan fall to them," NFL Network draft analyst Mike Mayock said.

However, it's a hopeful notion that seems unlikely to transpire.

Ryan is a candidate for several teams selecting in the top 10 picks, including the Miami Dolphins' first overall selection.

"Matt Ryan will be long gone by the time Baltimore picks," ESPN draft analyst Mel Kiper Jr. predicted during a Monday conference call.

Besides Baltimore and Miami, other teams expected to be interested in Ryan are the Atlanta Falcons at No. 3, the Kansas City Chiefs at No. 5 and the New York Jets at No. 6.

Some analysts, including scout.com's Chris Steuber, forecast Ryan being available and Baltimore landing him with the eighth pick, as University of Virginia defensive end Chris Long could fit Bill Parcell's mold of strength, size and intensity for his first draft as the Dolphins' football czar.

Under that scenario, players such as Michigan offensive tackle Jake Long, LSU defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey, Arkansas running back Darren McFadden, USC defensive tackle Sedrick Ellis, Ohio State defensive end Vernon Gholston and at least one other player would have to be picked before the Ravens were up for Baltimore to wind up with Ryan.

Not getting Ryan wouldn't necessarily preclude the Ravens from acquiring a future starter at quarterback, though.

The Ravens are expected to have multiple options at quarterback in the second round, including the University of Delaware's Joe Flacco, Louisville senior Brian Brohm and University of Michigan standout Chad Henne.

"If you're the Ravens, you have to determine who is the second-best quarterback because you're not going to get Matt Ryan," Kiper said. "Who is the second-best quarterback and is that second-best quarterback going to be an effective starting quarterback in this league."

Flacco is a strong-armed transfer from the University of Pittsburgh who has prototypical size at 6-foot-6, 235 pounds. He's also athletic enough to cover the 40-yard dash in 4.8 seconds.

Flacco struggled during the Senior Bowl all-star game as he completed just 2 of 7 passes, but he flashed a lot of potential during the practice sessions.

Last season, Flacco passed for 4,263 yards, 23 touchdowns and five interceptions. During a skills competition in Arizona, Flacco won the long-ball contest with a 74-yard

heave, also winning the quarterback scramble while finishing third in accuracy.

In a victory over Navy last season, Flacco completed 30 of 41 passes for 434 yards and four touchdowns.

"I don't think the Senior Bowl will impact him that much at all, because during the practices he showed that live arm," Kiper said. "He's big, he's very confident and he has that inner competitiveness. In my opinion, he's got the best arm of any quarterback in this draft. He flicks that wrist and the ball jumps off his hands. He's got a chance to be really, really good."

In some scouting circles, Henne has apparently eclipsed Brohm.

Brohm's stock has been slipping due to injury concerns and having less arm strength than Ryan, Flacco and Henne.

A former Big East Offensive Player of the Year, Brohm was extremely productive. Last season, he set a conference record with 4,024 passing yards, including 555 against Syracuse, and finished with 30 touchdowns. He completed 65.7 percent of his passes for his career.

"Brohm doesn't have the great arm, doesn't have the great mobility and has had some injury issues," Kiper said. "I could see Henne going ahead of Brohm because Henne has a bigger arm than Brohm."

Henne is a pocket passer with a big arm who didn't have a great senior year with 17 touchdown passes and nine interceptions.

Kiper also gave high marks to University of San Diego sleeper Josh Johnson, who played for Ravens coach John Harbaugh's brother, Jim Harbaugh, before he took the Stanford job.

"Josh Johnson is a very athletic kid, but it's a huge jump in competition for him," Kiper said. "He's got talent."

Meanwhile, University of Kentucky senior Andre Woodson's outlook has plummeted lately.

"He's got a hitch in his delivery," Kiper said. "He's got a slow release. He has ideal size

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Taylor To Be A Torero

Brandon Huffman
SuperPrep.com

Feb 22, 2008

Santa Monica (Calif.) safety Taylor Wright will continue his playing career at the I-AA level, committing to play for the Toreros at the University of San Diego...

Santa Monica (Calif.) safety Taylor Wright (6-1, 175) has had a trying winter, but the athletic DB had some good news, when he decided he would continue his career at the University of San Diego.

"San Diego offered me and wanted me to play there," said Wright, who committed to the Toreros. "Coach Dougherty really wanted me. I looked at the academic situation (of USD) and that was the best fit for me."

Wright had thought about walking on at Oregon State, where his teammate Ryan Katz signed to play quarterback and a former teammate, Cameron Collins, signed a year ago. But the opportunity to play at San Diego was the difference.

"I was supposed to visit San Diego, but my mom got sick. But I'm going to go down and check out the school some more. It's close to home so that is good," said Wright.

During his senior year, Wright had 54 tackles, six sacks, an interception for 50 yards and a safety. Offensively, he had 29 receptions for 488 yards and seven touchdowns.

Other schools to show interest were Holy Cross, Wagner, Villanova and San Diego State.

Academically, Wright has a 3.0 GPA and scored a 1420 on the SAT.

Story URL: <http://recruiting.scout.com/2/731148.html>

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« Draft profile: USC DT Sedrick Ellis | Main

Ravens links: Draft rumors, QB situation

Here are some Ravens links to pass along. As always, if there's something I've missed, let me know.

SI.com's Don Banks writes about quarterback Josh Johnson from the University of San Diego (Division I-AA). Johnson threw 113 touchdowns and just 14 interceptions in the past three seasons. Banks says the Ravens have a familiarity with Johnson:

New Ravens head coach John Harbaugh is one NFL decision-maker who's both familiar with Johnson and looking for a quarterback. His brother, Jim Harbaugh, coached Johnson at the University of San Diego until leaving to take the Stanford head coaching job in 2007.

Johnson (6-foot-2, 213 pounds) ran the fastest 40-time (4.55) of all quarterbacks at the combine. Banks says Johnson will likely go to a team that can wait a couple years for him to develop.

Last week, I linked to an **ESPN.com** blog that quoted Ravens general manager Ozzie Newsome saying that Steve McNair is the starting quarterback right now.

Well, Ravens coach John Harbaugh tells **SI.com's** Banks that Troy Smith is in the mix:

While the Ravens almost certainly will draft a quarterback at some point this year, Harbaugh said 2006 Heisman winner Troy Smith "absolutely" still factors into Baltimore's plans at the position.

"After those last two games (that he started), you've got to feel like Troy Smith can be a quarterback in the NFL," said Harbaugh.

But before you breathe too much into that comment, here's what Harbaugh told **The Philadelphia Inquirer**:

"It's an area we want to strengthen, no question," Harbaugh said. "That position needs to be strengthened. I know we're going to use every resource to get that done. We have three good quarterbacks on the roster, starting with Steve McNair. He's the incumbent. He's had a tremendous career, and a lot of guys who've been in his position at his age have had pretty good seasons."

Harbaugh made similar comments to **The Sun's** Ken Murray.

The lesson here? When the Ravens say they're still sorting out the quarterback situation for 2008, they're probably telling the truth.

Speaking of quarterbacks, **ESPN.com's** John Clayton says the Ravens wouldn't be a bad fit for Boston College signal-caller Matt Ryan:

The Ravens, Panthers and Bears would be better fits for Ryan than the Dolphins and Falcons. They have better rosters. They have the running game. And they have the patience to not rush Ryan until he's ready. As much as Ryan would like to play as a rookie, he understands what lies ahead of him.

Click here for my draft profile of Ryan.

ESPN.com's Pat Yasinskas names the Ravens as a team that has quarterback issues this offseason:

Quandary: Steve McNair might be washed up, and Kyle Boller can't put points on the board. Alleged offensive guru Brian Billick never got much out of this offense, and that is why he is gone. Successor John Harbaugh needs a legitimate attack.

Solution: The Philadelphia Eagles say Donovan McNabb isn't on the market, even though Kevin Kolb is waiting in the wings. McNabb-to-Baltimore rumors are out there, but in the long run, the Ravens might be better off just drafting a quarterback early.

ESPN.com blogger Matt Mosley spotted Ravens defensive coordinator Rex Ryan in Indianapolis over the weekend:

On Friday evening, I was walking past a candy shop when I saw two large men receiving chair massages next to the Sunglass Hut. Imagine my surprise upon realizing the two men were NFL defensive coordinators/brothers Rob and Rex Ryan. I stopped for a few moments to observe the massages, although that seems so creepy now that I see it in print.

Pete Fiutak has the Ravens selecting USC defensive tackle Sedrick Ellis with the eighth pick in his mock draft on **FoxSports.com**:

Baltimore is the biggest wild card of the early first round, with several glaring holes to fill. A franchise quarterback would be nice, a lockdown corner is a must, and another inside presence on the defensive line would be nice. If the Ravens don't trade down, it'll likely be a war-room battle with USC's Sedrick Ellis and the top corner on the board, either South Florida's Mike Jenkins or Troy's Leodis McKelvin.

In case you missed it, here is my draft profile on Ellis from Monday.

Posted by Shell Kapadia on February 26, 2008 5:41 PM | Permalink



ABOUT THIS BLOG



Moving the Chains: Shell Kapadia is a sports producer for baltimoresun.com. He realizes the NFL dominates America's sports scene 365 days a year, and he's OK with that. He will use this blog as a forum to discuss the latest happenings from around the league, including the latest Ravens news.

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Dorsey still a top 5 pick; Flacco, Mendenhall climbing

Posted: Sunday February 24, 2008 7:44PM; Updated: Monday February 25, 2008 9:37AM

INDIANAPOLIS -- Musings, observations and the occasional insight as we wrap up "money day" -- when the quarterbacks, receivers and running backs all run and work out -- at the NFL Scouting Combine....

- While some NFL team doctors may find a 2006 stress fracture in the right tibia of LSU defensive tackle **Glenn Dorsey** worrisome, it is not widely considered to be an injury that is expected to greatly alter his top-five draft projection. Dorsey's history with the injury is said to not be as big a concern as running back **Adrian Peterson**'s shoulder/clavicle problem was within the league last year at this time.

Dorsey opted to not work out at the combine because he ceased preparing for it recently when his grandmother died. While NFL decision-makers take all injuries seriously when it comes to potential first-round picks, with the large financial stake that they require, league personnel men seem satisfied that Dorsey has successfully played despite the tibia issue for the past two seasons.

"When you're one of the top players people are looking for negatives," Dorsey said Sunday. "They're looking for anything. But I played four years. I played every game since I've been with LSU. Who doesn't get hurt during the year?"

One NFL club executive told me: "He's fine as far as we're concerned. He passed our physical. Our doctors have a good comfort level with Dorsey. He put on a dominating performance in the national championship game, and that was his most recent game. I don't think we're worried about him."

- Arkansas running back **Darren McFadden** had a superb Sunday and did nothing but strengthen his case for being the premier prospect in the 2008 draft. He did far more than just run well, although his 4.33 time in the 40-yard dash was eye-opening enough (early reports had him as quick as 4.27, but those proved to be inaccurate).

McFadden competed superbly in all facets of his workout, and showed himself to be a complete package. He wasn't just a sprinter showing off his great straight line speed on the playing surface of the RCA Dome. He caught the ball well, showed great explosiveness in everything he did, and impressed scouts with his enthusiasm and approach to his work.

While McFadden still may not go in the draft's top three due to the needs of the team picking up high, he showed himself to be an elite athlete who like Peterson last year may linger on the board longer than he deserves to.

- Contrast the way McFadden attacked his combine opportunity with the approach taken by the draft's consensus top-rated quarterback, Boston College's **Matt Ryan**. Nobody's saying that it has already hurt his status as a likely top three pick, but



There are fewer injury concerns with Glenn Dorsey than there were last year with Oklahoma running back Adrian Peterson.

AP

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there's a sense among some NFL personnel men that Ryan seems to be trying to run out the clock in terms of the scouting season.

Ryan skipped the Senior Bowl last month, and then he was the only top-rated passer who opted not to throw for scouts in Indianapolis (he did all other drills). Instead he'll throw at his pro day workout at Boston College on March 18, where he said he'll be more comfortable working with his complement of Eagles receivers (The irony there is that he didn't have great receivers at BC).

Many feel that the choice not to throw at the combine wasn't Ryan's as much as it was that of his agent, the high-profile **Tom Condon**. Last year, another first-round quarterback/Condon client, Notre Dame's **Brady Quinn**, chose not to throw in Indy as well. You could make the case that the decision certainly didn't serve Quinn well come draft day, when he went into freefall, tumbling from the top 10 to No. 22 Cleveland.

"I just wanted to show the scouts what I'd be like in a game-type situation, with guys I know," said Ryan, who as expected turned in a middling time (4.96) in his 40-yard dash. "I can do that best at my pro day."

Although his pro day at Boston College will be well attended, it won't have a bigger audience than the one he passed up on Sunday, when about 700 league scouts were looking on. In the quarterback-starved NFL, maybe it won't wind up hurting Ryan's draft stock a bit. Then again, we're about a month into preparation for the draft, and NFL scouts still haven't seen him throw live since he last wore a Boston College uniform.

• Of the quarterbacks who did take the field and hum the pigskin around, nobody looked better than Delaware's **Joe Flacco**, whose impressive arm strength was on full display. Flacco, who worked out as part of the first quarterback grouping Sunday morning in the dome, showed good accuracy and the ability to adjust his passes to different receivers.

You can expect Flacco to keep moving up the draft board after his pace-setting combine performance, and I'm hearing that he's now considered a great bet to crack the lower portion of the first round.

"If you said to me before the season that Flacco would be drafted before (Louisville quarterback **Brian**) **Brohm**, I would have said you're nuts," one veteran AFC personnel man told me late Sunday afternoon. "But now I could definitely see it happening. I could see some team trying really hard to jump back into the late first round to take Flacco."

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• McFadden wasn't the only running back who had a great day. All the top running backs chose to work out, and most excelled. Helping himself with a 4.45 time in the 40 was Illinois junior **Rashard Mendenhall**, whose speed to some was just as impressive as McFadden's given that he weighs 225 pounds.

"I honestly think Mendenhall is one of the elite players in this draft, one of the 10 best," said one AFC personnel man. "He's a sleeping giant. People are just now getting more familiar with him, because he's a junior and we didn't know all that much about him. But he's big, has great feet, and really runs well. He might be one of the top five, six or seven players in this draft, and it won't surprise me if some team picking in the 20s gives him the chance to come up and get him."

• I know we've already swooned over one small college quarterback this week in Delaware's Flacco, but we'd be remiss if we didn't at least mention University of San Diego product **Josh Johnson**. The guy put up mind-boggling numbers at the Division I-AA school, capped by his 43 touchdown passes and just one interception in 2007. You read that right, a 43-to-1 touchdown-to-interception ratio. Are you kidding me?

You can't say it was a complete fluke either, because Johnson had 34 touchdown passes against just five picks in 2006, and 36 touchdowns with eight interceptions in 2005. Add it up and his past three seasons have produced 113 scoring passes and just 14 interceptions. He was also 31-4 as a starter at the school that is forever being confused with San Diego State.



Illinois running back Rashard Mendenhall enjoyed a strong week at the combine.

AP

L. ROBERTS/REUTERS

Johnson won the offensive MVP award at the East-West Shrine All-Star Game in Houston last month, and scouts currently have him slated for a third or fourth-round draft slot. New Ravens head coach **John Harbaugh** is one NFL decision-maker who's both familiar with Johnson and looking for a quarterback. His brother, **Jim Harbaugh**, coached Johnson at the University of San Diego until leaving to take the Stanford head coaching job in 2007.

Johnson measured 6-2, 213 pounds at the combine, and NFL scouts love his accuracy, his athletic gifts, and his toughness. He didn't have an impressive workout throwing the ball on Sunday, floating several deep passes, but he did run fast (4.55) and jumped 33.5 inches to lead all quarterbacks.

"He threw a bit of a wobbly ball at times," said one NFL personnel man. "But he was accurate in spurts. His ball, I don't know why it floats, but it comes out floating a little. He didn't look great, but he's still an intriguing guy. I can see him in the third or fourth round, being a developmental guy. I know this: I like him better at this point than **Tarvares Jackson** coming out, and he went in the second round (to Minnesota in 2006). Some of these quarterbacks are going to come off the board higher than people think, because so many teams are desperate for quarterbacks."

Most likely Johnson will go to a team that can afford to wait a couple years for him to fully develop and learn the NFL game. You could see a coach like Tampa Bay's **Jon Gruden** taking him in the third round, with an eye on grooming him as **Jeff Garcia's** eventual successor.

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- I don't think **Sedrick Ellis** meant it as anything but a compliment, but when the USC defensive tackle was asked about his experience of working with so many different assistant coaches at Southern Cal, he got off a pretty telling line.

"SC is kind of like a pro program, you know?" Ellis said. "They bring guys in, guys leave when they get better jobs and they come back."

Kind of like a pro program? USC had a combine best dozen players invited to Indy this year, and I'm pretty sure the Trojans could finish second to Seattle if they were in the NFC West.

- While the Ravens almost certainly will draft a quarterback at some point this year, Harbaugh said 2006 Heisman winner **Troy Smith** "absolutely" still factors into Baltimore's plans at the position.

"After those last two games (that he started), you've got to feel like Troy Smith can be a quarterback in the NFL, said Harbaugh, of Baltimore's fifth-round pick last year.

- I've decided my immediate goal in life is to be a beat writer for the San Diego Chargers. At least for the next two months, because things don't look like they'll be too busy.

Besides the probability that the Chargers will be all but inactive in free agency, San Diego's picks 27th in the first round, and then doesn't own another draft choice until its selections in the fifth, sixth and seventh rounds come around.

The Chargers are due a compensatory pick for losing linebacker Donnie Edwards in free agency last year, and while they're hoping for a fourth-rounder, it could easily be a fifth. Still, it has all the makings for a quiet spring in San Diego.

- Had a short chat with Cardinals head coach **Ken Whisenhunt** here at the combine. He's fairly optimistic Arizona will work out a new deal in the next week with Pro Bowl receiver **Larry Fitzgerald**, whose 2008 salary cap number escalates to a gargantuan \$16 million due to him hitting some big-time incentive clauses. Whisenhunt also said he can't foresee any likely scenario in which running back **Edgerrin James** isn't a Cardinal again this season, but given the scope of the cap moves that Arizona has to make before Friday, that didn't sound like a 100 percent guarantee.



Keith Rivers, shown here wrapping up Rashard Mendenhall, is one of a host of Trojans at this week's combine.

John Cordes/Icon SMI

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The Cardinals will be seeking a running back in the draft, if only to pair with James and handle some of the rushing load. If they land themselves a productive rookie, I wouldn't bet on James being back in Arizona beyond 2008.

- Whisenhunt had a good take on how to fairly evaluate quarterbacks from smaller programs who roll up gaudy statistics, such as Flacco or Johnson:

"You're always going to hear the buzz line about a guy being successful against his level of competition," he said. "But especially at quarterback, you look at physical attributes and how he throws the ball, how he moves in the pocket, and mentally how he seems to handle the position. Some teams put more value and more emphasis on statistics than others, but I've heard the golf analogy a lot too.

"If a guy shoots a 69, you've got to have some respect for the fact he shot a 69, no matter where he was playing. It's still a feat. If you throw for 4,000 yards, it's still an accomplishment you have to take into consideration."

- The early read on this year's free agency class sounds pretty familiar. It's weak again, because with the salary cap rising significantly for the second consecutive year (from \$109 million to \$116 million), teams have been able to lock up the majority of the players they care to. The best players get paid to stick around these days, whether it be via the franchise tag or otherwise.

"All your better players have been tagged, so I think the quality is not as good," Titans general manager **Mike Reinfeldt** said. "You can get some players that can help your club, some situational guys that can come in and play for you. But I don't think that's how you build your team. You should be building through the draft.

"Teams are (re-)signing their players earlier in their contracts. You're seeing fewer and fewer Pro Bowl-caliber players in the prime of their career really reach free agency. There aren't any quick fixes in the NFL any more. There were some periods in the '90s and the early 2000's where you could go in and get better pretty quickly. But not any more."

- Weirdest conversation I overheard at the combine this weekend involved Chiefs general manager **Carl Peterson** at the Capital Grille restaurant Saturday night. Peterson, he of the FM-radio-DJ voice, was standing out near the front door of the place talking to someone on his cell phone, and it sounded like he kept repeating rather excitedly to someone that he had just met **Neil Armstrong**.

I'm assuming he meant the first astronaut to step foot on the moon, and not the former Bears head coach (who was actually **Neill Armstrong**). But I could be wrong.

- Sounds like Auburn defensive end Quentin Groves is definitely headed for a 3-4 outside linebacker slot in the NFL. Groves said every team he's met with at the combine has asked him if he's willing to stand up and play outside linebacker.

For the record, he is. Smart guy. Groves must be a quick study to figure which way the prevailing NFL wind was blowing.

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COMMENTARY

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O'Connell Bullish on NFL Draft

By Tom Shanahan

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 | Before Kevin O'Connell's senior season, I compared the 6-foot-6, 235-pound San Diego State quarterback to Drew Stanton, a 2007 second-round draft pick by the Detroit Lions.

At the time, I didn't realize I was selling O'Connell short, and in more ways than one.

The La Costa Canyon High alumnus is taller, heavier, faster and a better passer.

NFL scouts are having a hard time comparing O'Connell to other quarterbacks. The only starter in the league with his size and wheels is the Tennessee Titans' Vince Young, and O'Connell is arguably more advanced at reading defenses coming out of college than Young.

All NFL scouts need to do to evaluate O'Connell's pocket poise is watch film of his 27-yard touchdown pass to Vincent Brown on third-and-13 in the last minute to beat Wyoming. He made three reads, all covered, but he still found Brown after Brown broke off his pattern to get open. He delivered a pass in the corner of the end zone as he started to scramble.

That doesn't mean O'Connell will hear his name as early as the second round in the NFL Draft on April 26-27, but know this:

From his senior season to his two all-star game appearances in Houston and Honolulu to last weekend's NFL Combine in Indianapolis, O'Connell has continued to improve his stock.

There's little doubt now that O'Connell will be the first San Diego State quarterback drafted since Dan McGwire was a first-round pick (and bust) by the Seattle Seahawks in 1991.

That's 17 straight years without an Aztecs quarterback taken even in the late rounds. Do you need another reason to know why the program has struggled for so long?

O'Connell no doubt helped himself, too, when NFL scouts graded his personality and makeup from interviews and tests.

Think about what he overcame at SDSU. He didn't play on a bowl team. Defenses were stacked against the pass because the Aztecs' couldn't run the ball. He took a pounding on sacks. His junior season was essentially wiped out by a fluke injury from his thumb hitting a defender's helmet in the season opener. And in the middle of his career, he endured a coaching change.

But he kept getting better.

"I felt this season I took a step forward in every aspect and more so mentally," O'Connell said. "I think with the situation we were in here (SDSU), my leadership skills and my mentality was tested. I really feel like I was able to leave this program better than when I got here. I think it's on the rise, and I think that's stuff I can take with me."

O'Connell made the choice to stay home, turning down Colorado among others, and now it's a fair

question to wonder if the Chargers will give him the chance to remain a 619 quarterback.

"I've always been a fan of the Chargers," O'Connell said. "They've got a solid organization from top to bottom. If I'm lucky enough to be drafted by anybody, I'll be ready to go to work."

The Chargers may be in the market to draft a quarterback by the end of the week. Veteran Billy Volek becomes a free agent Thursday.

If Volek signs with another team rather than re-signing with the Chargers as Philip Rivers' backup, the Bolts would need another quarterback on their roster to go with Charlie Whitehurst, a 2006 third-round pick.

Oddly enough, O'Connell is one of two San Diego college quarterbacks in the Chargers' backyard. University of San Diego senior Josh Johnson was recently projected as high as a second-round pick by Sports Illustrated's Peter King.

"We are aware of both quarterbacks and they're very interesting players," Chargers General Manager A.J. Smith told Chargers.com. "We don't know what's going to happen with Billy. Our study is still ongoing on all the quarterbacks in the draft. I look at them both (Johnson and O'Connell) as draftable."

Like a quarterback facing a blitz, O'Connell hasn't blinked now that he's being measured against quarterbacks that enjoyed a higher profile in college.

"I was really confident going into this," O'Connell said. "If you're going to have goals and aspirations to play at the next level, first and foremost you've got to believe in yourself and feel you belong. If you feel that way, you'll fit in, and I did."

Tom Shanahan is voiceofsandiego.org's sports columnist. He is the media coordinator for the San Diego Hall of Champions and an occasional writer for Chargers.com. You can e-mail him at toms@sdhoc.com. Or send a letter to the editor.



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From the Cheap Seats: How important is the NFL Combine?

Submitted by Hustler Staff Report on 02-24-08 10:14 pm | More from this Writer | Submit to Digg or Facebook

Several Vanderbilt players, including Earl Bennett, are in Indianapolis participating in the NFL Combine this week. While the 40-yard dash and vertical leap tests may prove a lot about a player's physical ability, how much stock should scouts and GMs place on the Combine? Our writers discuss.

Although it may seem like only six days of drills, interviews and 40-yard dashes aren't enough to significantly change the minds of the coaches and scouts who have been watching players perform for years, recent history suggests the NFL Combine is a prime opportunity for players to increase their stock and dramatically alter their expected draft position.

There is no better example of this than Houston Texans defensive end Mario Williams. In 2006, a Heisman Trophy-winning running back by the name of Reggie Bush had just finished a record-setting career at USC and was widely expected to be the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft. Williams used a stellar performance at the Combine to get Houston's scouts thinking more about defense than offense, including running an impressive 4.73 40-yard dash and doing 35 repetitions of 225 pounds on the bench press. Two months later, he was the 10th pick in the draft. Most of all, the NFL Combine is the time where players show up to compete with the best. Only the elite college players merit an invitation to this event, and if they've truly got what it takes to play professional football, the Combine is where they prove it.

--David Rutz, Asst Sports Editor

The media coverage at the NFL Combine almost borders on psychoanalysis. Top players are not just scrutinized on speed, vertical leap and pure strength, but also on physical characteristics such as hand size, wrist length and intelligence. All day long I heard about how Michigan offensive tackle Jake Long has "the biggest hands of this year's draft class." I'm sorry, but what makes Long a top-five pick has more to do with his fantastic footwork and upper body strength than whether his pinkie is 1/8 of an inch longer than someone else's.

Despite the over-saturation of information on potential first-round picks, the Combine provides a huge opportunity for players who are fighting just to be drafted in the first place. University of San Diego quarterback Josh Johnson has proven to be the most athletic quarterback at the Combine with the absence of injured Oregon signal-caller Dennis Dixon. With his outstanding numbers at the Combine, Johnson may have improved his draft position by an entire round or two.

While Chris Williams, Earl Bennett and Jonathan Goff are almost locks to get drafted, defensive linemen Theo Horrocks and Curtis Gatewood have a lot more to prove in order to get their name called on April 27. The Combine provides them with a great opportunity to showcase their physical abilities with scouts and GMs carefully watching.

--Andrew Hard, Sports Editor

When you think of the differences between NFL and college football, a few important things come to mind, namely the enhanced speed and strength of the game. The most important thing about the NFL Combine is that it strips the program, conference affiliation or number of bowls won in college and puts a lot of the big name college football players in the same arena to be compared. The interview session provides a chance to gauge the attitude and mindset of each potential draft pick. And the drug test has pretty obvious merit.

The overall importance of the NFL Combine, however, is pretty questionable. First of all, none of the tests will measure an athlete's football instincts. You can have all the speed in the world, but if a rookie linebacker doesn't know where to be on the field, he won't make many tackles. Likewise, if a running back with all the measurable characteristics can't find his holes, which close up a lot quicker in the pros, he won't last long. Just as importantly, it's impossible to predict how an individual will behave once they receive the millions of dollars that come with playing in the NFL. So it means something, but not nearly as much as the media frenzy would seem to indicate.

--Will Gibbons, Senior Sports Reporter

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NFL Draft

NFL Draft Grapevine

February 25, 2008
18:56:55

By Cory J. Bonini
Edited by Nicholas Minnix

The 2008 NFL Scouting Combine has offered much to talk about this year. The league's annual meat market has players finding themselves poked and prodded to the hilt, but let's take a look at who stood out for right or wrong.

Quarterbacks

Matt Ryan, Boston College: The consensus No. 1-rated quarterback of this year's class, Ryan opted to not work out at the combine. Instead, he will perform at B.C.'s March 18 Pro Day. Some feel that Ryan has done his best to avoid showing what he has so far, partially due to him skipping workouts in Indianapolis and not participating in the Senior Bowl. Ryan, who appears to be the best of a mediocre quarterback class, is likely the top option by default.

Joe Flacco, University of Delaware: Once thought to be a raw prospect with a huge arm, Flacco has risen at a nearly meteoric pace in the past few months. He has solidified himself as the second quarterback to be drafted after Ryan goes on some draft boards, but University of Michigan quarterback Chad Henne probably will own that distinction given his pedigree in a major program. Flacco struggled with consistency on out and corner routes, often sailing passes high over the receiver's head.

Joshua Johnson, University of San Diego: Talking about flying up draft boards, Johnson has done just that in recent weeks. His interview table at the combine was as packed as any, and he surely helped himself by running a 4.55 official time (4.44 unofficial on some watches). His rail-thin frame lends to some question about his durability and whether or not he is even a quarterback at the next level (think San Francisco 49ers running back Michael Robinson). He wasn't very impressive at the combine, according to sources in attendance. Either way, based on sheer athletic ability, Johnson could hear his name called during the middle rounds of the draft. Most impressively, Johnson's decision-making ability is superb; he tossed just one interception to 43 touchdowns last year.

Colt Brennan, University of Hawaii: The controversial Brennan's draft stock is all over the place, depending up on who you ask, of course, but that doesn't mean there isn't a lot of intrigue surrounding a player that threw 58 touchdowns two years ago. Brennan is often criticized for many reasons, primarily his lack of size, past legal troubles, immaturity, nonchalant attitude, awkward delivery and the notion that he may be nothing more than another system quarterback, but that didn't stop Brennan from displaying a tremendous amount of confidence when we talked with him. The one thing he improved, which may help his draft stock the most, was adding 22 pounds to his slender frame. At the Senior Bowl, Brennan weighed in at a slight 185 pounds, but his combine weight was 207, which is still small by NFL standards, but it shows dedication on his part. He said that he lost a lot of weight due to an illness prior to the Senior Bowl. Brennan credited the weight gain to a proper diet, the use of supplements and the occasional trip to "In-N-Out Burger."

Chad Henne, University of Michigan: Henne showed off his arm strength by all accounts, but his accuracy was questionable when working sideline routes and post throws. Nonetheless, he is likely to be as the second quarterback chosen come draft day.

John David Booty, University of Southern California: The fluid Booty, who makes for an ideal fit in a West Coast offense, looked good with his footwork but was errant with several throws, according to several in attendance. His draft stock is probably on the decline in the eyes of most scouts, but he could prove to be a solid second day selection for a West Coast team.

Running Backs

Darren McFadden, University of Arkansas: All the draft fervor of this year's combine was summed up with the loud roar from the media room when the NFL Network showed McFadden's unofficial 4.27 40 time. McFadden's official time was 4.33, only behind East Carolina

My Josh: Look who's on top

Johnson has emerged as top Bay Area QB prospect at NFL combine

By Jerry McDonald, STAFF WRITER

Article Created: 02/23/2008 02:35:21 AM PST

INDIANAPOLIS — Josh Johnson played high school football 12 miles away from Dennis Dixon, a year behind in class standing but considered light years behind in future prospects.

Dixon starred for San Leandro High, sharing the stage with Kyle Wright of Monte Vista and Sam Keller of San Ramon Valley. They formed one of the most hotly recruited quarterback trios in East Bay history, and all three earned scholarships — Dixon to Oregon, Wright to Miami and Keller to Arizona State.

Johnson toiled in relative anonymity for Oakland Tech in the Oakland Athletic League, where winning a league title as a senior brought him no interest from major colleges before attending the University of San Diego, a Football Subdivision Championship (formerly Division I-AA) non-scholarship school in the Pioneer Football League.

Flash forward to the NFL scouting combine, where Johnson is joined by Dixon, Wright and Keller, and is regarded as the best prospect of the four.

Dixon, his senior year at Oregon derailed by a torn ACL, said teams have gently suggested his future might be at wide receiver.

Wright never became Miami's next greatquarterback, although his size (6-foot-4, 220 pounds) makes him worth a look. Keller had his moments at Arizona State before losing his job to Rudy Carpenter and transferring to Nebraska, failing

to finish the season as a starter in a program in the midst of a downward spiral.

When Dixon was asked Friday if he knew of Johnson in high school, he admitted, "I did not. As I looked it, I saw (Wright and Keller) as the other two guys on the West Coast who were way up there."

Johnson, a junior when Dixon was a senior, didn't feel any differently. When he started playing football at Tech, he was 5-foot-11 and 145 pounds, content to be cast in the shadow of his cousin, former Cal star and current Buffalo Bills running back Marshawn Lynch.

There was a point in the middle of my senior where I didn't think I'd ever play college football," Johnson said. "I was about 6 feet and 150 pounds and no one was recruiting me. I didn't know what was ahead of me. I just wanted to play college football."

When coach Jim Harbaugh sold Johnson on the idea of playing at San Diego, he managed to accumulate enough money through financial aid, grants and loans to afford tuition. He played small-college football but ran a big-time, West Coast system, filling into his body while at the same time filling up a state sheet.

As a senior, following a one-game suspension for a violation of team rules, Johnson threw 43 touchdown passes with just a single interception — one that bounced off the chest of his tight end and into the arms of a defender.

A shade under 6-3 and 213 pounds, Johnson is regarded as a fast, elusive runner and playmaker, but is not a risk-taker and does not consider himself a run-first quarterback. In his three-year career, Johnson threw 115 touchdown passes with 13 interceptions. In 15 of his last 26 college games,

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Johnson threw four or more touchdown passes.

"In the West Coast offense, there is always check downs, and there is always the ability to run or throw the ball away," Johnson said. "The way I look at it, if I'm not hurting my team, then we're making progress."

One NFL scout said Johnson was easily the top prospect of

the Bay Area quarterbacks at the combine and thought he could go as high as the third round.

There were suggestions Johnson ought to transfer to a Division I-A school after establishing himself at San Diego. Johnson, who enjoyed regaling a table of reporters with the tale of his unlikely ascent, wouldn't hear of it.

"I really felt like there was a reason I ended up there," Johnson said. "My story is crazy. I was small, not recruited, a former NFL quarterback recruits me to a school a lot of people think is San Diego State. As he changed the program around, my life began to change on and off the field."

Back at Tech, when he was a nervous junior in the wake of Dixon, Wright and Keller,

Johnson remembers tensing up at the thought of a two-minute drill. He has since learned how to make a comeback.

"Now it's my favorite part of the game," Johnson said.

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The Buffalo News : Sports

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Home > Sports

NFL Combine notebook

Some prospects skip workouts

By Allen Wilson NEWS SPORTS REPORTER

Updated: 02/23/08 6:47 AM

INDIANAPOLIS — Boston College quarterback Matt Ryan is not going to throw. Oklahoma wide receiver Malcolm Kelly is not working out at all. LSU defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey chose not to attend.

Who will and won't participate has become an annual issue at the NFL Scouting Combine. Some players have legitimate excuses (Kelly is nursing a quad injury and Dorsey's grandmother died recently), but others decide it's better for them to conduct a private workout on their college campus (called Pro Days) or some other designated location.

Teams are pleased when highly touted prospects (Arkansas running back Darren McFadden and Louisville quarterback Brian Brohm) decide to take part in the combine. But the ones who choose not to show off their skills here have drawn the ire of coaches, scouts and front office people.

"I don't like it," Tom Modrak, the Bills' vice president for college scouting, said Friday. "I'm sure that side of the fence will say, 'You have all the tape on me you want,' and we do. But what we're talking about is big investments, and it's a chance to show your stuff. I think either they or their representatives think if he doesn't run the 40 it's going to be bad. Well, we talk about this a lot as scouts, but not to the extreme."

In recent years, the combine has tried to create an environment that's more conducive to a player performing at an optimum level.

Agents used to complain about a slow track at the RCA affecting their client's showing in the 40-yard dash. However, a number of players have run very fast times on the dome's artificial surface in recent years.

"Other than a guy coming off a bad injury, there is really no reason why a player shouldn't work out here," Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Stewart said Friday. "I think we give them a good opportunity to do well."

Bypassing the combine puts more pressure on the players to do well at their Pro Days. If they don't test well there, they won't have another chance to improve on that performance.

"We're not averaging anything," Modrak said. "We're looking for the best. Give yourself as many opportunities to make contact with them. That's my feeling."

...

University of San Diego quarterback Josh Johnson is one of the unheralded players at the combine, but he got some help preparing for the event.

He and Bills running back Marshawn Lynch are cousins.

"I just talked to him last week," Johnson said. "He's just real supportive of me. We've been through it all in football since we can remember. He knows me better than a lot of people. He just told me, 'Just keep doing you. You'll be all right,' because he's been there, he knows what it's all about."

February 1, 2008

Special fivesome has first tee time

USD wins initial local college tournament

By Tod Leonard
STAFF WRITER

CHULA VISTA — Sometimes, all it takes is one person to voice a great idea and it turns into something special. In the case of the inaugural San Diego Collegiate Golf Cup, the guy thinking out loud was Jim Sullivan.

A stockbroker, avid sportsman and member of San Diego Country Club, Sullivan began asking the question about a year ago: Given the area's wealth of golfing talent, why don't San Diego's five men's college teams compete against each other in a local tournament?

The query was met mostly with shrugs, or complicated answers about scheduling and head-to-head power ratings. San Diego State and USD are in Division I, UCSD plays in Division II, and Point Loma Nazarene and Cal State San Marcos are part of the small-school NAIA.

None of those issues seemed insurmountable to Sullivan, who went to work on making it happen, and he got to enjoy the results of his efforts yesterday on a beautiful day at historic San Diego CC. For the first time, all five teams battled each other in an official tournament.

"It's sort of neat we were able to do it," Sullivan said. "It's something unique that probably should have been done a long time ago."

The tournament produced a dramatic result, too.

USD, which struggled in the fall portion of the season and was rated No. 92 in the country in the Golfweek/Sagarin rankings, upset the rival Aztecs, ranked 38th. Coach Tim Mickelson's Toreros shot 599 over 36 holes to edge SDSU by three shots.

Finishing third was PLNU at 613, followed by UCSD at 639. Cal State San Marcos did not have a team score, having brought just three golfers.

Fittingly, a San Diego product won the individual title. Blake Trimble (Torrey Pines High), who transferred to USD after two years at UNLV, man-

aged San Diego's slick greens well enough to shoot 72-74 and beat Aztecs All-American Aaron Goldberg by one shot.

"It was a lot of fun to win, because it's the hometown tournament, and because it's always great to beat San Diego State," Trimble, a junior, said. "This is a huge win for us."

The Aztecs, who won a tournament in the spring and have strong aspirations for making the NCAA nationals, were disappointed to lose.

SDSU coach Ryan Donovan said after the Aztecs trailed the Toreros following the morning 18 holes, "We should be making a statement here. This isn't just one we should be winning; it should be, 'By how many?'"

Said SDSU Director of Golf Dale Walker: "We had everything to lose, but it's worth it. This is good for golf in San Diego and it's good for college golf."

The smaller schools were excited to participate. UCSD, PLNU and Cal State San Marcos were happy to display their talent because they have been top contenders in their respective divisions for years. PLNU, ranked fourth in the NAIA and led by All-American Sam Cyr, has a particularly strong team this season, and the Crusaders won the first three events they played in the fall.

In recent years, the small schools rarely get the opportunity to play Division I teams because they are frozen out of larger tournaments because there is such a heavy emphasis on rankings. The large schools must maintain a good record head-to-head against other Division I teams to have a chance to make it to regionals at the end of the spring season.

"We understand what they have to do, and that's why we so appreciate getting the chance to play in something like this," said PLNU coach Ben Foster.

The tournament will be played at La Jolla Country Club next year and Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club in 2010.

Tod Leonard: (619) 293-1858;
tod.leonard@uniontrib.com

February 23, 2008

Golf

SDSU finished fourth among 21 schools at the Jeff Burns Invitational in H... Senior Aaron Goldb... freshman Johan Cap... for seventh individual... -10- under par. USD finished 14th, led by freshman Jason Shano (8-under, tied for 10th).



53 of 61 DOCUMENTS

The San Diego Union-Tribune

February 14, 2008 Thursday

Senior could score goals in her sleep; Soccer captain has helped Patriots clinch league

BYLINE: Justin Lafferty, SPECIAL TO THE UNION-TRIBUNE

SECTION: ZONE; Pg. CZ-5

LENGTH: 483 words

DATELINE: SAN DIEGO

It's tough being a high school athlete these days. There's little time for rest between practices, games, academics and trying to have a social life.

Stephanie Ochs knows this too well. The Patrick Henry High School soccer player can't seem to stop moving -- even in her sleep.

Stephanie is a sleepwalker, a trait she inherited from her mother, Carol Ochs. Stephanie does more than simply walk in her sleep. She'll jump on the bed or try to grab a midnight snack, not remembering anything when she wakes up.

"Sometimes, I'll wake up in the morning and have a different shirt on," Ochs said. "I guess I'd get up and I'd change my clothes. I've woken up with a bruise on my leg and just thought, 'Where did that come from?'"

Luckily for the Patriots, Ochs is alert on the soccer field. The senior co-captain has been a force in helping Patrick Henry clinch the Eastern League title. Ochs has a team-high 20 goals and 19 assists for the Patriots, who began this week with a 16-2 overall record (10-0 in league).

Ochs has reminded Patrick Henry coach Howard Hawver of another Patriots athlete. When Hawver started at Patrick Henry 10 years ago, he had a player named Tara Lokanc, who holds most of the school's soccer records.

"Tara was a goal-scorer and she could create goals on her own," Hawver said. "Right now, the thing that makes me so proud of Steph is that she's doing that. She's matured into that kind of player."

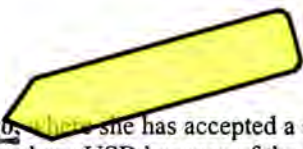
"Some players do it selfishly, but she's not like that. She's just as happy to set up a teammate. To me, that's a soccer player."

Ochs' teammates are impressed with the poise and responsibility she brings to the captain position.

"What we need to hear, she says it, even if we don't want to hear it," junior forward Emily Brown said. "During games, when we're down or barely winning, she's always like: 'Don't stop. Keep going!' We kind of depend on her. She always has our backs."

That drive has come natural to Ochs. Before playing soccer she was a dancer, until she saw Brandi Chastain's performance in the 1999 World Cup. Since then she's become obsessed with soccer.

"We're extremely proud of her and it's because she's done it all on her own. We've never had to push her," Carol Ochs said. "She's always been very self-motivated and a very organized kid. She gets up and out and does everything she knows she needs to do."



Next season, Stephanie will take her skills to the University of San Diego, where she has accepted a scholarship. The Toreros finished 15-3-3 this season and were ranked ninth in the country. Ochs chose USD because of the team's pedigree and her comfort with coach Ada Greenwood. She also gets to stay in her native city.

"I've been to other places, so I don't have that feeling to want to go (away)," Ochs said. "San Diego is gorgeous, and there's so much to do here."

Potential roommates need not be scared of a midnight bed-jumping. Ochs will be living at home.

LOAD-DATE: February 16, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

GRAPHIC: 1 PIC; **CAPTIONS:** Stephanie Ochs, senior co-captain for Patrick Henry High School's girls soccer team, has a team-high 20 goals and 19 assists in helping lead the Patriots to the Eastern League title. Next season, she will play for the University of San Diego.; **PHOTOBY:** Jim Baird / Union-Tribune

DOCUMENT-TYPE: BIOG; INTERVIEW;

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

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February 6, 2008

AZTECS REPORT

SDSU's Becvar moves across town to USD

By Mick McGrane
STAFF WRITER

Executive Associate Athletic Director Steve Becvar is leaving San Diego State to take a similar position at USD.

Becvar, 45, served as the interim athletic director at SDSU in 2005 and was a candidate to replace Mike Bohn before the university hired current AD Jeff Schemmel.

In addition to serving as second in command to Bohn and Schemmel the past four years, Becvar was the general manager of Aztecs Sports Properties.

At USD, Becvar will work under Athletic Director Ky Snyder, a graduate of SDSU.

"I appreciate the offer that Ky and USD have extended to me," said Becvar, who came to SDSU after serving as director of sponsorship and corporate sales with the NBA's Memphis Grizzlies. "I feel that I'm a good fit for them and that USD is a good fit for me. I look forward to making a difference.

"Obviously, this is an emotional move for me. I have a lot of strong relationships with people that I've rolled my sleeves up with at San Diego State. I believe in what the mission is at San Diego State, and I'm proud of what we were able to accomplish."

Becvar was a familiar face in the Mountain West Conference, having spent 15 years as an associate AD at Air Force.

"I've learned a lot about what

(the MWC) represents, so this is a change for me," he said. "But it's also exciting. I've known Ky since I first came to San Diego State, and we've worked together on a variety of community programs."

North County Times

February 7, 2008

Becvar to USD

Executive associate athletic director Steve Becvar has left San Diego State to become associate athletic director for marketing and sponsorship at the University of San Diego, USD announced Wednesday.

Becvar had been at San Diego State since 2003. The Valley Center resident also served as interim athletic director after Mike Bohn's departure for Colorado in 2005, and was a finalist for the job when current AD Jeff Schemel was hired.

4 of 19 DOCUMENTS

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

February 13, 2008 Wednesday 10:45 PM GMT

Oklahoma tabs Crain to be university's first varsity rowing coach

SECTION: SPORTS NEWS**LENGTH:** 128 words**DATELINE:** NORMAN Okla.

Oklahoma's new varsity women's rowing program now has a coach.

OU athletic director Joe Castiglione said Wednesday that Leeanne Crain, the coach at Central Florida the past four years, will be the coach of the Sooners' squad.

Oklahoma's rowing team will begin competing in the spring of 2009.

At Central Florida, Crain guided the Knights to their first NCAA tournament berth during the 2006-07 seasons. Central Florida won the overall trophy at that season's Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships.

Before her stint at Central Florida, Crain spent 10 years as the coach at the University of San Diego, where she was named the West Coast Conference's coach of the year in 1997 and 2003.

She began her coaching career as an assistant at UCLA, her alma mater.

LOAD-DATE: February 14, 2008**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newswire

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Toreros Kick-Off Their Spring Season With Back-to-Back Races

USD will face off against USC and local rivals



USD to face USC and cross town rivals this weekend on Mission Bay

Feb. 21, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - This Saturday at 10:30am your Toreros will host NCAA's 2007 5th Place Team, the USC Trojans on Mission Bay. San Diego State and UC San Diego will also be competing. In the scrimmage USD will be racing two Varsity 8s, a Varsity 4, and two Novice 8s. The Toreros are looking forward to a full day of racing.

Immediately following this event is the San Diego Row for the Cure.

The University of San Diego women's rowing team is excited to race in the Sixth Annual Row for the Cure on Mission Bay. The race schedule is as follows:

8:10am: Novice 8 & 2nd Novice 8

8:15am: Varsity 4

9:10am: Varsity 8 & 2nd Varsity 8

The Toreros are very much looking forward to the event, raising money for a great cause while competing with local crews.

The event, presented by the San Diego Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was originally scheduled for Oct. 28, 2007 but due to poor air quality from the San Diego wildfires, the event was postponed.

Row for the Cure® regattas, hosted by local rowing clubs, are third-party fundraising events benefiting local affiliates of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Since the regatta's inception in 1994 on Portland's Willamette River, Row for the Cure® has expanded to 11 U.S. cities, raising more than \$500,000 in the fight to eradicate breast cancer as a life threatening disease.

NOV 28 2007

● **SWIMMER**

Continued from page B2

Local swimmer will test the waters at USD

Valley Center's athletic talent pool continues to show its depth, as another local student will test the waters in collegiate sports.

Sarah Geerdes, a local home-schooled senior, was offered a full athletic scholarship to the University of San Diego and signed a national letter of intent on November 18.

Sarah and her family moved to Valley Center ten years ago and built their own house. Sarah started swimming with Valley Center Aquatics at age nine and after a year off, joined the Escondido Swim Club under new coach John Abrami.

"I've been swimming year-round since then, and now I'm a senior," she says. "As soon as I started high school, I started thinking about swimming scholarships and I was lucky to have John as a coach during the whole process."

Sarah's big break started materializing at a meet in Mission Viejo in June, where she performed so well that Mike Keeler, the head coach at USD, asked Sarah's coach to have her fill out a questionnaire about the school.

"At that point I hadn't thought about USD, but I sent

in the questionnaire and started doing research to find out more about the school," Sarah says. "I loved what I found, but I still wasn't entirely sold."

Since NCAA rules prohibit coaches from talking directly to prospects before July 1 of their senior year, the coach and the swimmer kept in touch via e-mail until they met in July at the San Diego Imperial Junior Olympics.

"Not long after meeting me at the meet, he told me he wanted to give me a full ride scholarship, but I'd have to

make a verbal commitment by the end of September," Sarah says. "After going on my first and last official visit to USD, I was one-hundred percent sold."

Sarah made her verbal commitment the day of her final visit to the school, and then arranged the details of the day she signed her letter of intent to coincide with her mother's birthday.

"I just wanted to thank my family and my coaches for all

SWIMMER cont'd page B8

they've done for me. I had most of my second family, the swim team, standing behind me holding plastic cups of Martinelli's, congratulating me," she says. "It was a moment I will always remember. And it was so much fun!"

Sarah says that her anticipation of college life is growing, knowing she's going to have a quality education and still be so near her home and family.

"I'm really excited because I know I'll get the full college experience and still be an hour

away from home," she says. "Which is nice, considering I've been home-schooled since the first grade."

Sarah plans on a major in visual arts with an emphasis on photography and graphic design, but no matter where the currents carry the swimmer, she still has lofty goals in her aquatic career.

"I just want to continue to improve my times and hopefully start competing in more national meets," she says. "And who knows, maybe even London in 2012," she adds with a smile.



Sarah Geerdes (center) signed a letter of intent to attend USD.



Sarah has ambitious goals for both swimming and academics.

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San Diego Swimming Falls Two Spots On Day Two

USD looks to bounce back on day three



San Diego looks to improve after falling two spots in the standings.

Feb. 21, 2008

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. - The University of San Diego swimming and diving team finished the second day dropping two spots in the standings to eighth place after the conclusion of events three through seven.

In event three, Sarah Gleason finished the 500 freestyle in 10th place with a time of 5:04.05. Samantha Jafari finished in 14th place with a time of 5:08.05 while Joy Miller finished right behind her in 15th place in a time of 5:10.53. Erin Voyles also swam the 500 freestyle finishing in a time of 5:13.49.

In the 200 yard individual medley, Erin Voyles swam to a team high of 29th place in the preliminaries with a time of 2:12.78. Rachel McKay finished in a time of 2:14.82 taking 34th place in the preliminaries. Haley Pittman (36th place, 2:17.99), Aileen Fedrick (38th place, 2:19.09), and Brittany Cramer (39th place, 2:26.26) also swam in the preliminaries. However, no Torero was able to make it into the finals.

In event five, Kristina Levesque finished the 50 yard freestyle in 16th place with a time of 24.55. Laura Pope finished in 23rd place in a time of 24.66.

In the sixth event, there were three Toreros who participated in the 1 meter dive event. Monica Oddo finished the preliminaries with a score of 218.25 good enough for 11th place. Amy Bogart finished in 15th place with a score of 189.00 and Addy Bednarski finished with 164.95 in 19th place.

In the final event of the day, University of San Diego "A" squad finished the 200 yard freestyle relay in a time of 1:37.88 to wrap up the day.

The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

Thursday's results

Compiled by the Mercury News

Article Launched: 02/22/2008 01:40:28 AM PST
Women's swimming

Western Athletic championships

In San Antonio

Team results - Nevada 236; 3. Hawaii 200; 4. **San Jose State** 192; 5. New Mexico State 171; 6. Boise State 98; 7. Idaho 94; 8. University of San Diego 91.

500 free - Emma Berry (Hawaii) 4:54.71; **San Jose State results** - 6. Julia Koch 5:02.77; 9. Amanda Carr 5:02.60.

200 IM - Margaret Doolittle (Nevada) 2:01.08. **San Jose State results** - 4. Kirsten Trammell 2:07.91; 9. Caitlin Macky 2:07.65; 14. Beste Erenner 2:10.60; 18. Erin Garcia 2:10.72.

50 free - Brie Marhenke (**SJS**) 22.65. **Other San Jose State results** - 5. Lauren Mar 23.97; 13. Meghan McCurley 24.25; 15. Tarolyn Robertson 24.37.

One-meter diving - Emma Friesen (Hawaii) 291.35. **San Jose State result** - 14. Jo Thibodaux 202.40.

200 free relay - **San Jose State** (Brie Marhenke, Lauren Mar, Meghan McCurley, Tarolyn Robertson), 1:33.76.

Men's golf

John Burns Intercollegiate

In Schofield Barracks, Oahu

Second round (par 72)

Team results - Auburn 551; 2. UNLV 554; 3. Texas A&M 555; 4. SMU 556; 5. San Diego State 560; 6. Arizona 561; 7t. **Cal** and Fresno State 562; 9. Arkansas 565; 10. Brigham Young 567.

11t. UC-Santa Barbara and Texas-El Paso 568; 13. Denver 572; 14. Long Beach State 573; 15t. Nevada and San Diego 575; 17t. **San** 579; 18t. Hawaii and New Mexico 582; 20. Nagoya 586; 21. Utah 588.

Top individuals - 1t. Stephen Hale (Cal); Johan Carlsson (San Diego State) 134; 3t. Herbert Day (UTEP) and Tarquin Macmanus (Arizona) 135; 5t. Seung-Su-Han (UNLV); Jay Moseley (Auburn) and Eddie Olson (UNLV) 136.

Cal results - 41t. George Gandranata 142; 52t. Evan Derian 144; 61t. Eric Mina 145; 72t. Brandon Beck 147.

San Jose State results - 30t. Mark Hubbard 141; 52t. Peter Gibbs 144; 52t. Rosco Valentine 144; 88t. Stephan Stallworth 150; 107t. Drew Nottenkamper 160.

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San Diego Finishes Day One of WAC Championships in 6th Place

The Toreros scored 48 points after day one

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Feb. 20, 2008

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. - The University of San Diego swimming and diving team swam to a seventh place finish on Wednesday afternoon tallying 48 points on the day. In the 200 yard medley relay, the Toreros posted a time of 1:48.77 with Kristen Yoon leading off followed by Haley Pittman, Joy Miller, and Kristina Levesque.

In the 800 yard freestyle relay, USD posted a sixth place finish with a time of 7:40.74. Yoon again led off followed by Sarah Gleason, Miller, and Erin Voyles. Their sixth place finish was ahead of University of Idaho and Boise State University.

San Diego competed in a number of time trials following the first two events. 12 different athletes competed for a spot in upcoming events. The results of the time trial events are available on the schedule page.

San Diego continues to climb higher in the standings as they return to the water at the Palo Alto College Natatorium in San Antonio, Texas all day on Thursday.

Yoon led off in the 800 freestyle relay on Wednesday as the Toreros finished 6th overall

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Toreros deal Hawai'i 5-2 loss

Feb. 21, 2007



The USD women's tennis team improved to 2-4 on the season with today's 5-2 victory over the visiting Hawai'i Rainbow Wahine (0-4). The Toreros won the doubles point after picking up victories at No. 2 and No. 3 doubles. Alex Demidova and Helene Lindstrand teamed up at No. 2 doubles for a 8-3 win over the UH tandem of Julia Sandborn and Marie Tanaka. At No. 3 doubles, Justine Perl and Tammy Kevey dealt Natasha Zorec and Jennifer Goldman an 8-3 loss.

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In singles USD won four of the six matches as they recorded wins from No. 2 through No. 5. Helene Lindstrand was a straight-set 6-0, 6-0 winner at No. 2 against Julia Sandborn, and Tammy Kevey also pitched a 6-0, 6-0 shutout at No. 5 against Marie Tanaka. Carla Tamborini and Alexandra Demidova each earned hard-fought three-set victories at No. 3 and No. 4 singles, respectively. Tamborini downed Chloe Bihag by the score of 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 at No. 3. After dropping the first match 6-4, Demidova rallied at No. 4 singles with 7-5, 6-2 straight set wins. The Toreros host Sacramento State this Saturday at 10 am.

Courtesy of University of San Diego



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