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**News Media Coverage
April 2008**

University of San Diego Print Media Coverage April 2008

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USD Alumni Honors 2008

April 24, 2008

USD graduates returning for school commendation

LINDA VISTA: The University of San Diego will honor several outstanding graduates Saturday, including business executives, a federal judge, an army colonel and advocates for health care and social justice.

Honorees include Liam E. McGee, president of Global Consumer and Small Business banking for Bank of America; Lowell C. McAdam, president and CEO of Verizon Wireless; Michael J. Maher, senior vice president for investments at Merrill Lynch; U.S. District Court Judge Thomas J. Whelan and retired U.S. Army Col. Mary T. Sarnecky.

Others receiving awards will be Rabbi Laurie E. Coskey, executive director of the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice of San Diego County, Mary E. Caffery, program coordinator of University of California San Diego's Mother, Child and Adolescent HIV program, and USD basketball great and women's team analyst Susie Erpelding.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

San Diego Daily Transcript

April 22, 2008

USD doles out awards

USD holds their Alumni Honors celebration on April 26 at the Jenny Craig Pavilion to recognize outstanding graduates that have demonstrated career and athletic achievement, contributions to humanitarian causes and volunteer service to USD.

Honorees include Liam E. McGee, president of Global Consumer and Small Business Banking for **Bank of America** (NYSE: BAC); Lowell C. McAdam, president and CEO of **Verizon Wireless** (NYSE: VZ); U.S. District Court Judge Thomas J. Whelan of San Diego and Mary E. Caffery, program coordinator of UCSD's Mother, Child and Adolescent HIV program. **Source Code: 20080421czj**

Carlsbad Residents to Receive USD Alumni Awards

13th Annual Gala Recognizes Outstanding Graduates in Career and Athletic Achievement, Contributions to Humanitarian Causes & Volunteer Service to USD

On April 26, 2008 two Carlsbad residents will be honored by the University of San Diego.

Mary T. Sarnecky, a retired U.S. Army colonel and historian who was selected to write the history of the Army Nurse Corps, will receive the Author E. Hughes Award for Career Achievement.

Michael J. Maher, a senior vice president at Merrill Lynch who has raised nearly \$1 million in contributions to USD, will receive the Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill Award for Service to USD.

Sarnecky, who earned a doctorate in nursing from USD in 1990, is a respected scholar and noted historian whose book "A History of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps" was published in 1999 and chronicled the

significant contributions of military nurses in major conflicts since the Civil War. The book received the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award in 2000.

During her military career, Sarnecky served as a nurse researcher at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington D.C. and as a professor in the Department of Medical History and the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences at Bethesda, Md. Among her many citations are the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal.

"We are proud to honor Col. Sarnecky for her years of dedicated services to our country," said USD President Mary E. Lyons. "Her work as a nurse practitioner, educator and clinician shows her true passion for the field while her detailed research as a historian illustrates her dedication to lead and inspire a future core of healthcare profession-

als."

Sarnecky and her husband, George, have three grown sons.

Maher, who earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1970, is a passionate advocate and supporter of the university's athletic programs and has been instrumental in the continued success of USD's golf programs, raising nearly \$1 million in philanthropic contributions. He also serves on the Torero Athletic Committee and has dedicated hundred of hours mentoring members of the golf team. Maher and his wife, Maribeth, have three children.

"Michael has been an advocate, supporter and leader for our students and his passion for all things Torero has left a last impression on associates and alumni alike - many of whom, in turn, have become ardent USD supporters themselves," Lyons said.

The USD Alumni Honors celebration is a gala evening of dinner,

tributes, and dancing honoring outstanding graduates in the areas of career and athletic achievement, contributions to humanitarian causes and volunteer service to USD. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Jenny Craig Pavilion. For more information, visit

www.sandiego.edu/alumni/honors or call (619) 260-4819.

The University of San Diego is a Catholic institution of higher learning chartered in 1949; the school enrolls approximately 7,500 students and is known for its commitment to teaching, the liberal arts, the formation of values and community service. The inauguration of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies brings the University's total number of schools and colleges to six. Other academic divisions include the College of Arts and Sciences and the schools of Business Administration, Education, Law and Nursing and Health Sciences.

Catholic University honors a rabbi for her career pursuing social justice, tikkun olam

By Yvonne Greenberg



SAN DIEGO—Rabbi Laurie Coskey (pictured at right), for more than 20 years strongly committed to issues of social justice, received the coveted Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award from the University of San Diego on April 26. Said USD President Mary E. Lyons: "Rabbi Coskey's history of being an advocate for social justice makes her a perfect selection for this prestigious award. She has created a true legacy of leadership and has touched many lives through her continual contributions in the areas of human and civil rights."



Rabbi Coskey earned a doctorate in leadership studies from the University of San Diego's School of Leadership and Education in 2000. She earned her bachelor's degree from Stanford University and was ordained a rabbi in 1985 at Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion.

Since 2001 she has led the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice (ICWJ), which represents clergy, churches, synagogues, faith, and justice organizations, as well as people of faith, in the San Diego community. She is also co-chair of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice—California (CLUE CA), is a national spokesperson for the New Sanctuary Movement, and is president of the advisory board to the trustees of the San Diego Community Colleges.

Coskey served Congregation Beth Israel for eight years before completing her doctorate at USD. She is currently spiritual leader of Chavurah Kol Haneshama in San Diego.

She also received the 2008 CAHRO (California Association of Human Rights Organizations) Award, which honored her legacy of leadership as an individual who has made outstanding contributions to California in the area of human and civil rights.

In an interview at USD on April 26 before receiving the award, Rabbi Coskey touched on several issues.

How does it feel to get the award here? "Very exciting. I went back to school many years later after being ordained a rabbi and received my doctorate here in 2000. I have a stepson who is at the University of Washington, named Tyler, and my own two sons, Marshall at UCLA, and my son Aaron, who will soon be a freshman at UC Santa Barbara. They are committed to their studies and giving back to their communities, they are committed to Tikkun Olam, all three of them. I try every day to be a good example. I think that is the best way for us to be as parents."

What are your plans for future? "At this time, I am executive director of the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice. We mobilize faith leaders, rabbis, priests, ministers, and imams around issues that affect the poor and the marginalized, particularly around economic justice and better wages and benefits for low wage workers. So my future plans are to continue the work to end poverty in San Diego county, a lofty goal, but it would be a good idea to bring people into the middle class so that they can put braces on their children's teeth and sit at baseball little league games and raise families that are also engaged with their own faith communities, whatever faith it is.

"At one time I was a rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel, but for many years I have been working in the community to improve conditions for working families. This is my full-time work. My work includes engaging politicians to make moral decisions that would be approved of to make a better society. I am also a rabbi at Chavurah Kol Haneshama. And, we meet on the holy days and we are a group of people committed to exploring together the spirituality of the Jewish high holy days.

"One of my greatest goals, God willing, is to become a grandmother. I look forward to travelling with my husband and family and I really look forward to looking back on a career, and commitment, not just to the Jewish community, but to people of faith and the general community in San Diego county over a long period of time."

Was it hard to study for your doctorate at USD and dedicate yourself to social work and be a mother and a wife? "It was hard to study, but in our Jewish tradition we are so accustomed to being people of the book that it was a natural continuation of my rabbinic degree and, interestingly enough, at Stanford as an undergraduate early on, I had studied leadership studies.. And so my doctorate

really continues the education I began in the middle '70's at Stanford University.

"My advice to children today is that indeed we can have it all but a little at a time, sequentially; that our children and families need us and our jobs need us and we have to not just juggle, but figure out what the priority is at any given time of our life. The only thing I know for sure is that you don't get the time back. We want to raise our families and pursue our own goals. It is wonderful to be part of the community where we are all helping and supporting each other and loving and needing one another."

How do you feel (Rhea Coskey) about your daughter receiving the award tonight? "I am so proud of my daughter. She really makes us proud and the work that she does is really quite astounding."

Paul Greenberg contributed to this article.

THE COAST NEWS

April 25, 2008

University of San Diego honors two Carlsbad alumni

CARLSBAD — Two Carlsbad residents were honored by University of San Diego on April 26.

Mary T. Sarnecky, a retired U.S. Army colonel and historian who was selected to write the history of the Army Nurse Corps, will receive the Author E. Hughes Award for Career Achievement.

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Medal.

"We are proud to honor Col. Sarnecky for her years of dedicated service to our country," said USD President Mary E. Lyons. "Her work as a nurse practitioner, educator and clinician shows her true passion for the field while her detailed research as a historian illustrates her dedication to lead and inspire a future core of health-care professionals." Sarnecky and her husband, George, have three grown sons.

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Wednesday, April 09, 2008

editor@sddt.com

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USD to honor Judge Whelan with career award

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

U.S. District Court Judge Thomas J. Whelan will be honored by the University of San Diego April 26 with a career achievement award.

Judge Whelan, a San Diego native who has served as a federal judge since 1998, will receive the Author E. Hughes Award for Career Achievement during the USD Alumni Honors event.

"The San Diego and national legal communities recognize the outstanding contributions that Judge Whelan has made to the legal profession," said USD School of Law Dean Kevin Cole. "But most are unaware of his many years of service to the law school.

"As a long-standing member of our alumni board, Judge Whelan has provided support to USD students by welcoming new J.D. and LL.M. candidates during orientation, serving as a jurist in the final rounds of our prestigious McLennon Honors Moot Court Competition, and supervising third-year students in judicial internships. We are pleased to honor not only his career, but also his dedication to his alma mater."

Judge Whelan earned both his bachelor's and law degree from USD. A former deputy district attorney for San Diego, he was appointed Superior Court judge by Gov. George Deukmejian in 1990 and was reelected in 1990 and 1996. He served as assistant presiding judge in 1996 and 1997 and was elected presiding judge in 1998. President Bill Clinton nominated him to the federal bench in 1998, and his appointment was confirmed by the U.S. Senate the same year.

Judge Whelan has served on the Law Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2002.

The USD Alumni Honors recognizes outstanding graduates for career achievement, contributions to humanitarian causes, extraordinary athletic success and exemplary service to USD. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. April 26 in USD's Jenny Craig Pavilion.

For tickets and information about the gala, please go to www.sandiego.edu/alumni/honors or call 619-260-4819.

April 17, 2008

NASSCO lays keel of *Wally Schirra*

General Dynamics NASSCO recently laid the keel for USNS *Wally Schirra*, the eighth dry cargo-ammunition ship in the Navy's T-AKE program. Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter recently named the ship in honor of the late Navy captain and original NASA pioneer. *Wally Schirra* is scheduled to be delivered to the Navy in the third quarter of 2009.

NASSCO began construction of the ninth ship of the *Lewis and Clark* (T-AKE) class. The ship will be named later and is scheduled to be delivered to the Navy in the first quarter of 2010.

"From keel-laying to delivery, NASSCO is significantly reducing the T-AKE build cycle with each subsequent ship and providing substantial cost savings to the Navy," said Frederick J. Harris, president of General Dynamics NASSCO. "What took 26 months to complete on T-AKE 1 is now projected to take 16 months for T-AKE 8 and 9. NASSCO recognizes that the timely delivery of these high-quality ships helps the Navy improve its global combat logistics capabilities."

Flag officer assignments announced

WASHINGTON - Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead announced April 10 that Rear Adm. (lower half) Raymond E. Berube and Rear Adm. (lower half) William A. Brown have been reassigned new jobs.

Berube is being assigned as commander, Naval Inventory Control Point Philadelphia/Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia, Pa. Berube is currently serving as commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers, San Diego. Brown is being assigned as commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers, San Diego. Brown is currently serving as director, Logistics/Fleet Supply Office, N41, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, Va.

UCSD to honor nurse historian

Mary T. Sarnecky, a retired U.S. Army colonel and historian who was selected to write the history of the Army Nurse Corps, will be honored by the University of San Diego April 26. Sarnecky will receive the Author E. Hughes Award for Career Achievement.

Sarnecky, who earned a doctorate in nursing from the USD Hahn School of Nursing and Health Sciences in 1990, is a scholar and noted historian whose book "A History of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps" was published in 1999 and chronicled the significant contributions of military nurses in major conflicts since the Civil War. The book received the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award in 2000.

"We are proud to honor Col. Sarnecky for her years of dedicated service to our country," said USD President Mary E. Lyons. "Her work as a nurse practitioner, educator and clinician shows her true passion for the field while her detailed research as a historian illustrates her dedication to lead and inspire a future core of healthcare professionals."

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Jenny Craig Pavilion. For more information, visit www.sandiego.edu/alumni/honors.

 Lard
Day

April 26, 2008



Monday, April 28, 2008

editor@sddt.com

<http://www.sddt.com>

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Verizon CEO looks to future, stresses partnerships

By ELIZABETH MALLOY, The Daily Transcript

Monday, April 28, 2008

Lowell McAdam, president and chief executive officer of **Verizon Wireless**, spoke at the University of San Diego Friday about how his company came to be a leader in the wireless industry, and what he thinks the future holds.

McAdam, a graduate of the USD School of Business Administration, said Verizon (NYSE: VZ) has put billions of dollars into making sure its service is the most reliable.

Out of all the things cell phones can do -- from going on the Internet to taking a picture -- what matters most to customers is that their calls don't cut out mid-conversation.

He said Verizon has grown to the huge size it is today because of its attention to call quality.

"Not only do you invest in things like cell sites and switches, but we invest a lot of money in testing that network," McAdam said. "The (television ads with) the test man (saying) 'Can you hear me now?' really wasn't a flash of brilliance from the marketing side. It was really just reflecting what we do every day."

The company's latest earnings indicate those moves have paid off. The company's profits rose 9.8 percent for the first quarter, something the company attributed to the growth of its wireless department. Stock in Verizon went up 2.46 percent to close at \$37.95 Monday.

When Verizon formed in 1999, there was no national wireless carrier. **AT&T** (NYSE: T) had tried a one-rate plan by bringing several providers together, but it didn't work, McAdam said.

Verizon was also built out of different networks, but the company has invested more than \$50 billion into its network to improve the service.

The company now has crews driving millions of miles a year to test the network. McAdam said it's especially important to the company since a lot of first responders -- like firefighters -- communicate over Verizon's network.

Today, Verizon brings in yearly revenue of about \$44 billion and has 66 million customers. The company employs 69,000 people. It has 2,400 stores and McAdam said they plan to build 200 more this year.

But as rapidly as the company has grown over the past decade, the wireless industry is almost always changing. McAdam pointed out how with 84 percent market share, observers may think the wireless market in the United States is mature. But in Europe, it has more than 100 percent market share. And he thinks it could be even higher.

The company is putting more resources into its broadband services, like its business networks and its work with **Qualcomm** (Nasdaq: QCOM) to put television on phones.

Not far in the future, Verizon wants to use wireless so home appliances can have wireless connections. The company is working with **Waste Management** (NYSE: WMI) to put wireless devices on dumpsters so trucks only come pick them up when they're full.

Verizon provides the services for OnStar, a kind of GPS that connects drivers to services.

"That's how I think you move from 84 percent into easily 300 or 400 percent market percentage," McAdam said.

McAdam was speaking at an event sponsored by CommNexus, a local technology trade organization, and took questions from the audience.

An employee of **Mission Ventures** in attendance asked McAdam how Verizon plans to compete as more and more cell phone and handset makers like **Nokia** (NYSE: NOK) are buying more and more applications and trying to gain more control over the customer base.

McAdam admitted Verizon couldn't keep up with all the innovation in the cell phone application industry, and that's why they've opened up the company to new ideas from outside inventors. The company announced last

November that they're making it easier for anyone to bring new applications to their phones.

"We need to partner more," he acknowledged. "You've really got to understand your core strength and don't stray from it. And so we're not going to. We will (partner) more."

Send your comments to Elizabeth.Malloy@sddt.com

Joyce Glazer >>KUDOS

City of Hope Honors 2 Coronado Residents With Spirit of Life Award



Coronado residents Kent Aden and Jim DiMatteo will receive the Spirit of Life Award from the City of Hope's San Diego Construction Industries Alliance.

The Salute to Hope gala will be held in their honor on June 21 aboard the USS Midway. Aden has been involved in homebuilding and master-planned community development. DiMatteo, a Navy captain, is a leader in the military community.

The El Cajon City Council will present the Youth of the Year Award to El Cajon Valley High School student Juliana Shabo on April 22. Juliana was selected for her demonstration of outstanding community service and leadership.

Five UC San Diego faculty members were presented with awards for excellence in teaching, research and community service by the chancellor's associates. The 2008 recipients are Valerie Ramey, professor of economics; Mathew McCubbins, professor of political sci-

ence; Steven Epstein, professor of sociology; Shankar Subramaniam, professor of bioengineering; and Naomi Oreskes, professor of history and science studies. They were recognized for their contributions to teaching, research and community service.

Laura Mustari, Home Start chief executive officer, will receive the Spirit of Stonewall Award from the San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride organization. The award will be presented on July 19 at the LGBTP annual event to be held at the W Hotel. Mustari is recognized for her leadership and contributions to the LGBTP community.

Michael J. Maher will receive the Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill Award for Service to the University of San Diego on April 26 at the alumni awards event. Maher, a senior vice president at Merrill Lynch, has been a supporter of the university's athletic programs. Mary E. Caffery, program coordinator of the Mother, Child and Adolescent HIV program at UC San Diego, will receive the Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award for Humanitarian Service.



Police officer Scott Johnston, left, was recognized by Chief William Lansdowne.

San Diego Police Department officer Scott Johnston was recognized by Chief William Lansdowne for 30 years of service. Johnston is the recipient of the Purple Heart Award for rescuing two officers down and two life-saving awards, one received while off duty.

Cpl. David Marshall and Officer Brad Wiebke were presented with life-saving commendation award certificates at the April 8 meeting of the board of the San Diego Unified Port District. The two were

recognized for their life-saving actions on Dec. 31, when they saved a suspect's life and tried to rescue a police dog. The incident occurred when the suspect and a police dog went over the side of the retaining wall on the San Diego-Coronado Bridge.

Dr. James E. Hansen is the recipient of the 2008 Nierenberg Prize for Science in the Public Interest. He is being recognized by the William Nierenberg Family and Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego for his contributions to climate research. He will be honored on May 8 at The Forum Theater of the La Jolla Playhouse.

The 14th Annual Health Hero Awards were presented to DexCom Inc., which focuses on technologies for the continuous monitoring of glucose in diabetics, and Mission Federal Credit Union, the title sponsor of the Alzheimer's Association's annual Memory Walk. The awards were presented by Combined Health Agencies. Both organizations were recognized for their contributions to the health industry through community activism.

Please send Kudos items to contributing writer Joyce Glazer at jglazer@sdbj.com.

Charlotte.com

Friday, April 11, 2008

Posted on Fri, Apr 11, 2008

**Park Sterling posts
its 1st quarterly profit**

Park Sterling Bank on Thursday said it posted its first quarterly profit in its fifth full quarter of operation. In the period ended March 31, the Charlotte community bank said it made \$16,000 on strong loan and deposit growth, compared with a \$799,000 loss in the same period last year.

Start-up banks typically take a couple of years to turn a profit because they need time to make revenue-producing loans. The bank's total assets reached \$290 million at the end of the quarter.

"Our performance to date exceeds our business plan and validates the 'comfortable banking' concept that we envisioned when we opened our doors for business in late 2006," chief executive Bryan Kennedy said in a statement.

Kennedy said the bank's loan quality remained solid because it doesn't have any subprime loans or problems with past-due loans.

The bank also said renovations to its new SouthPark branch location at 6816 Morrison Blvd. are on track to open in the second quarter of this year.

The bank also has an office on East Morehead Street in Charlotte and a location in Wilmington. --
rick rothacker

San Diego university to honor BofA executive

Liam McGee, one of the top executives at Bank of America Corp., will be honored this month by the University of San Diego. McGee, now Bank of America's president of consumer and small business banking, graduated from USD in 1976 with a biology degree, before earning an MBA from Pepperdine University and a law degree from Loyola.

On April 26, McGee will be presented with a career achievement award named for a former USD president. It's awarded each year to five alumni; previous recipients include Liberia's former foreign minister and Staples Inc.'s former president. -- *Christina rexrode*

Office of the President

April 12, 2008

FOR LUCKY FEW, TICKETS TO POPE BENEDICT'S MASS

BENEDICT IN USA

Washington, D.C.: Pope Benedict XVI arrives Tuesday at Andrews Air Force Base, and he will meet with President Bush at the White House the next morning. Wednesday evening, he will hold a private prayer service with U.S. bishops at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Thursday, he'll offer Mass at National Stadium and meet with the heads of Catholic colleges and universities, followed by a meeting with Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and other faith leaders.

New York: On Friday, he will address the United Nations and hold ecumenical prayer service at St. Joseph's Church. On April 19, he will say Mass for clergy at St. Patrick's Cathedral and attend youth rally at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. On April 20, he will visit ground zero and then offer Mass at Yankee Stadium before departing for Rome.

- SOURCE: USPALVISIT.ORG

By **Sandi Dolbee**
RELIGION & ETHICS EDITOR

When Ileana Koupal got an e-mail from the Catholic diocese telling her she had tickets to go to the papal Mass in Washington, D.C., you'd have thought she won the Lotto.

"I was jumping up and down here in the office," the East County woman said.

Her husband, Dennis, booked the trip several months ago as a birthday present (she turned 49 on Thursday). "He knows that I've always wanted to go to one of the pope's Masses," she said.

There was one hitch. She didn't have tickets to the Mass itself. That's where faith, and a little help from the church, came in.

Her priest at Santa Sophia Catholic Church in Lemon Grove suggested she contact the Roman Catholic Diocese of

San Diego. She sent an e-mail to chancellor Rodrigo Valdivia, and he said he'd look into it.

The good news came in March. She recently picked up the tickets — and they went into the company safe.

Come Thursday, the Koupals, owners of Maria's Fresh Foods in San Diego, will be sitting in Row P of National Stadium for Pope Benedict XVI's first U.S. visit as Holy Father to a billion-plus Catholics.

"I still can't believe I'm going," said Koupal, who was born into the Catholic faith.

She's big on Benedict.

"He's so true to his faith and that just inspires me," she said. "I've read 'Jesus of Nazareth' (one of his books). I can't even explain to you how much more my faith has grown."

SEE **Benedict, E5**

► BENEDICT

CONTINUED FROM E1

USD President Mary Lyons will hear him speak

San Diego Auxiliary Bishop Salvatore Cordileone also will be at the National Stadium Mass. In addition, on Wednesday evening, Cordileone plans to be at a papal meeting with other U.S. bishops (the diocese said Bishop Robert Brom is unable to attend because of scheduling conflicts).

"I think he's doing very well," Cordileone said of Benedict, who was elected pope three years ago this month after the death of Pope John Paul II.

"He has an amazing ability to sum up very sublime and even abstract thoughts in a few simple words," Cordileone said. "He can address contentious, delicate issues straight on, but he does it with such simpleness and genuineness."

University of San Diego President

Mary Lyons will attend Benedict's address at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. After the morning Mass at National Stadium, the pope will travel to the school, where he is expected to talk about Catholic education issues to an invitation-only audience.

Lyons, who chairs the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, downplays predictions that the pope may use that forum to scold schools for straying from orthodoxy.

"There's certainly not been anything in his writings that I know of that would suggest he'd try to dictate what universities should teach," said Lyons, noting that the pope is a former university professor himself.

"Certainly, it would be within the scope of his authority and the scope of his interest to highlight what, from his point of view, might be some of the characteristics that would be accessible within a Catholic university," she said.

Instead, Lyons is looking to the pope for encouragement and "appreciation for the work (Catholic) universities do in this country."



"I still can't believe I'm going," said Ileana Koupal, with her husband, Dennis, who booked the trip months ago, just in case. *John Gibbins / Union-Tribune*

Lyons saw Pope Benedict at a large papal audience last summer, when she attended an education seminar in Rome. "It was much more moving than I ever expected it to be, to be hon-

est," she said.

"What moved me the most was the international (presence)," she said. "I got a sense of the international church that I'd never had before."

University of St. Thomas, Minnesota USA

Bulletin Today

Thursday, April 24, 2008

[Bulletin Today home](#)

Opus College of Business to host Entrepreneur Awards Ceremony today

The Opus College of Business' 19th annual Entrepreneur Awards Ceremony will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. today, April 24, in the School of Law's Schulze Grand Atrium on the University of St. Thomas Minneapolis campus.

The John F. Cade award will be given to Ron Fowler, San Diego, Calif., a 1966 St. Thomas graduate who is chairman and CEO of Liquid Investments Inc., the parent company of firms in California and Colorado.

The Cade Award is given annually and was established in memory of a 1970 UST graduate who died in a 1986 airplane crash. At the time, Inc. magazine ranked his 6-year-old Cade Industries 18th of the top 100-fastest-growing companies in the United States. The award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurial attributes, contributions to the community, ethical standards and integrity.

The Entrepreneurship Alumnus of the Year Award goes to 1985 St. Thomas graduate Greg Hennes, founder of Art Holdings, a corporate art consulting firm based in Minneapolis.

RSW Management Inc., a Balsam Lake, Wis., company that has involved three generations of the Ward family, will receive the Family Business Award.

More information about the ceremony is available [here](#).

The following information about the award winners was prepared for the ceremony's program:

Ron Fowler '66 – John F. Cade Award

Ron Fowler is the chairman and CEO of Liquid Investments Inc., the parent company of operating entities in California and Colorado. The Liquid Investments group specializes in beverage distribution, with annual sales in excess of \$220 million.

Recognized as an industry leader, Ron is the chairman of the Executive Committee of Brick Brewing Co., Ltd. in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada; a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Columbia Distributing Co.; past chairman and current member of the Miller Brewing Co. Distributor Council; chairman of the board of directors of the California Beer & Beverage Distributors Association; and a past member of the Heineken U.S.A., Labatt U.S.A., The Boston Beer Company and Beck's North America Advisory Councils. He is a member of the Chief Executives Organization and past chairman of the San Diego Chapter of the Young Presidents' Organization.

Ron's special interest is higher education. He was a primary financial contributor and chaired the successful campaign to create the Entrepreneurial Management Center at San Diego State University (SDSU) and served as the founding chairman of its Board of Governors. In May of 2005, Ron received an honorary doctorate from SDSU and serves as a member of the Board of Trustees at the University of San Diego.

An avid sports enthusiast, Ron was the owner and managing general partner of the San Diego Sockers professional soccer team from 1987 to 1991. He serves as treasurer and trustee for the U.S. Olympic Training Center in San Diego. Ron chaired the first Mayor's Task Force that resulted in a new ballpark for the San Diego Padres and served as chairman of the San Diego Super Bowl Task Force and the 2003 San Diego Super Bowl Host Committee. He is a current board member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the San Diego Padres.

As a community and civic leader, Ron received the 1997 Community Champion Award from the San Diego Hall of Champions. He was also recognized as San Diego's 1997 "Nice Guy of the Year."

Ron has been the honorary chairman of Easter Seals and is presently an advisory board member of the San Diego chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. He has served on the boards of Children's Hospital, Scripps Hospital Foundation, and the San Diego County YMCA.

Greg Hennes '85 - Entrepreneurship Alumnus/Alumna of the Year

Greg Hennes founded Art Holdings in 1989 as a corporate art consulting firm, which works for Fortune 1000 clients to fulfill any art or framing need they may have. Greg has led the company through a series of mergers and acquisitions, adding several additional art-related businesses to its fold over the years. Today, Art Holdings is a \$5 million firm employing 30 people at a 26,000-square-foot facility in Golden Valley. As CEO, Greg's primary responsibilities are strategic planning, new market concepts and organizational management.

Greg is the current chair of the CEO Roundtable, an active member of the Twin West Chamber of Commerce, American Institute of Architects and the Building Owners and Managers Association. He is also the past president of the Young Entrepreneurs Organization and a current board member of the Commercial Real Estate Executives Network.

RSW Management Inc. – Family Business of the Year

RSW is in the business of investing in the future of companies, whether it is funding an entrepreneur's dream, investing and consulting with a company through a growth phase or helping a company through restructuring or distress.

In the early 1950s, Richard and Mercedes Ward purchased their family resort, the first business which was to become the beginning of the family-owned and run entrepreneurial business now known as

College of Arts & Sciences

North County Times

April 7, 2008

Signs of a depression?

The current economic recession is serious enough. What might be lurking behind the recession is even more alarming.



DENNIS M. CLAUSEN

The declining housing market is the most obvious sign that our economy is in trouble. In 2007, one out of every nine homes in

Murrieta entered foreclosure. Other local homeowners have abandoned homes that are not worth the price they paid for them. "For sale" signs are becoming permanent fixtures on front lawns.

The mall in Escondido sometimes resembles a ghost town. One retailer told my wife that customers disappeared after the Christmas season and haven't returned. Rising food prices are motivating some shoppers to grow their own gardens.

The Escondido Auto Park is struggling to entice car buyers into its lots.

We don't have any tent cities yet. That dubious distinction belongs to an area 40 miles east of Los Angeles, where refugees from the mortgage meltdown live in tents, just as they did in the 1930s during the Great Depression.

I don't want to sound like some latter-day Paul Revere riding through North County streets, yelling, "The Depression is coming!" Still, I get that nagging fear I first experienced as a child, and I start to worry.

I was born in the decade after the Great Depression, but I feel like I lived through it. In those days, when families got together, they didn't watch television. They told stories. I listened to Minnesota farmers talk about their experiences during "the big one."

They described families traveling through the area, their worldly possessions packed in the back of horse-drawn carriages or buckboards. They begged for food and then went on their way, wandering to wherever they might find another free meal.

These farmers said they hid their money in cream cans and buried them in their back yards. They described "For Sale" signs everywhere and farm auctions where cattle and other livestock were sold for pennies. They said there were unscrupulous bankers and speculators who thrived on farm foreclosures. There were other stories about human kindness, including a grocer who gave food to poor families — until he, too, went broke.

North County is a long way from this kind of economic depression. Still, I'm getting that feeling in the pit of my stomach that I remember from my youth after hearing those farmers tell their stories.

We might learn a thing or two from the generation that survived the Great Depression.

Many of them have cited the 1930s as the most formative decade of their lives. They said it taught them to live within their means, not to waste anything and to appreciate the little things in life. They knew that human greed could undermine any economic system.

If the next generation — my generation — had learned those lessons, perhaps we could have avoided our current economic problems.

North County has a very diverse economy, unlike the agricultural area where I grew up. It may be resilient enough to survive almost any economic calamity, even a depression. I certainly hope that is the case.

Escondido resident **Dennis M. Clausen** is a freelance columnist for the North County Times and a professor of American literature at the University of San Diego.

1 of 37 DOCUMENTS

Drug Week

April 11, 2008

ENZYME RESEARCH; Study findings from **University of San Diego** broaden understanding of enzyme research

SECTION: EXPANDED REPORTING; Pg. 168**LENGTH:** 356 words

According to recent research published in the journal *Chemical Biology & Drug Design*, "Histidine protein kinases (HPKs) are a class of receptor proteins found in bacterial two-component signal transduction systems, which allow bacteria to respond to changes in their external environment."

"To date, there are few potent inhibitors of histidine kinases, despite their potential ability to weaken bacteria against antibiotic treatment. EnvZ is a histidine protein kinase with osmoregulatory function in bacteria with sequence and topological similarity to DNA Gyrase B. DNA Gyrase B has several well-characterized potent inhibitors, including novobiocin and clorobiocin which have detailed structures in complex," wrote L.A. Plesniak and colleagues, **University of San Diego** (see also Enzyme Research).

The researchers concluded: "With fluorescence competition experiments, we have determined that novobiocin binds to EnvZ with a K_{d} of 120 ± 20 μM . NMR transferred NOE (trNOE) experiments, and saturation transfer difference (STD) experiments suggest that novobiocin binds to EnvZ in a conformation and orientation similar to its binding with DNA Gyrase B. These experiments suggest some similarity in the pocket despite weaker affinity for EnvZ by novobiocin."

Plesniak and colleagues published their study in *Chemical Biology & Drug Design* (Transferred NOE and saturation transfer difference NMR studies of novobiocin binding to EnvZ suggest binding mode similar to DNA gyrase. *Chemical Biology & Drug Design*, 2008;71(1):28-35).

For additional information, contact L.A. Plesniak, **University of San Diego**, Dept. of Chemical & Biochemistry, San Diego, CA 92110, USA.

The publisher's contact information for the journal *Chemical Biology & Drug Design* is: Blackwell Publishing, 9600 Garsington Rd., Oxford OX4 2ZG, Oxon, England.

Keywords: United States, San Diego, Antibiotics, DNA, Drug Development, Enzyme Inhibitor, Enzyme Research, Gyrase, Kinase, Novobiocin, Therapy, Treatment, **University of San Diego**.

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The Daily Californian Online

Protesters Disrupt Yoo Lecture

By Asaf Shalev

Contributing Writer

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Category: News > University > Academics and Administration



Staff/Laura Arnold

John Yoo (right) joined a panel discussion on privacy rights with David Cole. Protesters from World Can't Wait shouted 'torture' at Yoo.

Boalt Hall School of Law professor John Yoo, who authored memos for the Bush administration that many have said condone torture, spoke yesterday near campus as protesters wearing orange jumpsuits and bags over their heads shouted "torture" at him.

As Yoo spoke yesterday at the Bancroft Hotel, members of World Can't Wait, a group that aims to "drive out the Bush regime," disrupted the lecture by yelling inside and outside the building. Yoo did not speak on matters directly related to the memos.

"We are demonstrating and giving a voice to the torture victims of the Bush administration," said Stephanie Tang, a spokesperson for the organization. "Yoo wrote the memos that allowed (the administration) to shred to pieces the Geneva Convention."

UC Berkeley has come under criticism for not dismissing Yoo, who is

considered a "war criminal" by some legal experts for the arguments on torture he wrote while working at the Office of Legal Counsel in the Department of Justice from 2001-03. Yoo has been teaching at Boalt since 1993

and received his tenure in 1999.

"In his professional capacity as a lawyer, he violated the American Bar Association's code of ethics," said Thomas Reifer, a University of San Diego sociology professor who is writing a book on the question of torture in constitutional and international law.

Boalt dean Christopher Edley released a statement last week defending Yoo's appointment at the law school while disagreeing with Yoo's analysis in the torture memoranda.

"Assuming one believes as I do that Professor Yoo offered bad ideas and even worse advice during his government service, that judgment alone would not warrant dismissal or even a potentially chilling inquiry," he wrote.

Two memoranda written by Yoo seek to provide the legal basis for interrogation and detention techniques such as torture. The second memo, which contains 81 pages of detailed legal argument, was only disclosed two weeks ago.

Yoo's memos aim to redefine the meaning of torture to include only actions that lead to bodily organ failure or death, Reifer said.

According to Reifer, the memos also said the techniques can only be defined as torture if the intention of the interrogator is physical harm. Therefore, if used only to obtain information, interrogation techniques cannot be considered torture.

"(Yoo) figured out a crafty way to sidestep the law," he said.

Yoo could not be reached for comment.

Though Edley disagreed with Yoo's legal analysis, he wrote that Yoo is not the one who bears the brunt of the responsibility for any torture conducted under the administration.

"Yes, it does matter that Yoo was an adviser, but President Bush and his national security appointees were the deciders," Edley wrote.

Professor emeritus of law Robert H. Cole, who has been a vocal opponent of the torture policy and was the only Boalt faculty member to protest against Yoo when the first memo became public two years ago, said the law school has not done enough to address the issue in previous years.

"The law school has swept the entire thing under the rug for years. This has given people the impression the law school is indifferent to torture," Cole said. "(Edley) has brought the matter out into the open ... and this is a very good development."

Edley's statement comes after the National Lawyers Guild, a progressive law association with a chapter at Boalt, called for Yoo's dismissal last week.

"Our tax money is going to pay the salary of a war criminal," said Marjorie Cohn, the guild's president.

Despite his vocal opposition to Yoo, Cole said he understands Edley's position in the statement.

"I agree with the dean that the standard for dismissing someone is very high and the dean's response is realistic and reasoned," he said.

He added that he is less concerned with Yoo's fate and more so with a decline in the value placed on human rights.

"There is something inviolable about every person's humanity," he said."

Lessons From a Dynamic Lifetime

Political science professor John Stoessinger uses his rich international experiences to give students a broader education.

By Candice Wu
Senior Staff Writer
Sunday, Apr. 13, 2008

Dr. John Stoessinger is known to interject some comic relief during class while transitioning between world crises.

“A 96-year-old divorces his attractive, blonde 24-year-old wife to marry a nice, average-looking 68-year-old,” Stoessinger said with a slight grin, during a February lecture about revolution in China. “Why did he do this? Because the older woman has patience!”

There were no laughs, and Stoessinger stood in the center of class, bewildered by the silent response before finally speaking up with flailing palms. “Does no one find this funny ... at all? Well, it’s funny to me for obvious reasons!” □



(Will Parson/Guardian)

Only then does the class erupt in laughter — partly because most of Stoessinger’s jokes are self-deprecating and partly because, even in a joke, he teaches his students a lesson of patience that can be applied to history and politics.

Stoessinger’s understanding of international and private relations derives from numerous encounters with historical figures and situations; his historic life began when he encountered Adolf Hitler and expands through his time spent with former President John F. Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis, to the current war in Iraq.

His continuous involvement in world crises has fueled him to teach for the last five decades, but his students best remember him as the professor with sharp, effortless humor and a signature outfit; regardless of the season, Stoessinger wears a solid-colored sweater with his shirt collar meticulously affixed above its crewneck, finished

with standard-washed blue jeans and black or white sneakers.

“I may look harmless, but I’ll grill your [history] knowledge,” Stoessinger said.

After teaching at prestigious colleges such as Massachusetts Institute of

Technology, Princeton University, Harvard University and Columbia University, Stoessinger now lectures at UCSD and the University of San Diego. His silver-white hair may hint at his age and substantial knowledge of history, but his ear-to-ear grin after telling a joke eliminates any idea that he suffered through the Holocaust or watched helplessly as innocent men and boys — including students of his — perished in the Vietnam War. His career was shaped by the world crises in which he involuntarily or consciously became involved, and his lectures give students a glimpse into important international issues.

Stoessinger has no office at either UCSD or USD. The UCSD political-science department can offer only ambiguous answers on how to reach him beyond class hours; since he posts no e-mail address next to his name on the faculty directory, his availability has become a hot commodity that students eagerly seek.

“He’s different [from other professors] because you become more interested in his life and his experiences as opposed to the actual course material,” Eleanor Roosevelt College senior and past student Elska Vuong said. “World crises that seem so remote from your real life become more dimensional because [his] personal stories take incredible events off the page and [make them] more real and relatable.”

On March 13, 1938, seven-year-old Stoessinger knew his life would be changed forever when his governess, Lisl, took him to see Hitler speak in his hometown of Vienna, Austria. Grasping her crucifix necklace, Lisl muttered, “Holy Maria, Mother of God — this is a new Messiah.” His entire childhood changed for the worse for four years with the Nazis at his family’s heels; they finally fled Europe by taking a train across the Soviet Union and reached Japan three months later.

Although Japan was not an ally of the United States, a Japanese diplomat named Manabe helped Stoessinger’s family obtain visas to seek refuge in Shanghai, China from the genocide. This man taught Stoessinger the power of human kindness at a very young age.

“You can’t spend your life generalizing people into categories of good and evil,” Stoessinger said. “A Japanese man saved my life during [World War II] — that’s enough to prove that you cannot have a preconceived mentality about individual behavior.”

After arriving in the United States in 1947 and receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard University, Stoessinger soon became involved with politics and would devote the rest of his life to preventing events such as the Holocaust, from happening again.

“I’ve seen the world suffer through many experiences that could have been avoided,” Stoessinger said. “He who steps into a war in the 20th century will come out a loser — and I hope this is a message to a certain president who has us in a losing predicament.”

In the early 1970s, Stoessinger worked with the secretary general as director of the political affairs division at the United Nations to draw peace negotiations between the United States and Vietnam; unfortunately, the two presidents lacked patience for his proposed conferences. Bilateral talks did not succeed, and the Vietnam War erupted despite Stoessinger's efforts. Even today, his sudden halt in pacing and hushed voice when mentioning this war shows some remorse for what was lost during his eight years at the United Nations.

"In this situation with Vietnam, I failed at preventing war and unnecessary death," he said. "But I think you learn more from failure than from success — so I learned from it, and it was a terrible experience [that] made me wiser and somewhat sadder."

His lectures not only iterate history lessons, but also incorporate bursts of song and mischievous adolescent thoughts; his infamous encounter with a Chinese prostitute — a particular story that highlights a lecture about his life during the Holocaust — stands out in students' memories.

Stoessinger's vivid story of his teenage run-in with the Chinese escort — properly named "The Golden Dragon" for her 200-pound frame and 24 gold-capped teeth — never fails to shock the class.

"What do you do when you're 15-years old in the middle of a war," Stoessinger said. "And you're a virgin who thinks he's about to die?"

The lecture hall echoed with uncontrollable laughter as he revealed how his friends sent him to the brothel in his best suit and tie — and armed with a nail file "in case anything went wrong."

Nonetheless, Stoessinger assured his students that he remained a virgin that night after being kicked out of the brothel.

Students like Roosevelt College senior Mary Micevych constantly lose themselves in his tales.

"Professor Stoessinger is passionate about what he teaches, which I find so rare in professors at UCSD," Micevych said. "Many professors teach the materials and classes because they have to as a part of their university contract, [but] Stoessinger ... even challenges students in their personal lives, not just to excel in his class."

At the first lecture of each Crisis Areas in World Politics course, Stoessinger forces a handful of students to stand up in front of a class full of strangers to share their stories of "the one who got away."

Each of these students must discuss a past situation in which they were too shy to ask for someone's phone number; Stoessinger then asks them to seize an opportunity with a romantic interest before the class final and report back to him

with their endeavors. The quarter-long embarrassment for these students stems from his take-home message about taking full advantage of any circumstance — whether it is trying to snag a date with someone, prevent the repetition of mistakes or contribute opinions to the class.

Throughout the course, his personal and professional experiences convey the message for students to become involved in their environment using knowledge gained from various world crises.

Despite his humorous anecdotes and stories of childhood misbehavior, the entire class is based on his theory of a morality where leaders must realize that mistakes made throughout modern history should be taken as lessons learned — that war will cost millions of lives at the wagger's loss. Each crisis lecture emanates this premise, and Stoessinger wants his students to reflect on history and apply it to their own lives.

"I hope somebody gets the message sooner or later that it doesn't matter if you're a capitalist, communist, rich, poor or whatever color you are — if you start a war, you will lose the war," Stoessinger said. "But people still fight and haven't gotten the message yet. I hope that in my small way, I can make a contribution that people will finally learn a lesson through history."

Readers can contact Candice Wu at candiewu@yahoo.com .

One person has commented on this article.

1. **Untitled**

quote

Reality check, Unregistered

First a glowing profile of nutball Milton Saier, and now convicted felon Stoessinger? Both, of course, written without any objective analysis of their sordid pasts. ("He lost innocent boys and men in Vietnam, including his students!" --seriously, what the fuck? **COPY EDITORS--PATROL FOR BIAS**) **In 1976, Stoessinger pleaded guilty to concealing fraud totaling at least \$260,000** committed by Anne Lament, who used letters of recommendation from him which she addressed to overseas banks and governments. The only reason Stoessinger isn't serving a 20-year prison sentence is because he was pardoned by Ronald Reagan. No mention of this in the article? Of course not. That would mean Candice is a journalist possessed of an independent mind, which she is clearly not.

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Church Abuse Victim Reacts To Pope's Visit

POSTED: 3:52 pm PDT April 15, 2008
UPDATED: 5:37 pm PDT April 15, 2008

SAN DIEGO -- A victim of the clergy sex abuse scandal is speaking out about Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the United States.

- [Watch Video](#)
- [Watch Video \(Oct. 2007\) | Read The Diocese Settlement Statement](#)

On his flight to the U.S., the pope said he was ashamed "deeply ashamed" of the scandal that rocked the Roman Catholic Church and vowed to work to make sure pedophiles don't become priests.

Paul Livingston said he was abused by a member of the Catholic Church at the age of 7. He was a part of the lawsuit that cost the archdiocese more than \$650 million.

Livingston said he heard the pope's statements and now wants to see something done.

"Start by following that charter that was developed in 2002 when the scandal broke," Livingston said. "That's a good start."

Father Ron Pechance, a priest and professor at University of San Diego said he understands Livingston's pain.

"Some would say that he should go a little further and say, 'On behalf of the church, I am sorry,'" Pechance said. "Others have suggested some policies."

A policy Livingston suggests is a Web site, like Megan's Law, that publishes the all of the offenders from the Catholic Church.

"If I have children who live next door, I want to know," Livingston said.

Benedict pledged that pedophiles would not be priests in the Catholic Church.

"We will absolutely exclude pedophiles from the sacred ministry," Benedict said. "It is more important to have

More



Mark Wilson/Getty Images

Accompanied by President George W. Bush, Pope Benedict XVI greets well wishers at Andrews Air Force Base on Tuesday, April 15.

POPE BENEDICT VISITS U.S.

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good priests than many priests. We will do everything possible to heal this wound."

Regardless of when or if the pope takes action, Pechance believes just the fact that he has addressed the issue is a step in the right direction.

"What he said on the plane was welcome," Pechance said. "I hope he reiterates it because it says that he is personally and deeply affected by it."

A \$198 million settlement was agreed to by the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego last October. An average of \$1.4 million per claimant to 144 people who said they were abused by priests, making the payment the second-largest by any diocese.

Previous Stories:

- October 16, 2007: Church Solicits Donations To Help Pay Sex Abuse Settlement
- October 8, 2007: Priests, Parishioners Asked To Help Pay Damages To Sex-Abuse Victims
- September 12, 2007: Church Abuse Victims Want Diocese To Release Documents
- September 10, 2007: Parishioners React To Church Sex Abuse Deal
- September 7, 2007: Tears, Anger Follow Church Abuse Settlement
- September 5, 2007: Diocese Settlement On Horizon?
- August 24, 2007: Church Sex-Abuse Cases Ordered To Trial
- August 21, 2007: Judge: Court Won't Intervene In Church Settlement Talks

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the corner

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Academic Theater [John Derbyshire]

Some great fireworks Wednesday morning on the Libet thread. First we got some worthy-but-dull quantitative stuff from Bill Banks (experimental psychologist) and Francesca Carota (neuroscientist).

Then John Jacobson (philosopher/information scientist) came up and described his work at creating an unbeatable rock-paper-scissors computer program, throwing out all sorts of witty and penetrating observations on free will, "folk volition" (i.e. what we rubes *think* volition is all about, as opposed to what it *really* all about), and something called Pessimistic Indeterminism, which naturally I like the sound of. He declared his aim as being "to explain free will without exotic physics."

Which may not be easy. Physicist Daniel Sheehan (University of San Diego) gave us a physicist's account of the nature of time. Down at the quantum level, things get radically weird, we all know that. The issue here this morning was: Do brain processes partake of the weirdness?

Sheehan believes they do. He offered some arguments from physics, and some experimental results. Most startling of the latter were experiments that seemed to show *presentiment*. In brief: You show your suspect a blank screen. Then you randomly display a picture, either an "emotional" one, that will evoke a strong neuro-response (e.g. naked woman) or a "calm" one (e.g. seascape). Then you quickly go back to the blank screen. You are monitoring neural reactions all the time. The "emotional" pictures show a strong reaction after they are shown, of course; but they seem to show a measurably stronger reaction *before* being show, too.

It's possible to explain this via known quantum effects. You just have to drop some common-sense assumptions about time and causation! Sheehan argued that the explanatory power you get by bringing quantum weirdness into biology makes it worthwhile.

This "retrocausation" is very startling when you see the numbers and graphs on-screen. I thought I felt a cold breeze as the shade of J.B. Rhine flitted through the hall. (One questioner from the floor actually mentioned psychokinesis. Uh-oh.)

Then Susan Pockett of the University of Auckland (in New Zealand) came up. I don't know what it is about the antipodes, but New Zealanders and Australians seem determined to live up to their stereotype as down-to-earth, no-nonsense practical types. J.J.C. Smart, founder of "Australian Materialism," illustrates the point. This is a particularly strict style of materialism (more properly "physicalism" in today's jargon). Beliefs, desires, intentions ... material, material, material, says Smart. Read his riposte to Galen Strawson in the latter's 2006 book.

In any case, Susan — a stocky, feisty-looking woman who looked quite capable of



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knocking down anyone who disagreed with her — poured cold water on all that had gone before. She doubted Libet's famous results, saying he'd made unjustifiable assumptions. She pooh-pooed Sheehan's quantum weirdness, arguing that there were less-strange explanations for the phenomena. She scoffed at the "presentiment" experiment, mocking its statistics (justifiably, it seemed to me).

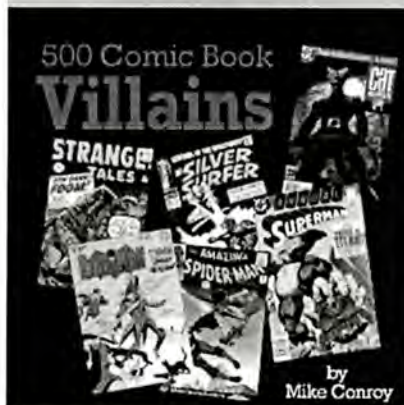
In questions afterwards, Susan didn't give an inch. Some academic tag-wrestling broke out. ("Didn't X counter Y's criticisms?" "Yes, but then Z pointed out that ..." etc., etc.) Great theater, though all very collegial and good-humored. This is what we come to academic conferences for. I love this stuff. More shortly.

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Many faiths recognize the virtue in patience
Apr 04,2008 00:00 by Sandi Dolbee



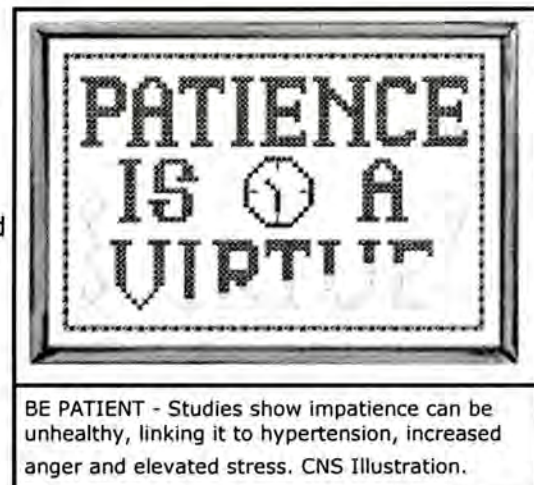
In a land of honking horns, chirping cell phones and drive-through attention spans, there isn't time to be patient.

Pick your poison: consumerism, materialism, self-absorption. Experts say they are each an ingredient in a recipe for perpetual impatience, turning humans into hamsters racing in their wheels, getting nowhere fast.

Elizabeth Carll, a clinical psychologist in Long Island, N.Y., whose specialties include stress and health, blames technology for our patience deficit. Remember when a blackberry was something you ate?

"I think we've gotten to be very high speed, and technology has contributed to that," Carll says. "It doesn't give us much time to think about things when you're always responding so quickly."

Studies show impatience can be unhealthy, linking it to hypertension, increased anger, elevated stress levels and a host of other personal ailments. Carll argues that it's also not good for society. "I think patience really is the foundation for society in many areas of life," she says.



The world's religions preach the value of patience. In Christianity, it's one of the fruits of the spirit. In Judaism, it's part of wisdom. In Buddhism, it's an avenue on the journey to enlightenment. And so on.

Carll, asked to explain why it can be so universally regarded as important and so universally ignored, answers this way: "It's human nature."

The Rev. David Fairchild, pastor of the nondenominational Kaleo Church in San Diego, sees a spiritual disconnect.

"Why do I get angry when someone cuts me off or doesn't acknowledge me at the counter when I walk up to it? Because I, in that moment, think I'm so important, and so glorious that I should either be noticed or respected because of my greatness," Fairchild suggests. "In that moment I want to be the king and lord. The truth is, I demonstrate my brokenness, not my greatness, when I'm unwilling to be patient."

On the other hand, the 21st century doesn't have a monopoly on impatience.

Consider the biblical story of the Jews wandering in the wilderness after they escaped from Egypt, an exodus celebrated in the Passover holiday this month. After their deliverance, it didn't take long for the crowd to grow impatient, whining about food and resorting to making idols.

Glen Scorgie, professor of theology at Bethel Seminary San Diego, says the story may be as much about doubt and fear as anything else. Either way, he observes, "Faith wears thin whenever hope is deferred, and large amounts of patience are required."

One reason patience is a virtue, Scorgie adds, "is precisely because it has always been in short supply."

SUGGESTIONS

Waiting isn't easy.

"I think it is a difficult skill to learn," says Teresa Polk, a lawyer who is in the process of becoming a lay Carmelite nun. "It involves a lot of endurance."

Her advice: Take it a step at a time. She hearkens to a prayer by a 13th-century saint that was adapted into a "Godspell" song: "day by day." Polk uses her electronic leash to connect spiritually as well as professionally. Each morning, after she boards the commuter train to take her to work, Polk logs onto the Internet and calls up a daily prayer.

She says she knows people who will grab their Rosary beads when they're stuck in traffic and use that time for prayer. "It definitely helps you calm your mind," she says.

Buddhist nun Karma Lekshe Tsomo says developing patience is a way of cultivating peace.

"It is considered an antidote to anger and hatred, which are of course the root of many problems," says Tsomo, a professor of theology and religious studies at the University of San Diego.

She thinks people inherently know that compassion and patience and love are important, but they get seduced into materialism. "The advertising, everything around us, tells us we want more of this stuff. It more or less never ends because the minute you get one, it's outdated and you need an upgrade."

In Buddhism, this seduction is attributed to ignorance - ignoring the pure, clean natural state of the mind by getting caught up with the distractions of the world. "It creates a cycle of dissatisfaction," Tsomo says. "If we were satisfied, we wouldn't need all that stuff."

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How can people become more patient?

"The Buddhist would recommend meditation. Meditation is a way of getting back to that state of awareness," Tsomo says.

If you're standing in a line, she suggests taking that time to become aware of your breathing. Calm yourself, going with the flow of nature - "instead of getting irritated, which is a low-grade form of anger, which is unfortunate and also unpleasant."

Another technique: consciously generate loving kindness toward everyone in the line.

That's echoed by Rabbi Michael Berk, senior rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel in San Diego.

"I'll tell you what I think really is the root of it for me," Berk begins. "We have in the Bible this incredible notion of (being) created in the divine image and what that means is that every time you look at another human being, you're supposed to see the face of God."

Would you honk your horn at God driving too slow or berate God for not waiting on other customers fast enough?

That said, however, Berk takes issue with blaming the wandering people in the Exodus story for their impatience. Perhaps the impatient ones were Moses and God, who were expecting too much too soon from these newly freed followers.

"There's a rabbinic saying: Don't judge another person until you've stood in their shoes," Berk says. "And I think it's important to remember those things."

CAVEATS

Rabbi Berk, Buddhist nun Tsomo and New Testament theologian Scorgie agree that there are times when people shouldn't be patient.

"I think we need not be patient with injustice, with cruelty, with dishonesty, with corruption, with violence," Tsomo says. "These things we should actively work to change, to transform."

Sometimes, Scorgie says, "holy outrage may be a more appropriate response in the eyes of God."

Berk would add this category: self-improvement. "We should have a certain amount of restlessness, if not impatience, about that."

The Rev. Wilk Miller, senior pastor of First Lutheran Church of San Diego, a congregation known for its social activism, says people ought to be careful when telling others to be patient.

"A rich person cannot tell a poor person to be patient," Miller says. He issues similar cautions about counseling a homeless person to be patient when you have a nice house or a victim of discrimination to be patient when you have full rights.

"I think that's the problem," Miller adds. "We call people to patience and tolerance and I may not be doing it myself."

ON PATIENCE

"If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow."

- Chinese proverb

"To lose patience is to lose the battle."

- Mahatma Gandhi

"I am extraordinarily patient, provided I get my own way in the end."

- Margaret Thatcher

"It is strange that the years teach us patience; that the shorter our time, the greater our capacity for waiting."

- Elizabeth Taylor

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Governor heads for Manila

**By Gemma Q. Casas
Variety News Staff**

GOVERNOR Benigno R. Fitial left for Manila over the weekend and is expected to return to the island within the week.

Press Secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said the governor's latest trip to the Philippine capital was personal and involved the forthcoming graduation of his daughter, Christine, in California, next month.

Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez is the acting governor until Fitial's return.

Fitial booked his own itinerary and may head to Washington, D.C. later.

The U.S. Senate has calendared for action S.2739, the omnibus package bill that contains legislation federalizing the local immigration system.

"He may still go (to Washington, D.C.)," said Reyes when asked about the subject but added that he does not know the exact date.

He said Fitial is set to leave again late this month for Palau to attend the 9th Western Micronesian Chief Executives Summit scheduled for the week of April 23.

The governor has asked the Legislature to move the proposed April 25 State of the Commonwealth Address to the second week of May.

Reyes said Fitial's daughter is graduating with honors from the University of San Diego where she earned a double major in English and psychology.

She intends to pursue a master's degree in English upon completing her undergraduate studies.

"She's a top honor student," the press secretary told Variety.

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'Law and Society in Modern Iran: Examining Individual Rights, Constitutionalism, and Islamic Law.'

Our distinguished speakers will be Dr. Ali Gheissari, Professor of History at the University of San Diego and Dr. Saïd Arjomand, Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Abdi Shayesteh, Esq. of King & Spalding LLP will moderate the discussion.

In this seminar we will examine the concept of rights and constitutionalism in Iran as they exist today and have evolved since the Iranian Constitution of 1906. Our first speaker, Dr. Ali Gheissari, will examine the legal dimension of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution (1905-1911) with the concept of rights at its core, and the subsequent efforts to draft and ratify a standard Civil Law from the 1920s and onwards. Our second speaker, Dr. Saïd Amir Arjomand, will examine the constitutional developments in the Islamic Republic of Iran since its creation in 1979 highlighting the significance of Khomeini's constitutional measures during the last year and a half of his life- which laid the foundation for the system of collective rule by clerical councils and set the parameters for Iran's constitutional politics to the present. For more information about the speakers, please see below or the attached detailed agenda and description.

The event will be held on Wednesday May 7th at 7:00 pm at the office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom LLP, Four Times Square, New York, NY. There is limited space for this event, so please RSVP your attendance before May 1st to Elnaz Zarrini (iaba.nyc@gmail.com or 212.735.4124). Tickets are \$10 for non-IABA members and free for IABA members. The \$10 ticket price is tax deductible and will be used to further IABA's mission. The event is open to the public (not just attorneys). For attorneys, we have applied for CLE credit and anticipate that we will have approval by May 7th.

As part of our effort to create a forum to discuss timely and important topics for the Iranian community, we are pleased to have both of these distinguished scholars come to New York to discuss law and society in modern Iran from a legal and academic perspective. We hope that you will be able to join us.

Best regards,

Nooshin Soltani, Director of IABA

Hessam Kalantar, Director of IABA

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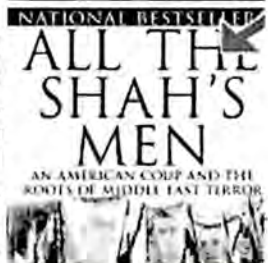
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Ali Gheissari is Professor of History and Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of San Diego. He studied Law and Political Science at Tehran University, Sociology of Knowledge at Essex University, and Modern History at St. Antony's College, Oxford. He has written extensively in both Persian and English on the intellectual and political history of modern Iran. His books include: *Contemporary Iran: Economy, Society, Politics* (edited volume, forthcoming by Oxford University Press); *Tabriz and Rasht in the Iranian Constitutional Revolution* (Tehran, 2008); *Democracy in Iran: History and Quest for Liberty* (co-author, Oxford University Press, 2006); *Iranian Intellectuals in the Twentieth Century* (University of Texas Press, 1998 and 2008); and Persian Translation of Immanuel Kant's *Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Ethics* (with Hamid Enayat, Tehran, 1991). He is also the author of numerous articles, including: 'Truth and Method in Modern Iranian Historiography and Social Sciences' (*Critique*, 1995); 'Despots of the World Unite! Satire in the Iranian Constitutional Press' (*Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, 2005); and 'Merchants without Borders: Trade, Travel, and a Revolution in late Qajar Iran' (in *War and Peace in Qajar Persia*, Routledge, 2008). Dr. Gheissari has held several visiting appointments, at Tehran University, Oxford University, UCLA and Brown University; for the academic year 2008-2009 he will be a Senior Associate Member and Visiting Fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford. He also serves on the editorial board of the *Iran Studies Series*, published by E. J. Brill (Leiden). Dr. Gheissari's current research focuses on legal thought and institutions and the history of the judiciary in modern Iran.

Saïd Amir Arjomand (Ph.D, University of Chicago, 1980) is Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology and Director of the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies. He is the founder and President (1996-2002, 2005-08) of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies and Editor of its organ, *Journal of Persianate Studies*, and served as the Editor of *International Sociology*, the journal of the International Sociological Association (1998-2003) and Editor-in-Chief of *Studies on Persianate Societies* (2003-05). He has been Fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford, 1982-83, Member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, 1984-85, and Visiting Professor of Sociology and Development Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 1989, the Sharpe Visiting Professor of Islamic Studies, the University of Chicago, 1993-94, Member of the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Social Sciences, 1998, the inaugural Crane Fellow and Visiting Professor of Public Affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University, 2004-05, and Carnegie Scholar, 2006-08. He is the author of *The Shadow of God and the Hidden Imam: Religion, Political Organization and Societal Change in Shi'ite Iran from the Beginning to 1890* (The University of Chicago Press, 1984), *The Turban for the Crown. The Islamic Revolution in Iran* (Oxford University Press, 1988) and the editor of several books, including *Rethinking Civilizational Analysis* (London: Sage, 2004) (with Edward Tiryakian), *Constitutionalism and Political Reconstruction* (Leiden : E.J. Brill, 2007), and *Constitutional Politics in the Middle East* (London: Hart Publishers, 2008).



34 of 37 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 4, 2008 Friday

COMMUNITY INVITED TO EXPLORE WORLD OF JOHN SUTTER

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 975 words

DATELINE: Stockton, California

The following information was released by the University of the Pacific:

University of the Pacific's John Muir Center will host a two day symposium on John A. Sutter, one of the original Western pioneers who helped settle the Central Valley. The symposium will be held April 25 and 26 and will include a field trip to Sutter's Fort and Marshall Gold Discovery State Park in Coloma and presentations from several John Sutter experts.

"John Sutter is one of the most interesting figures in California history," said Bill Swagerty, director of the John Muir Center at Pacific. "He intended to build a thriving agricultural and trading community, but instead got caught up in the gold rush that practically destroyed everything he hoped to achieve."

Sutter (1803 - 1880) was a German-born citizen of Switzerland who moved to California and settled in what is now Sacramento. He developed the area around Sutter's Fort into an agricultural and trading empire based on Indian slave labor and free traders. Gold was discovered near his sawmill in Coloma, which forever changed California's history and dashed his dreams.

Albert L. Hurtado, keynote speaker for the symposium and author of "John A. Sutter: A Life on the North American Frontier" wrote:

"There is no denying the historical importance of John A. Sutter. Conqueror of the Sacramento Valley, builder of Sutter's Fort, savior of overland immigrants, pioneer ranchman and farmer, agent of the gold discovery, Sutter was the very embodiment of early California. Without knowing his story, we simply cannot understand the last years of Mexican California, the American conquest, the gold rush, and its aftermath. His life reveals the main currents of imperial ambition on the Pacific Coast and sheds light on the nature of the North American frontier in the mid-nineteenth century. Sutter's story is international in scope and continental in dimension, embracing as it does the United States, Russian Alaska, Hawaii, northern Mexico, and even Central America. Famous in his own time, Sutter is now a lightning rod for controversies concerning the moral dimensions of the conquest of the American West (Preface)."

The first day of the symposium, April 25, will include a field trip to Sutter's Fort and Marshall Gold Discovery State Park in Coloma. Several Sutter experts will accompany the group and answer questions. The cost for the field trip is \$50 per person and is limited to 45 people. The second day, April 26, will feature a series of presentations at Pacific in Grace Covell Hall about Sutter and California history. Tickets for that day cost \$30 per person, \$20 for students, and include a California-Mexican-period lunch buffet based on historic recipes from the nineteenth century.

For more information, contact Bill Swagerty at wswagerty@pacific.edu or 209.946.2527.

Ticket request forms must be turned in by April 23.

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 25, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Field Trip by hired motor coach to Sutter's Old Fort, Sacramento, and Marshall Gold Discovery State Park, Coloma.

Join Sutter-experts Al Hurtado, Iris Engstrand, Ken Owens, Alexander Petrov, and Steve Beck for a day in the field. Box lunch to be provided. Bus leaves the University of the Pacific Swimming Pool parking lot at 9 A.M. and returns by 5:30 P.M. \$50 per person (includes transportation, lunch and entry fees). Must pre-register. Space limited to first 45. Parking permits for Swimming Pool lot on campus will be distributed prior to departure.

Saturday, April 26, 9 A.M.- 5:30 P.M.

Symposium; Grace Covell Hall, University of the Pacific campus

(\$30 per person; includes lunch; \$20 special student rate; must register by April 22 for a lunch ticket)

9:00 a.m. Coffee and Welcome; Thomas W. Krise, Dean, College of the Pacific

9:20 a.m. Introduction of Sutter family descendants and morning session speakers;

W. R. "Bill" Swagerty, Director, John Muir Center

9:30 a.m. Iris Engstrand, University of San Diego

"John Sutter's Old World Background and Family History"

10:30 a.m. Steve Beck, California State Parks

"Sutter's Old Fort"

11:00 a.m. George Harwood Phillips, La Jolla; University of Colorado Emeritus

"Surrounded by Indians: Sutter from the Bottom Up"

12:00 p.m. Lunch (California Mexican Buffet from historic recipes of Encarnacin Pinedo as published in *El Cocinero Espanol* (1898) and reissued with translation and editing by Dan Strehl as *Encarnacin's Kitchen* (University of California Press).

1:00 p.m. Keynote Address, Albert L. Hurtado, University of Oklahoma and

L. A. Times Fellow, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California

"The Trouble with Heroes: John Sutter and California History"

2:00 p.m. Kenneth N. Owens, Sacramento State University, emeritus

"The Mormons are the best workers I have':

John Sutter and the LDS Origins of the California Gold Rush"

3:00 p.m. Alexander Petrov, Russian Academy of Sciences

"John Sutter and Fort Ross from a Russian Perspective"

3:45 p.m. Roger Werner, Archaeologist, Stockton, CA

"John Sutter, Captain Charles Weber, and the Germans of Stockton"

4:30 p.m. Symposium Wrap-Up (Iris Engstrand and Albert Hurtado)

4:45-5:30 p.m. Reception and book signing

Note: copies of the following will be available for purchase and signing:

6 of 45 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 18, 2008 Friday

GEOGRAPHY AS A METAPHOR FOR SPIRITUAL LIFE

BYLINE: States News Service**LENGTH:** 247 words**DATELINE:** San Diego, CA

The following information was released by the University of San Diego:

On April 5, twelve venturesome pilgrims responded to the invitation by the Center for Christian Spirituality to explore the beautiful and varied terrain of the San Diego region, not only to enjoy its sheer beauty, but to discover its "spiritual geography."

The human heart's search for the deeper meaning of life is as old as the hills and as fathomless as the ocean depths. Chasing down life's illusive core, we reach for metaphors that catch some inkling of the mystery that lies within. The heart has its reasons which reason does not know, Pascal asserted. Yet, as inexhaustible as the human mystery is, not to mention the Holy Mystery, we "know" in some way its contours and its meanderings. Who of us doesn't understand the "deserts" and "mountaintops" of life? Who hasn't tasted the "refreshing waters" or teetered on the "dark abyss"?

Our day long excursion took us to Anza Borrega desert and to an awesome mountain top vista. We watched the changing moods of the surf in Ocean Beach and pondered the paradox of the city's promise and peril from the Spanish Landing. Reflection on each metaphor punctuated the day as participants wandered into the deeper meanings of their lives. At the end of the day, the quiet reflection, the sharing, the scenery brought us home, mostly to ourselves. Why not come along next year?

For more information on the Center for Christian Spirituality, go to www.sandiego.edu/ccs.

LOAD-DATE: April 20, 2008**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newswire

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SAN DIEGO
Reader

April 3, 2008

Contemporary Music Concert

Enjoy new music for viola and electric violin with guest artist Chia-Ying Hsu and Christopher Adler (piano and *khaen*). 619-260-4171. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park), 8 p.m., Saturday, April 5. (LINDA VISTA)

"Across the Water: Tales from Ireland, Scotland, and Beyond"
Storyteller Liz Weir from County

Antrim, Ireland, returns to "be-guile and bewitch" for Storytellers of San Diego in Manchester Conference Center. Suitable for adults, children over 12. 619-298-6363. Saturday, April 5; 7:30 p.m.; \$10. USD: University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (USD)

Cropper Writers Series Percival Everett reads from his work. 619-260-7721. Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

SAN DIEGO
Reader

April 10, 2008

Cropper Writers Series John J. Clayton reads from his work for series. 619-260-7721. Monday, April 14, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (UNDA VISTA)

SAN DIEGO Reader

Calendar

April 24, 2008

The Big Read Author, journalist Valerie Boyd — author of *Wrapped in Rainbows: The Life of Zora Neal Hurston* — speaks during event.

hosted by University of San Diego and Black Storytellers of San Diego. Evening opens with performance by vocalist Laneé Noyes, readings and discussion about novelist, anthropologist, boundary-breaker Hurston. 619-260-7402. Friday, April 25, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

USD Symphony Spring Concerts Programs include "Suite Provençale" by Darius Milhaud, Robert Schumann's "Symphony No. 2." 619-260-4171. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park), 8 p.m., Friday, April 25, and 2 p.m., Sunday, April 27. (LINDA VISTA)

Theatre Smash

USD's undergraduate theater program presents an "original theatrical culture collision" inspired by Bertolt Brecht's cabaret. Bill

6815. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 27.

"Military Homecoming — The War Continues" Bill Mahedy, author of *Out of the Night: The Spiritual Journey of Vietnam Vets*, leads panel discussion on challenges facing veterans returning home. Hahn University Center, Forum A. Reservations: 619-260-4784. Thursday, April 24, 7 p.m.; \$10-\$15. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (USD)

Comic Demetri Martin Intimate comedy show. 619-260-2727. Thursday, April 24, 7 p.m.; \$15. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

April 23, 2008

MUSIC

JEANNIE CHEATHAM at Saville Theater, San Diego City College, San Diego. The blues/jazz artist reads from her autobiography "Meet Me With Your Black Drawers On," followed by a live performance. From 7 to 9 p.m. **Wednesday, April 23.** 619-388-3037, www.sdcity.edu.

ETHEL at The Loft, UCSD. The Juilliard-trained string quartet performs. Shows at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. **At Thursday, April 24.** 858-534-2230, artpower.ucsd.edu. \$12.

THE KLEZMATICS at Birch North Park Theater, 2891 University Ave., North Park. The Grammy award winning klezmer group performs. At 7 p.m. **Thursday, April 24.** 619-239-8836, www.birchnorthparktheatre.net. \$33.

MAINLY MOZART A performance of pieces by Dvorak with special guest musicians. See website for times, locations and ticket details. From **Friday, April 25, through Sunday, April 27.** www.mainlymozart.org.

JACOBS' MASTERWORKS at Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., Downtown. Soprano Nicole Cabell is featured in the San Diego Symphony's performance of works by Kellogg and Grieg. At 8 p.m. **Friday, April 25, and Saturday April 26,** at 2 p.m. **Sunday, April 27.** 619-235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.org. \$20.

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET at Mandeville Auditorium, UCSD, La Jolla. The Canadian chamber ensemble performs works by Haydn, Schumann, and Dvorak. At 8 p.m. **Friday, April 25.** 858-534-TIXS, artpower.ucsd.edu. \$34.

USD SYMPHONY at Shiley Theatre, Camino Hall, USD campus. A performance of "Suite Provencale" by Darius Milhaud, *Symphony No. 2* by Robert Schumann and other selected works. At 8 p.m. **Friday, April 25.** 619-260-4661, www.sandiego.edu. \$10.

PETER SPRAGUE at The Grove, 3010 Juniper St., South Park. The jazz guitarist performs an Arbor Day concert. At 7 p.m. **Friday, April 25.** 619-284-7664, www.thegrovesandiego.com. \$15.

LYNDA CARTER at California Center for the Arts, 340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido. TV's Wonder Woman performs a cabaret-style evening of songs, with stand-up by comedian John Byner. At 8 p.m. **Saturday, April 26.** 800-988-4253, www.artcenter.org. \$22.

KARTIK SESHADRI at Mandeville Auditorium, UCSD campus, La Jolla. The sitar master performs a selection of Indian ragas. At 8 p.m. **Saturday, April 26.** 858-534-TIXS, music.ucsd.edu.

\$10.

***MICE AND BEANS** at Birch North Park Theater, 2891 University Ave., North Park. Composer Cary Ratcliff's charming family-oriented opera is based on Pam Munoz Ryan's children's book. At 7 p.m. **Saturday, April 26,** and 3 p.m. **Sunday, April 27.** 619-239-8836, www.birchnorthparktheatre.net. \$20.

NEIL BERG'S 101 YEARS OF BROADWAY at California Center for the Arts, 340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido. Five Broadway stars perform songs from a variety of musicals. At 4 p.m. **Sunday, April 27.** 800-988-4253, www.artcenter.org. \$22.

JANOS NIGYESTY at Mandeville Recital Hall, UCSD, La Jolla. The UCSD faculty violinist directs a concert, "Sciree for Music Lovers." At 8 p.m. **Monday, April 28.** calendar.ucsd.edu. \$10.

THE GOLLARDS at Athenaeum Music & Arts Library, 1008 Wall St., La Jolla. The early music group performs a free afternoon concert. At noon **Monday, April 28.** 858-454-5872, www.ljathenaeum.org.

LUCIDARIUM at Lawrence Family Jewish Center, 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla. The early music ensemble performs songs from the Italian Jewish communities of the 15th and 16th centuries. At 7 p.m. **Monday, April 28.** 858-457-3030, www.lfjcc.org. \$14.

SAN DIEGO

CITYBEAT

April 23, 2008

VALERIE BOYD at USD, 5998 Alcalá Park, Linda Vista. The author of *Wrapped in Rainbows: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston* gives a keynote address as part of The Big Read series. At 7 p.m. **Friday, April 25**. 619-260-4681, www.sandiego.edu/ce.

April 23, 2008

READY TO READ

Author and journalist **Valerie Boyd**'s 2003 book *Wrapped in Rainbows: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston*

Books

was the first biography written about the legendary Harlem Renaissance writer in almost 25 years. The book won several awards, and Boyd's since contributed a fine body of cultural criticism and essays to such publications as *Paste*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Ms.* magazine.

At 7 p.m. **Friday, April 25**, Boyd will give a keynote address for The Big Read, part of the National Endowment for the Arts' campaign to get Americans to read more. The event is free and takes place at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park in Bay Park. www.sandiego.edu/cee.



April 12, 2008

Lectures The University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park, will hold the following discussions: Signs of the Times Dialogue: "Military Homecoming – the War Continues," 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 24, University Center, Forum A; \$10 pre-registration, \$15 at the door. Information: sandiego.edu/ccs or (619) 260-4784; "Inspiring Progress: Religions' Contributions to Sustainable Development," by Gary T. Gardner, 5 to 6:15 p.m. April 29, Salomon Lecture Hall in Maher Hall; \$10. Information: sandiego.edu/ccs or (619) 260-4787.

School of Business Administration

Peace and Prosperity through Trade and Commerce

By: Dr. Denise Dimon

Without a doubt, trade and commerce can be a powerful engine for creating wealth while promoting peace and prosperity worldwide. This will be the theme of the May 30th "Summit on Peace and Prosperity through Trade and Commerce" organized jointly by the University of San Diego's Ahlers Center for International Business and the San Diego World Trade Center (SDWTC).

In this one-day event business, government, and other organizations from the Southern California-Baja region will be learning (and designing) how markets can foster world peace and well-being and share best practices for creative socially responsible and economically profitable business ventures, sustainable supply chains, and corporate citizenship. The goal of the Summit is bringing executives, entrepreneurs, and cutting-edge thinkers to visualize a myriad of new opportunities for "doing well by doing good" in a world increasingly more fragile. This event is designed for business owners/professionals, public officials, community leaders, and academics interested in finding new ways for achieving economic success, while conserving the environment, nurturing social change,

promoting peace, and improving the lives of the world's 4 billion poor.

The Summit will explore ways in which companies can incorporate the triple-bottom line, environment, social and economic perspectives, into their strategic thinking to engage actively in designing a more sustainable future. It is a unique think tank for leaders in the region to enrich and nurture their ongoing initiatives.

The impressive Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice at the University will be the optimum physical, intellectual, and spiritual space to network and connect with others thinking: Can my company create more value? Can I, individually, contribute more to society? How to develop alliances across business sectors and economic activity that generate both economic and social value? What do I need to learn to exercise socially responsible leadership in a globalized context?

The works will include the participation of well-recognized business leaders and intellectuals such as Dr. Ted London from the University of Michigan talking on the role that business is playing in changing the plight of the world four billion poor—the so-called base of the pyramid (BOP)—through market mechanisms. He will chal-

lenge the audience on the potential of multinational companies and other types of organizations for creating new inclusive value chains with low income groups in across emerging economies. After having a dialogue with Dr. London, participants will be engaged in an active debate including Dan Griswold from the Cato Institute, and Jonathan Jacoby, from the Center for American Progress, international experts on the role trade currently plays in eliminating conflicts and promoting peace. The morning will conclude with Mona Amodeo, President of IdGroup, an active agent on organizational change processes for becoming environmentally and socially responsible.

The afternoon will feature business leaders from the trenches to share their "real-life stories" pointing at barriers, managerial challenges as well as hands-on best practices for others to learn or implement. Karen Cebreros, founder and President of Elan Organic Coffees, a successful entrepreneur from the region, will discuss her organization's path in building sustainable value chains around the world in ways that guarantee environmentally respectful farming practices, fair trade, while ensuring economically sustainable business operations. Bob Langert, Vice

President of Corporate Social Responsibility at McDonald's will present key success factors for not only becoming a giant in the fast food industry, but evermore a world leader in corporate citizenship with a proactive stance towards solving social ills.

To sum up the day's discussions and individual and organizational commitments, Dr. Jaime Alonso Gómez, National Dean of The Graduate School of Business (EGADE) at Tecnológico de Monterrey (México) and Dr. Denise Dimon, Director of the Ahlers Center for International Business at The University of San Diego will interactively summarize the conference with a business and academic agenda on how to create wealth in addition to promoting peace and prosperity worldwide.

At the end of this practical and intellectually rich day, participants will be in the capacity to:

- a) Expand models of corporate citizenship.
- b) Learn about leadership for developing organizations effective in creating sustainable wealth and peace.
- c) Exercise innovation driven triple bottom line (economic, environmental, social) business action.

For more information visit www.sandiego.edu/ahlers/peace or www.sdwtc.org.

North County Times

April 4, 2008

USD program among tops in country — For the second year in a row, BusinessWeek magazine ranked 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 ranked 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 in February.

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+.

North County Times

April 10, 2008

USD offering supply management program — Supply management professionals from across the country have begun a Web-based master's degree program offered by the University of San Diego and approved by Institute for Supply Management.

The program is offered online and requires 26 months for completion.

Online interactions enable professionals to study from anywhere in the world and are supplemented with face-to-face sessions conducted three times a year at the University of San Diego campus.

The 36-unit program is delivered in two phases. Students who complete Phase I of the program will earn a graduate certificate in supply chain management. Students who finish both phases will earn a master of science degree in supply chain management.

The target enrollment date for the next cohort is May 16, with the program starting July 16. Enrollment requirements can be found on the University of San Diego School of Business Administration Web site at www.sandiego.edu/msscm.

SAN DIEGO
Metropolitan

CITYOWN EXAMINER & DAILY BUSINESS REPORT

April 25, 2008

David Pyke, associate dean of the MBA program at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College, has been named dean of USD's School of Business Administration. Pyke joins the university on Aug. 1, 2008.

North County Times

April 13, 2008

Miller chosen as Burns Scholar — Norm Miller, professor and director of academic programs at the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate, has been selected as the 2008 Burns Scholar at the University of Denver.

Miller will be participating as a visiting scholar in the university's Visiting Scholar Lecture Series, scheduled for Sunday and Monday at the University of Denver campus.

Each year, the Franklin F. Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management at the university's Daniels College of Business hosts a Visiting Scholar to participate in on- and off-campus activities to enrich the student experience. Outstanding, internationally known real estate scholars are selected from a field of nominated candidates and receive an honorarium for participating.

focused on major business park and land sales. With senior partners Rick Sparks and Chris Pascale, Hoeck worked on land transactions such as Bressi Ranch in Carlsbad.

Most recently, Hoeck was senior director of the CB Richard Ellis Private Client Group.

MILLER CHOSEN AS BURNS SCHOLAR: Norm Miller, professor and director of academic programs at the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate, has been selected as the 2008 Burns Scholar at the University of Denver.

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SACHS ESTABLISHES COMPANY: Justin Sachs, one of five winners of the 2007 Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards, recently established Justin Sachs International, headquartered in Carlsbad.

The awards are based on the Jewish concept of tikkun olam ("repair the world"), and each year, up to five teens ages 13-19 from throughout California are awarded \$36,000 each for community service and for demonstrating outstanding leadership and commitment to improving the world around them.

The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards recognize teens who are exceptional role models in their communities and beyond. These awards can be directed toward the recipient's college education or toward furthering his or her tikkun olam vision.

Sachs' company coaches and mentors high school youths, holding them accountable for their goals and guiding them to the next level in their lives. Justin Sachs International works with students to better their grades, overcome obstacles, increase their time management, develop a set of goals and harness entrepreneurial talent.

Call (760) 208-4991 or go to www.justinsachsinternational.com.

CULP JOINS CREDIT UNION COMMITTEE: Oscar Culp has been named a member of the Supervisory Committee at Faith Based Federal Credit Union, headquartered in Oceanside.

Culp has been a business owner in North County for more than 50 years and

SAN DIEGO Metropolitan

April 2008

Sanford

"Sandy" Goodkin, the godfather of the local real estate consulting industry and an internationally respected visionary, has received the Crystal Globe Award from the San Diego chapter of **Lambda Alpha International**, the world's largest land use planning organization. In other Lambda news, new president **Mark Steele** has a passel of new members to work with. They include **Laurie Black**, San Diego Port commissioner; **Paul Borden**, president of Home Federal Corp.; **Gina Champion-Cain**, president of American National Investments; **William Dumka**, senior v.p. of Black Mountain Ranch LLC; **Gary Halbert**, Santee deputy city manager; **Ted Kimball**, founder of Kimball Tirey and St. John; **Molly Lipsher**, senior associate with Economics Research Associates; **Theresa McAteer**, owner of McAteer and McAteer; **Norm Miller**, professor of real estate at the USD Burnham Moores Center for Real Estate Institute; **Robert Mosher** of Robert Mosher FAIA Architect; **James Reynolds**, senior v.p. and principal at OliverMcMillan; **James Schmid**, CEO of Chelsea Investment Corp.; **Barry Schultz**, CEO of San Diego Capital Collaborative; **Richard Snyder**, CEO of RA Snyder Management; **Tom Sudberry**, CEO of Sudberry Properties Inc.; and **James Tanner**, president of Tanner Hecht Architecture.



IndustryWeek.com
LEADERSHIP IN MANUFACTURING

Home : Operations : A Path To Supplier Learning

A Path To Supplier Learning

University of San Diego launches first ISM-approved master's program.

Thursday, May 01, 2008

By Nick Zubko

In today's business environment, the idea of "continuous improvement" certainly isn't confined to the plant floor. So for any procurement and supply management professionals who want to sharpen their skill set, the University of San Diego is now offering a Web-based master's degree program to help them do just that.

Recently approved by the Institute for Supply Management (ISM), the university's master of science degree in supply chain management (MS-SCM) was made available in February to professionals currently working in the field.

The program is offered online and requires 26 months for completion. Online interactions enable professionals to study from anywhere in the world and are supplemented with face-to-face sessions conducted three times a year at the University of San Diego campus.

The graduate-level education program is the first to receive ISM approval, according to ISM CEO Paul Novak. "ISM's mission to lead supply management drives us to partner with enterprises and organizations that have similar goals of helping supply management professionals build lifelong personal and professional networks," he says.

The 36-unit program is delivered in two phases. Students who complete Phase I of the program will achieve a graduate certificate in supply chain management. Students have the option of completing Phase I only, or matriculating into Phase II to complete the MS-SCM. The target enrollment date for the next cohort is May 16, with the program starting July 16. Enrollment requirements for the MS-SCM can be found on the University of San Diego School of Business Administration Web site.

Announced last fall, the collaboration between ISM and the University of San Diego has propelled the MS-SCM program into high gear. The impact of ISM approval on the specialized master's degree was immediately evident, says Simon Croom, executive director of the university's Supply Chain Management Institute.

"Many candidates who inquired, applied and enrolled in our February cohort expressed a high regard for the added credibility ISM approval brings to their learning experience," Croom says.

See Also

- Screen Savings

Building Permits, Other Economic Indicators Drag USD Index Down

By - 4/30/2008

San Diego Business Journal Staff

Dragged down by sharp drops in the number of building permits, consumer confidence and help-wanted ads, a local economic index dropped 1.4 percent for March, the sixth straight decline for the number, which has fallen 23 of the past 24 months.

The drop in the University of San Diego's Index of Leading Economic Indicators for San Diego County was somewhat offset by slight increases in three other categories. But the prospect for continued weakness for the rest of 2008 remained, according to Alan Gin, the USD economist who compiles the data.

Gin says the area's contraction of 1,700 jobs in March, compared with the overall jobs figure in March 2007, was the first net loss of jobs since July 1993, when the region was in the throes of the worst recession in its history.

"Whether this is the start of a negative trend or just a one-month aberration remains to be seen," Gin said.

The area's devastated housing sector is the main culprit. Only 193 residential housing permits were issued in San Diego County during March, the lowest monthly total for building permits since November 1992. Only eight apartments were authorized.

For the first quarter, the number of residential units was down 63 percent compared with the first quarter of 2007.

Another bad sign: Local consumer confidence hit the skids to the worst one-month decline ever, as gas prices hit record highs. The confidence index declined 40 percent from the same month a year ago.

Ironically, the national index of leading economic indicators increased in March for the first time in six months, but that likely won't continue because the national outlook is weak as well, Gin says.

— Mike Allen

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Union Bank Expanding Wealth Management Services Locally

Area Branches Gear Up to Serve Demand Despite Subprime Crisis

BY NED RANDOLPH

San Francisco-based Union Bank of California is planning to expand its wealth management operations in San Diego as part of the company's growth strategy, which includes adding wealth management offices in multiple markets in California and the Pacific Northwest.

The expansion, which is planned for this year, is part of a strategy announced in March to realign the bank's wealth management business into the larger Global Markets Group, which also houses the bank's asset management and brokerage units.

The bank, which currently has 10,000 employees, has not yet decided exactly how many employees will be added to the San Diego market.



Mary Curran

However, Executive Vice President Mary Curran, who heads the firm's Wealth Management Group and works in San Diego, says the realignment allows the bank to expand its presence in the personal wealth market.

"We see growth opportunities," said Curran. "California and the Pacific Northwest are really high on the list of high-net-worth areas. The markets themselves are attractive."

Union Bank operates 60 branch locations in San Diego as well as two regional

offices for wealth management and several "priority bank offices that focus on the affluent market," Curran said.

"San Diego is a huge and important market for the bank," she said. "We have our best branch coverage in San Diego, and a large commercial banking market share."

San Diego is attractive because of its diverse market, which is populated with law firms, medical practices, certified public accountants, and an "incredible array of businesses" with entrepreneurs, business owners and company executives, she said.

"Wealth management is an additional offering that we provide to those clients that do business on the business side but aren't focused on the personal side," she said. "Some people, when they're running companies, are focused on running companies and not focusing on the personal side."

San Diego Opportunities

San Diego has also experienced a lot of wealth creation in recent years in real estate and other sectors that are starting to diversify, says Susan Mallory, executive vice president of Chicago-based Northern Trust who oversees the Southern California region.



Susan Mallory

"The market is growing. It's interesting because there is a certain amount of osmosis of wealth creation in every single market," she said. "In San Diego, there's been a lot of wealth creation in the real estate market — which has certainly seen a correction at this point — as well as a transfer of wealth of privately held

companies."

Private equity firms are flush with cash, as owners sell and liquidate their companies, she says.

"A person who has started and built a company that manufactured widgets focused the bulk of their life on building wealth in that asset," she said.

By liquidating and therefore diversifying that wealth into other areas, "There is definitely a need for wealth management," she said. "That's what we do."

Contrarian Views

Bank expansion sounds like an odd topic amid the subprime mortgage meltdown and billions in financial losses by stalwart financial institutions such as The Bear Stearns Cos. Inc., Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc. and the Switzerland-based bank UBS.

"You hear a lot of bad news about the subprime crisis, but the thing you don't hear is that wealth management is the fastest-growing part of the financial services," said Vicki Morris, vice president of marketing for San Francisco-based NorthStar, which develops software tools for wealth managers. "There's good reason for that."

Wealth in America has grown. The improved quality of wealth managers and the complexity of markets have brought many Americans to the offices of wealth managers, she says.

The current market volatility has also brought customers to financial professionals, she says.

"In times where the market is very volatile is a time when interest is higher, and interest is growing steadily and there is still a lot of room for growth," Morris said.

Only half of Americans who have \$1 million of assets to invest have a financial

adviser, she says.

"I think it's somewhat surprising that half choose not to have anyone. I think sometimes people are penny-wise and dollar foolish," she said. "People don't want to invest in the financial advice. I'm not sure why. But I do think in times like now, people start to understand it's in their highest good to check it out."

Local Factors

San Diego residents have their own crisis of confidence, according to the USD Index of Leading Economic Indicators compiled by University of San Diego economist Alan Gin.

The index, which tracks such indicators as employment opportunities, building permits and consumer confidence, fell by 1.1 percent to 125.1 in February, marking the 22nd time the index has fallen in the last 23 months and reaching its lowest level since 1995, says Gin.

The index stood at 139.2 in February 2007 and at 143.8 in February 2006.

Only 146 single-family-unit building permits were authorized for construction in San Diego County in February, the lowest number since November 1992, when the region was in the midst of one of its worst recessions.

Curran says Union Bank has managed to avoid financial problems because it doesn't deal in subprime mortgage-backed securities, and is in expansion mode either by adding offices or buying troubled banks.

"There's always that possibility," she said. "It is a challenging time for banks, particularly banks heavily involved in the mortgage crisis. There is a lot going on with those types of financial institutions."

Resales of homes a house divided

Foreclosed properties going for much less

By Roger Showley and Lori Weisberg
STAFF WRITERS

San Diego County's unprecedented housing downturn has created a sharp split in the resale market, with foreclosed properties selling at steep discounts while other homes take a much smaller hit.

Although values are down in all categories, the variance between the resale prices of foreclosed and regular properties is dramatic. An analysis performed by DataQuick Information Systems at the request of *The San Diego Union-Tribune* showed that during the first three months of the year:

- Countywide, the median price paid for foreclosed houses and condominiums was \$325,000 — 28.3 percent below the \$453,000 median for nonforeclosure sales. That compares with a

SEE HOUSING, A16

FORECLOSURE COSTS

An analysis of San Diego County home resales for the first three months of 2008 shows the effect of having foreclosure properties on the market. A home's status was based on the previous 12 months.

RESALES

	Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure
Houses	1,100	2,187
Condos	600	945
All	1,700	3,132

MEDIAN PRICES

	Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure
Houses	\$365,000	\$500,000
Condos	\$230,000	\$360,000
All	\$325,000	\$453,000

SOURCE: DataQuick Information Systems

MATT PERRY / Union-Tribune

► HOUSING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Drag on market seen as lasting

peak of \$515,000 in the fourth quarter of 2005, when foreclosures were almost unheard of.

- Single-family houses in foreclosure sold for a median price of \$365,000, compared with a median of \$500,000 for nonforeclosures. The 2005 peak in that category was \$565,000.

- Condos in distress sold for a median of \$230,000, while the figure for nonforeclosures was \$360,000. The median at the 2005 peak was \$400,000.

Analysts say banks' eagerness to get houses off their books even if they have to slash prices could continue to be a drag on the market for some time, with discount foreclosure sales putting downward pressure on prices in surrounding neighborhoods.

At the same time, optimists see reason for hope that overall price levels in the county will stabilize once the distressed properties are sold off, though that process could continue well into next year. Foreclosed properties made up 35.2 percent of all resales in January, February and March.

"Remember, all of this foreclosure pain we've seen so far has come amid an economic backdrop that, until recently, wasn't that bad outside of real estate," DataQuick analyst Andrew LePage said.

He recommended that buyers and sellers pay attention to areas with unusually low sales counts where post-foreclosures sales dominate.

"The median price could pop back up once we see a more normal level of sales activity across all neighborhoods and home types," LePage said.

Alan Nevin, chief economist

for the California Building Industry Association and San Diego-based MarketPointe Realty Advisors, predicted foreclosure sales could account for as many as 15,000 out of 25,000 total sales this year. But at some point, the foreclosures will drop off, he Nevin said.

"Anybody who's going to walk away from a house or condo has already done it," Nevin said. "Now it's just a matter of the pig going through the snake."

Alan Gin, an economics professor at the Burnham-Moore Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego, said the DataQuick figures reveal a direct relationship between foreclosures and the prices that homes command.

In areas with no foreclosure sales, the median house price dropped 5.3 percent on average in the past year, as measured by price per square foot, Gin said. But for every 10 percent increase in the percentage of transactions that were foreclosures, the median price per square foot dropped an additional 3.6 percent.

For example, in La Jolla, which had no foreclosure sales in the first quarter, the median price per square foot on 42 sales was \$698, a figure 5.7 percent lower than a year ago. In National City, where nearly half of the 30 houses sold in the first three months of 2008 were foreclosures, the \$268-per-square-foot price was down 32.7 percent over the past year.

"We're sort of in uncharted territory here with the number of foreclosures being so high, particularly as a percentage of total sales," Gin said. "And so it could be that we've got some distortion in the market at this point."

It's no mystery why foreclosed properties generally sell for less than nonforeclosures, said Peter Dennehy, senior vice president of Sullivan Group Real Estate Advisors in San

Diego.

"In general, the banks are not like homeowners hoping to make a profit," Dennehy said. "They have no interest in owning real estate, especially when they're owning more and more of it. They're the extreme form of a motivated seller."

In some cases, lenders will spruce up vacant, abandoned houses with a new coat of paint, carpeting and new appliances in order to command prices competitive with the overall market, said agent Rose Avedisian, a foreclosure specialist who has an inventory of 150 bank-owned properties she is trying to sell.

"The banks that choose not to have that philosophy and want to get the houses off their books are willing to sell them at below market value," Avedisian said.

While foreclosed homes tend to be in worse condition than those that are privately owned, that's not always the case, agent Linda Ring said. Ring has sold a number of houses in eastern Chula Vista, where many first-time buyers had stretched beyond their means to buy.

The typical foreclosure house in that area is two stories with three to four bedrooms and two to three baths on a 3,000-square-foot lot. Many have upgraded kitchens, Ring said.

"The banks don't want to attract a fire sale, so they price them the same as the neighbor across the street," she said. "But once it hits the 120-day mark, the price becomes pretty flexible."

At the neighborhood level, the correlation between foreclosure levels and resale prices varied widely.

In the 91914 ZIP code of northeastern Chula Vista, where 79 percent of house sales were foreclosures, the distressed properties actually sold for 26 percent more than nonforeclosures. But in Spring

AREAS WITH MOST FORECLOSURE SALES OF HOUSES

Area	ZIP code	RESALES		MEDIAN PRICES		Difference in median price
		Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure	Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure	
Oceanside N.	92057	63	51	\$362,000	\$405,500	-10.7%
Encanto	92114	55	29	\$265,000	\$315,000	-15.9%
Chula Vista-East Lake-Olay Ranch	91913	49	30	\$437,000	\$437,500	-0.1%
Spring Valley	91977	47	34	\$279,500	\$350,000	-20.1%
Chula Vista S.	91911	47	21	\$360,000	\$385,000	-6.5%
Chula Vista N.	91910	43	46	\$380,250	\$405,000	-6.1%
Oceanside E.	92056	39	67	\$347,500	\$413,000	-15.9%
Nestor	92154	36	23	\$374,000	\$375,000	-0.3%
Escondido E.	92027	34	43	\$309,000	\$404,500	-23.6%
Chula Vista S.E.	91915	32	18	\$438,500	\$455,000	-3.6%

AREAS WITH MOST FORECLOSURE SALES OF CONDOS

Area	ZIP code	RESALES		MEDIAN PRICES		Difference in median price
		Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure	Foreclosure	Nonforeclosure	
Downtown S.O.	92101	36	85	\$385,000	\$625,000	-38.4%
Mira Mesa	92126	27	36	\$230,000	\$293,000	-21.5%
Chula Vista S.	91911	26	6	\$195,000	\$263,000	-25.9%
Chula Vista-East Lake-Olay Ranch	91913	25	7	\$290,000	\$283,500	+2.3%
Nestor	92154	23	9	\$250,000	\$261,250	-4.3%
College Area	92115	22	12	\$165,000	\$182,500	-9.6%
Mission Valley	92108	21	25	\$160,000	\$299,000	-46.5%
Paradise Hills	92139	17	6	\$225,000	\$215,000	+4.7%
Escondido N.	92026	16	6	\$150,250	\$217,500	-30.9%
Rancho Bernardo W.	92127	16	20	\$256,500	\$352,000	-27.1%

A home's status was based on the previous 12 months.

SOURCE: DataQuest Information Systems

UNION-TRIBUNE

Valley, where 58 percent of house sales were foreclosures, distressed homes sold for 20 percent less than regular homes.

Downtown San Diego, which attracted a flood of investors during the recent building boom, recorded particularly big price differences between foreclosure and nonforeclosure sales in the last quarter.

The median sales price of a bank-owned condo in the 92101 ZIP code was \$385,000, compared with \$625,000 on a nonforeclosure condo, according to DataQuick.

Agents there speculate that the condos taken back by lenders typically are smaller, were conversions and may not have

the upscale finishes and amenities of the nonforeclosure units.

"It's not surprising that when the market gets difficult that these units are in foreclosure," said real estate broker Jim Abbott, owner of ARG Abbott Realty Group in downtown San Diego. "These are the less-desirable units."

Even in the same downtown high-rise, though, a foreclosure condo can sell for a significant discount, said his son Dustin Abbott, also a real estate agent. Dustin Abbott said that in Aqua Vista, a Little Italy high-rise, a one-bedroom, one-bath condo in foreclosure recently sold for \$200,000, compared with \$275,000 for the same

model a few months earlier, which wasn't a distress sale.

The Sullivan Group's Dennehy said that as the number of foreclosures mounts, prospects for a quick end to price discounting dim.

"The housing market will not stabilize until we get the inventory cleaned up, and with this level of units on the market, it's not good," he said. "It would be a lot more stable if we didn't have the foreclosures, I can tell you that."

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REUTERS

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San Francisco area's March home sales sink to 20-yr low

Thu Apr 17 2008 3:33pm EDT

By Jim Christie

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17 (Reuters) - The mortgage credit crunch drove March home sales in the San Francisco Bay area down to a 20-year low while the region's median sales price sank 16.1 percent last month from a year earlier amid weak demand, a report said on Thursday.

Since September, home sales in the San Francisco region have hit record monthly lows amid tight credit for prospective home buyers, a response to turmoil in mortgage markets arising from the subprime mortgage crisis.

The report from DataQuick Information Systems, whose records date back to 1988, suggests that the region's pricey housing markets will not see their normal rebound in spring sales because mortgage lenders have become overly cautious — even toward solid borrowers who typically merit "jumbo" mortgages, or loans for more than \$417,000.

"The cutback in credit has been such that even people with good credit are having difficulty right now," said Alan Gin, an economist at the University of San Diego's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate.

"We'll see continued pressure on prices at least until the second half," Gin added. "Sales will continue to be slow ... and we'll have high levels of foreclosures."

A total of 4,898 new and resale houses and condominiums were sold last month in the nine-county San Francisco Bay area, one of the most affluent regions in the nation, according to the DataQuick report.

That marked a drop of 41.1 percent from a year-ago March and it was the region's weakest sales total for any March since DataQuick began keeping records 20 years ago, the real estate information service said in its report.

March sales rose 22.8 percent from February, but that increase was sharply below the region's typical monthly gain of 40 percent, the report said.

"It still appears that a lot of Bay area activity is just on hold, waiting for the mortgage markets to open back up," said Marshall Prentice, DataQuick's president.

With demand down and credit tight, home prices fell last month from year-earlier levels in eight of the nine counties in the region.

Markets on the region's periphery and with its most affordable housing — frequently bought with the kind of risky mortgages that sparked the current spike in foreclosures — posted double-digit decreases in median sales prices.

Only in San Francisco, both the city and the county, did the median home sales price increase in March — but only by 0.3 percent from a year earlier — to \$755,000.

The regional median price paid for a home in March was \$536,000, down 2.2 percent from the previous month, and down 16.1 percent from a year earlier and down 19.4 percent from a peak \$665,000 last June and July.

"Last month's median price would have been closer to \$597,000 if the availability of jumbo home loans had remained stable," the DataQuick report said. "A year ago, jumbo loans, mortgages above \$417,000, accounted for 62.2 percent of all Bay area home loans. Last month, they were 29.8 percent." (Reporting by Jim Christie; Editing by Jan Paschal) (Reuters Messaging: jim.christie.reuters.com@reuters.net; Tel: +1 415 677 2539;)
Keywords:

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April 13, 2008

Many skeptical of Foreclosure Protection Act

Senate bill includes tax breaks for builders

By Paul M. Krawzak
U-T WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — In its latest move to ease the nation's housing crisis, the U.S. Senate last week passed a wide-ranging bill known as the Foreclosure Protection Act.

Despite its name, most experts say it would do little to help struggling

homeowners avoid foreclosure. Instead, the legislation would promote home sales and benefit builders.

Few observers think the legislation will survive in its current form because House Democrats are pushing for more sweeping initiatives and the White House objects to several of its provisions. But some elements of the plan are likely to find their way into any final package that is approved by Congress and sent to President Bush.

The most prominent and costly provision would expand a tax break for

home builders and other businesses that lose money in 2008 and 2009.

Under the legislation, those companies would be able to carry their losses back four years, instead of the currently allowed two, and receive tax rebates. It would cost the Treasury an estimated \$25 billion over the next three years.

San Diego builders support the provision, which they say would help the industry preserve jobs.

That helps because many of our companies are in fact experiencing

very significant and very real losses," said David Tryon, chief executive of the Building Industry Association of San Diego. "While that is not a direct benefit to those facing foreclosure, it certainly sustains an industry."

Since June 2005, the construction industry has lost 15,800 jobs in San Diego County, according to state statistics.

The California Association of Realtors opposes the bill because it would

SEE HOUSING, C5

► HOUSING CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

Some lawmakers oppose higher loan limits

not raise the maximum loan limit for federally insured mortgages high enough.

Real estate is more costly in California than in most other parts of the country. As a result, many homes cost more than the limit for federally backed mortgages.

Until recently, the limit for loans that could be insured by the Federal Housing Administration was \$362,790. Congress boosted the maximum to \$729,750 (\$697,500 in San Diego County) as a temporary fix to the mortgage crisis, but that increase is to set to revert back to \$362,790 at the end of the year.

The same temporary stimulus package also raised the maximum value of loans that could be purchased by government-backed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to \$729,750 from \$417,000, allowing higher mortgages to qualify for lower interest rates.

Bill Brown, president of the Realtors association, said the maximum loan that can be insured by FHA should be raised permanently to \$729,750, not the \$550,000 specified in the Senate bill.

"In a high-cost state like this, that's what we need," Brown said.

He said he's hoping the loan limit will be raised in negotiations with the House before final legislation is passed by Congress.

But some in Congress oppose higher limits, which they believe would expose federal lending agencies to greater risk. In addition, median home prices in California and elsewhere have started to dip, making it more likely that a lower limit would be adequate, in the view of some.

The Senate bill also includes a \$7,000 tax credit for buyers who purchase a foreclosed property within the next 12 months.

The builders association supports the credit and hopes it would be expanded to benefit all first-time home buyers, Tryon said.

Critics, including the Bush administration, oppose it.

Administration officials say the tax credit would give the

scellers of foreclosed properties an economic advantage, forcing other homeowners to cut their prices to compete with the tax benefit of buying a foreclosed property.

"Tax credits provided only for purchase of foreclosed properties may also induce additional foreclosures by making the foreclosed property easier to sell," Keith Hennessey and Karl Zinsmeister, economic and domestic policy advisers to President Bush, said in a recent letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco.

Some San Diego experts said the region would benefit more from measures that would help homeowners contend with rapidly rising mortgage payments.

"The major problem is the resetting of these adjustable-rate mortgages," said Alan Gin, an economics professor at University of San Diego who is affiliated with the school's Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate.

"If you freeze them for a period, allow prices to recover a little bit, that would help things out," he said, referring broadly to proposals that would fight rising mortgage rates.

Gin acknowledged that "interfering with the market" could create new problems. "But given the serious nature of what we've got going here — it may be time for some serious action like this."

House Democrats are working on a plan to allow more than 1 million homeowners who are struggling with high adjustable-rate mortgages to qualify for fixed-rate, government-insured loans if lenders agree to write down a portion

of the principal.

"This type of provision could make a big difference," said Barbara Sard, director of housing policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, D.C.

But David John, a research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, countered that the program would be unlikely to prevent foreclosures and would lead to a federal bailout of the Federal Housing Administration.

The White House on Wednesday announced its own plan to expand an existing program that would enable about 100,000 homeowners who previously had strong payment records to get FHA loans.

Another provision in the Senate bill would provide \$4 billion for cities to buy vacant foreclosed property.

Critics say that is too small an amount to make much of a difference when spread across the nation.

"That's kind of a drop in the bucket," said Kelly Cunningham, economist with the San Diego Institute for Policy Research. "It seems like it's more symbolic than anything."

The legislation also would provide a temporary tax deduction of up to \$1,000 for families who cannot deduct their property taxes because they do not itemize their federal income taxes.

Although that provision is intended to provide relief to homeowners, analysts say a relatively small tax break is not enough to jump-start the housing market.

Paul M. Krawzak reports for Copley News Service.

April 9, 2008

San Diego's foreclosure rate slows down in March

By **CHRISTINE MEADE**
The Daily Transcript

SAN DIEGO — Reports of foreclosures in San Diego County demonstrated a healthy drop in March, but the total still looms more than twice the number of foreclosures for this time last year.

Trustee deeds, which are homes transferred from the owner to a mortgage lender or third party, sank to 1,161 for March, which is down 17 percent from February's total of 1,398. Although this is a marked improvement, there were only 510 trustee deeds for the same period last year.

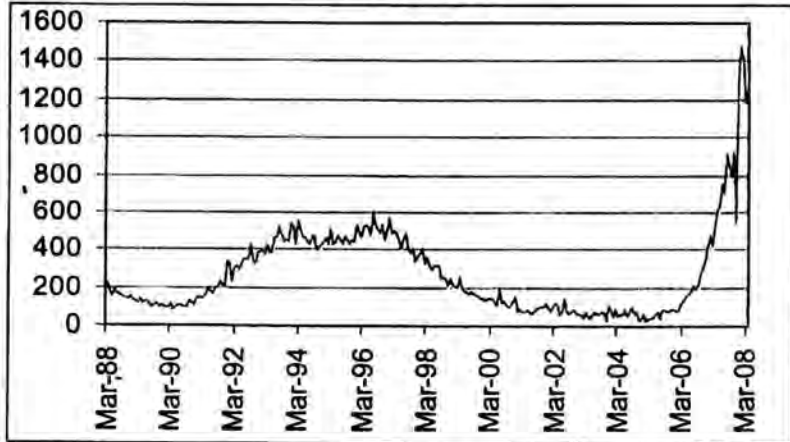
Alan Gin, an associate professor of economics at the University of San Diego, does not expect San Diego to experience any real relief until the second half of the year. With the Fed aggressively cutting interest rates, raising the conforming limits on loans and instituting the stimulus package, positive change should eventually stick.

"A slight month-to-month change is not important. I expect continued weakness in the housing market at least through the first half of the year," Gin said.

Notices of default (NODs), which are filed after a borrower misses one or more mortgage payments, remained level with February's numbers, raising only 2 percent from 3,212 to 3,284.

There were 1,517 NODs for March 2007 and that number climbed steadily throughout the rest of the year, with its first decrease in November. According to Gin, NODs should continue to

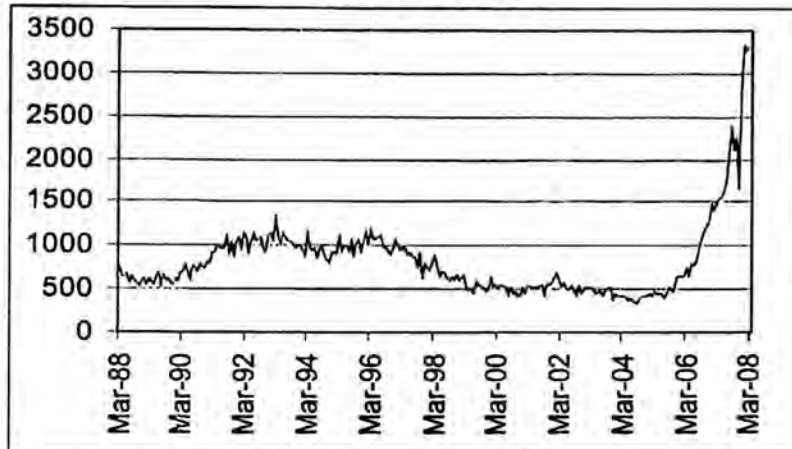
Trustee Deeds



San Diego County trustee deeds, above, a document that allows a third-party trustee to sell a property because the borrower of a mortgage has defaulted on payments, decreased in March 2008 to 1,161 from 1,398 in February 2008. In March 2007, there were 509 trustee deeds, an increase from February 2007 wherein 408 trustee deeds were reported.

Notices of default, below, the first stage of the foreclosure recorded to show that the borrower is in arrears on their mortgage payments, increased slightly to 3,284 in March 2008 from 3,212 in February 2008. In March 2007, there were 1,517 notices of default, compared with 1,368 NODs in February 2007.

Notices of Default



See **Foreclosures** on 4A

Foreclosures

Continued from Page 1A

increase over the next few months because most stem from financial decisions made seven to eight months before, making early fall peak season for loans.

Joseph Galascione, a broker for **ERA Metro Realty**, agrees NODs and trustee deeds will remain high, but he has turned his attention to a new issue rising out of the foreclosure problem in the county.

"There is a whole new class of buyers and sellers in the marketplace related to foreclosures. Buyers are going after

the house down the street that's cheaper than the one they are in and just letting their current house go. They may have a bad credit score for seven years, but they have a new house in the same neighborhood for less with lower interest rates," Galascione said.

With borrowers becoming savvier and working the system, foreclosures will remain high, with April, May and June bringing in the biggest numbers of high-risk loan resets.

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Source Code: 20080408czh

Gasolina cara en San Diego 'quema' familias

POR TANIA NAVARRO
tnavarro@frontera.info

San Diego, California.- Por cada 10 centavos que aumenta el litro de gasolina en San Diego, se pierden 7 millones de dólares que las familias del Condado anteriormente podían gastar en diversión y que ahora deben invertir en combustible.

Como parte de los efectos que ha generado la desaceleración económica que atraviesa Estados Unidos, el panorama en la región podría ser tan dramático como las cifras lo revelan.

Sin embargo, para Alan Gin, investigador de la Universidad de San Diego (USD), el costo del combustible tenderá a disminuir con el paso del tiempo.

Gin, especialista en economía, aseguró en base a su experiencia, que el precio de la gasolina tiende a aumentar abruptamente en los primeros meses del año, pero que con la llegada del verano el costo vuelve a regularse.

Cuestionado sobre las consecuencias que esto podría generar del otro lado de la frontera, en Tijuana, indicó que usualmente el impacto se da en situaciones contrarias a la actual.

"Cuando hay problemas en la economía de México hay efectos negativos en la economía de San Diego, porque mucha gente deja de cruzar la frontera a realizar sus compras o a comer.

"Por otro lado, la debilidad económica de aquí, sin duda, puede generar un efecto en México y en Tijuana, pero pienso que es un impacto menos fuerte al ir en esa dirección", comentó.

El investigador sostuvo que la desaceleración ocasionará que haya menos inversiones en la región, toda vez que la solvencia económica de las personas y las empresas será menor.

Pronosticó que las afectaciones serán más visibles en el mercado de bienes raíces, tanto en Tijuana, como en el Sur de California.

Por el alto precio destinan más presupuesto para combustible, pero será condado de los menos afectados



Los precios de las gasolinas bajarán para el verano, según economista.

Comportamiento del costo del galón de gasolina en este año

Mes	Costo máximo	Pérdidas
Enero	3.30	1.1 mdd
Febrero	3.42	8.4 mdd
Marzo	3.58	19.6 mdd
Abril	3.81	35.7 mdd

Estimaciones con base a sandiegogasprices.com en precios de gasolina regular.

Los efectos para la gente común será que tendrá que gastar más en gasolina y tendrá menos para invertir en otras cosas, los negocios y comercios tal vez vayan un poco más lentos en su crecimiento, pero esto no quiere decir que no tengamos que preocuparnos un poco sobre ambas economías, la de Tijuana y la de San Diego"

ALAN GIN
INVESTIGADOR DE LA USD

NBCSanDiego.com

Unemployment Hammers Some Local Job Sectors

POSTED: 4:57 pm PDT April 3, 2008
UPDATED: 7:52 pm PDT April 3, 2008

SAN DIEGO -- The unemployment lines are longer around the nation, so NBC 7/39 investigated which job areas are being hardest hit in San Diego.

The construction industry is still getting hammered, reports Consumer Bob Hansen. According to job experts, carpenters, concrete workers and, especially, electricians are at the front of the unemployment line.

It's a new world for many of the unemployed workers who were at the state job development center on Thursday. Many of the people there have worked their entire lives with hand tools, not computers, but the job center, like most workplaces, is computerized.

"The least they know right now is -- especially in the construction business-- the new technology," said Maria Elena Coronado, who is a state job development counselor. "They have to use it to look for work and to even open their insurance claim."

Blue-collar workers aren't the only ones hurting, though, in a country teetering on recession. In San Diego, the real estate bust is also hurting high-income office workers.

"Loan officers, accounting, escrow officers -- basically administration in the industry," Coronado said.

Experts said the local economy is not in a tailspin.

"[It's] virtually flat, but at last we're not in a downtown," University of San Diego economics professor Alan Gin told NBC 7/39.

That data is cold comfort to the unemployed who check job sites every day for work.

"I go to another place and am looking for job and they said, 'We don't have nothing,' " unemployed carpenter Silvestre Ortega said.

Michael Williams is optimistic about his prospects. He has worked in sales for much of his life and has always found a job. He was making his first visit to the state employment center and is confident. Williams said his management skills should impress the right company.

"If I can't sell that, I don't need to be managing anyone else's product."



Jobless claims are at their highest point nationwide since September 2005, when the economy was rocked by the devastating hurricanes on the Gulf Coast, including Katrina.

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RETAILTRAFFIC

Retail Traffic

April 1, 2008

Shades of Green

BYLINE: Elaine Misonzhnik**SECTION:** Pg. 86 ISSN: 0049-0393**LENGTH:** 1119 words

As the industry adopts environmentally responsible practices some challenges have come to light. The primary one is what constitutes a green lease?

In the absence of a clear definition, both landlords and tenants are finding it hard to figure out what makes a property environmentally sustainable and how much greening of space is needed to contribute to the bottom line, says Ellen Sinreich, president of Green Edge, LLC, an environmental consulting firm, who was among the speakers at the Practising Law Institute's Green Real Estate Summit 2008 in New York last month that addressed the topic.

Today, most commercial real estate leases do not outline specific environmental objectives. They also do not state who is ultimately to bear the costs if either the landlord or the tenant opt to incorporate green components into an existing property.

Many retailers, including behemoths Wal-Mart and Target, and some commercial real estate landlords have pledged their commitment to environmental sustainability, spurred by societal influences as much as their bottom line.

Industry data shows green commercial spaces result in higher occupancy levels and rental rates as well as lower operating costs according to research conducted by the University of San Diego and the CoStar Group, a Bethesda, Md.-based provider of commercial real estate information.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration reports commercial buildings account for 10 percent to 15 percent of all electricity consumed in North America and, as a result, a significant portion of greenhouse gas emissions. Any reduction of electricity and increased use of clean energy sources will inhibit damage to the environment.

In addition to the societal merits, investing in green leases makes good business sense. In the third quarter of 2007, green buildings commanded rents of \$2.65 per square foot more than in non-sustainable commercial buildings, cites research from the University of San Diego.

Given the industrywide push for sustainability and the growing insistence on environmentally sustainable real estate practices from federal, state and municipal governments, it is imperative that both landlords and tenants make leases flexible enough to allow for green accommodations in the future, says S. Michael Brooks, a partner specializing in commercial real estate at Aird & Berlis, a Toronto-based law firm. With commercial leases spanning an average of between 10 and 20 years, he notes, the parties entering into a lease today should allow for future sustainability efforts.

How can real estate executives ensure their green leases are enforceable? The answer is to make environmental objectives clear and as specific as possible. One way to ensure it is to adhere to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. For uncertified properties, the lease should have clauses stating targets for the building's environmental performance, including the anticipated amount of energy use, water consumption and waste reduction. It should also outline the technologies and measures to be used to improve environmental sustainability. Those may include, among others: preferred products, alternate sources of energy such as solar and wind power, the use of day lighting, requirements for reducing water consumption for landscaping and low-flow faucets and toilets.

To mitigate legal wrangling, Brooks adds, the lease should also state who is financially responsible for incorporating the sustainability features and the resulting consequences should the modifications have a negative impact on operations.

And, if implementing a green lease involves extra effort on the part of both the tenant and the landlord, the benefits should justify the effort.

LoopLink Your Listings

LoopNet has upgraded its Web-based listings. LoopLink 7.0 permits users to search for properties listed among more than 1,000 commercial real estate organizations and companies. CB Richard Ellis, Grubb & Ellis, and Staubach Co. use the technology to market properties available for sale or lease on their Web sites. The latest version includes mapping tools that provide street, bird's-eye and aerial views of properties along with real-time sales and leasing information. It also offers clients the option to distribute listings via the LoopNet's exclusive online newspaper network, which consists of more than 100 newspaper Web sites.

Simon's EPA Star

Simon Property Group was named a 2008 Energy Star partner by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Indianapolis-based developer was cited for its energy management and reduction of greenhouse gases at its more than 300 malls across the United States. It is the only REIT to be recognized this year and the first since 2003. The absolute corporate energy use of Simon's operations decreased by nearly 10 percent from 2003 to 2006. That decrease represents a reduction of almost 68,000 tons of carbon emissions and 102 million kilowatt-hours in energy use each year worth about \$11 million annually.

GGP to Resolve

General Growth Properties has selected Resolve Technology to integrate data from across the developer's enterprise to provide users with customized real estate reports. Chicago-based General Growth will use the Boston-based Resolve's software to integrate and consolidate information. The technology enables REITs to optimize the management of their portfolios. The reporting and business solutions integrate data from disparate sources to produce reliable and timely information for decision makers throughout the organization. The automated data collection eliminates the laborious and tedious manipulation of spreadsheets, which hinders access to timely information in a fast-changing market.

DDR's Kids

Developers Diversified Realty has expanded its charitable program Kids with Heart. The company's mission is to leverage its shopping centers throughout the U.S. to promote community involvement among youths as well as kindness and consideration for others who are less fortunate. The program was designed to encourage kids to volunteer and reward them for doing things to help others. Initiated last year in the United States, Developers Diversified broadened the program to 29 centers in the company's portfolio, including a handful in Puerto Rico. Participants volunteered for local charities and raised funds for groups and undernourished children overseas. This year, the firm recognized hundreds of children at celebrations during Valentine's Day weekend. For example, in Hutchinson, Minn., representing the Hutchinson Mall, a group of children held a concert that raised enough funds to provide 12,550 meals for hungry children around the world.

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HOUSTON METRO

More and more, Houston going green

11:23 AM CDT on Friday, April 4, 2008

By Lee McGuire / 11 News

 [Click to watch Lee McGuire's 11 News report](#)

HOUSTON -- Of all the big cities in the country, Houston ranks second for energy-efficient construction.

In a new study from the University of San Diego, only Los Angeles scored better.

The hole in the ground is less than a month old. But it's what you don't see -- 30 stories up, in thin air, that will make the office tower that will eventually rise here -- the first of its kind in the country.

"There will be two stacked on top of each other, and there will be five sets of them across the top," Trammel Crow spokesman Adam Saphier said.

He's talking about wind turbines. But they'll look very different from [Also online](#)
the ones we're used to.

[Houston Live Green](#)

Soon sensors on top of cranes will measure the wind speed way up high — to learn how much energy the turbines atop the new "Discovery Tower" will generate.

"As the turbine spins, it creates an electric charge, and there's a converter that converts that charge into an availability and use for the tenants of the building to flip on a light switch and use them as electrical power," Saphier said.

Saphier is making sure that everything in the three hundred million dollar tower will save energy. From efficient glass, to recycled water, to the light switches, to the landscaping.

When Discovery Tower opens in two years, it'll be the most environmentally advanced skyscraper in Houston.

On a smaller scale, tucked away in Upper Kirby, Dan Hedges is building the most environmentally advanced "home" in the city. Solar panels on the roof will generate so much electricity—he expects to power other houses with his.

"So at the end of the month if we put as much power into the grid as we took out of the grid we should have a power bill of zero," he said.

Rather than use an air conditioner, this home turns to “geothermal cooling” — pumping water 300 feet underground, then back up, to cool the home.

“Ten of them,” he said. “It looked like we were drilling for oil.”

So how much does all this cost? Well, Hedges says he doesn’t know yet, because his home isn’t finished. But obviously, the price tag is higher than any normal construction job.

“We just wanted to demonstrate to people that the technology exists now, that you have contractors and subcontractors and engineers in Houston who know how to do this at this time,” Hedges said.

Back at the office tower, profit is most certainly a motive. Numbers show that show the owners of “green buildings” can charge about 6 percent more in rent than traditional buildings. Tenants will pay more both to save energy and, perhaps just as valuable, to get a public relations boost.

“It’s going to have a good draw for the energy companies that are growing in Houston right now,” Aaron Restum said.

BP is a year away from opening its natural gas trading headquarters along the Katy Freeway -- another “green building” that’ll use one-third less electricity, and two-thirds less water.

“Houston is the energy capital of the world, and it’s quickly becoming the sustainable alternative energy capital of the world,” Restum said.

“You can do this,” Hedges said. “It’s here, we’ve got it.”

So green is going up all around you in Houston, more than almost anywhere else.



guardian.co.uk

4.15pm BST

Countryside boss earned \$132m

Andrew Clark in New York
guardian.co.uk, Friday April 25 2008



One of the key businessmen behind America's sub-prime mortgage crisis, Angelo Mozilo, took home \$132m (£66m) last year despite huge losses on unsustainable loans at his Countrywide Financial home-loans empire.

Mozilo, who is co-founder and chief executive of Countrywide, saw his salary and bonus fall by 79% to \$10.8m. But he made \$121.5m by cashing in stock and share options - transactions which were placed under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Before the sub-prime crisis erupted, Countrywide was America's top mortgage lender, with nine million loans on its books worth \$1.5trn.

But as customers found themselves unable to keep up repayments, the Californian firm lost \$70.4m and laid off 11,000 employees. Amid rumours of impending bankruptcy, Countrywide agreed to a takeover by Bank of America in January.

Daniel Pedrotty, director of investment at the AFL-CIO federation of unions, told the Los Angeles Times that the fall in Mozilo's basic pay was a sign that the company was showing "a little more restraint" in the face of political pressure from Congress.

But he added: "If Angelo Mozilo was truly paid for performance, he wouldn't have earned a dime last year. In fact, he'd have to pay shareholders back."

Mozilo, 70, is under regulatory scrutiny for a series of changes made in late 2006 and early 2007 to automatic schemes under which he sold chunks of stock.

Such plans are generally used by executives to set a long-term, orderly pattern of regular sales. But Mozilo made several changes to accelerate the rate at which he was offloading stock. Countrywide's shares subsequently collapsed by 90% as the scale of its sub-prime liabilities became clear.

Bank of America intends to scrap the Countrywide name if its takeover is approved by Countrywide's shareholders, although a British hedge fund, SRM Global, has purchased an 8.1% stake and is opposing the deal on the grounds of price.

Mozilo, a butcher's son from New York, has become a focal point of anger over the sub-prime crisis, which could lead to two million home foreclosures, according to an estimate by a Congressional committee.

Countrywide's offices have been picketed by campaigners and Mozilo pulled out of a recent speaking engagement at the University of San Diego after protests from students who argued that he was not a suitable role model.

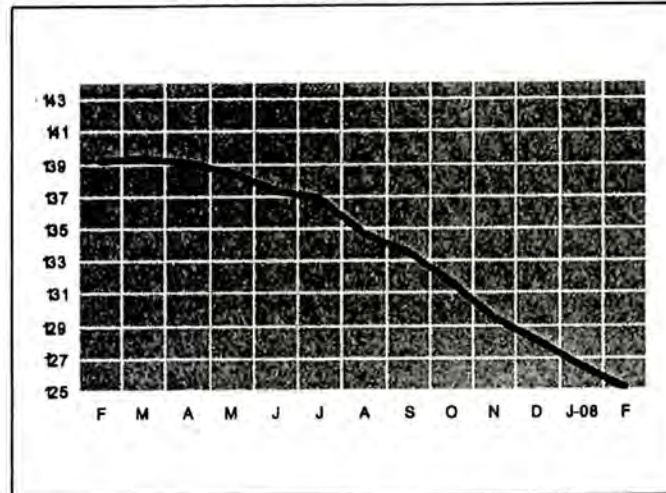
Mozilo will leave if Bank of America's takeover is approved. BoA's chief executive, Ken Lewis, said he expected the mortgage mogul would want to "go have some fun".

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San Diego Daily Transcript

April 28, 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 139.2 in February 2007.



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IDM Pharma Appoints Gregory J. Tibbitts to Board of Directors

Website

IRVINE, Calif., April 4, 2008 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- IDM Pharma, Inc. NASDAQ: IDMI announced today the appointment of Gregory J. Tibbitts to its board of directors, effective April 3, 2008. Mr. Tibbitts is currently the chief financial officer for CryoCor, Inc. NASDAQ: CRYO, a San Diego-based medical device company and in this role has overseen the transition from a private to public company, as well as from a clinical stage company to the current commercial operation.

"Greg's extensive financial experience will be an asset to IDM Pharma's board of directors," said Timothy P. Walbert, president and chief executive officer of IDM Pharma. "In senior positions at both privately-held and publicly-traded companies, Greg has proven himself to be an executive with strong integrity and outstanding leadership abilities."

During his more than 19 years in the financial and pharmaceutical industries, Mr. Tibbitts has held senior positions in a number of other companies including chief financial officer at Elitra Pharmaceuticals, a privately held drug discovery company. In addition, Mr. Tibbitts served as senior manager at Ernst & Young LLP and division controller at ITT Residential Capital.

Mr. Tibbitts received a bachelor's degree from the University of San Diego and a master's degree from San Diego State University, and is a Certified Public Accountant.

About IDM Pharma

IDM Pharma is focused on the development of innovative cancer products that either destroy cancer cells by activating the immune system or prevent tumor recurrence by triggering a specific adaptive immune response. IDM Pharma is dedicated to maximizing the full therapeutic and commercial potential of each of its innovative products to address the needs of patients and the physicians who treat these patients.

For more information about the company and its products, visit <http://www.idm-pharma.com>.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes forward-looking statements that reflect management's current views of future events including statements regarding the Company's business activities and Mr. Tibbitts' participation on the Company's Board of Directors. Actual results may differ materially from the forward-looking statements due to a number of important factors, including, but not limited to, whether the Company will be able to provide assurance regarding the quality of the existing L-MTP-PE data and to respond to the remaining issues with regard to the MAA, including verification of data quality and CMC items, to the satisfaction of the CHMP, whether the final opinion of the CHMP will be consistent with the non-binding opinion of the CHMP, whether the European Commission will follow the final opinion of the CHMP once issued, whether the timing for the final opinion of the CHMP and the regulatory decision in Europe will occur as expected by the Company, the possibility that additional data from the Phase 3 clinical trial of L-MTP-PE and other information in any amendment to the NDA for L-MTP-PE submitted by the Company may not provide adequate support for regulatory approval of L-MTP-PE in the United States within the timeframe expected by the Company, if at all, whether the Company will be able to manufacture and commercialize L-MTP-PE even if it is approved by regulatory authorities, and whether the cash resources of the Company will be sufficient to fund operations as planned. These and other risks affecting the Company and its drug development programs, intellectual property rights, personnel and business are more fully discussed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC for the year ended December 31, 2007 and other periodic reports filed with the SEC. The Company expressly disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements, except as required by law.

Website: <http://www.idm-pharma.com/>

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SMARTANALYST

April 09, 2008 03:44 PM Eastern Daylight Time 

SMARTANALYST, Inc. Appoints John T. Gram as West Coast Director and Franchise Leader

New York-Based firm Appoints West Coast Director and Franchise Leader for Business Development

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--SMARTANALYST, Inc., a pioneer in providing global strategic research and analytics solutions, announced today the recent appointment of John T. Gram as its West Coast Director and Franchise Leader of Business Development.



Gram will be based in San Diego and his responsibilities will include developing long term senior client relationships within the Biotech industry.

SMARTANALYST Founder and CEO Manu Bammi said, "John's industry experience and exceptional insights will help to drive our business to new heights with the Research and Development, New Product Planning, Business Development and Licensing functions that we support."

Steve Girling, Managing Director said, "John is an amazing guy with a breadth and depth of Biotech industry experience that will dovetail nicely with our rapidly evolving West Coast client base. John will be instrumental in developing solutions and supporting the growth of our Life Sciences franchise."

Gram said, "I am excited to be joining SMARTANALYST. As a former client, I was impressed by SMARTANALYST's global capabilities, its management team and its outstanding group of 175 highly skilled commercial, scientific and quantitative consulting analysts. Now, I look forward to partnering with SMARTANALYST's clients to provide them with the expertise and external analysis that will support the continued growth and success of their business."

John T. Gram brings nearly 15 years of commercial biopharmaceutical experience to SMARTANALYST. Most recently he was President of J.T. Gram & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm he founded specializing in the commercialization of oncology therapeutics. Immediately prior to that, he was Director of Decision Support for Biogen Idec and was responsible for managing market guidance for the Oncology and Rheumatology business units. Previous roles included Executive Director of Corporate Development for SkinMedica, specialty pharmaceutical company focused in Dermatology; Consultant to Quintiles Transnational and The Lewin Group. John was Vice-President of Marketing and Business Development at Novavax, a development stage biopharmaceutical company focused in women's health

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and vaccines. Before Novavax, he was with Amgen, where he led a team responsible for the information needs of the oncology business unit. John began his biopharmaceutical career with Ligand Pharmaceuticals after spending 14 years with the A.C. Nielsen Company in the consumer packaged goods industry.

John has a Bachelor of Science degree, from Providence College, and received his Masters in Business Administration from the University of San Diego.

About SMARTANALYST, Inc.

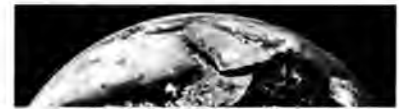
SMARTANALYST, Inc. delivers strategic research, analytics and outsourced knowledge solutions to corporate clients in the life sciences, consumer healthcare, consumer products, financial and marketing services industries. The company is flourishing by providing a high-quality, cost-effective research and analytics solutions portfolio that supports decision-making processes for Licensing & Acquisition, Business Development, Research & Development, Corporate Strategy and Marketing. More information is available on the company's Web site, www.smartanalyst.com.

Contacts

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BioMed Realty Trust Announces Retirement of Mark Riedy From Its Board of Directors

Posted : Tue, 15 Apr 2008 09:02:31 GMT

Author : BioMed Realty Trust, Inc.

Category : Press Release

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SAN DIEGO, April 15 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- BioMed Realty Trust, Inc. today announced that Mark Riedy will retire from its board of directors concurrently with the company's annual meeting of stockholders, scheduled for May 21, 2008.

Dr. Riedy, the Ernest W. Hahn Professor of Real Estate Finance and Executive Director of the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego, has been a member of the company's board of directors since its initial public offering in 2004, and also served as a member of the board's compensation committee and as past chair and current member of the board's audit committee.

"We are thankful for all of Mark's valuable contributions to BioMed over the past four years," said Alan Gold, President and Chief Executive Officer of BioMed Realty Trust. "During his tenure, BioMed has grown from 13 properties, representing an aggregate of 2.3 million rentable square feet, at its initial public offering in 2004 to 68 properties, representing 8.5 million rentable square feet and 1.9 million square feet of development in progress, which are positioned in some of the country's most sought-after locations for life science space. His insight and experience have helped advance BioMed to where it is today, with the solid financial and operational foundation upon which we will continue to execute on our mission of being the leading provider of real estate to the life science industry."

About BioMed Realty Trust

BioMed Realty Trust, Inc. is a real estate investment trust (REIT) focused on Providing Real Estate to the Life Science Industry(R). The company's tenants primarily include biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, scientific research institutions, government agencies and other entities involved in the life science industry. BioMed Realty Trust owns or has interests in 68 properties, representing 104 buildings with approximately 8.5 million rentable square feet, as well as approximately 1.9 million square feet of development in progress. These properties are located predominantly in the major U.S. life science markets of Boston, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York/New Jersey, which have well-established reputations as centers for scientific research. Additional information is available at <http://www.biomedrealty.com/>.

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially. These risks and uncertainties include, without limitation: general risks affecting the real estate industry (including, without limitation, the inability to enter into or renew leases, dependence on tenants' financial condition, and competition from other developers, owners and operators of real estate); adverse economic or real estate developments in the life science industry or the company's target markets; risks associated with the availability and terms of financing and the use of debt to fund acquisitions and developments; failure to manage effectively the company's growth and expansion into new markets, or to complete or integrate acquisitions and developments successfully; risks and uncertainties affecting property development and construction; risks associated with downturns in the national and local economies, increases in interest rates, and volatility in the securities markets; potential liability for uninsured losses and environmental contamination; risks associated with the company's potential failure to qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and possible adverse changes in tax and environmental laws; and risks associated with the company's dependence on key personnel whose continued service is not guaranteed. For a further list and description of such risks and uncertainties, see the reports filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. The company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

BioMed Realty Trust, Inc.

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Imagecraft Welcomes Five New Employees

4/3/2008 - Imagecraft, a firm specializing in trade show exhibits, marketing centers, museum displays and architectural graphics, is pleased to announce the addition of the following employees:

Lindsay Davis as Account Executive in their Dallas office. A former student at Tarrant County College, Lindsay utilizes her studies in marketing, speech and human relations as an aid to her client services. Lindsay's professional progression includes positions in customer service, sales and account management, with specific experience in budget preparation, account reconciliation and trade show coordination and onsite supervision. She will be based in the Grapevine offices of Imagecraft.

Arni Adams as Account Executive in their Dallas office. Arni brings an extensive marketing background and experience from the client's perspective in business analysis, industry trade shows, event promotion and campaign implementation. With an MBA earned at the University of San Diego, Arni's studies focused on marketing and venture management and included product development as well as strategic and international marketing.

Bill Daniel as Operations Manager on their Dallas-based team. Bill brings his vast 30 years of industry experience in estimating, project management, fabrication, and installation of custom trade show exhibits. His experience also includes office and retail interiors, and kiosks, which aid clients in product presentation and sales while limiting budgetary investments.

David McLaren rejoins the Dallas-based team as Design Director. To aid clients in product presentation and sales while limiting budgetary investments, David utilizes his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design earned at Georgia Tech in Atlanta and his vast experience in design of custom trade show exhibits, office interiors retail interiors, and retail kiosks.

Fara Harrison as Account Executive. Based in San Antonio, Fara will be able to serve clients throughout Texas for this Austin-based company with offices in Dallas, also. Fara has extensive experience in production homebuilding, with a background in marketing, sales and service. She brings a 15-year client relationship with ICE and offers product knowledge and creative marketing while maintaining budgetary guidelines. An active member of the Greater San Antonio Builders Association, she has volunteered on several committees and serves as Past President of the Sales and Marketing Council and current Chairperson of the Summit Awards.

For more information, go to www.imagecraftexhibits.com.

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Around Town



Batter up! Thur., April 17, 7:05 p.m. \$8-\$17. The San Diego Padres host Colorado Rockies, April 17. Game broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090 AM). Next they host the San Francisco Giants Wed. & Thur April 23-24, 7:05 p.m. Tickets (619) 795-5000, (877) 374-2784. Petco Park, downtown.

"Why Good People Do Bad Things" Fri., April 18, 7 p.m. \$30-\$35. New York Times bestselling author Debbie Ford "exposes the pervasive and often hidden impulses that influence our everyday decisions." (760) 753-5786. Seaside Center for Spiritual Living, 1613 Lake Dr., Encinitas.

Stamp-Collecting Show Thur., April 17 & Sun., April 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Stamp and cover dealers offer their wares. (619) 218-7835. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., Kearny Mesa.

Cruisin' Grand Fri., April 18, 5-9 p.m. Free for spectators. Over the Hills Gangs from North County and Temecula, and the Coastal Cruisers roll into town. (760) 745-8877. Cruisin' Grand, Grand Aven. and Second Ave. Escondido.

Collegiate Nationals Fri., April 18, 9 a.m. Sat. & Sun at 8 a.m. Free admission. Athleticism on display in beach volleyball, flowboarding, and competitive eating, followed by music festival. Complete schedule at www.thecollegiatenationals.com. Wave House, 3125 Mission Blvd., Pacific Beach.

19th Annual Gem Faire Fri., April 18, noon-7 p.m., Sat. & Sun., April 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5. Over 100 dealers offer gems, beads, crystals, minerals, and more. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley.

Del Mar Antique Show Fri., April 18, 11 a.m. \$8. Show and sale also includes appraisal booth. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar.

Chicano Park Day Celebration Sat., April 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission. "Our Lives, Culture, and History Are Seen Through Our Murals!" is theme for 38th annual festival. Traditional music, dancing, poets, car show, food, and children's art mural workshop. Chicano Park, between National and Logan Ave. under the Coronado Bridge, Logan Heights.

Sound like fun? Hellhole Canyon Hike. Sat., April 19, 9 a.m. Free. Wear sturdy shoes, hat, and bring sunscreen, and water for your adventure to see wildflowers in bloom. (760) 749-5320. Hellhole Canyon Open Space Preserve, 19324 Santee Lane, Valley Center.

Converting Old Movies and VCR Tapes Sat., April 19, 9 a.m. Free. Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego meets for demonstration of Pinnacle Studio Ultimate software which converts old film formats into new multimedia. Lance Dohr leads demonstration in Robinson Auditorium complex. (858)

Trail guides
Plant Identification

• Sat. & Sun., April 19-20, 9:30 a.m. Free.

• "Wild Natives and Aliens on the Trails!"

• Trail guides lead walk through the park, identifying plants along the way.

• Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Carlos

278-4519. 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD.

Family Science Day Sat., April 19, noon-3 p.m. \$6.75-\$8. Nanotech is the topic for family science day; participants "make a free science experiment" to take home. Included in regular admission. (619) 238-1233. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, Balboa Park.

Returning Swallows? Sat., April 19, 8-11 a.m. Free. Head out to bird watch with Audubon Society birders, led by Barbara Moore. To reach trailhead, take Highway 52, exit left to Mast, turn left just after you cross bridge at Fenita Pkwy. Park on Lake Canyon Dr. (corner of Lake Canyon). No parking fee. (858) 755-7133. Santee Lakes, 9040 Carlton Oaks Dr., Lakeside.

La Jolla Above and Below Sat., April 19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Scripps researchers share "natural wonders on land and in the ocean" during Family Days program. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla.

Walkin' on Water! Sat., April 19, 10 a.m. Students design, construct, and race buoyancy "shoes" across Sports Center pool during annual competition. USD: University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego.

Rosarito-Ensenada Bike Ride Sat., April 19, 10 a.m. \$25-\$40. 50-mile route attracts 7500 riders to wind along the Pacific Coast and inland from Rosarito Beach to Ensenada. Ride begins at 10 a.m. in front of the Festival Plaza Hotel, continues to the Finish Line Fiesta in Ensenada. Shuttle provides transport back to Rosarito. Register on rosaritoensenada.com. "Festival Plaza" Hotel, Boulevard Benito Juarez #1207, Rosarito, BC 22710. 888-337-8486.

Plant Identification Sat. & Sun., April 19-20, 9:30 a.m. Free. "Wild Natives and Aliens on the Trails!" Trail guides lead walk through the park, identifying plants along the way. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Carlos.

Knickerbikers North

Coast Ride Sun., April 20, 9 a.m. Free. 40-mile ride through Leucadia, La Costa, Vista, Oceanside, and Carlsbad. Meet in the parking lot of the park. Cottonwood Creek Park, 95 North Vulcan, Encinitas.

Grunion Run with the Birch Aquarium, Mon., April 21, Tue., May 6, Wed., May 21, Wed., June 4, 9:30-11:30 p.m. \$9-\$12. Grunion run program hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum (which doesn't take place at museum). Presentation on grunion, then "opportunity to witness grunion eggs hatch before your eyes." For reservations, directions call (858) 534-7336. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla.

Easter Lilies in bloom. Free. Three hundred fragrant Easter lilies on display among the permanent collection through Wed., April 16. (619) 239-0512. (619) 235-1100. Botanical Building, El Prado, Balboa Park.

Ranunculus Rainbows, open daily thru May 11, 9 a.m. The Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours. Visitors may stroll pathways or take wagon ride (\$4 general). Exotic plant sale, sweet pea maze, poinsettia display, American flag of flowers. (760) 431-0352. Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad.

A Day in Pompeii: San Diego Natural History Museum Featured Event, through May 15. Experience the legend and human drama of Pompeii. Buried in 79 CE by a catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii remained hidden and forgotten until 1748 when archeologists began to excavate the site. What they discovered were exquisitely preserved objects that offer a glimpse into the day-to-day life of this ancient city. This compelling exhibition, full of discovery and human drama, features more than 250 authentic artifacts. Most poignant and dramatic are the body casts of the volcano's victims, frozen in their last moments. Beautiful frescoes, jewelry, statues, and household items take you back in time to experience life and death in ancient Rome's favorite vacation resort. \$7-\$22. www.sdpompeii.org.

Real Old-Fashioned Trolley Cars and a model railroad that fills a room are on display at San Diego Electric Railway Association Museum. Museum is located in historic National City Depot, the first transcontinental terminal, established 1882 — is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Located at the corner of Bay Marina Dr. and Marina Way, National City. Free. (619) 474-4400.

California Wolf Center in Julian hosts public programs focusing on North American gray wolves every Saturday at 2 p.m. Programs include slide show, visit and tour with resident wolf pack. Tickets: \$8 general, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children ten and younger. Required reservations at (619) 234-WOLF.

Blue Sky Walks 9 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Blue Sky Ecological Reserve, park entrance kiosk on Espola Rd., Poway. Free. (858) 679-5469. Slow-paced guided walks for the whole family. Wear comfortable shoes. Bring bottled water.

Torrey Pines State Reserve Walks 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Visitors Center, 12600 N. Torrey Pines Rd. Free. Parking: \$6 to \$8. (858) 755-2063 or www.torreypine.org. Catch a glimpse of the California quail along trails lined by rare pine trees on an easy interpretive walk.

Youth Revival by Rev. Terry W. Brooks 4/21, 22 & 23, Mon.-Wed. 6:30 pm at Bethel AME Church, 3085 K St. San Diego, CA 92102 Rev. Anthony L. Hughes (619) 232-0510.

Earthtimes.org (Press Release)[Print this Page](#)[Close Window](#)**Rembolt Named CFO of WD-40 Company**

Posted on : 2008-04-30 | Author : WD-40 Company

News Category : PressRelease

SAN DIEGO, April 30 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- WD-40 Company announced today Jay Rembolt has been appointed chief financial officer. Rembolt has more than 20 years of public accounting and financial experience and has served as the company's vice president, finance/controller since 2001.

Michael Irwin, who has served as WD-40 Company CFO since 2001, will now serve in a newly created position of executive vice president, strategic development, and will lead WD-40 Company's merger and acquisition activities. "Mike has built a strong financial team in-house with solid succession planning and he will now focus his expertise and experience on the development aspect of our business," said Garry Ridge, WD-40 Company president and chief executive officer.

"Jay's financial background and his experience as controller, combined with his deep understanding of WD-40 Company makes him the ideal choice for CFO," said Ridge.

Prior to joining WD-40 Company in 1997, Rembolt served in a variety of positions, including consulting roles in the tax practice of the public accounting firm Price Waterhouse LLP, now known as PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, from 1991 to 1997.

Rembolt has a master of science in accountancy and taxation from San Diego State University and also has a master of science in executive leadership from the University of San Diego.

"In his new role, Jay will not only be responsible for overall financial reporting and performance, but also risk management and financial analysis," said Ridge.

WD-40 Company, with headquarters in San Diego, is a global consumer products company dedicated to building brand equities that are first or second choice in their respective categories. The company will leverage and build the brand fortress of WD-40 Company by developing and acquiring brands that deliver a unique high value to end users and that can be distributed across multiple trade channels in one or more areas of the world. WD-40 Company produces multi-purpose lubricants, WD-40(R), and 3-IN-ONE(R), the Lava(R) and Solvol(R) brands of heavy-duty hand cleaners, and household products 2000 Flushes(R), X-14(R), Carpet Fresh(R), Spot Shot(R) and 1001(R). WD-40 Company markets its products in more than 160 countries worldwide and recorded sales of \$307.8 million in fiscal 2007. Additional information about WD-40 Company can be obtained online at <http://www.wd40.com/>.

Additional information about WD-40 Company may be obtained on the worldwide Web at <http://www.wd40.com/>.

School of Law

April 30, 2008

San Diego law school deans

Kevin Cole

Dean

University of San Diego School of Law

"It takes a while for the quality of the school to be reflected in its reputation," says University of San Diego School of Law Dean Kevin Cole. And he believes that reputation is on the rise.

Cole took over as dean in April 2006, having been with the faculty since 1987. He is proud of the school's development and the rising quality of both students — the average LSAT score is now in the 89th percentile — and staff.

"Our success as a school depends on our ability to give students a solid academic foundation, preparing them for the varied challenges they'll face in the work force so that they may one day be recognized by their peers as a top attorney in their field."

He says USD does this by bringing in legal experts ranging from Ralph Nader and Iranian Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi to Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Antonin Scalia. Students also have the opportunity to gain real-world experience through legal clinics that help low-income San Diegans.

Cole credits good entry-level hiring decisions made a decade ago for laying the foundation for the school's current position and enabling recent high-profile lateral hires. In 2002 USD recruited Professor Yale Kamisar from the University of Michigan. He is known as the "Father of Miranda," and is one of the nation's foremost authorities on criminal procedure. That same year USD also recruited Professor Steven Smith, a law and religion scholar, from Notre Dame.

The combination of shrewd base hires and high-profile transfers has begun to have a measurable effect. USD School of Law graduates consistently score higher than the state average on the California Bar Exam and go on to successful practices throughout the country and around the world, according to Cole. In the 2007 Leiter law school faculty rankings study, the school was ranked 27th in the nation based on mean scholarly impact.

What makes a good attorney?

The ability to adapt to changing circumstances is critical. Neither law nor the environments in which attorneys work are static. So students need to understand the reasons that law develops as it does, so they can recognize the conditions that might lead to change. And they need to be comfortable with the idea that they won't stop learning just because they've graduated from law school.



Heather Chambers » LAW

Merger and Acquisition Activity Plummet, But More Deals Coming

USD Makes the Grade On Prestigious List



Several top firms reported that merger and acquisition activity dropped by half compared with the same period last year.

Latham & Watkins LLP, which employs more than 100 lawyers in San Diego, went

Data released last week by Mergermarket revealed that mergers and acquisitions experienced "something of a death rattle" in the first quarter of 2008.

from 81 to 41 deals; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP from 69 to 32; and Sullivan & Cromwell LLP from 44 to 26.

However, brokers expect the declining value of the dollar to allow for more M&A activity by overseas clients eager to snap up undervalued targets in sectors such as technology and health care.

USD Ascends List: California claims 10 of the nation's top 100 law schools, according to the 2009 edition of U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools.

The University of San Diego School of Law tied for 82nd, with five other schools, on the list. Last year, USD ranked 85th.

Kevin Cole, dean of USD's law

school, said that although the school was "glad for these affirmations" of quality, the rankings "are by no means exact."

"I am struck by the increased volatility of this year's rankings," he said, adding that 10 schools in the top 100 fell more than 10 places.

UCLA and the University of Southern California were among the 10 California law schools that made the list.

Yale University took home top honors, with a student-faculty ratio of 7.4-to-1 and 96.1 percent of 2006 graduates employed at graduation.

Mommy, What Does Litigation Mean?: This year, a handful of local law firms will participate in the annual Take Our

Daughters and Sons to Work Day, which happens April 24.

Morrison & Foerster LLP's San Diego office celebrated the day early this year, on April 8, to encourage greater participation. Children spent the day touring the firm's offices and interviewing attorneys to gather information to include in a hypothetical TV commercial for the firm's clean technology practice. They were tasked with creating storyboards and presenting their ideas in the boardroom. But don't think they were working pro bono. At the end of their hardworking day, the children were paid — in ice cream.

Send news about legal services to Heather Chambers, hchambers@sdbj.com.

Southern California Law Schools

Listed by Total Enrollment

	School Name	Total Enrollment	# of Full-Time Employees	Accreditation	Special Programs	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) 384-1659 elc@lsu.edu www.lsu.edu	1,292	129	ABA, AALS	Center for Conflict Resolution; Cancer Legal Resource Center; Western Law Center for Disability Rights; Ethical Advocacy Center; Annual National Civil Trial Competition; three law journals: Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review, International & Comparative Law Review, Entertainment Law Review	Roger W. Findley, Laurie L. Levenson, Georgene Vaino, Stan Goldman, Richard Hassen	David W. Burcham, Dean; Victor Gold, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs; Ken Ott, Assistant Dean for Development; Graham Sher, Assistant Dean, Career Services	1920
2	University of California, Los Angeles School of Law P.O. Box 951476 Los Angeles CA 90095-1476 (310) 825-4041, (310) 206-5422 admissions@law.ucla.edu www.law.ucla.edu	1,077	80	ABA, AALS	Business law, critical race studies, entertainment law, environmental law, sexual orientation law, public interest law and policy, clinical program, Native Nation (Indian) Law, Ziman Center for Real Estate	Eugene Voloch, Stephen Yeazell, Lynn Stout, Mark Gately, Lynn LoPucki, Stephen Banerjee	Michael H. Schill, Dean; Devon Carbado, Academic Associate Dean; Barbara Varat, Associate Dean; Myra Saunders, Associate Dean; Elizabeth Chireffle, Assistant Dean, Students; Susan Corbelli Gillig, Assistant Dean, Clinical Programs; Beth Mueller, Assistant Dean, Career Services; Laura Parker, Assistant Dean, Development and External Affairs	1949
3	University of San Diego School of Law 5999 Alcala Park San Diego CA 92123 (619) 260-4600, (619) 260-2219 jinfo@sandiego.edu www.sandiego.edu/usdlaw	1,074	175	ABA, Committee of Bar Examiners-State of California, member of the Order of the Coif	LL.M. in taxation, LL.M. in business and corporate law, LL.M. in international law, general LL.M. with concentrations (environmental law), labor and employment law, IP, criminal law, health care law, LL.M. in comparative law (for foreign attorneys)	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 prestigious law reform group, the American Law Institute	Kevin Cole, Dean; Mary Jo Wiggins, Associate Dean; Mike Kelly, Associate Dean; Teresa D'Rourke, Assistant Dean for Academic Planning and Graduate Programs	1954
4	Southern Law School 3050 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90010-1106 (213) 738-6700, (213) 383-1688 admissions@swlaw.edu www.swlaw.edu	972	140	ABA, AALS	J.D. programs: a three-year, full-time day program; a four-year, part-time evening program; a four-year, part-time day program designed for students with child-care responsibilities; a two-year, conceptual program (SCALE); LL.M. degree in entertainment and media law and home to the National Entertainment and Media Law Institute; summer programs in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Vancouver B.C., Canada; and Guanajuato, Mexico	Nationally recognized experts in antitrust, criminal, environmental, family, housing and urban development, intellectual property 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 92101-3406 (619) 239-0392, (619) 525-7092 admissions@cwsl.edu www.californiawestern.edu	907	150	ABA, AALS	California Innocence Project, Center for Creative Problem Solving, Institute for Criminal Defense Advocacy and National Center for Preventative Law, J.D./M.S.W., J.D./Ph.D. dual degree programs; areas of concentration in Child, family and elder law, criminal justice, creative problem solving, intellectual property, telecommunications and technology regulation, international law, labor and employment law	Michal Bellman, Robert Bolner, James Keiper, Chin Kim, Katharine Rosenberry, Francisco Valdes, Janet Weinstein, William J. Aceves, Thomas D. Barton, Laurence A. Benner, Arthur W. Campbell, Susan A. Channick, Barbara J. Cox	Steven R. Smith, Dean; Janet M. Bowermaster, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs; Mark J. Weinstein, Associate Dean, Administration; Louis W. Helmuth, Assistant Dean; Phyllis Marian, Director of Law Library	1924
6	Thomas Jefferson School of Law 2121 San Diego Ave. San Diego CA 92110 (619) 297-9700, (619) 294-4713 info@tjsl.edu www.tjsl.edu	779	72	American Bar Association, Committee of Bar Examiners	Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic; three LL.M. programs in international trade, American legal studies for foreign law graduates and international tax and financial services; three Centers of Academic Excellence: the Center for Global Legal Studies; the Center for Law, Technology and Communications; the Center for Law and Social Justice	Kenneth Vandenweide, William Stromanson, Marjorie Cohn, Susan Tellenbaum	Rudolph C. Hasi, Dean/President	1969
7	Pepperdine University School of Law 24255 Pacific Coast Highway Malibu CA 90263 (310) 506-4611, (310) 506-4266 soladms@pepperdine.edu www.pepperdine.edu	709	108	ABA, AALS	Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution; London Study Abroad Program; The Institute on Law, Religion and Ethics; The Geoffrey H. Palmor Center for Entrepreneur and the Law	Harry Caldwell, Carol Chase, Jack Cox, Bernard James, Douglas Kmic, Edward Larson, Samuel Levine, Antonio Mendez, Gregory Ogden, Robert Pothaw	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; Selma Farrell, Associate Dean; Career Development; Shannah Phillips, Executive Director, Admissions and Records; Kathy Marcus, Director, Financial Assistance	1959
8	University of Southern California Law School 699 Exposition Blvd., MC 0071 Los Angeles CA 90089-0071 (213) 740-7331, (213) 740-5502 admissions@law.usc.edu www.law.usc.edu	691	150	ABA, AALS	General law, intellectual property and business law LL.M. program for foreign lawyers offers specialized training in U.S. and international law	Jody Armour, Alexander Capron, Susan Estrich, Elizabeth Garret, Edward McCaffery, Edwin Smith, Matthew Spitzer, Christopher Stone	Robert K. Rasmussen, Dean; Scott A. Altman, Vice Dean	1900

9	Whittier Law School 3333 Harbor Blvd. Costa Mesa CA 92626-1501 (714) 444-4141, (714) 444-0855 info@lawwhittier.edu www.lawwhittier.edu	232	88	ABA, AALS, WASC	International Law Symposium, Health Law Symposium, Summer Institute for Intellectual Property, Center for Intellectual Property Law, Center for International and Comparative Law, Public Interest Fellowships, Exchange Programs in France and Spain, Summer Abroad Programs in Israel, Spain, China, France	Michael Bazyler, International Law; Judith Daar, Bioethics; I. Nelson Rose, Gambling; Deborah Fornau, Family Law; Howard Foss, Commercial Code; Mary Ellen Gale, National Board of ALLC	Neil H. Coogan, Dean/VP for Legal Education; Betty Vu, Director of Admissions; Edith Warkentim, Associate Dean for Student Services; J. Denny Haythorn, Associate Dean of Library & Info Resources; Marlene J. Bridges, Assistant Dean for Business and Support Services; Bonnie Saito, Director of Career Services	1887
10	The University of West Los Angeles 1155 W. Arbor Vitae St. Inglewood CA 90301-2902 (310) 342-5251, (310) 342-5295 lfrsman@uwlax.edu www.uwlax.edu	225	40	CBE, WASC	Investors workshops, employment law workshops, open houses, school of paralegal studies	The Hon. Irs Bank, The Hon. Pam Foust, The Hon. Richard Walton	Robert W. Brown, President; Anne Arlyn, Dean, School of Law; Kath. Cervi, Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs; School of Law, Jimmy Rimonte, Librarian	1966
11	Ventura College of Law 4475 Market St. Ventura CA 93003 (805) 658-0511, (805) 658-0529 vccl@venturalaw.edu www.venturalaw.edu	128	2	CBE	Legal internship program	The Hon. Herbert Curtis, III, The Hon. Steven Hintz, The Hon. John Smiley	Richard Goldman, Dean; Barbara Doyle, Assistant Dean, Administrator; Deirdre Oliver, Librarian	1969
12	Glendale University College of Law 220 N. Glendale Ave. Glendale CA 91206 (818) 574-5330, (818) 247-0872 admissions@gjendalaw.edu www.glendalaw.edu	125	3	CBE	Summer criminal law program, spring torts program, fall alternative program	N/A	Darrin Jaretzer, Executive Dean; Judythe Grutler, VP; Kimmoey Greitzer, Director of Admissions; Kimberly Greitzer, Career Services	1967
13	Santa Barbara College of Law 20 E. Victoria St. Santa Barbara CA 93101 (805) 966-0010, (805) 966-7181 sbccl@santabarbaralaw.edu www.santabarbaralaw.edu	115	3	CBE	Legal Clinic: family law and debtor/creditor; External Clinic: pro bono, law related in governmental offices	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 Ochoa, Santa Barbara County Superior Court	Heather Georgakis, Dean; Mary Osborne, Assistant Dean; Deirdre Meadows, Librarian	1975
14	Southern California Institute of Law — Ventura Campus 877 S. Victoria Ave., Suite 111 Ventura CA 93003 (805) 644-2327, (805) 644-2367 solregistrar@lawdegree.com www.lawdegree.com	71	2	State Bar of California	Paralegal programs, legal research forums	N/A	Stanislaus Pulic, Dean; Desmond D'Neil, Administrator; Cheyenne Brandon, Registrar; Robert Anderson, Librarian; Richard Waiters, Alumni Relations Director	1986
15	Southern California Institute of Law — Santa Barbara Campus 1525 State St. Santa Barbara CA 93101 (805) 963-4654, (805) 560-0785 solregistrar@lawdegree.com www.lawdegree.com	40	2	State Bar of California	Paralegal program	N/A	Stanislaus Pulic, Dean; Debra Garrett, Administrator; Robert Anderson, Librarian; Euell Ryles, Career Services	1986

Data Source: The Schools and their Web sites. Listed by Total Enrollment. This is a partial list; a more complete listing can be found at sourcebooks.sddl.com. N/A: Not Applicable, n/a: not available, wnd: would not disclose. It is not the intent of this list to endorse its participants, nor to imply that a school's size or numerical rank indicates its quality or service. We reserve the right to edit listings or to exclude a listing due to insufficient information. The following law school did not respond to our survey: University of La Verne College of Law. Compiled by Robin Scott, robin.scott@sddl.com. Last updated 11/2007.

International tax conference focuses on specialized cross-border issues

At the fourth annual University of San Diego School of Law-Procopio International Tax Institute (ITI), prominent tax experts from the United States, Mexico and Canada will join together to educate fellow professionals about current developments in international tax law. Held May 1 and 2 at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, the conference will introduce a newly expanded, cross-border perspective with the addition of several presentations geared toward various aspects of Mexico's new fiscal tax reform.

Featuring introductory and advanced courses, simultaneous Spanish translation and expert teaching panels in a state-of-the-art facility, the ITI provides an ideal atmosphere for education and interaction with internationally recog-

nized leaders and experts in the field of international tax law. Among the speakers will be the highest ranking U.S. and Mexican international tax officials, many of whom are returning to share the latest updates and developments.

More than 100 tax attorneys and accountants will attend the International Tax Institute to learn from top tax professionals, government officials and legal scholars from the three countries. Conference topics include aspects of Mexico's new fiscal tax reform, Mexico's new REFIPRE regime and new U.S. tax regulations, cross-border tax planning strategies for real estate (structuring private and public real estate holdings), and dissecting U.S., Canadian and Mexican tax case law.

Also covered at this year's conference will be foreign informational reporting

requirements, the new tax treaty protocol between the United States and Canada and international ethics in cross-border investment and tax planning. One section of the conference provides an in-depth comparison of tax consequences when individuals and entities decide to leave NAFTA at home, and a section highlighting the taxation of cross-border athletes and entertainers will discuss central withholding agent agreements, loan-out companies and tax treaty exemptions.

The 2008 conference keynote speakers are Jack Anderson, Esq., international tax attorney and CPA with **Ernst & Young** (Paris), and Lic. Jorge Estefan Chidiac, Presidente de la Comisión de Hacienda de la Cámara de Diputados del Congreso de la Unión de México.

Additional speakers include

Ginny Chung, attorney adviser at the U.S. Department of the Treasury's office of international tax counsel; Patrick W. Martin, Esq., Procopio's tax team leader and vice-chair of the California State Bar's Taxation Section Executive Committee; and Lic. Alberto Reyes Párraga, head of international tax area at Corporación Interamericana de Entretenimiento (CIE).

Several University of San Diego School of Law faculty members will speak at the conference, including professor Richard Pugh, adjunct professor Rufus von Thülen Rhoades and visiting professors M. Carr Ferguson, John Forry and Judge David Laro.

Hosted by the USD School of Law and **Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP**, the conference is sponsored by **Lexis Nexis and Vivant**.

Submitted by the University of San Diego School of Law

April 27, 2008

Triple-A Failure

By ROGER LOWENSTEIN

The Ratings Game

In 1996, Thomas Friedman, the New York Times columnist, remarked on "The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer" that there were two superpowers in the world -- the United States and Moody's bond-rating service -- and it was sometimes unclear which was more powerful. Moody's was then a private company that rated corporate bonds, but it was, already, spreading its wings into the exotic business of rating securities backed by pools of residential mortgages.

Obscure and dry-seeming as it was, this business offered a certain magic. The magic consisted of turning risky mortgages into investments that would be suitable for investors who would know nothing about the underlying loans. To get why this is impressive, you have to think about all that determines whether a mortgage is safe. Who owns the property? What is his or her income? Bundle hundreds of mortgages into a single security and the questions multiply; no investor could begin to answer them. But suppose the security had a rating. If it were rated triple-A by a firm like Moody's, then the investor could forget about the underlying mortgages. He wouldn't need to know what properties were in the pool, only that the pool was triple-A -- it was just as safe, in theory, as other triple-A securities.

Over the last decade, Moody's and its two principal competitors, Standard & Poor's and Fitch, played this game to perfection -- putting what amounted to gold seals on mortgage securities that investors swept up with increasing élan. For the rating agencies, this business was extremely lucrative. Their profits surged, Moody's in particular: it went public, saw its stock increase sixfold and its earnings grow by 900 percent.

By providing the mortgage industry with an entree to Wall Street, the agencies also transformed what had been among the sleepest corners of finance. No longer did mortgage banks have to wait 10 or 20 or 30 years to get their money back from homeowners. Now they sold their loans into securitized pools and -- their capital thus replenished -- wrote new loans at a much quicker pace.

Mortgage volume surged; in 2006, it topped \$2.5 trillion. Also, many more mortgages were issued to risky subprime borrowers. Almost all of those subprime loans ended up in securitized pools; indeed, the reason banks were willing to issue so many risky loans is that they could fob them off on Wall Street.

But who was evaluating these securities? Who was passing judgment on the quality of the mortgages, on the equity behind them and on myriad other investment considerations? Certainly not the investors. They relied on a credit rating.

Thus the agencies became the de facto watchdog over the mortgage industry. In a practical sense, it was Moody's and Standard & Poor's that set the credit standards that determined which loans Wall Street could repackage and, ultimately, which borrowers would qualify. Effectively, they did the job that was expected of banks and government regulators. And today, they are a central culprit in the mortgage bust, in which the total loss has been projected at \$250 billion and possibly much more.

In the wake of the housing collapse, Congress is exploring why the industry failed and whether it should be revamped (hearings in the Senate Banking Committee were expected to begin April 22). Two key questions are whether the credit agencies -- which benefit from a unique series of government charters -- enjoy too much official protection and whether their judgment was tainted. Presumably to forestall criticism and possible legislation, Moody's and S.&P. have announced reforms. But they reject the notion that they should have been more vigilant. Instead, they lay the blame on the mortgage holders who turned out to be deadbeats, many of whom lied to obtain their loans.

Arthur Levitt, the former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, charges that "the credit-rating agencies suffer from a conflict of interest -- perceived and apparent -- that may have distorted their judgment, especially when it came to complex structured financial products." Frank Partnoy, a professor at the University of San Diego School of Law who has written extensively about the credit-rating industry, says that the conflict is a serious problem. Thanks to the industry's close relationship with the banks whose securities it rates, Partnoy says, the agencies have behaved less like gatekeepers than gate openers. Last year, Moody's had to downgrade more than 5,000 mortgage securities -- a tacit acknowledgment that the mortgage bubble was abetted by its overly generous ratings. Mortgage securities rated by Standard & Poor's and Fitch have suffered a similar wave of downgrades.

Presto! How 2,393 Subprime Loans Become a High-Grade Investment

The business of assigning a rating to a mortgage security is a complicated affair, and Moody's recently was willing to walk me through an actual mortgage-backed security step by step. I was led down a carpeted hallway to a well-appointed conference room to meet with three specialists in mortgage-backed paper. Moody's was fair-minded in choosing an example; the case they showed me, which they masked with

the name "Subprime XYZ," was a pool of 2,393 mortgages with a total face value of \$430 million.

Subprime XYZ typified the exuberance of the age. All the mortgages in the pool were subprime -- that is, they had been extended to borrowers with checkered credit histories. In an earlier era, such people would have been restricted from borrowing more than 75 percent or so of the value of their homes, but during the great bubble, no such limits applied.

Moody's did not have access to the individual loan files, much less did it communicate with the borrowers or try to verify the information they provided in their loan applications. "We aren't loan officers," Claire Robinson, a 20-year veteran who is in charge of asset-backed finance for Moody's, told me. "Our expertise is as statisticians on an aggregate basis. We want to know, of 1,000 individuals, based on historical performance, what percent will pay their loans?"

The loans in Subprime XYZ were issued in early spring 2006 -- what would turn out to be the peak of the boom. They were originated by a West Coast company that Moody's identified as a "nonbank lender." Traditionally, people have gotten their mortgages from banks, but in recent years, new types of lenders peddling sexier products grabbed an increasing share of the market. This particular lender took the loans it made to a New York investment bank; the bank designed an investment vehicle and brought the package to Moody's.

Moody's assigned an analyst to evaluate the package, subject to review by a committee. The investment bank provided an enormous spreadsheet chock with data on the borrowers' credit histories and much else that might, at very least, have given Moody's pause. Three-quarters of the borrowers had adjustable-rate mortgages, or ARMs -- "teaser" loans on which the interest rate could be raised in short order. Since subprime borrowers cannot afford higher rates, they would need to refinance soon. This is a classic sign of a bubble -- lending on the belief, or the hope, that new money will bail out the old.

Moody's learned that almost half of these borrowers -- 43 percent -- did not provide written verification of their incomes. The data also showed that 12 percent of the mortgages were for properties in Southern California, including a half-percent in a single ZIP code, in Riverside. That suggested a risky degree of concentration.

On the plus side, Moody's noted, 94 percent of those borrowers with adjustable-rate loans said their mortgages were for primary residences. "That was a comfort feeling," Robinson said. Historically, people have been slow to abandon their primary homes. When you get into a crunch, she added, "You'll give up your ski chalet first."

Another factor giving Moody's comfort was that all of the ARM loans in the pool were first mortgages (as distinct from, say, home-equity loans). Nearly half of the borrowers, however, took out a simultaneous second loan. Most often, their two loans added up to all of their property's presumed resale value, which meant the borrowers had not a cent of equity.

In the frenetic, deal-happy climate of 2006, the Moody's analyst had only a single day to process the credit data from the bank. The analyst wasn't evaluating the mortgages but, rather, the bonds issued by the investment vehicle created to house them. A so-called special-purpose vehicle -- a ghost corporation with no people or furniture and no assets either until the deal was struck -- would purchase the mortgages. Thereafter, monthly payments from the homeowners would go to the S.P.V. The S.P.V. would finance itself by selling bonds. The question for Moody's was whether the inflow of mortgage checks would cover the outgoing payments to bondholders. From the investment bank's point of view, the key to the deal was obtaining a triple-A rating -- without which the deal wouldn't be profitable. That a vehicle backed by subprime mortgages could borrow at triple-A rates seems like a trick of finance. "People say, 'How can you create triple-A out of B-rated paper?'" notes Arturo Cifuentes, a former Moody's credit analyst who now designs credit instruments. It may seem like a scam, but it's not.

The secret sauce is that the S.P.V. would float 12 classes of bonds, from triple-A to a lowly Ba1. The highest-rated bonds would have first priority on the cash received from mortgage holders until they were fully paid, then the next tier of bonds, then the next and so on. The bonds at the bottom of the pile got the highest interest rate, but if homeowners defaulted, they would absorb the first losses.

It was this segregation of payments that protected the bonds at the top of the structure and enabled Moody's to classify them as triple-A. Imagine a seaside condo beset by flooding: just as the penthouse will not get wet until the lower floors are thoroughly soaked, so the triple-A bonds would not lose a dime unless the lower credits were wiped out.

Structured finance, of which this deal is typical, is both clever and useful; in the housing industry it has greatly expanded the pool of credit. But in extreme conditions, it can fail. The old-fashioned corner banker used his instincts, as well as his pencil, to apportion credit; modern finance is formulaic. However elegant its models, forecasting the behavior of 2,393 mortgage holders is an uncertain business. "Everyone assumed the credit agencies knew what they were doing," says Joseph Mason, a credit expert at Drexel University. "A structural engineer can predict what load a steel support will bear; in financial engineering we can't predict as well."

Mortgage-backed securities like those in Subprime XYZ were not the terminus of the great mortgage machine. They were, in fact, building blocks for even more esoteric vehicles known as collateralized debt obligations, or C.D.O.'s. C.D.O.'s were financed with similar ladders of bonds, from triple-A on down, and the credit-rating agencies' role was just as central. The difference is that XYZ was a first-order derivative -- its assets included real mortgages owned by actual homeowners. C.D.O.'s were a step removed -- instead of buying mortgages, they bought bonds that were backed by mortgages, like the bonds issued by Subprime XYZ. (It is painful to consider, but there were also third-order instruments, known as C.D.O.'s squared, which bought bonds issued by other C.D.O.'s.)

Miscalculations that were damaging at the level of Subprime XYZ were devastating at the C.D.O. level. Just as bad weather will cause more serious delays to travelers with multiple flights, so, if the underlying mortgage bonds were misrated, the trouble was compounded in the case of the C.D.O.'s that purchased them.

Moody's used statistical models to assess C.D.O.'s; it relied on historical patterns of default. This assumed that the past would remain relevant in an era in which the mortgage industry was morphing into a wildly speculative business. The complexity of C.D.O.'s undermined the process as well. Jamie Dimon, the chief executive of JPMorgan Chase, which recently scooped up the mortally wounded Bear Stearns, says, "There was a large failure of common sense" by rating agencies and also by banks like his. "Very complex securities shouldn't have been rated as if they were easy-to-value bonds."

The Accidental Watchdog

John Moody, a Wall Street analyst and former errand runner, hit on the idea of synthesizing all kinds of credit information into a single rating in 1909, when he published the manual "Moody's Analyses of Railroad Investments." The idea caught on with investors, who subscribed to his service, and by the mid-'20s, Moody's faced three competitors: Standard Statistics and Poor's Publishing (which later merged) and Fitch.

Then as now, Moody's graded bonds on a scale with 21 steps, from Aaa to C. (There are small differences in the agencies' nomenclatures, just as a grande latte at Starbucks becomes a "medium" at Peet's. At Moody's, ratings that start with the letter "A" carry minimal to low credit risk; those starting with "B" carry moderate to high risk; and "C" ratings denote bonds in poor standing or actual default.) The ratings are meant to be an estimate of probabilities, not a buy or sell recommendation. For instance, Ba bonds default far more often than triple-As. But Moody's, as it is wont to remind people, is not in the business of advising investors whether to buy Ba's; it merely publishes a rating.

Until the 1970s, its business grew slowly. But several trends coalesced to speed it up. The first was the collapse of Penn Central in 1970 -- a shattering event that the credit agencies failed to foresee. It so unnerved investors that they began to pay more attention to credit risk.

Government responded. The Securities and Exchange Commission, faced with the question of how to measure the capital of broker-dealers, decided to penalize brokers for holding bonds that were less than investment-grade (the term applies to Moody's 10 top grades). This prompted a question: investment grade according to whom? The S.E.C. opted to create a new category of officially designated rating agencies, and grandfathered the big three -- S.&P., Moody's and Fitch. In effect, the government outsourced its regulatory function to three for-profit companies.

Bank regulators issued similar rules for banks. Pension funds, mutual funds, insurance regulators followed. Over the '80s and '90s, a latticework of such rules redefined credit markets. Many classes of investors were now forbidden to buy noninvestment-grade bonds at all.

Issuers thus were forced to seek credit ratings (or else their bonds would not be marketable). The agencies -- realizing they had a hot product and, what's more, a captive market -- started charging the very organizations whose bonds they were rating. This was an efficient way to do business, but it put the agencies in a conflicted position. As Partnoy says, rather than selling opinions to investors, the rating agencies were now selling "licenses" to borrowers. Indeed, whether their opinions were accurate no longer mattered so much. Just as a police officer stopping a motorist will want to see his license but not inquire how well he did on his road test, it was the rating -- not its accuracy -- that mattered to Wall Street.

The case of Enron is illustrative. Throughout the summer and fall of 2001, even though its credit was rapidly deteriorating, the rating agencies kept it at investment grade. This was not unusual; the agencies typically lag behind the news. On Nov. 28, 2001, S.&P. finally dropped Enron's bonds to subinvestment grade. Although its action merely validated the market consensus, it caused the stock to collapse. To investors, S.&P.'s action was a signal that Enron was locked out of credit markets; it had lost its "license" to borrow. Four days later it filed for bankruptcy.

Another trend that spurred the agencies' growth was that more companies began borrowing in bond markets instead of from banks. According to Chris Mahoney, a just-retired Moody's veteran of 22 years, "The agencies went from being obscure and unimportant players to central ones."

A Conflict of Interest?

Nothing sent the agencies into high gear as much as the development of structured finance. As Wall Street bankers designed ever more securitized products -- using mortgages, credit-card debt, car loans, corporate debt, every type of paper imaginable -- the agencies became truly powerful.

In structured-credit vehicles like Subprime XYZ, the agencies played a much more pivotal role than they had with (conventional) bonds. According to Lewis Ranieri, the Salomon Brothers banker who was a pioneer in mortgage bonds, "The whole creation of mortgage securities was involved with a rating."

What the bankers in these deals are really doing is buying a bunch of I.O.U.'s and repackaging them in a different form. Something has to make the package worth -- or seem to be worth -- more than the sum of its parts, otherwise there would be no point in packaging such securities, nor would there be any profits from which to pay the bankers' fees.

That something is the rating. Credit markets are not continuous; a bond that qualifies, though only by a hair, as investment grade is worth a lot more than one that just fails. As with a would-be immigrant traveling from Mexico, there is a huge incentive to get over the line.

The challenge to investment banks is to design securities that just meet the rating agencies' tests. Risky mortgages serve their purpose; since the interest rate on them is higher, more money comes into the pool and is available for paying bond interest. But if the mortgages are

too risky, Moody's will object. Banks are adroit at working the system, and pools like Subprime XYZ are intentionally designed to include a layer of Baa bonds, or those just over the border. "Every agency has a model available to bankers that allows them to run the numbers until they get something they like and send it in for a rating," a former Moody's expert in securitization says. In other words, banks were gaming the system; according to Chris Flanagan, the subprime analyst at JPMorgan, "Gaming is the whole thing."

When a bank proposes a rating structure on a pool of debt, the rating agency will insist on a cushion of extra capital, known as an "enhancement." The bank inevitably lobbies for a thin cushion (the thinner the capitalization, the fatter the bank's profits). It's up to the agency to make sure that the cushion is big enough to safeguard the bonds. The process involves extended consultations between the agency and its client. In short, obtaining a rating is a collaborative process.

The evidence on whether rating agencies bend to the bankers' will is mixed. The agencies do not deny that a conflict exists, but they assert that they are keen to the dangers and minimize them. For instance, they do not reward analysts on the basis of whether they approve deals. No smoking gun, no conspiratorial e-mail message, has surfaced to suggest that they are lying. But in structured finance, the agencies face pressures that did not exist when John Moody was rating railroads. On the traditional side of the business, Moody's has thousands of clients (virtually every corporation and municipality that sells bonds). No one of them has much clout. But in structured finance, a handful of banks return again and again, paying much bigger fees. A deal the size of XYZ can bring Moody's \$200,000 and more for complicated deals. And the banks pay only if Moody's delivers the desired rating. Tom McGuire, the Jesuit theologian who ran Moody's through the mid-'90s, says this arrangement is unhealthy. If Moody's and a client bank don't see eye to eye, the bank can either tweak the numbers or try its luck with a competitor like S.&P., a process known as "ratings shopping."

And it seems to have helped the banks get better ratings. Mason, of Drexel University, compared default rates for corporate bonds rated Baa with those of similarly rated collateralized debt obligations until 2005 (before the bubble burst). Mason found that the C.D.O.'s defaulted eight times as often. One interpretation of the data is that Moody's was far less discerning when the client was a Wall Street securitizer.

After Enron blew up, Congress ordered the S.E.C. to look at the rating industry and possibly reform it. The S.E.C. ducked. Congress looked again in 2006 and enacted a law making it easier for competing agencies to gain official recognition, but didn't change the industry's business model. By then, the mortgage boom was in high gear. From 2002 to 2006, Moody's profits nearly tripled, mostly thanks to the high margins the agencies charged in structured finance. In 2006, Moody's reported net income of \$750 million. Raymond W. McDaniel Jr., its chief executive, gloated in the annual report for that year, "I firmly believe that Moody's business stands on the 'right side of history' in terms of the alignment of our role and function with advancements in global capital markets."

Using Weather in Antarctica To Forecast Conditions in Hawaii

Even as McDaniel was crowing, it was clear in some corners of Wall Street that the mortgage market was headed for trouble. The housing industry was cooling off fast. James Kragenbring, a money manager with Advantus Capital Management, complained to the agencies as early as 2005 that their ratings were too generous. A report from the hedge fund of John Paulson proclaimed astonishment at "the mispricing of these securities." He started betting that mortgage debt would crash.

Even Mark Zandi, the very visible economist at Moody's forecasting division (which is separate from the ratings side), was worried about the chilling crosswinds blowing in credit markets. In a report published in May 2006, he noted that consumer borrowing had soared, household debt was at a record and a fifth of such debt was classified as subprime. At the same time, loan officers were loosening underwriting standards and easing rates to offer still more loans. Zandi fretted about the "razor-thin" level of homeowners' equity, the avalanche of teaser mortgages and the \$750 billion of mortgages he judged to be at risk. Zandi concluded, "The environment feels increasingly ripe for some type of financial event."

A month after Zandi's report, Moody's rated Subprime XYZ. The analyst on the deal also had concerns. Moody's was aware that mortgage standards had been deteriorating, and it had been demanding more of a cushion in such pools. Nonetheless, its credit-rating model continued to envision rising home values. Largely for that reason, the analyst forecast losses for XYZ at only 4.9 percent of the underlying mortgage pool. Since even the lowest-rated bonds in XYZ would be covered up to a loss level of 7.25 percent, the bonds seemed safe.

XYZ now became the responsibility of a Moody's team that monitors securities and changes the ratings if need be (the analyst moved on to rate a new deal). Almost immediately, the team noticed a problem. Usually, people who finance a home stay current on their payments for at least a while. But a sliver of folks in XYZ fell behind within 90 days of signing their papers. After six months, an alarming 6 percent of the mortgages were seriously delinquent. (Historically, it is rare for more than 1 percent of mortgages at that stage to be delinquent.)

Moody's monitors began to make inquiries with the lender and were shocked by what they heard. Some properties lacked sod or landscaping, and keys remained in the mailbox; the buyers had never moved in. The implication was that people had bought homes on spec: as the housing market turned, the buyers walked.

By the spring of 2007, 13 percent of Subprime XYZ was delinquent -- and it was worsening by the month. XYZ was hardly atypical; the entire class of 2006 was performing terribly. (The class of 2007 would turn out to be even worse.)

In April 2007, Moody's announced it was revising the model it used to evaluate subprime mortgages. It noted that the model "was first introduced in 2002. Since then, the mortgage market has evolved considerably." This was a rather stunning admission; its model had been based on a world that no longer existed.

Poring over the data, Moody's discovered that the size of people's first mortgages was no longer a good predictor of whether they would default; rather, it was the size of their first and second loans -- that is, their total debt -- combined. This was rather intuitive; Moody's simply hadn't reckoned on it. Similarly, credit scores, long a mainstay of its analyses, had not proved to be a "strong predictor" of defaults this time. Translation: even people with good credit scores were defaulting. Amy Tobey, leader of the team that monitored XYZ, told me, "It seems there was a shift in mentality; people are treating homes as investment assets." Indeed. And homeowners without equity were making what economists call a rational choice; they were abandoning properties rather than make payments on them. Homeowners' equity had never been as high as believed because appraisals had been inflated.

Over the summer and fall of 2007, Moody's and the other agencies repeatedly tightened their methodology for rating mortgage securities, but it was too late. They had to downgrade tens of billions of dollars of securities. By early this year, when I met with Moody's, an astonishing 27 percent of the mortgage holders in Subprime XYZ were delinquent. Losses on the pool were now estimated at 14 percent to 16 percent -- three times the original estimate. Seemingly high-quality bonds rated A3 by Moody's had been downgraded five notches to Ba2, as had the other bonds in the pool aside from its triple-A's.

The pain didn't stop there. Many of the lower-rated bonds issued by XYZ, and by mortgage pools like it, were purchased by C.D.O.'s, the second-order mortgage vehicles, which were eager to buy lower-rated mortgage paper because it paid a higher yield. As the agencies endowed C.D.O. securities with triple-A ratings, demand for them was red hot. Much of it was from global investors who knew nothing about the U.S. mortgage market. In 2006 and 2007, the banks created more than \$200 billion of C.D.O.'s backed by lower-rated mortgage paper. Moody's assigned a different team to rate C.D.O.'s. This team knew far less about the underlying mortgages than did the committee that evaluated Subprime XYZ. In fact, Moody's rated C.D.O.'s without knowing which bonds the pool would buy.

A C.D.O. operates like a mutual fund; it can buy or sell mortgage bonds and frequently does so. Thus, the agencies rate pools with assets that are perpetually shifting. They base their ratings on an extensive set of guidelines or covenants that limit the C.D.O. manager's discretion.

Late in 2006, Moody's rated a C.D.O. with \$750 million worth of securities. The covenants, which act as a template, restricted the C.D.O. to, at most, an 80 percent exposure to subprime assets, and many other such conditions. "We're structure experts," Yuri Yoshizawa, the head of Moody's derivative group, explained. "We're not underlying-asset experts." They were checking the math, not the mortgages. But no C.D.O. can be better than its collateral.

Moody's rated three-quarters of this C.D.O.'s bonds triple-A. The ratings were derived using a mathematical construct known as a Monte Carlo simulation -- as if each of the underlying bonds would perform like cards drawn at random from a deck of mortgage bonds in the past. There were two problems with this approach. First, the bonds weren't like those in the past; the mortgage market had changed. As Mark Adelson, a former managing director in Moody's structured-finance division, remarks, it was "like observing 100 years of weather in Antarctica to forecast the weather in Hawaii." And second, the bonds weren't random. Moody's had underestimated the extent to which underwriting standards had weakened everywhere. When one mortgage bond failed, the odds were that others would, too.

Moody's estimated that this C.D.O. could potentially incur losses of 2 percent. It has since revised its estimate to 27 percent. The bonds it rated have been decimated, their market value having plunged by half or more. A triple-A layer of bonds has been downgraded 16 notches, all the way to B. Hundreds of C.D.O.'s have suffered similar fates (most of Wall Street's losses have been on C.D.O.'s). For Moody's and the other rating agencies, it has been an extraordinary rout.

Whom Can We Rely On?

The agencies have blamed the large incidence of fraud, but then they could have demanded verification of the mortgage data or refused to rate securities where the data were not provided. That was, after all, their mandate. This is what they pledge for the future. Moody's, S.&P. and Fitch say that they are tightening procedures -- they will demand more data and more verification and will subject their analysts to more outside checks. None of this, however, will remove the conflict of interest in the issuer-pays model. Though some have proposed requiring that agencies with official recognition charge investors, rather than issuers, a more practical reform may be for the government to stop certifying agencies altogether.

Then, if the Fed or other regulators wanted to restrict what sorts of bonds could be owned by banks, or by pension funds or by anyone else in need of protection, they would have to do it themselves -- not farm the job out to Moody's. The ratings agencies would still exist, but stripped of their official imprimatur, their ratings would lose a little of their aura, and investors might trust in them a bit less. Moody's itself favors doing away with the official designation, and it, like S.&P., embraces the idea that investors should not "rely" on ratings for buy-and-sell decisions.

This leaves an awkward question, with respect to insanely complex structured securities: What can they rely on? The agencies seem utterly too involved to serve as a neutral arbiter, and the banks are sure to invent new and equally hard-to-assess vehicles in the future. Vickie Tillman, the executive vice president of S.&P., told Congress last fall that in addition to the housing slump, "ahistorical behavioral modes" by homeowners were to blame for the wave of downgrades. She cited S.&P.'s data going back to the 1970s, as if consumers were at fault for not living up to the past. The real problem is that the agencies' mathematical formulas look backward while life is lived forward. That is unlikely to change.

Roger Lowenstein, a contributing writer, last wrote for the magazine about the Federal Reserve chief, Ben Bernanke. His new book, "While America Aged," will be published next month.



Death of a Bond Insurer

Wall Street used ACA to hide loads of subprime risk. It worked—until the tiny company collapsed

by David Henry and Matthew Goldstein

Here's another secret behind the mortgage mess: It turns out that Wall Street generally didn't buy insurance on subprime bonds to protect against default. Instead, many big banks used the policies to play one set of accounting rules against another.

The results of the game were bigger profits for banks, more money to continue cranking out securities built on risky subprime mortgages, and far less clarity about the banks' true exposure to the toxic investments. The mess left by insurer ACA Financial Guaranty (ACAH), which collapsed in December, is now revealing just how critical the bond insurers' role was in the mortgage market. In essence, ACA and the rest of the industry helped spur the boom to new heights, extending it far beyond its natural end point.

For years the bond insurers operated in relative obscurity. They mostly sold guarantees on basic municipal debt, paying out claims in the rare case a bond defaulted. But as competition increased, companies moved into more exotic products with bigger profits, including the risky securities known as collateralized debt obligations that invested in subprime loans and other assets. ACA—the fledgling outfit that got a new lease on life back in 2004 from an investment by Bear Stearns—took it to extremes. By 2007 CDOs and other types of exotic securities accounted for 90% of its portfolio, compared with 36% for MBIA, the nation's largest bond insurer.

With such an outsize exposure to hazardous debt, tiny ACA has become a focal point for the frenzy surrounding the bond insurers, which together guaranteed more than \$800 billion in complex securities, including subprime assets. ACA's implosion in December sent shock waves across the market and forced big banks to take \$6 billion in losses. Regulators, in turn, feared that other insurers would suffer similar fates, triggering more losses and aggravating the credit crunch.

MASKING THE ODOR

Today, ACA lies in ruins, its business under the watch of Maryland state insurance regulators. But the story of its rise and fall sheds much light on a little-known industry that continues to cause concern among regulators, investors, and rating agencies. A *BusinessWeek* analysis reveals the insurers' guarantees turned out to be little more than a subprime shell game, one that has prompted at least one lawsuit so far. ACA declined to comment.

Initially, the insurance promoted confidence among regulators. The deals appeared to be another way to spread the risk that borrowers would default on the underlying mortgages. It was the sort of rationalization that encouraged a host of bad lending decisions all along the mortgage food chain. "If the insurers weren't there, you would have questioned [CDOs] a lot more," says Nicolas Vassalli, managing director at hedge fund firm Structured Portfolio Management.

In retrospect, the bond policies only masked the inevitable subprime stink, until it became too overwhelming by late 2007. In November, ACA's parent company reported \$1 billion in losses for the third quarter. Standard & Poor's (MHC) put the insurer under review, slashing its credit rating from A to CCC a month later. The downgrade forced the insurer to come up with more collateral to show it could pay potential claims, under the terms of its agreements with banks. ACA didn't have the funds to make good on those deals, prompting Merrill Lynch (MER), UBS, CIBC (CM), Australia & New Zealand Banking Group, and other clients to take big losses on the policies. Australia & New Zealand Bank said its bonds remain solid, even without insurance. UBS and CIBC declined to comment.

What's more, Wall Street may face a fresh round of losses. That's because ACA also insured \$43 billion worth of securities backed by risky corporate loans and bonds, like the ones used to fund the flurry of buyouts in recent years. Those investments could be the next in line to sour, a turn made more likely by the weak state of the economy. If those securities go bad, banks

would have to take more writedowns, squeezing the credit markets even further.

NURSING HOMES AND CASINOS

ACA barely figured on the financial scene four years ago. The company, which was called American Capital Access when it was founded in 1997 by a former executive of credit-rating agency Fitch Ratings, searched in vain for a profitable niche. For years ACA largely wrote insurance on low-rated municipal bonds for projects like nursing homes and Native American casinos.

After taking losses from troubled mobile home bonds, it scrambled to raise more capital through an initial public offering in 2004. But the insurer had to abort the plan when it came to light that then-CEO Michael Satz had a lingering personal income tax issue from a previous job. Bear Stearns seized on the opportunity, stepping in to buy roughly one-third of the insurer for \$105 million. The bank then installed one of its own executives as chairman and hired Alan S. Roseman, a bond insurance veteran, as chief. Almost immediately, Roseman began to push ACA into CDO insurance, an area his predecessor, Satz, had only begun to explore.

Why would banks buy insurance on AAA securities, especially from ACA, which had only an A rating? That would be akin to homeowners at the top of the hill purchasing flood insurance from a company at the side of a river. If a flood did happen, the insurer wouldn't be around to pay any claims.

The explanation lies in the complexities of accounting rules. Both banks and insurance companies report earnings to investors under what's known as generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). But insurers also follow another set of guidelines, used by state insurance regulators and applied in key areas by credit-rating agencies.

In the case of CDO insurance—technically called credit default swaps—part of the appeal lies in the differences between the two accounting regimes. GAAP tends to require companies to value securities at prices in the market. Under those so-called mark-to-market rules, banks have to report losses on the investments each quarter even if they're only on paper. Insurance rules, by comparison, make firms only declare losses if it looks as if the bond is permanently damaged and they'll have to pay a claim.

Insurance turned out to be a sort of accounting arbitrage, allowing banks to take advantage of that different set of rules. By using it, they could offload the price risk to insurers' books to avoid suffering a hit to earnings if the bonds dropped in value. "Bond insurance was an accounting strategy," says former ACA chief Satz, now the founder of an online startup called BarterQuest. "It reduced banks' mark-to-market worries."

Insurance offered banks another advantage: It allowed them to execute what's known as a negative-basis trade, a strategy that essentially lets banks book profits on CDOs up front, even though they haven't collected the money yet and might never do so.

Here's how it worked: Say a bank bought a security that paid an interest rate that was 0.5 percentage points above a benchmark rate. Then it went out and purchased insurance on the bond that cost 0.2 percentage points above a benchmark rate. After doing so, the bank could book the difference between the interest payments and the insurance premiums, the 0.3-point spread, across the life of the bond—usually 5 to 10 years. Banks recorded those illusory profits in the quarter they took out the insurance.

Overall, the deals boosted banks' profits and reduced the amount of capital they had to set aside on their books for the securities. That freed up money for banks to funnel back into subprime securities. Merrill, which churned out more CDOs than any other Wall Street firm during the last two years of the boom, was a big ACA client. "It's another example of the moral hazard that people behave differently when they have insurance," says Frank Partnoy, a former Wall Street derivatives trader who is now a professor at the University of San Diego School of Law. "The banks kept making CDOs because they had the ability to hedge with insurance."

As players like Merrill rushed to do deals in the final months of the mortgage binge, they began to take out multiple insurance policies from different vendors for the same CDO pool. For example, according to industry sources, Merrill purchased guarantees in 2007 from both MBIA and ACA on pieces of a \$1.5-billion CDO called Forge ABS High Grade I, one of Merrill biggest's deals. At least seven other Merrill CDOs from that year were insured by different companies.

In doing so, Merrill and other banks created yet another set of entanglements, giving an increasing number of players a stake in the fate of a single CDO. Those interconnected relationships are the subject of recent lawsuits between Merrill Lynch and another bond insurer the bank used, Security Capital Assurance. "Merrill Lynch aggressively marketed [pieces of its] CDOs up and down Wall Street...desperate to get these off its books," the insurer says in a Mar. 31 counterclaim. The suit also quotes an e-mail from a Merrill salesperson that calls the insurance "a very nice deal and a big help to [Merrill]." Merrill, which is suing SCA over a contract dispute, says the counterclaim is without merit and "makes assumptions that are very simply wrong."

"RISK-FREE BUSINESS"

The insurance deals made everyone happy at first. Fees from the complex investments ran high for risks that seemed remote. The debt ACA guaranteed was the cream of the crop, with top-quality, AAA ratings that signaled the bonds would rarely, if ever, stop making payments. In fact, the bonds were designed to make their regular interest payments even if the underlying loans lost 30% to 50% of their value. "Most people saw this as a risk-free business," says Christopher Whalen, managing director of consultancy Institutional Risk Analytics.

ACA ramped up its coverage of CDOs to the very end. It was practically the only type of insurance the firm sold in 2006; that year, ACA wrote \$25 billion of coverage on CDOs, compared with \$1 billion on munis. Nearly a third of its total CDO portfolio had the taint of subprime.

When the credit market began to retreat, ACA charged ahead. In the first six months of 2007, ACA wrote \$22 billion of insurance on CDOs, nearly double the amount in the same period a year earlier. Roseman remained undaunted, even after the bankruptcy of two Bear Stearns hedge funds sparked a global credit crisis last summer. "We're looking pretty positively on structured credit throughout the remainder of the year," Roseman said in an Aug. 1 conference call. "Pricing opportunities have expanded dramatically."

But as mortgage delinquencies mounted, the accounting arbitrage began to grow poisonous for ACA. By insurance industry standards, ACA showed a \$20 million gain in the first half of 2007 as well as the third quarter of that year. The earnings statements of ACA's parent company, which reports to shareholders under GAAP, told an entirely different story. Those losses hit \$82 million in the first half and totaled \$1 billion in the third quarter.

The last remnants of the accounting illusion vanished on Dec. 19. That day, nearly a year after the housing downturn began, S&P cut ACA's credit rating. The losses from subprime securities, which once seemed to be only market gyrations, had become inevitable by S&P's standards. The insurer is currently on life support, alive only through the concessions of its clients, who have not enforced the terms of the deals and forced the insurer to cough up more money. The banks have given ACA a reprieve through Apr. 23 while they reassess whether to pull the plug.

LINKS

The Short Position

Hedge fund manager William Ackman of Pershing Square Capital Management thinks insurers can't make money on CDOs. In a fall presentation at the Value Investing Congress, Ackman, who has a big bet against insurer MBIA (MRI), said the premiums aren't high enough given the bonds' credit risk.

Henry is a senior writer at BusinessWeek. Goldstein is an associate editor at BusinessWeek, covering hedge funds and finance.

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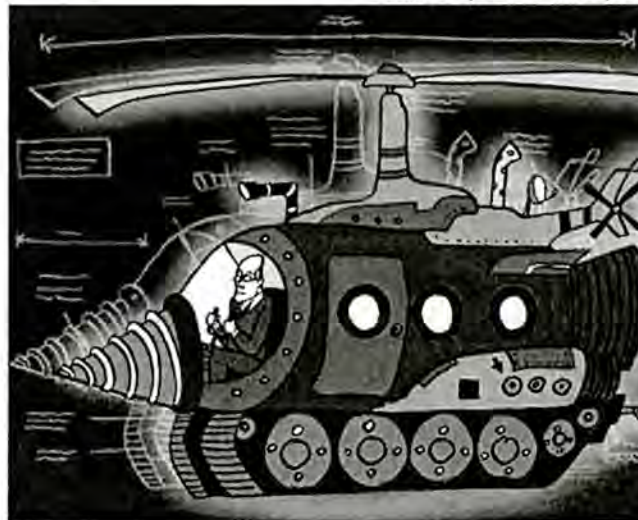
FINANCE & ECONOMICS

Financial regulation

Will it fly?

Apr 3rd 2008 | NEW YORK
From The Economist print edition

Illustration by Satoshi Kambayashi



Hank Paulson kicks off what promises to be a long and bruising debate about how best to police America's financial firms

BIRD-WATCHING is high on the list of Hank Paulson's leisure pursuits. This week America's Treasury Secretary made it quite clear which avian creature his country's system of financial regulation most resembled: the albatross. His "blueprint" for change, presented on March 31st, is the boldest attempt to overhaul the rulebook since the Depression, when much of it was written. Most of the proposals are long-term, and will thus be pulled around by the next administration and Congress. But the plan marks an important first step in a much-needed facelift for an outdated regime. "He's teed it up in a way that can't be ignored," says James Lockhart, director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, which regulates America's quasi-official mortgage giants, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Though the proposals are entwined with the credit crisis, they predate it: the original impetus, a year ago, was fear over America's waning capital-markets competitiveness. The finished product is thus an odd mix of streamlining and tougher regulation, such as a new oversight body for mortgage markets. The timing struck some as odd too, but the Treasury says it wants to provoke debate, not distract from market woes. The report may also have been timed to head off what one official calls "very silly" new banking rules threatening to emanate from Congress.

Political pressure had been growing to revamp regulation, after bank supervisors were deemed to have been asleep at the switch as the credit bubble inflated. Mr Paulson's motivation was broader: he has long argued, correctly, that the present set-up is Balkanised and inefficient. None of the half-dozen federal regulators, which sit atop hundreds of state rulemakers, sees the whole map. Supervision has not always been divided up for the best reasons: the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), for instance, won oversight of big investment banks four years ago, not because it was best placed to do so, but as part of a compromise following legal

changes in Europe.

The Treasury plan envisages several phases of reform. Short-term goals include the expansion of the President's Working Group (PWG), now a club for only select large regulators, and the creation of a federal Mortgage Origination Commission. This would consolidate oversight of a process that has wreaked havoc on balance sheets. It is also seen as a partial solution to the problem of dodgy securitisation, as the commission would grade the underwriting of loans going into pools. Critics point out, however, that it would create another layer of bureaucracy, since regulation of mortgage brokers and many lenders would stay with the states.

In the long run, say between two to eight years, Mr Paulson hopes to see a new regulatory architecture, with today's hotch-potch folded into three "objectives-based" agencies that some see as similar to the Australian system. That means a remodelled Federal Reserve with an eye on overall market stability; a prudential regulator for banks and thrifts, which would mean the demise of the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS); and a business-conduct agency, taking in much of the SEC's oversight of disclosure and the like.

The eagle-eyed Fed (and its blind spot)

The first of these is the most important—and most controversial. Though the Fed would lose long-cherished supervisory authority over big banks such as Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase, its overall power would be greatly expanded. The role, which the Fed rehearsed with its rescue of Bear Stearns, would allow it to hunt anywhere for systemic risk, including among the entangled roots of hedge funds and investment banks.

Some at the Fed worry this may be a poisoned chalice. Spotting crises in advance is not easy—witness the central bank's own failure to ring alarm bells as house prices soared. One pundit, inspired by scandals in New York politics, likens its proposed role to "putting Eliot Spitzer in charge of a morals division".

Now that the Fed has extended emergency funding to investment banks, they can expect tougher regulation. But the Treasury plan stops short of proposing that this arrangement be made permanent. As for the new regulation, it calls for further consideration by the PWG, which is taking a lead in a host of other areas, including reform of credit ratings and the derivatives-trading infrastructure.

Nor does the plan deal with regulation of Fannie and Freddie, where vast portfolios of mortgage-backed securities have soured, leaving them short of capital. However, Mr Paulson can reasonably argue that this crucial issue is already close to resolution. A bill to strengthen oversight of the two unwieldy enterprises has passed through the House and should soon be heard in the Senate.

You may think a plan this sweeping would be welcomed at a time when the old order had been found so wanting. But, this being an election year, and regulation being as emotive as it is arcane in America, it is being attacked from all sides. No wonder Mr Paulson talks of an "almighty battle" ahead.

Some on the right think it is not radical enough. The Treasury resisted the temptation to propose a single super-regulator along the lines of Britain's Financial Services Authority, leaving itself open to criticism that turf wars will persist. Admirers of the FSA's broad, principles-based approach to regulation contrast it with the lawyer-stuffed SEC, which values strongly enforced rules over guidelines. But the Northern Rock fiasco has tarnished the British agency's image. Moreover, regulatory competition is not always bad, says Allan Meltzer of Carnegie Mellon University. The Fed has been coaxed forward by more proactive agencies many times over the years, for instance.

Those on the left, meanwhile, attack the plan on two fronts. They complain that it does little to alleviate the crisis—even though that was not the intention—or to tighten the rules. Christopher Dodd, head of the Senate's banking committee, dismissed the reforms as "a wild pitch...not even close to the strike zone." Others gripe that it is too kind to Wall Street: Mr Paulson, a former head of Goldman Sachs, included its biggest firms in the crafting of the plan. Not so, say the investment banks, which could well face higher capital requirements to redress their follies.

Super-regulated out of existence

Then there are the regulators and constituencies who fear losing out. The plan to merge the OTS out of

existence prompted its head, John Reich, to write to employees declaring his opposition—though Christopher Cox, head of the SEC, which faces the same fate, has reacted more equivocally. State insurance regulators, which would be scrapped in favour of a federal regulator within the Treasury, are hopping mad. Small financial firms, such as credit unions and community banks, are none too pleased either, fearing that their voices will be drowned out under the new prudential regulator. Associations such as the Independent Community Bankers of America pack plenty of lobbying clout and could cause mischief.

One form of attack will be to point out that we have been here before: a number of the reforms, including both the federal-insurance charter and the dissolution of the OTS, have been discussed and rejected over the years. Reducing the power of the states could also prove incendiary. During the last boom, state regulators alerted the Fed to shenanigans in the subprime-mortgage market but were rebuffed.

Pro-regulation critics say Mr Paulson is cheekily trying to push through a largely deregulating package in disguise. He rejects such “simplistic bumper stickers”. The problem is not too much or too little regulation, he says, but the clumsiness of the system's design, which means rules are not applied effectively. With industry regulators obsessed with patrolling their own turf, for instance, important bits of the market have been missed at the edges. Think of mortgage brokers.

Still, the political mood increasingly favours more regulation, and many expect the reforms to be tugged in that direction. Hal Scott of Harvard Law School, director of an independent commission on capital-markets regulation, fears a repeat of Sarbanes-Oxley, the corporate-governance act rushed through in the wake of the Enron and WorldCom collapses, amid a similar “something must be done” atmosphere. Parts of that law put an intolerable burden on auditors and managers. They have since been pared back.

Frank Partnoy of the University of San Diego notes that Washington has a tendency to produce rules in fits and starts, especially after crises, and that these “often grow into monsters”. This is not a purely American thing, to be sure. The governments of Britain, Germany and others hard hit by the credit crisis are pushing for an urgent overhaul of banking regulations. However, the Financial Stability Forum, a group of global regulators which is due to issue a report to the G7 finance ministers on April 11th, is mindful that regulating too zealously does more harm than good.

Indeed, no regulatory regime is perfect. However sensible the rules, the market is always a step ahead of those who police it. As Mr Paulson concedes, better regulation is no guarantee against blow-ups “every five or ten years”. At which point, there will be a new clamour for change.

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INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune**The subprime bust in microcosm: The saga of a failed mortgage package**

By Roger Lowenstein

Friday, April 25, 2008

In 1996, Thomas Friedman, a columnist for The New York Times, remarked that there were two superpowers in the world - "the United States and Moody's Bond Rating Service" - and it was sometimes unclear which was more powerful. Moody's, then, was a private company that rated corporate bonds, but it was already exploring how to rate securities backed by pools of residential mortgages.

The magic of this obscure, dry business consisted of turning risky mortgages into securities that would be suitable for investors who would know nothing about the underlying loans. To understand why this is impressive, you have to think about all that determines whether a mortgage is safe. Who owns the property? What is his or her income? Bundle hundreds of mortgages into a single security and the questions multiply.

But suppose the security had a rating. If it were rated triple-A by a firm like Moody's, then the investor could forget about the underlying mortgages.

Over the last decade, Moody's and its two principal competitors, Standard & Poor's and Fitch, played this game to perfection - putting gold seals on mortgage securities that investors swept up with increasing élan. For the rating agencies, profits surged.

By providing the mortgage industry with an entrée to Wall Street, the agencies also transformed what had been a sleepy corner of finance, and mortgage banks started writing new loans at a much quicker pace.

And volume jumped: In 2006, it topped \$2.5 trillion, with many mortgages issued to subprime borrowers. Almost all of those subprime loans ended up in securitized pools sold to Wall Street.

But who was passing judgment on the quality of the mortgages, on the equity behind them, and on myriad other investment considerations? Certainly not the investors. They relied on a credit rating.

Thus the agencies became the de facto watchdog over the mortgage industry.

In the wake of the housing collapse, Congress will explore why the industry failed and whether it should be revamped (hearings in the Senate Banking Committee will begin this month).

Two key questions are whether the credit agencies - which benefit from a unique series of government charters - enjoy too much official protection, and whether their judgment was tainted. Moody's and S&P have announced reforms already, but they reject the notion that they should have been more vigilant - instead, they blame the mortgage holders who have defaulted, many of whom led to obtain loans.

Arthur Levitt, the former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, charges that "a conflict of interest is distorting the rating agencies' judgment."

Frank Partnoy, a professor at the University of San Diego School of Law who has written extensively about the credit-rating industry, seconds that verdict. Thanks to the industry's close relationship with the banks whose securities it rates, he says, the agencies have behaved less like gatekeepers than gate openers.

Last year, Moody's had to downgrade more than 5,000 mortgage securities - a tacit acknowledgement that the mortgage bubble had been abetted by its overly generous ratings. Its rivals fared no better.

The business of assigning a rating to a mortgage security is a complicated affair, and Moody's walked me through an actual mortgage-backed security step by step. The case they showed me, "Subprime XYZ," was a pool of 2,393 mortgages with a total face value of \$430 million. All of the mortgages in the pool were made to subprime borrowers.

Moody's did not have access to the individual loan files and so could not verify the information borrowers provided in their loan applications.

"We aren't credit officers," Claire Robinson, a 20-year veteran who is in charge of asset-backed finance for Moody's, said. "Our expertise is as statisticians on an aggregate basis. We want to know, of 1,000 individuals, based on historical performance, what percent will pay their loans?"

The loans in Subprime XYZ were issued early in 2006 - the peak of the boom. They were originated by a West Coast company that Moody's identified only as a "nonbank lender." This particular lender took the loans it made to a New York investment bank; the bank designed an investment vehicle and brought the package to Moody's.

Moody's assigned a junior analyst to rate the package, subject to committee review. The investment bank provided a spread sheet with data on the borrowers' credit histories and much else. For instance, Moody's learned that almost half - 43 percent - of the borrowers did not provide written verification of their income, begging the question of what their incomes really were.

Further, three-quarters of the borrowers had adjustable mortgages - "leaser" loans on which the interest rate could be raised in short order. Since subprime borrowers cannot afford higher rates, they would need to refinance soon. In a bubble, one lends on the hope that new money will bail out the old.

But on the plus side, all of the loans in the pool were first mortgages (as distinct from, say, home equity loans), and that was a good sign. Still, nearly half of the borrowers took out a simultaneous second loan, with their two loans often adding up to all of their property's presumed resale value, which meant the borrowers had not a cent of equity.

In the frenetic, deal-happy climate of 2006, the Moody's analyst had only a single day to process this data and make a recommendation on the potential holder of the mortgages, a so-called special purpose vehicle.

Such vehicles - ghost corporations with no people or furniture and no assets either until the deal was struck - would then purchase the mortgages and float 12 classes of bonds, from triple-A to B+1. The highest-rated bonds would have first priority on the cash received from mortgage holders until they were fully paid, then the next tier of bonds and so on. The bonds at the bottom got the highest interest rate, but would absorb the first losses in case of default.

It was this segregating of payments that protected the bonds at the top of the structure and enabled Moody's to classify them as triple-A.

Mortgage-backed securities like those in Subprime XYZ were not the end of the great mortgage machine. They were building blocks for collateralized debt obligations, or CDOs. CDOs were financed with similar ladders of bonds, from triple-A on down, and the credit rating agencies' role was just as central. The difference is that XYZ was a first-order derivative - its assets included real mortgages. But CDOs simply bought bonds that were backed by mortgages.

(It is painful to consider, but there were also third-order instruments, known as "CDOs squared," that bought bonds issued by other CDOs.)

Moody's used statistical models to assess CDOs; it relied on historical patterns of default, assuming that the past would remain relevant though the mortgage industry was morphing into a wildy

speculative business.

In the United States, many classes of investors are forbidden from buying noninvestment grade bonds at all. Issuers are thus forced to seek credit ratings (or else their bonds would not be marketable), and the agencies can charge the very organizations whose bonds they were rating.

An efficient way to do business, but it puts the agencies in a conflicted position. As Partney says, rather than selling opinions to investors, the rating agencies were now selling "licenses" to borrowers. Indeed, whether their opinions were accurate was less important, on Wall Street, than the rating itself.

In structured finance, the situation is further complicated because a handful of banks return to ratings agencies again and again, paying much bigger fees than clients for Moody's conventional bond services. A deal the size of XYZ can bring Moody's \$400,000. And the banks pay only if Moody's delivers the desired rating.

If Moody's and a client bank do not see eye to eye, the bank can either tweak the numbers or try its luck with a competitor like S&P. This is known as "ratings shopping."

And it seems to have helped the banks get better ratings. Joseph Mason, a credit expert at Drexel University, compared default rates for corporate bonds rated Baa with those of similarly rated CDOs over the period 1983 to 2005 (before the bubble burst). Mason found that the CDOs defaulted eight times as often.

From 2002 to 2006, Moody's profits tripled, mostly thanks to the high margins the agencies charged in structured finance. In 2006, Moody's reported net income of \$750 million. But even then, some thought the mortgage market was headed for trouble.

Mark Zandi, an economist at Moody's forecasting division (which is separate from the ratings side), was worried about the crosswinds blowing in credit markets. In a report published in May 2006, he noted that consumer borrowing had soared, household debt was at a record, and a fifth of such debt was classified as subprime.

A month after Zandi's report, Moody's rated Subprime XYZ. The analyst on the deal also had concerns. Moody's was aware that mortgage standards had been deteriorating, and it had been demanding more of a cushion in such pools. Nonetheless, its credit-rating model continued to envision rising home values. Largely for that reason, the analyst forecast losses for XYZ at only 4.9 percent of the underlying mortgage pool. Since even the lowest-rated bonds in XYZ would be covered up to a loss level of 7.25 percent, the bonds seemed safe.

XYZ then became the responsibility of a Moody's team that monitored securities and changed the ratings if need be, while the analyst moved on to rate a new deal. Almost immediately, the team noticed a problem. Usually, people who finance a home stay current on their payments for at least a while. But a sliver of folks in XYZ fell behind within 90 days of signing their papers. After six months, an alarming 8 percent of mortgages were seriously delinquent.

Moody's monitors began to make inquiries with the lender and were horrified by what they heard. Some properties lacked sod or landscaping and keys remained in the mailbox; the buyers had never moved in. The implication was that people had bought homes on spec: as the housing market turned, the buyers walked.

By the spring of 2007, 13 percent of Subprime XYZ was delinquent - and it was worsening by the month. XYZ was hardly atypical.

In April 2007, Moody's announced it was revising the model it used to evaluate subprime mortgages. It noted that the model "was first introduced in 2002. Since then, the mortgage market has evolved considerably."

Poring over the data, Moody's discovered that credit scores, long a mainstay of its analyses, had not proven to be a "strong predictor" of defaults this time. Translation: Even people with good credit scores were defaulting.

Over the summer and autumn of 2007, Moody's and the other agencies repeatedly tightened their methodology for rating mortgage securities, but it was too late. They had to downgrade tens of billions of dollars of securities.

The pain didn't stop there. Many of the lower-rated bonds issued by XYZ, and by mortgage pools like it, were purchased by CDOs, the second-order mortgage vehicles, which were eager to buy lower-rated mortgage paper because it paid a higher yield.

Moody's assigned a different team to rate CDOs. This team knew far less about the underlying mortgages than did the committee that evaluated Subprime XYZ. In fact, Moody's rated CDOs without knowing which bonds the pool would buy.

Because a CDO operates like a mutual fund, it can buy or sell mortgage bonds and frequently does so. Thus, the agencies rate pools whose assets are perpetually shifting. They base their ratings on an extensive set of guidelines or covenants that limit the CDO manager's discretion.

Late in 2006, Moody's rated a CDO with \$730 million worth of securities. The covenants, which act as a template, restricted the CDO to, say, an 80 percent exposure to subprime assets at most, and many other such conditions.

"We're structure experts," Yuri Yoshizawa, the head of the Moody's derivative group, explained. "We're not underlying asset experts." They were checking the math, not the mortgages. But at the end of the day, no CDO can be better than its collateral.

Moody's estimated that the CDO buying XYZ bonds would incur losses of 2 percent. It has since revised its estimate to 25 percent. The bonds it rated have been decimated, their market value having plunged 80 percent or more. The triple-A layer of bonds has been downgraded 18 notches, all the way to Caa. Hundreds of CDOs have suffered similar fates (most of Wall Street's losses have been on CDOs). For Moody's and the other rating agencies, it has been an unprecedented rout.

The agencies have blamed the large incidence of fraud, but then, they could have demanded verification of the mortgage data, or refused to rate securities where it was not provided.

Moody's, S&P and Fitch say they are tightening procedures - they will demand more data and more verification, and will subject their analysts to more outside checks. None of this, however, will remove the conflict of interest in the issuer-pays model.

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Where Was the Wise Man?

NELSON D. SCHWARTZ and ERIC DASH

LARGE TEXT PRINT EMAIL DISCUSS SHARE

EVERY month or so, Citigroup invites a select group of clients to dine with a singular and very special host: Robert E. Rubin, the former Treasury secretary who, for the last nine years, has been the banking giant's self-described consigliere.

These discreet affairs are held in the executive dining room of Citigroup's Park Avenue headquarters, but it's a movable feast. Mr. Rubin has presided at similar soirees overseas and in the bank's Lower Manhattan offices, where luminaries like Bill Clinton and Alan Greenspan have joined him to discuss the global economy.



Robert Rubin, the former Treasury secretary, is a major player at Citigroup, but his exact role is unclear. He and his job have come under scrutiny since the bank lost tens of billions.

Jacob Silberberg for The New York Times
Click here to enlarge.
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"With Bill, I was a little bit like an unskilled Larry King," Mr. Rubin says. "It's less of a conversation with him than with Alan."

That kind of self-deprecating observation is vintage Rubin, and it plays down his own substantial celebrity as a corporate and political wise man.

When a Who's Who of South Korean government officials, business leaders and clients gathered last September in Seoul to hear Mr. Rubin speak, they greeted him as though he were a rock star.

"There was a reception before the big event, and people just wanted to shake his hand or get a photo with him," says Michael Schlein, who, as head of international franchise management for Citigroup, attended the meeting.

Mr. Rubin is still regarded with affection in South Korea because of the pivotal role he played in helping the country survive the Asian economic crisis a decade ago. But now, closer to home, another financial crisis is creating a very different type of notoriety for Mr. Rubin. The housing and credit mess here has cost Citigroup nearly \$40 billion, forced the exit of its chief executive, Charles O. Prince III, and led to persistent rumors inside the bank that Mr. Rubin might soon be stepping down as well.

Mr. Rubin and others at Citigroup are quick to dismiss any talk of departure, but one senior insider says Mr. Rubin may soon change his job title in order to clarify a clutch of duties that have always been ambiguous. He currently serves as chairman of the executive committee, his new title hasn't been decided.

"It's not under consideration," Mr. Rubin insists.

Titles aside, shareholders and analysts who have watched Citigroup run off the rails continue to ask a logical question about a financial statesman widely considered to be an astute judge of risk throughout a long and storied career: Where was Bob?

While many Wall Street luminaries have come in for criticism as a result of the financial breakdown, Mr. Rubin is part of an Olympian duo — along with Mr. Greenspan, the former Federal Reserve chairman — whose legacies are most clearly threatened by the mess.

"The board is still pretty tightly behind Bob," said one outsider who has frequent discussions with Citigroup officials and requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak publicly. "The second layer of executives at the company are very disappointed with him for not focusing more, for not doing a lot more."

At Citigroup's annual meeting last week, Joe Condon, a retired Citibank regional manager in New York, posed a similar question. "What kind of advice did he give to Mr. Prince?" asked Mr. Condon, who spent 38 years at the bank. "Citigroup bankers are losing their jobs, and Bob Rubin is collecting \$10 million, \$15 million a year."

Answers to these questions are complex and laced with contradictions, which neatly fits Mr. Rubin's personality. Over the last 43 years, he has glided between Washington and Wall Street, emerging as an outspoken Democrat supporting liberal candidates like Walter F. Mondale and Michael S. Dukakis even as he earned tens of millions of dollars as a top executive of Goldman Sachs.

As an economic adviser to President Clinton in 1993 and 1994 and as Treasury secretary from 1995 to 1999, he supported tax hikes and spending cuts to reduce the deficit, pleasing investors but disappointing liberals who wanted more money for social programs. And as chairman of the executive



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executives and serving on the board while, he says, steering clear of day-to-day management.

"By the time I finished at Treasury, I decided I never wanted operating responsibility again," Mr. Rubin, 69, said during a two-hour interview in his office. Sitting in a red-cloth chair and propped against a thick book to support a bad back, he made it plain that responsibility for Citigroup's staggering losses can't be laid at his feet.

"People know I was concerned about the markets," he says. "Clearly, there were things wrong. But I don't know of anyone who foresaw a perfect storm, and that's what we've had here."

"I don't feel responsible, in light of the facts as I knew them in my role," he adds.

But did he make mistakes?

"I've thought a lot about that," he responds. "I honestly don't know. In hindsight, there are a lot of things we'd do differently. But in the context of the facts as I knew them and my role, I'm inclined to think probably not."

The exact contours of Mr. Rubin's Citigroup duties are elusive, but they hinge on using his stature to attract clients and deal with regulators, while also lapping his experience in strategic matters. A paradox in all of this is that he maintains great sway at Citigroup while exercising no direct operational responsibilities.

Until mid-2007, the board-level executive committee that he leads met only several times a year, but Sanford I. Weill, who as chief executive lured Mr. Rubin to the company in 1999, says they spoke practically every day during his tenure. Mr. Rubin also made himself readily available to Mr. Prince and others seeking advice.

"It's a little like visiting Yoda," says Raymond J. McGuire, Citigroup's co-head of global investment banking. "You go and get a dose of wisdom."

That arrangement worked fine when Citigroup prospered — its shares more than doubled between 2002 and early 2007 — but over the last year, as the bank's earnings and stock price withered, Mr. Rubin has endured much more critical scrutiny. At Citigroup's annual conference with analysts and institutional investors on May 9, he is likely to be on the receiving end of more hostile questions.

MODEST and genial to a fault, Mr. Rubin is also proud and protective of his sterling reputation. Adorning a wall behind his desk is a framed Time cover from 1999 hailing his role on what the magazine called the "Committee to Save the World"; the cover about the Asian economic crisis features him alongside his Treasury deputy, Lawrence H. Summers, and Mr. Greenspan, then the Fed chairman.

Addressing the current round of criticism, Mr. Rubin makes a passionate defense without sounding the least bit defensive.

"There is no way you would know what was going on with a risk book unless you're directly involved with the trading arena," he says. "We had highly experienced, highly qualified people running the operation."

That still doesn't satisfy experts like Frank Partnoy, a former banker at Morgan Stanley who is now a law professor at the University of San Diego. He says he long admired Mr. Rubin as a "smart guy up against powerful forces in Washington who was consistently a voice of reason." But he says Citigroup's huge losses have shaken that faith.

Mr. Partnoy recently had his corporate finance students listen to a conference call from last November in which Mr. Rubin tried to explain Citigroup's myriad financial woes and what role he played at the bank. "You could feel the air go out of the room as this incredibly well-respected guy struggled to answer," Mr. Partnoy says of that class. "It was almost poignant."

LONG before he became a star in Washington, Bob Rubin was renowned on Wall Street. It wasn't just his intellect that made him stand out, his pedigree from Harvard College and Yale Law School, or his success at the Street's most competitive firm, Goldman Sachs.

"What's unique about Bob is a combination of rare intellect and rare temperament. That's what sets him apart," says Roger Altman, a veteran of Wall Street who has known Mr. Rubin for nearly 30 years and served with him in the early years of the Clinton administration. "He's self-effacing, always calm, with a low-ego style."

Colleagues say Mr. Rubin often prefaces his opinions by saying, "I don't know much about this," and then proceeds to lay out his argument by asking questions of those around him.

As he worked his way up from Goldman's arbitrage trading desk to the corner office, "he was very accepting of debate and disagreement," says Stephen Friedman, who met Mr. Rubin shortly after joining Goldman Sachs in 1966 and eventually became co-chairman of the firm with him from 1990 to 1992. Nodding toward Mr. Rubin's acute sense of the volatility of the markets, he adds that the only thing Mr. Rubin "is dismissive of is people who are certain of things that are inherently uncertain."

Mr. Rubin encouraged Goldman to move into more treacherous markets like proprietary trading and commodities trading. Even so, he now says he was always concerned about the dangers posed by risky futures and derivatives trades, having seen how the pell-mell use of futures contracts exacerbated the 1987 stock market crash.

Shortly before leaving Goldman to head up President Clinton's National Economic Council, Mr. Rubin says, he met with Richard B. Fisher, the chairman of Morgan Stanley, to discuss the idea of imposing stricter margin requirements on futures trading. Mr. Rubin says the idea died after the Chicago Board of Trade told him "we will make sure Goldman Sachs never trades another future on the C.B.O.T. if this went ahead."

A spokeswoman for the CME Group, which now owns the Chicago Board, contends that "Goldman was and continues to be a valued customer and we would never deny access to our markets."

At the Treasury Department, Mr. Rubin threaded a moderate stance on the always-controversial issue of market regulation, navigating between conservative free marketeers like Mr. Greenspan who wanted to streamline regulation and more liberal advocates demanding tighter monitoring of the securities industry.

At the same time, Mr. Rubin pushed developing countries to open their markets to foreign competition while privatizing state-dominated economies. This approach eventually became known as the Washington consensus and gained deep traction in Latin America, East Asia and Eastern Europe.

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Overseas, Mr. Rubin's legacy remains controversial nearly a decade after he left the Treasury. In Latin America, populist leaders have come to power in part by arguing that privatization and market-oriented reforms greatly enriched the elite but didn't benefit the rest of the population.

Representative Barney Frank, Democrat of Massachusetts and chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, suggests Mr. Rubin and other Clinton officials were more attuned to the impact of free trade on American workers than on their overseas counterparts. "Free trade does promote growth but promotes inequality," he says. "In terms of helping victims of that process, they did more domestically than internationally."

Looking back, Mr. Rubin says: "We were in favor of trade liberalization and also very focused on for the potential for trade to increase inequality and job dislocation." He adds that, "if we did it again, we would be more focused on social safety nets for the poor during the crises."

With the economy booming and the market soaring in the mid- to late 1990s, Washington wasn't focused on new regulation. The trend had long been in the opposite direction, as commercial banks and investment banks gradually moved closer together, eroding the Glass-Steagall legal restrictions enacted in the 1930s to rein in banking excesses. Mr. Rubin in theory supported the legislation to repeal the Glass-Steagall Act but was concerned that it would strengthen the Fed's powers at the expense of the Treasury. It was passed and signed into law under his successor, Mr. Summers.

Despite the views of Mr. Greenspan, others in their inner circle say Mr. Rubin charted his own philosophic course about regulation.

"He was consistently more skeptical that market discipline alone is sufficient and more often in favor of using regulation to get a better balance between innovation and stability," says Timothy F. Geithner, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who served as a senior Treasury official under Mr. Rubin and Mr. Summers.

But on at least one occasion, Mr. Rubin lined up with Mr. Summers as well as Mr. Greenspan to block a 1998 proposal by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission that would have effectively moved many derivatives out of the shadows and made them subject to regulation.

Derivatives are privately negotiated and often complex financial contracts theoretically designed to limit risk. Their value is derived from an underlying basket of assets, like stocks, bonds or loans. Advocates say that derivatives, used wisely, foster economic activity. Critics contend that as derivatives trading has boomed over the last decade, it has led to high-octane speculation more akin to gambling than to sensible hedging of financial risk.

Opaque trading and hard-to-value derivatives tied to mortgage loans and other forms of credit have been one of the underlying causes of the current financial crisis. One former commodities commission official argues that a different approach to derivatives regulation in 1998 would have helped avert the worst of today's credit crisis.

"Stopping this let the momentum build and led to subprime as well as soaring commodity prices today because unregulated derivatives trading soared after that," says Michael Greenberger, then director of trading and markets at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and now a professor of law at the University of Maryland.

At an April 21, 1998, meeting with Brooksley Born, the chairwoman of the commodities commission, Mr. Rubin made no secret of his feelings about her proposal. "It was controlled anger. He was very tough," Mr. Greenberger recalls. "I was at several meetings with him, and I've never seen him like that before or after." Ms. Born didn't return calls for comment.

Mr. Rubin says he was against the proposal because he feared it could create chaos in the markets, rather than actually improve oversight of derivatives. He says he believes that the financial system could benefit from better regulation of derivatives, perhaps in the form of more disclosure and new rules requiring individuals and firms to put more money down when they trade.

But during his time in Washington, he says, "the politics would have made this impossible. Even if I'd taken a placard and walked up and down Pennsylvania Avenue saying the financial system would come to an end without strict regulation of derivatives, I would have had no traction."

Mr. Greenberger is unbowed: "What do we have now, if not chaos in the markets?"

WHEN Mr. Rubin left Washington and returned to New York in 1999, he weighed the pros and cons of his next career move. "I'd had the ultimate responsibility both at Goldman Sachs and at Treasury, and I didn't want that again," he wrote in "In an Uncertain World," his memoir. "I was at a stage in my life where I wanted to try to live a little differently."

That meant, he says, a position that didn't carry direct management responsibilities and allowed him to serve as elder financial statesman — albeit one who was lavishly paid. Since arriving at Citigroup, Mr. Rubin has been awarded compensation worth at least \$126.1 million, according to Equilar, a research firm. That would place him firmly in the top 25 percent of earners if compared to the chief executives of Fortune 500 companies.

One person who insisted on anonymity because he remains close to Mr. Rubin said there was one central issue the former Treasury secretary didn't consider when he signed on at Citigroup: "What if you take a nonoperational role and something happens there and people blame you?"

According to Mr. Rubin's many friends and supporters in Washington and on Wall Street, that's exactly the position he finds himself in.

"Bob has been unfairly taken to task, I really do believe that," says Richard D. Parsons, the chairman of Time Warner and a Citigroup board member. "He made an explicit deal when he came aboard. You can't say this happened on his watch because this wasn't his watch."

Indeed, Mr. Rubin's role at Citigroup has been unique. His contract stipulated that he wouldn't have specific business responsibilities and was free to use his perch to sound off on public policy — even if his views diverged from those of the bank.

And when it comes to the current financial mess at Citigroup and elsewhere, Mr. Rubin says his conscience is clear. "Looking back, you have to say a lot of people made a lot of mistakes," he says. "I don't blame people for being angry. They lost a lot of money."

bankers inside the company say that he didn't need such authority to wield tremendous influence.

"He is like the Wizard of Oz behind Citigroup, he is the guy pulling on all the strings," said one Citigroup banker who was not authorized to speak publicly about the situation. "He certainly was the guy deferred to on key strategic decisions and certain key business decisions vis-à-vis risk."

"When you have responsibility with no accountability, that is a very dangerous thing on Wall Street," this banker added.

A LOOK at some of Citigroup's recent endeavors offers a window onto Mr. Rubin's role at the bank.

Early in 2005, Citigroup's board asked the C.E.O., Mr. Prince, and several top lieutenants to develop a growth strategy for its fixed-income business. Mr. Rubin peppered colleagues with questions as they formulated the plan, according to current and former Citigroup employees. With Citigroup falling behind Wall Street rivals like Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs, Mr. Rubin pushed for the bank to increase its activity in high-growth areas like structured credit.

He also encouraged Mr. Prince to raise the bank's tolerance for risk, provided it also upgraded oversight. Then, according to current and former employees, he helped sell the proposal to his fellow directors.

On the surface, this appeared to be a sensible strategy. In hindsight, the timing could not have been worse: Citigroup was bulking up in mortgage-linked securities in 2006, not long before that market cratered.

Mr. Rubin, who warned that Wall Street disregarded market risks for years, now says the sudden collapse of the mortgage market caught him off guard. But he also says that the way that Citigroup executed its expansion into new credit markets was lacking. "We could afford to seek more opportunities through intelligent risk taking," he says. "The key word is 'intelligent.'"

In early 2007, Citigroup belatedly began trimming its staggering exposure to the crumbling market for mortgage-backed securities. Though just footsteps from Mr. Prince's office, Mr. Rubin said he was unaware of the specific problems posed by that stockpile until last July. That was when Mr. Prince first convened daily risk-management meetings for Citigroup's highest-ranking executives.

Mr. Rubin either attended those meetings with Mr. Prince or called in from the road for briefings. Participants at the meetings said Mr. Rubin helped shape the firm's response to the mortgage crisis. Mr. Prince was not available for comment.

"Bob was the elder statesman," says Gary L. Crittenden, Citigroup's chief financial officer. "He could reflect on his experiences at Goldman and the Treasury and provide advice about how a prior situation paralleled the current situation."

As the stock market, spooked by the escalating housing mess, went on a roller-coaster ride last summer, Wall Street pressured the Federal Reserve for an interest rate cut to help calm credit fears. The Fed demurred. On Aug. 8, a day after the Fed decided against lowering rates, Mr. Rubin placed a phone call to Ben S. Bernanke, the Fed chairman, to compliment the decision, according to a person familiar with the call.

Although Mr. Rubin's interactions with federal regulators have drawn scrutiny in the past, this person said that Mr. Rubin acted "on his own behalf and not on behalf of Citigroup." This person said Mr. Rubin made the call because he believed a rate cut might encourage reckless behavior on Wall Street.

Among all of the time bombs lurking in Citigroup's portfolio, a particularly risky type of mortgage investment that carried a feature known as a liquidity put has drawn attention. Analysts say losses from those products could ultimately cost the bank tens of billions of dollars, and Mr. Rubin drew attention in Fortune magazine for not knowing more about that exposure.

"Liquidity puts are a footnote to a \$2.2 trillion balance sheet," he responds. "No regulators saw it, to the best of my knowledge. No analysts saw it. No accountants saw it."

Citigroup's investors were unaware of them, too. The bank did not fully break out the liquidity puts as a matter of risk until November 2007.

Since then, Mr. Rubin has walked a fine line between helping stabilize the company and not getting pulled too deeply into its daily affairs. After Mr. Prince resigned in November, Mr. Rubin reluctantly agreed to serve as interim chairman but left that post five weeks later when Winfried F. W. Bischoff became the permanent chairman.

Even during that brief interregnum, his gold-plated Rolodex came in handy. When Citigroup turned to the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority for \$7.5 billion in fresh capital, it was Mr. Rubin who personally flew to Abu Dhabi over Thanksgiving weekend to cement the deal.

WHAT'S more, Mr. Rubin's board-level executive committee has also started holding regular meetings for the first time since he joined in 1999. Every two weeks, the group convenes with the rest of the board for a briefing by the bank's top executives. Mr. Rubin offers big-picture observations about topics like credit market conditions and what new regulations might mean for Citigroup. But nitty-gritty issues, like how to value assets, are mostly left to others.

Mr. Rubin also helped recruit the man now responsible for pulling Citigroup out of the financial muck — Vikram S. Pandit — and the two have formed a strong bond.

"We have a one-of-a-kind person to whom we all can rely on and seek advice," says Mr. Pandit, who became chief executive of Citigroup in December. "That is a great comfort and a great attribute of this organization."

Mr. Rubin says that he "committed to Vikram that I'd be active at Citi as he works through the problems."

For its part, Citigroup's board, Mr. Bischoff said, feels "very well served by Bob" and doesn't hold him accountable for the bank's woes. "The responsibility ultimately rests with management," Mr. Bischoff said. "Perhaps if he was the ultimate decision maker, things might be different."

Even as his critics and supporters debate the impact of the Citigroup debacle on Mr. Rubin's reputation, he says he remains focused on the challenges at hand.

"I watched so many people get screwed up in Washington thinking about their legacy, and not on the implications of what they were doing," he says, calm as ever. "I've seen a lot of ups and downs, a lot of

OUR REGION

SUNDAY
April 27, 2008



THE SAN DIEGO
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DA's Integrity Unit finds itself under scrutiny

High-profile case ends in acquittal, deadlock

By Greg Moran
STAFF WRITER

In the early months of 2006, there were few who would argue that one thing San Diego could use was some good old-fashioned public integrity.

The scandal over San Diego's pension deficit was heating up in state and federal courts. The Securities and Exchange Commission was probing the previous eight years' worth of city fi-

nances and bond disclosures.

In February, local congressman and war hero Randy "Duke" Cunningham pleaded guilty to tax evasion and conspiracy for accepting bribes from a local defense contractor.

It was around this time that District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis quietly launched the Public Integrity Unit, dedicated to investigating allegations of government corruption throughout the county.



Bonnie Dumanis

Dumanis placed former San Diego U.S. Attorney Patrick O'Toole in charge, and he has employed the powers of the secret criminal grand jury system to conduct investigations.

Two years later, what was welcomed in many quarters as a good idea has come under scrutiny and withering criticism after the high-profile case against Chula Vista City Councilman Steve Castaneda all but collapsed last week.

A Superior Court jury acquitted Castaneda of six counts of perjury and deadlocked on two others.

So far, the unit is having trouble gaining traction in its quest to monitor

and clean up public ethics.

"I don't think, overall, it is going as well as they had hoped," said Knut Johnson, a San Diego criminal defense lawyer.

The Castaneda acquittals have given more ammunition to defense lawyers fighting a bill pending in the Legislature, pushed by Dumanis, that would allow the county to seat a second grand jury when needed.

State law currently allows one grand jury at a time. A report accompanying the bill said prosecutors need more grand jury time in large part because of

SEE **Integrity Unit, B3**

► INTEGRITY UNIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Investigation of Castaneda began in 2006

the need to conduct more public integrity investigations and other complex criminal probes.

"If these are the types of cases they want to put before a second grand jury, I think it's a waste and not a very wise use of resources," said Christopher Plourd, president of the Criminal Defense Lawyers Club of San Diego, which opposes the bill.

Dumanis declined to be interviewed for this story. She said through a spokesman that she did not want to comment on the Castaneda case while it is pending. Her office could decide to retry Castaneda on the two counts on which the jury deadlocked.

O'Toole also declined to comment.

Johnson defended Jason Moore, the only other person indicted and charged by the Public Integrity Unit. Moore, a former aide to former Chula Vista Mayor Steve Padilla, was initially the subject of an investigation to determine if he had

been on city time when he was caught spying at a fundraiser for Padilla's opponent, current Mayor Cheryl Cox.

Like Castaneda, Moore was not indicted on charges stemming from the original point of the investigation, but on perjury charges. O'Toole said Moore had lied to the grand jury about when he submitted a request for personal leave to go to the event. There was no dispute that he was not on city time, Johnson said.

In the end, Moore pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of contempt of court, and he received probation. Johnson said the entire episode was "much ado about nothing."

"You spend a lot of time investigating something with the grand jury, and you end up with this," Johnson said.

Castaneda's lawyer, Marc Carlos, said the perjury charges against the councilman were an attempt to salvage something from a lengthy probe that uncovered no wrongdoing.

The investigation began in 2006 and focused on allegations that Castaneda used his council position to receive free rent or the promise of reduced rent on a condominium from a developer who owns prime property in the city.

Like Moore, Castaneda was indicted on accusations of lying

to the grand jury about his intentions.

"They spent all this time on this case, and in the end they had to come up with something," Carlos said. "It's clear he did nothing wrong, he went in there and he told the truth, and he gets indicted."

But a longtime public interest lawyer said it is too early to assess the work of the unit.

"It's tough terrain when you are talking about prosecuting public officials," said Bob Fellmeth, executive director of the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego School of Law.

"It's too early to judge. I think you need five, six, seven cases before you can make a judgment."

Fellmeth also said the mere presence of the unit can help.

"Just knowing it is there can have a large effect on people's behavior," he said.

The unimpressive public record in the courtroom is a boon to opponents of the second-grand-jury bill. Plourd cited the old legal saw — that a skilled prosecutor can get a grand jury to indict a ham sandwich.

"And if you have two grand juries going, you won't even need the ham," he said.

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Child advocates seek more abuse data

By Wendy Koch, USA TODAY

Most states do not release adequate information on the deaths or serious injuries of abused and neglected children, two child advocacy groups say in a report released Tuesday.

That means child welfare systems cannot be held accountable nor future tragedies averted, says the report by the University of San Diego School of Law Children's Advocacy Institute and First Star, a non-profit group whose purpose is to help abused and neglected children.

"Maximum transparency is what we're after here," says Amy Harfeld, First Star's executive director.

Federal law requires states to disclose deaths and serious injuries of children but does not specify what information should be released.

Many states say details are confidential, but Harfeld says "a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children."

She says the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, up for renewal this year, should clarify and strengthen disclosure requirements.

The report says states should report cause and circumstances of a case, the age and gender of the child, and whether and how a social services agency had been monitoring the family.

That would help expose "fault lines" in a system meant to protect children, Harfeld says.

It rates each state based on their policies or laws regarding disclosure, accessibility and scope of the information, and whether court proceedings are open.

Only two states, Nevada and New Hampshire, were graded "A." Four — California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon — got an "A-." Ten were flunked.

"It's a less-than-objective rating system," says Rachel Demma, senior legislative associate for the American Public Human Services Association, which represents state and county welfare agencies.

"Many states are at varying states of development. This isn't static," Demma says, noting that Arizona recently adopted a statute on disclosure. "There's not a vacuum of information."

Rep. Pete Stark, D-Calif., says many states need to do a better job of reporting child abuse and neglect and they should receive more federal funds for the added cost.

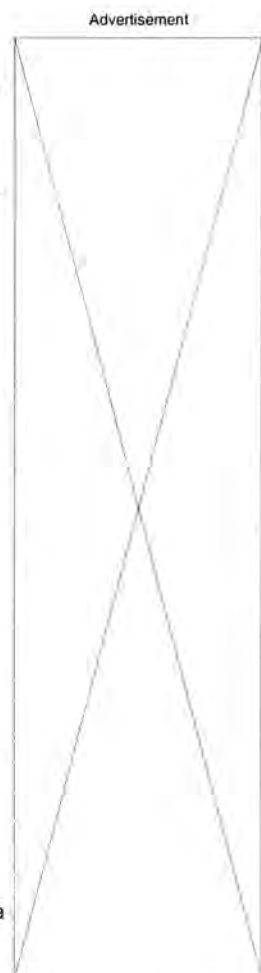
An estimated 905,000 children were victims of abuse or neglect in 2006, the last year for which figures are available, and about 1,500 died because of mistreatment, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. More than 75% were younger than 4. Infant boys were the most common victims.

The number of reported child deaths has remained fairly steady for five years, but "there's a serious shortcoming" in information about them, says David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. He says several studies have shown "inadequate documentation, underreporting and contradictory information."

States graded on reporting children's deaths

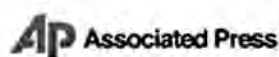
More than half the states received a "C+" or lower grade, including 10 states that got an "F," for what they disclose about the deaths or serious injuries of abused or disabled children. The grades are based on whether the states have policies or laws requiring disclosure, the scope of the information and how accessible it is, and whether court proceedings are open.

Ala. **B-**



Alaska **C**
Ariz. **B**
Ark. **C-**
Calif. **A-**
Colo. **D**
Conn. **B-**
Del. **C**
D.C. **B-**
Fla. **B+**
Ga. **F**
Hawaii **B-**
Idaho **B-**
Ill. **B+**
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Md. **F**
Mass. **D-**
Mich. **B-**
Minn. **B**
Miss. **B-**
Mo. **B-**
Mont. **F**
Neb. **C+**
Nev. **A**
N.H. **A**
N.J. **B-**
N.M. **F**
N.Y. **B+**
N.C. **C**
N.D. **F**
Ohio **C+**
Okla. **C+**
Ore. **A-**
Pa. **F**
R.I. **C-**
S.C. **C**
S.D. **F**
Tenn. **F**
Texas **C+**
Utah **F**
Vt. **F**
Va. **C-**
Wash. **B**
W.Va. **B-**
Wis. **D**
Wyo. **D**

Sources: Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law; First Star



Report faults many states on child abuse policies

By DAVID CRARY – 14 hours ago

NEW YORK (AP) — Many states often fail to release adequate information about fatal and near-fatal child abuse cases, placing confidentiality above disclosure to a degree that thwarts needed reforms, two child advocacy groups say in a new report.

Their report, which gave 10 states a failing grade for their disclosure practices, urges Congress and state legislators to adopt stronger policies and laws regarding deadly and life-threatening child abuse cases. It was being released Tuesday by First Star, a national nonprofit which advocates for abused children, and by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," said Amy Harfeld, First Star's executive director and a co-author of the report.

"Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it," she said.

Several of the states receiving low grades defended their policies on grounds that families entangled in near-fatal abuse cases were entitled to confidentiality. Harfeld responded that the report is not pressing for disclosure of families' names, but rather for other details illuminating how state agencies handled the cases.

Every state accepts federal funds under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, which directs states to "allow for public disclosure" of information regarding fatal and near-fatal cases.

But the report says many states limit disclosure because the act provides too much leeway. For example, according to report, some state policies cover abuse deaths but not near-fatalities, while other states impede access by releasing information only if a petition is filed.

Robert Fellmeth, executive director of the Children's Advocacy Institute, noted that extensive details often emerge only when a child abuse death gets heavy media coverage.

"But the reality is that 90-plus percent of the time, nobody knows anything and the states actively conceal it," he said in a telephone interview. "That's not right and that's what we're mad about."

"The system most of all wants to protect its most embarrassing gaffes," Fellmeth said.

About 1,500 American children die from abuse annually. The report contends that more standardized and thorough disclosures about these deaths, and near-fatal cases, might reduce the toll.

Changes resulting from a single high-profile tragedy "are usually knee-jerk responses," the report said. "Enhanced public disclosure of all child abuse and neglect deaths and near deaths enables the public, child advocates and policymakers to work together to understand comprehensive trends and craft more thoughtful, comprehensive reforms."

The report issued grades for the disclosure policies of all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Only six states — Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon — received grades of A or A minus. Ten states received an F: Georgia, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Vermont.

In South Dakota, Virgena Wieseler of the Division of Child Protection Services said her agency will propose changes based on the laws in states that got high grades. Rob Johnson of Tennessee's Department of Children's Services said legislative efforts were under way "on how to better release information."

But several states contested their ranking.

Cathy Utz of Pennsylvania's Office of Children, Youth and Families said the report did not reflect a recent state initiative to provide summaries of fatal and near-fatal cases in its annual child abuse report. Elizabeth Sollis of Utah's Department of Human Services said the report

was wrong in asserting there her state had no policy on disclosure.

Tara Muhlhauser of North Dakota's children and family services division said officials withhold only information that is deemed confidential under state or federal law.

"We are not failing in our efforts to protect children in North Dakota," she said, contending that the F grade reflected only a "narrow category" regarding public information.

Vermont's and Georgia's low grades were due partly to their policies of withholding information about near-fatalities.

"If a child survives a situation that serious, being on page one of the newspaper could be incredibly re-traumatizing," said Steve Dale, commissioner of Vermont's Department of Children and Families.

Romaine Serna of New Mexico's Children, Youth and Families Department said her state complies with federal law.

"It's a balancing act for us because we do believe in the public's right to know but we also believe in families and their right to confidentiality," she said.

Elyn Jones of Maryland's Department of Human Resources said the low grade was no surprise because the agency has long been criticized for restrictive disclosure policies. Maryland is one of a handful of states that doesn't release information about serious child abuse unless a criminal charge is filed.

However, Jones said the department is working on being more open with information than past administrations.

The report made three general recommendations:

_Amend federal law to clarify and strengthen disclosure requirements, so states know how to comply with its intent.

_Revise state policies and laws to make disclosure policies more enforceable.

_Separate disclosures from criminal proceedings so information on fatal and near-fatal abuse is made available no matter whether a criminal charge is filed.

On the Net:

- First Star: <http://www.firststar.org>
- Children's Advocacy Institute: <http://www.caichildlaw.org>

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Abused Children Dying Under Shroud of State Secrecy

Report Shows Most States Fail to Release Information Critical to Exposing and Resolving Systemic Problems in Child Abuse Prevention Systems
Two National Child Advocacy Groups and Congressional Leaders Advocate for Greater Transparency

WASHINGTON, April 29 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The majority of U.S. states fail to release adequate information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases, adhering to misguided and secretive policies that place confidentiality above the welfare of children and prevent public scrutiny that would lead to systemic reforms, according to a report released today by First Star and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute (CAI), two leading national child advocacy groups.

Only a handful of states fully comply with the legislative intent of federal law mandating public disclosure of the deaths and near deaths of abused or neglected children, according to the report, entitled State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S. The report's authors argue that states withhold critical information that would hold child welfare systems accountable and avert future tragedies. First Star and CAI released their findings at a Capitol Hill briefing today.

The report issues letter grades from "A" to "F" based on an analysis of the child death and near death disclosure laws and policies of all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Only six states -- Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon -- receive top grades of "A" or "A-." Twenty-eight states receive a "C+" or lower grade. Ten states flunked entirely: Georgia, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Vermont received a grade of "F" (see attached chart).

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," said Amy Harfeld, First Star's Executive Director and a co-author of the report. "Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it."

Approximately 1,500 children die each year in the U.S. as a result of child abuse and neglect. Countless more suffer life-threatening injuries. First Star and CAI are calling on Congress and individual state Legislatures to adopt stronger policies and laws that demand closer examination of the handling of child abuse cases that result in child deaths or near deaths.

"The current emphasis on confidentiality only masks the problems inherent in child protection systems," said Robert C. Fellmeth, CAI Executive Director and Price Professor of Public Interest Law at the USD School of Law. "Public exposure is a critical step toward fixing these problems."

All 50 states and the District of Columbia accept federal funds under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). To be eligible for funding, states are supposed to have provisions that "allow for public

disclosure of the findings or information about" abuse or neglect cases that result in child death or life-threatening injuries. But few states adequately comply, in part because the public disclosure requirement in CAPTA leaves too much room for interpretation.

The Report highlights Massachusetts as an example of a state in need of reform. In Massachusetts in 2005, Haleigh Poutre, then 11, was allegedly beaten into a coma by her foster parents. The Department of Social Services had received and dismissed at least 14 separate reports of prior suspected abuse.

First Star and CAI are pushing for changes in state and federal laws, including:

- Clarified language in federal law (CAPTA). CAI and First Star acknowledge that the public disclosure mandate as written in federal law is vague and leaves too much room for interpretation. They support changes that would clarify and strengthen disclosure requirements so states know how to comply with the intent of the legislation.
- Amendments to state policies and laws. To make disclosure policies more enforceable, the advocacy groups want state Legislatures to more clearly articulate and strengthen their policies and modify their statutes to require maximum transparency in cases of death and near death caused by abuse or neglect.
- Separating disclosures from criminal proceedings. Currently, some states, such as Minnesota and North Carolina, will not release information about a child fatality or near fatality unless a person is criminally charged. Disclosures should not be dependent on a district attorney's decision to prosecute.

"Child abuse deaths and near deaths reflect the system's worst failures," said CAI's Emily Reinig, the report's chief author.

"Unfortunately, it is often only through such cases that lawmakers and the public learn of systemic inadequacies in child welfare systems. Until state laws require the regular release of accurate and unfiltered information, an informed public discussion cannot occur. Public access to the facts will protect children and save lives."

About First Star

First Star is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the rights and improving the lives of America's abused and neglected children through education, public policy, legislative reform, and litigation. <http://www.firststar.org>

About The Children's Advocacy Institute

The Children's Advocacy Institute, of the University of San Diego School of Law, works to improve the health, safety, and well being of children. In addition to its academic component, CAI engages in regulatory and legislative advocacy, impact litigation and public education in order to ensure that children's interests are represented effectively whenever and wherever government makes policy and budget decisions that will impact them. <http://www.caichildlaw.org>


GRADES
At a Glance

Jurisdiction	Grade	Jurisdiction	Grade
Alabama	B-	Missouri	B-
Alaska	C	Montana	F
Arizona	B	Nebraska	C+
Arkansas	C-	Nevada	A
California	A-	New Hampshire	A
Colorado	D	New Jersey	B-
Connecticut	B-	New Mexico	F
Delaware	C	New York	B+
District of Columbia	B-	North Carolina	C
Florida	B+	North Dakota	F
Georgia	F	Ohio	C+
Hawaii	B-	Oklahoma	C+
Idaho	B-	Oregon	A-
Illinois	B+	Pennsylvania	F
Indiana	A-	Rhode Island	C-
Iowa	A-	South Carolina	C
Kansas	B	South Dakota	F
Kentucky	C-	Tennessee	F
Louisiana	C-	Texas	C+
Maine	D+	Utah	F
Maryland	F	Vermont	F
Massachusetts	D-	Virginia	C-
Michigan	B-	Washington	B
Minnesota	B	West Virginia	B-
Mississippi	B-	Wisconsin	D
		Wyoming	D+

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USD Report: Shed Light on Child Abuse

California is among the few exceptions to a nationwide failure to shed light on brutal child abuse cases, according to a national report co-authored by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

The report, titled "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S.," graded states on how much information they release about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases. California received an A- and was one of only six states to receive a grade in the A range. A press release announcing the report includes this quote:

"The current emphasis on confidentiality only masks the problems inherent in child protection systems," said Robert C. Fellmeth, CAI Executive Director and Price Professor of Public Law at the USD School of Law. "Public exposure is a critical step toward fixing these problems."

CAI specifically criticizes the practice in some states, such as Minnesota and North Carolina, of not releasing information about such cases unless someone is criminally charged.

Read the full report here.

-- EMILY ALPERT

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State too secret on children, groups say

Little transparency in death cases stifles reform, report notes

By FELICIA THOMAS-LYNN
fthomas-lynn@journalsentinel.com

Posted: April 30, 2008

Wisconsin is among several states that earned a poor rating for secretive treatment of information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases, placing confidentiality above the welfare of children and ultimately blocking any chance of making needed reforms, according to a joint report released by two child advocacy groups.

The report, which issued letter grades from A to F for disclosure practices, gave Wisconsin a D and charged the state with withholding critical information that would hold its child welfare systems accountable and avert future tragedies.

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," said Amy Harfeld, executive director of First Star, a national nonprofit group that advocates for abused children. "Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it."

Only six states - Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon - received grades of A or A-minus. Ten states received an F: Georgia, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Vermont.

This week, First Star and the Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego's School of Law released the "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S." report.

The report, which urges Congress and state legislators to adopt stronger policies and laws regarding deadly and life-threatening child abuse cases, follows the deaths of several children in Wisconsin, including eight in Milwaukee County since May 2007. Those cases have fueled a growing push for more centralized, open and statewide reporting of the circumstances surrounding child deaths in the foster care system.

Under the state's current system, it's still sometimes virtually impossible for the public to learn anything but the most obscure details about a death in foster care, particularly if criminal charges haven't been

filed.

"That's not acceptable," said Robert C. Fellmeth, founder and executive director of the Children's Advocacy Institute.

He said the state is violating the spirit of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

The state is supposed to have provisions that "allow for public disclosure of the findings or information about" abuse or neglect cases that result in child death or life-threatening injuries, the report said. But few states adequately comply, in part because the public disclosure requirement in the act leaves too much room for interpretation, according to the report.

Stephanie Marquis, speaking for the state Department of Health and Family Services, said the state's law is aimed at protecting victims.

"When specific case information is released, a child or his or her siblings can be re-victimized," she said. "Not only must we protect the child and any siblings from reliving the incident again, laws are written to protect against public humiliation and trauma."

But some in the community believe the law has been used to hide the actions or inactions of others working in the child welfare system.

"Wisconsin received a well-deserved D on this very important report card," said Lance Jones, program manager for Court Appointed Special Advocates, a program of Kids Matter Inc., a local child advocacy group.

"We can't reduce fatalities if we don't have information on the cause, and we can't hold systems accountable if we don't require full reporting."

Republican state Sen. Alberta Darling, who serves on the Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council, the legislatively mandated advisory body to the state-run Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare, said she also shared the same concerns found in the report.

Darling, who has written a bill that would create transparency within the child welfare systems, said last year the bureau began taking steps to report additional information about child deaths, including a new, public monthly report on child deaths and egregious incidents, at the request of the council.

"It's better now than it was, but I want it to go further," she said.

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Star-Bulletin

Vol. 13, Issue 122 - Thursday, May 1, 2008



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Hawaii gets passing grade for access to child-abuse data

By Alexandre Da Silva
adasilva@starbulletin.com

Hawaii releases more information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse and neglect cases than 28 other states, but more transparency is needed to ensure children are being protected, according to a national report.

Hawaii officials challenged the findings by First Star, a child advocacy group, and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute, saying Hawaii promotes openness and continues to improve public access to child maltreatment documents.

Hawaii, which got a B- in the report, received high marks for a policy on information disclosure and for making files easy to find, but it was faulted for leaving out portions of records in some near-death cases and for seeking closed court proceedings.

The child advocacy groups surveyed the states about three years ago. Hawaii, eight other states and the District of Columbia earned a B- grade, placing them above 28 states in the report.

John Walters, program development administrator for child welfare services with the state Department of Human Services, said information is withheld or redacted from case files only after a careful review to prevent further harm to victims, and courts keep hearings private for the same reason.

"I don't think that people should be just going in to Family Court and looking at these cases willy-nilly," he said.

Human Services Department spokeswoman Toni Schwartz said the agency has posted thousands of documents online. Among them are the cases of Peter Boy Kema Jr., a long-missing Big Island child who, according to files, lived with brutal abuse and neglect at the hands of his parents, as well as Cyrus Belt, a 23-month-old boy thrown to his death from an H-1 freeway overpass in January.

Hawaii also had one of the nation's lowest rates of recurring child

CHILD ABUSE INFORMATION

A report from the child advocacy group First Star analyzed whether states release adequate information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse and neglect cases. The group gave Hawaii a B- grade, ranking it below 13 states.

- A: Nevada, New Hampshire
- A-: California, Indiana, Iowa, Oregon
- B+: Florida, Illinois, New York
- B: Arizona, Kansas, Minnesota, Washington
- B-: Hawaii, Alabama, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, West Virginia

Source: "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S."

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abuse or neglect in fiscal year 2007 at 2.2 percent, below the nationally accepted standard of 6.1 percent, officials said.

But only six states -- Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon -- earned top grades for releasing enough information for evaluations that could potentially lead to reforms in the child protection systems, according to the study.

The report, noting some 1,500 children die from abuse and neglect each year in the United States, said all states get federal funding under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, but few comply with its requirement to disclose information.

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," Amy Harfeld, First Star's executive director and a co-author of the report, said in a statement. "Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it."

The study highlighted a Massachusetts case in 2005 involving Haleigh Poutre, then 11, who was allegedly beaten into coma by her foster parents after the local Department of Social Services had dismissed at least 14 separate reports of prior suspected abuse.

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N.M. fails on child abuse disclosure law

The Current-Argus

Article Launched: 04/29/2008 09:10:13 PM MDT

Staff and wire report

ALBUQUERQUE — Child advocacy groups have given New Mexico a grade of F for how it alerts the public about fatal or near-fatal cases of child abuse or neglect.

However, a spokeswoman for the state Children, Youth and Families Department said New Mexico follows requirements of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and noted the federal government has never sanctioned the state or withheld funds from it for not following that law.

The Children's Advocacy Institute and First Star evaluated each state for its disclosure laws and policies concerning fatal or near-fatal child abuse and neglect.

New Mexico was one of 10 states that flunked; 28 states received grades of C-plus or lower. Only two, Nevada and New Hampshire, received an A; four others got an A-minus.

New Mexico rates well on its law and policies in cases when a child dies, but the groups downgraded the state on its reporting of near fatalities. The groups also said New Mexico's policy on the ease of access to information and the scope of the information released addresses deaths only.

A state's interest in confidentiality is secondary to children's interests in cases of child abuse or neglect that lead to death or near death, the groups said.

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"An open system is a better system, draws attention to failures, empowers advocates and ultimately better protects children," their report said.

The groups contend many states "fail to properly re-shift the balance between confidentiality and public disclosure required by CAPTA when a child dies or almost dies from maltreatment."

Romaine Serna, a spokeswoman for the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department, said states that received passing grades are those that are not following the law.

"We would hold the federal government, the children's bureau and, of course, state law as our authority on any type of grade," Serna said. "New

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Mexico does follow CAPTA, and CAPTA does speak directly to confidentiality."

The department "is really committed to transparency and sharing all information we are able to. ... It's a balancing act for us because we do believe in the public's right to know but we also believe in families and their right to confidentiality," she said.

The manner in which local law enforcement reacts to reports of child abuse is also strictly regulated by the state.

"Our response is governed by New Mexico state statute," said assistant chief Joey Gonzalez of the Carlsbad Police Department.

"We do have policies in our department, but those are in line with state statutes," he said. "Referrals we receive are screened by CYFD; they determine the cases that they feel require an intervention."

Gonzalez stated that in Carlsbad he has not seen any conflicts between law enforcement's responsibility to protect the victims' privacy versus the right of the public to be kept informed.

"I think in our jurisdiction the media is doing a good job of keeping the public informed," he said.

The Children's Advocacy Institute was founded in 1989 as part of the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego. First Star was established in 1999 to strengthen the rights of abused and neglected children.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Child abuse statistics in the USA

An estimated 906,000 children are victims of abuse and neglect every year. The rate of victimization is

12.3 children per 1,000 children.

Children ages 0-3 are the most likely to experience abuse. About one in 50 U.S. infants are victims of nonfatal child abuse or neglect in a year, according to the first national study of the problem in that age group done by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention along with The Federal Administration for Children and Families.

1,500 children die every year from child abuse and neglect. That is just over four fatalities every day.

79 percent of the children killed are younger than 4.

Source: www.childhelp.org

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N.H. gets 'A' for child abuse disclosure policy

AP Associated Press

By Norma Love, Associated Press Writer | April 29, 2008

CONCORD, N.H. --Eight years ago, 21-month old Cassidy Bortner died after being beaten horrifically -- including being thrown into a closet door -- by her mother's boyfriend, Chad Evans.

Evans and the mother went to prison. He was convicted of second-degree murder, she of child endangerment.

But the story doesn't end there.

Four year's after the toddler's death, lawmakers passed the "Bortner Law," which requires the state to disclose what it knew about fatal- or near-fatal child abuse cases in which state agencies had some oversight over the family.

The state can withhold the information for reasons including protecting siblings, but it must explain itself in writing.

Supporters hoped it would prevent future tragedies.

On Tuesday, two leading child advocacy groups, First Star and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children Advocacy Institute, gave New Hampshire one of only two 'A' grades for its child abuse disclosure policy -- a policy traceable directly to Cassidy Bortner's death.

The groups flunked 10 states, including Vermont, and gave most of the others poor marks. They said inadequate policies on releasing information precludes the public scrutiny that often is necessary to reform or beef up child protection efforts.

Nevada received the other 'A.' Twenty-eight states received a 'C+' or lower grade, including Maine, which got a 'D+.'

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," said Amy Harfeld, First Star's executive director and report co-author. "Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it."

About 1,500 children die annually in the United States as a result of child abuse and neglect, the groups said.

So far, the New Hampshire law inspired by Cassidy's death has not been used.

"There haven't been child deaths that fit within this circumstance," said Associate Health and Human Services Commissioner Nancy Rollins.

Rollins used to lead the state's Division for Children, Youth and Families, whose social workers investigate child abuse reports. Rollins said the law strikes a balance because the state can withhold the information if it would traumatize the child or the child's siblings or compromise prosecutions or other pending legal efforts.

The written explanation of why information was withheld in a given case must be provided to the person seeking the information.

Rollins said Bortner's death helped accelerate changes already under way in training and monitoring staff who handle abuse and neglect cases. The death also helped her agency win legislative support to hire more staff,

she said.

The groups said all 50 states receive federal funds under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. To be eligible, states are supposed to have provisions that allow for public disclosure of the findings or information about abuse and neglect cases that result in death or life-threatening injuries.

The groups graded states on whether:

- They had a public disclosure policy.
- The policy was written in law, a regulation or was oral
- The information was easily accessed.
- The scope of the information authorized for release.
- The state allows public access to abuse and neglect proceedings.

New Hampshire got 95 out of 100 possible points. It lost five points for restrictions on access to abuse and neglect proceedings. ■

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THIS STORY HAS BEEN FORMATTED FOR EASY PRINTING

Vermont gets 'F' for transparency on child abuse role

AP Associated Press

By John Curran, Associated Press Writer | April 29, 2008

MONTPELIER, Vt. --Vermont and nine other states get F's in a report examining how forthcoming states are in releasing information about their roles in cases of severe child abuse.

The report, "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S.," says most states don't release adequate information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases because of policies that put confidentiality above child welfare.

"It's deeply troubling," said Sheila Reed, legislative and community advocacy coordinator for Voices for Vermont's Children in Montpelier. "It's always a balance between the privacy of individuals, especially in a rural state, where everybody knows everybody. However, it's important for people to see how state systems that protect children are being managed."

Reed commented Monday after reading the report.

Steve Dale, head of the Department of Children and Families, said the state's policies are aimed at protecting the identity of survivors who could be publicly humiliated by the release of information about their cases.

Two national child advocacy groups -- First Star and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute -- issued the report Tuesday. They found that only a handful of states comply with the spirit of federal laws mandating public disclosure of what public agencies did in abuse and neglect cases that end with a child's death or near-death.

Most states withhold information that could prevent future tragedies and hold child welfare systems accountable, according to the authors, who were to release the findings on Capitol Hill.

All states investigate serious child abuse to see if criminal charges are warranted. The report grades states based on their laws about disclosing the role of public agencies in child deaths and near-deaths.

In addition to Vermont, the states that flunked were Georgia, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee and Utah.

Vermont lost points for not having a policy for the release of information about child abuse cases in which the victim suffers near-fatal injuries, and for allowing -- but not requiring -- Dale's department to publicly disclose findings or information about cases ending in death.

The authors said Vermont's policy is "vague and unclear" in the scope of information that can be released, and noted that child abuse and neglect proceedings in the state are closed to the public.

Dale said the Legislature wanted to keep information about nonfatal cases confidential, for two reasons.

"One is there was no definition in the federal guidelines about what a 'near fatality' meant. What does that exactly mean? How big do you want that door to be?"

"If a child survives a situation that serious, being on Page One of the newspaper could be incredibly re-traumatizing for the child, or for the family if someone else was responsible," he said.

Ditto for keeping juvenile proceedings closed, he said.

"We've made a choice as a state, in statute, not to have child abuse and neglect proceedings be public events.

"It all comes down to a choice: Do we want to have family situations that complex and that intimate open to public conversation as they're being processed, or do we not? We've made a choice as a state to keep those closed," Dale said.

Reed said transparency is important.

"We need to know what the system is doing to protect the most vulnerable children," she said. "As a first step, they should tighten the statute regarding deaths, making it mandatory to report. I would support reporting on near-fatalities, too, so people know what the system is doing."

Dale said opening court proceedings or giving information about near-fatal abuse cases could have a harmful effect on surviving victims in their communities or in schools.

"Vermont is a small state, and a pretty intimate one," Dale said. "If we open the near-fatality door, or juvenile court proceedings, those things become a very real part of how a child connects with their local community and the kind of issues they may have to deal with in a public school setting." ■

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Press & Dakotan

S.D. Officials Look At Abuse Info Law

By: **Chet Brokaw**

Associated Press Writer

PIERRE - South Dakota has received a failing grade in a new report that reviews how states release information about fatal and near-fatal child abuse cases, but a state official says the law already is under review.

Officials are researching how laws are worded in other states that received better grades in the national study, said Virgena Wieseler, head of the state Division of Child Protection Services within the state Social Services Department.

"Then we'll have to look at probably amending ours or proposing some legislation that would make ours fall in line, I guess, with some of the other states that received a higher grade," Wieseler said.

The national report urged Congress and state legislatures to adopt stronger policies and laws regarding fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases. It was released by First Star, a national nonprofit that advocates for abused children, and by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

The report said in a case involving a child's death or near death, the state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of the public and other children. Release of information can help hold child welfare systems accountable and lead to changes that avoid future tragedies, it said.

A federal law requires states to allow for public disclosure of information in cases of child deaths or near deaths, but the report said many states limit disclosure because the federal law allows too much leeway. The report does not press for disclosure of families' names, but rather for information about how state agencies handle cases.

South Dakota was one of 10 states that got a failing grade for its disclosure practices, largely based on the way state laws are worded.

Wieseler said federal officials approved the language when the current laws were passed more than a decade ago.

In addition to the new report, federal officials have asked South Dakota officials to review the state laws on disclosure, she said.

If the Social Services Department suggests changes in the law, the proposal would be considered by the 2009 South Dakota Legislature. If passed, any change would not take effect until the middle of next year, Wieseler said.

In the report, South Dakota gets full marks for having a policy based on state law for public disclosure or information about child abuse or neglect that has resulted in a child's death or near fatality.

But South Dakota is criticized for access to information and the scope of information that is authorized for release. The Social Services Department can release information about fatalities or near fatalities if that release has been approved by the prosecutor and judge involved in a related criminal case.

South Dakota law allows officials to release information about the acts of child abuse or neglect that caused a death or near fatality, but the identity of a child may never be released, the report said. Another restriction authorizes the Social Services Department to withhold information if disclosure is contrary to the best interests of a child, the child's siblings or other children in the household.

The report also criticized South Dakota for a law that closes court proceedings in such cases unless a judge finds compelling reasons to open them to the public.

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http://www.yankton.net/stories/042908/new_273237374.shtml

GrandForksHerald.com

North Dakota groups want better child abuse information

By Blake Nicholson

Associated Press - 04/29/2008

BISMARCK — Public and private child protection advocates in North Dakota take issue with a national report that said the state does not release enough information about life-threatening or fatal child abuse cases.

North Dakota was one of only 10 states that got a failing grade in a report released today by the Washington-based First Star group and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute. The authors say those states withhold information that would make child welfare systems more accountable and help prevent future tragedies.

"It's important for people to keep in mind that we are not failing in our efforts to protect children in North Dakota, that this grade is given on a narrow category about public records and public information," said Tara Muhlhauser, deputy director of the children and family services division in the North Dakota Human Services Department.

The report said North Dakota law is vague and unclear. "It authorizes the release of information but provides no further specificity regarding what type of information will be disclosed," the report said.

It also gives North Dakota low marks because child abuse and neglect proceedings are largely closed to the public.

Emily Reinig, a legal intern with the Children's Advocacy Institute, said that group would like to see the state require the release of more information in child abuse deaths or near-deaths, including the circumstances surrounding the incidents and any prior actions by child protection workers involving the children.

Muhlhauser said the failing grade is undeserved. She said human services officials withhold only information that is considered confidential under state or federal law. Closed proceedings ensure respect for families and are a widely accepted practice, she said.

Kathy Mayer, director of the nonprofit group Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota, said she also believes state law covering the release of information is adequate.

"Our disclosure laws are all (built) around not revictimizing kids," she said.

"If they opened up court proceedings, everybody could come in and see who that child was and what happened to them," Mayer said.

Mayer said she would consider supporting any changes that would help prevent child abuse and neglect, but would not support a change "just because there's a few people who feel they have a need to know."

The report also says North Dakota law covering the release of information deals with child abuse or neglect cases that result in death but not those that result in near-fatalities.

Muhlhauser said local law enforcement officers and prosecutors in North Dakota often release information in such cases anyway "because it's potentially chargeable."

The report says about 1,500 children die each year in the United States because of abuse or neglect. Mayer said North Dakota, a rural state with a small population, on average has only one such case each year.

"When there is a death .??. I feel very comfortable that (authorities) make the public aware of it, and what the cause of it was," she said.

On the Net:

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Article published Apr 29, 2008

Child advocacy groups give Maryland grade of F

April 29, 2008

By Brian Witte - ANNAPOLIS (AP) — Maryland is among the 10 worst states when it comes to releasing information to the public about child abuse in cases involving death or serious injury, thus creating serious barriers to reform, a national report has concluded.

Maryland received a grade of F in the study, which is being released today by two national child advocacy groups, First Star and the Children's Advocacy Institute of the University of San Diego School of Law.

The report found that Maryland policy is written in "severely restrictive conditional language." For example, Maryland is one of a few states that require criminal charges to be filed against a suspected abuser before information can be made public in cases involving death or serious injury.

"That's really restrictive," said Elisa Weichel, administrative director for the Children's Advocacy Institute. "We found maybe a handful of states, maybe less than five, that have that condition."

The report, titled "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S.," examined all 50 states and the District. It found that the majority of states fail to release adequate information about fatal and near-fatal child-abuse cases.

Only a small number of states fully comply with the intent of federal law that mandates public disclosure of deaths or serious injuries, the study found.

The report also criticized Maryland policy because it allows information to be withheld if state officials determine that disclosure could harm the best interests of a child or the child's siblings.

"We feel policy should be mandatory — no discretion," Miss Weichel said. "This information has to be provided."

Elyn Jones, a spokeswoman for the Maryland Department of Human Resources, said it wouldn't surprise her if Maryland received an F grade in the report because the agency has long been criticized by reporters and lawyers for being too restrictive with information.

However, Miss Jones said the current head of the department, Brenda Donald, is committed to being more open.

"Bottom line, she will be working to be more open and more approachable as it relates to these types of issues," Miss Jones said of the agency's secretary, who has held the position for about a year.

As an example, Miss Jones cited the public acknowledgment of widespread failures that resulted in the death of a 2-year-old Baltimore child in June as evidence that Miss Donald was pushing for more transparency in the agency. Five social services employees were disciplined in the death of Bryanna Harris, the daughter of a drug addict. Bryanna died after swallowing methadone.

In Maryland, attorneys for foster children long have complained about the lack of openness.

Mitchell Mirviss, an attorney for Venable LLP who has worked on cases involving foster children in Baltimore since 1985, said sealing important case records is "a grave problem here in Maryland."

"The public does not have access to information concerning serious incidents of child abuse or issues concerning the treatment of children while they're in foster care," he said. "As a result, the problems that are endemic in the system are not adequately monitored or addressed."

The Maryland Department of Human Resources has close to 10,000 children in out-of-home care, children who are not living with their parents because of neglect. About 6,000 of those children are from Baltimore.

Miss Jones said the policy of waiting until charges are filed in fatal and serious injury cases was made out of concern that making the information public — before the suspect is charged — could harm law-enforcement investigations. She also said the department has to balance how the information could harm other children in the victim's family.

"She's looking at ways to work within that delicate balance and still speak to the well-being of all those that we are charged with protecting," Miss Jones said of the department head.

Ameejill Whitlock, child welfare director of Advocates for Children and Youth based in Baltimore, agreed with Maryland's failing grade.

Although she commended Miss Donald for being open about Bryanna's death, she said advocates are frequently reduced to word of mouth about what's going on in serious child abuse cases.

"It does impede reform when this type of information is not made public," Ms. Whitlock said.

Other states receiving an F are Georgia, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Vermont.

www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.abuse29apr29,0,6939906.story

baltimoresun.com

A challenge to secrecy

Confidentiality impedes Md. child welfare reform, study says

By Greg Garland

sun reporter

April 29, 2008

Reform of child welfare systems in Maryland and several other states is hampered by "misguided and secretive policies" that restrict disclosure of information about deaths and serious injuries resulting from abuse or neglect, according to a report to be released today by two national child advocacy groups.

Maryland was among 10 states that received an "F" grade because they "place confidentiality above the welfare" of children. The report by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute and Washington-based First Star argues for greater transparency so child welfare systems can be held accountable and future tragedies can be averted.



"Public access to the facts will protect children and save lives," said Emily Reinig of the Child Advocacy Institute and the lead author of the report.

Maryland received a failing grade because its laws and policies allow disclosure of information only in abuse or neglect cases in which criminal charges have been filed. Even then, administrators can withhold information at their discretion. And court hearings to discuss child abuse or neglect allegations in Maryland are closed to the public, the report states.

Human Resources Secretary Brenda Donald, who became the agency's head early last year, said she does not believe the failing grade is deserved based on the way that her office has conducted its affairs since she took over.

The department was forthcoming in owning up to its failures this year after a mother was charged in the death of her little girl, Bryanna Harris, who swallowed methadone, Donald said. Five social services staff members were fired or disciplined. A week ago, the girl's mother, Vernice Harris, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and received a suspended sentence.

"That grade would not be applicable for this administration," Donald said. "I operate under the highest degree of transparency. We will not hide behind the law if it is appropriate to share the details."

An article in Sunday's Sun examined how the state handles abuse and neglect investigations in Baltimore, the jurisdiction with the most cases. The article detailed how an understaffed social services agency struggles to protect children in a tough, inner-city environment where drugs are rampant and crushing poverty puts children at risk.

Ammeejill Whitlock, child welfare director for Maryland-based Advocates for Children and Youth, said she agrees with the criticisms in the report being released today.

"The report shows that secrecy is preventing the Maryland public from understanding how really bad our child welfare system is," Whitlock said.

Reinig said Maryland's restrictive laws and disclosure policies appear to be in conflict with a federal statute that requires states to make more information available about how they deal with abuse and neglect cases that lead to death or serious injury.

"We want to be able to obtain information in a predictable, consistent and enforceable manner," she said, adding that access needs to be spelled out in state law rather than left up to agency administrators.

Amy Harfield, executive director of First Star, a nonprofit organization that advocates on behalf of abused and neglected children, said such information is vital to reforming troubled child welfare systems.

greg.garland@baltsun.com

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NEVADA APPEAL

Nevada credited for abuse policies

The Associated Press
April 29, 2008

CARSON CITY — In 2006, Nevada's tracking system for child fatalities and near-fatal abuse cases was in such disarray that report after tragic report showed how minors had been failed by child welfare.

Two years of legislative reform and system overhaul later, Nevada has earned a place at the top of a national report that grades the states for disclosure practices in life-threatening child abuse cases.

Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon were the only states given grades of A or A minus by First Star, a national nonprofit that advocates for abused children, and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

"Two years ago, we would have gotten a flat F," said Mike Willden, director of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services. "But we've been working very, very hard to make improvements."

Nevada's odyssey to a better disclosure system has been a painful one, Willden said.

High-profile child deaths rocked public confidence in child welfare, especially in the Las Vegas area where audits found serious problems with underreporting and under-investigating abuse-related child deaths.

An expert blue ribbon panel, convened to look at the issue statewide, spent a year reviewing processes and forming legislative recommendations. Lawmakers then took responsibility for legislative reform that put more transparency into the child welfare system and for increasing resources to better serve juveniles taken into government custody.

Today, Willden said, the public can access child fatality reports in suspected abuse cases on the health and human services Web site.

"We haven't come all the way yet," Willden said. "But we are trying to get there."

The criteria for the grades include: public disclosure of findings in child fatalities or near-fatalities; whether state policy on reporting has been codified in statute; and ease of access to information in child deaths.

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April 29, 2008

Nevada credited for abuse policies

Associated Press

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April 29, 2008

Tennessee works on release of child abuse information

New report gives state poor grade on transparency

By *LUCAS L. JOHNSON II*
Associated Press

Tennessee officials say they're taking steps to improve the release of information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases despite a report from two advocacy groups that give the state a failing grade.

First Star and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute, two leading national child advocacy groups, were scheduled to release the report today.

Only a handful of states fully comply with the legislative intent of federal law mandating public disclosure of the deaths and near deaths of abused or neglected children, the report said.

"When abuse or neglect lead to a child's death or near death, a state's interest in confidentiality becomes secondary to the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency," Amy Harfeld, First Star's executive director and co-author of the report, said in a news release.

"Once we know what is broken, we can try to fix it."

State received an 'F'

Tennessee was among 10 states that received an "F."

But Rob Johnson, spokesman for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, said the state is "working with lawmakers on legislation on how to better release information."

That bill overwhelmingly passed the House 94-1 last week and is progressing in the Senate.

It would require DCS to "provide for the public disclosure of information about any case that results in a child fatality or near fatality in compliance with federal law."

Johnson said the department follows federal law in regard to releasing information about child fatalities but doesn't object to the proposed legislation that seeks to tighten the law.

About 1,500 children die each year in the U.S. as a result of child abuse and neglect, and countless others suffer life-threatening injuries, according to the report.

Mary Nell Bryan, president of the Children's Hospital Alliance of Tennessee, said her organization realizes the seriousness of child abuse and supports better reporting.

"The Children's Hospital Alliance of Tennessee and its member hospitals deeply care about the tragic issue of child abuse as an issue of paramount importance," she said.

"We support any initiative that attacks this deep-rooted and terribly disturbing problem."

Read the full text of SB3219/HB2469 on the General Assembly's Web site at:
www.legislature.state.tn.us.

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Indiana among best states in report on child abuse policies

Associated Press - April 29, 2008 12:14 AM ET

NEW YORK (AP) - Indiana is 1 of only six states with grades of A or A-minus in a new report on disclosure policies in child abuse cases.

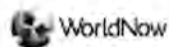
The report by two child advocacy groups gave 10 other states a failing grade for their disclosure practices. And they're urging Congress and state legislators to adopt stronger policies and laws regarding deadly and life-threatening child abuse cases.

The report is being released today by First Star, a national nonprofit which advocates for abused children, and by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

The report says about 1,500 American children die from abuse each year. It contends that more standardized and thorough disclosures about these deaths, and near-fatal cases, might reduce the toll.

Besides Indiana, other states receiving grades of A or A-minus are Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Iowa and Oregon.

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Advocacy groups give Wyoming a D+ on child abuse cases

Associated Press - April 30, 2008 6:05 PM ET

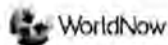
CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - Two child-advocacy groups give Wyoming a grade of D-plus for its lack of openness in releasing information about fatal- and near-fatal-child-abuse cases.

The report is titled "State Secrecy and Child Death." It was prepared by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute and First Star, a charity that works on child abuse issues. The groups released it on Tuesday.

Amy Harfeld is executive director of First Star. She says that Wyoming's grade suffered because much of the state's policy is in the form of rules set by the Wyoming Department of Family Services, rather than in state law.

Juliette Rule is spokeswoman for the Wyoming Department of Family Services. She says the department releases what information it can under state law.

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Preventing abuse: Utah should work to change 'F' grade on abuse

Tribune Editorial
Salt Lake Tribune
Article Last Updated:

Knowledge about how an abused or neglected child died might help prevent another death.

That's why states are required to file reports about such deaths. In those cases where the state Division of Child and Family Services was involved with the family of the dead child, the report is especially valuable to get rules and policies changed to better help endangered children.

A national report by a child advocacy group and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute gave a failing grade to Utah's record of disclosure about the details of abuse and neglect deaths and near-deaths. Nine other states received an "F" grade as well.

Although the state's report online is difficult to find, perhaps worse is that it does not include information about abuse and neglect that did not kill the child, but came close.

Such information is as important as reports on fatalities and should be treated the same, the report stated. Privacy issues make disclosure in these cases more difficult, say state DCFS officials. But the study's writers contend that confidentiality should be secondary to "the interests of taxpayers, advocates and other children, who would be better served by maximum transparency."

We agree. The data on near-fatal situations should be published along with information on fatalities in the online report. Names do not have to accompany the information about near-fatal incidents; they do not appear now on data about deaths attributed to abuse and neglect.

Federal law requires that states "allow for public disclosure" of reports on fatalities and near-fatalities as a condition of getting funding under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act. But the report's authors say the law is not strictly enforced and its language is fuzzy, which gives states too much room to avoid accountability.

The report recommends several steps to make data about child abuse and neglect more available, so the public knows what state agencies are doing - or not doing - to keep children safe. It suggests strengthening federal and state laws to require better disclosure and to reveal data on all near-fatal cases, as well as fatalities.

These changes make sense and should be adopted, not only in Utah but in all states.

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April 29, 2008

California Cases Highlight Difficulties in Accessing Patient Medical Records

Two California cases in which patients had difficulties obtaining medical records from hospitals after they accused the hospitals of wrongdoings highlight a nationwide trend of similar difficulties, the *USA Today* reports.

Under the federal Health Information Portability and Accountability Act, every patient or a designated representative has the right to view and copy the patient's medical record. But HIPAA also allows providers to withhold certain information, such as psychiatric documents and those generated for legal action, as long as they explain the reasons to patients.

Difficulties and delays in obtaining medical records from hospitals can disrupt medical malpractice cases, which have statutes of limitations set by state law that range from one to seven years.

Advocates' Recommendations

Health specialists say the best way to avoid a problem is to routinely ask for the records. Patients also can request investigations or other help from state medical boards or the federal Office of Civil Rights at HHS.

However, Julieanne Fellmeth, administrative director at the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego School of Law, said her review of the California Medical Board found that investigations of complaints took an average of 2.6 years to complete (Davis, *USA Today*, 4/29).

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The California HealthCare Foundation by The Advisory Board Company.



Report faults Montana on child abuse policies Posted on April 29

[Print Page](#)

By *MATT GOURAS* of the Associated Press

HELENA - Montana is one of 10 states given a failing grade by two advocacy groups critical of the secrecy surrounding child abuse cases.

Tuesday's report by First Star, a child advocacy group, and the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute calls for systematic reforms in the release of information dealing with abuse investigations.

The report, titled "State Secrecy and Child Deaths in the U.S.," ranked all 50 states and found that most did not adequately release information about fatal and life-threatening child abuse cases. They called some state policies "misguided and secretive" and said the intent of federal law requires public disclosure.

Montana scored lowest for a state law that closes abuse proceedings and withholds records dealing with investigations into child fatalities or near fatalities in abuse cases. The report also found Montana's law restricts public access to case notes, correspondence, evaluations, videotapes and interviews.

The report's authors noted the Montana law limits information for the news media to "confirmation of factual information regarding how the case was handled." Disclosure can be withheld if the state Department of Health and Human Services finds it would violate the privacy of a child, parent or guardian.

Liz Harter, who oversees the department's child and family division, said the state believes it is in compliance with federal law.

"Child and Family Services Division staff work very hard to prevent child abuse and neglect in Montana," Harter said. "And, we do share the same goals of this report, which is to prevent child abuse or neglect fatalities. We just don't believe disclosing all child abuse records is the answer."

Harter added lawmakers would have to pass new legislation allowing for open disclosure if the state wanted a favorable rating in the report.

The report's authors argued the secrecy surrounding child abuse cases prevents the release of critical information that could hold state child welfare systems accountable and prevent future abuse. They said such problems need to be publicized so they can be fixed and noted about 1,500 children die each year from child abuse and neglect.

Other states receiving a failing grade were Georgia, Maryland, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Vermont. Only six states - Nevada, New Hampshire, California, Indiana, Iowa and Oregon - received grades of A or A minus.

The report's authors said they want Congress and state legislatures to adopt laws that demand closer examination of abuse cases, rather than focusing on confidentiality.

"The current emphasis on confidentiality only masks the problems inherent in child protection systems," said Robert C. Fellmeth, executive director of the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

On the Net: First Star: <http://www.firststar.org>; Children's Advocacy Institute: <http://www.caichildlaw.org>

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Report faults many states on child abuse policies

Associated Press - April 29, 2008 10:55 AM ET

NEW YORK (AP) - A new report says that many states often fail to release adequate information about fatal and near-fatal child abuse cases.

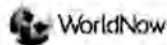
Their report gave ten states a failing grade for their disclosure practices, but Oregon and five others won praise.

The report by two child advocacy groups also says that states place confidentiality above disclosure to a degree that discourages needed reforms.

The report, by national nonprofit First Star, was released today. It calls on Congress and state legislators to adopt stronger policies and laws regarding deadly and life-threatening child abuse cases.

First Star advocates for abused children. And the report was also done by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute.

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The Business The Sacramento Bee

This story is taken from [Sacbee](#) / [Politics](#).

Bill targets California's accountant regulations

By John Hill - jhill@sacbee.com

Published 12:00 am PDT Sunday, April 6, 2008

Four years ago, California accountants pushed for a bill they said would better protect consumers by forcing out-of-state CPAs to let state regulators know they were practicing in the state.

Now, they say that 2004 law "created a monster" and want the state Legislature to undo it. The law led to a confusing system that discourages the free flow of commerce between state lines, the state accounting board says.

The board and an association representing the profession want to return to a system of allowing out-of-state accountants to provide many services without notifying the state or paying a fee.

Not so fast, says a consumer advocacy group that closely monitors the accounting board. Considering recent accounting scandals, California consumers need the protections created by the 2004 bill more than ever, the Center for Public Interest Law says.

The center sees the attempt to reverse the law as part of a nationwide push by the accounting profession to loosen oversight that increased after the Enron scandal, which brought down accounting powerhouse Arthur Andersen.

"They want to dismantle the entire ability of the state of California to license CPAs and prevent harm before it happens," said Julianne D'Angelo Fellmeth, administrative director of the Center for Public Interest Law, part of the University of San Diego School of Law.

The language overturning the 2004 law is contained in Assembly Bill 2473, co-written by Assemblyman Roger Niello, R-Fair Oaks, and Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, D-San Francisco. The bill would allow out-of-state accountants to practice in California without paying the current fee of \$50 or \$100 or filling out a four-page application.

The state Board of Accountancy, which oversees California's 76,000 licensees, is sponsoring the bill. All 15 members of the board, including eight who are not accountants, voted to support AB 2473. The bill also is backed by the California Society of Certified Public Accountants, national professional associations and other business groups.

But it hasn't all been all smooth sailing.

Senate President Don Perata, D-Oakland, wrote a letter to the state accounting board in

January raising a host of questions. He wrote that an earlier bill to discontinue out-of-state notification "caused much confusing and conflicting debate."

Perata sent the board four pages of questions. Board President Donald Driftmier says the board has answered some and is working on the others.

The director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, which oversees the accounting board, opposes AB 2473.

"The Department fears that this policy could encourage unqualified individuals to practice as CPAs in California and lead to a decline in consumer protections," Director Carrie Lopez wrote in a Feb. 6 letter to Driftmier.

The Center for Public Interest Law laid out its opposition in a 12-page letter to Niello, the bill's author.

The center says that the bill puts the state in a passive stance, waiting for problems to occur rather blocking bad accountants from working in California before they do harm.

"There will be no way for the board to check first to make sure those requirements are met before someone from out-of-state provides services that could devastate the financial lives of families or small businesses," the center wrote.

The accountants are fighting back. With the help of Roseville political consultant Goddard & Claussen, they argue that cross-state practice has become the way of the global economy.

Sacramento accountant Michael Ueltzen, a past chairman of the statewide accountants' association, offers the cases of a trucking company that does business in 37 of the 50 states. Using the model contained in the 2004 California law, he said, an accountant working on the company's books would have to register 37 different times.

The law hinders accountants from quickly addressing financial emergencies by placing a call across the California state line, they say.

Accountants say that they all operate under the same rules and guidelines, regardless of their home states. They liken cross-border practice to using a driver's license to travel across states.

Many states have reacted to the "chaos" created by notification laws such as California's by passing laws that allow cross-border practice – at least a dozen so far.

The current system, Ueltzen and others say, creates a false sense of security by listing out-of-state accountants who have registered on the state board's Web site.

Consumers may think these accountants have been screened, said board Chairman Driftmier.

"We really don't look at them now," he said. "Are we doing a great investigation on these people? No."

Niello's bill, by contrast, would give the state the power to fine out-of-state miscreants, bar them from practice and report them to their home state boards, supporters say.

But Fellmeth says that, under the 2004 law, the board can and should be screening out-of-state accountants who want to work in California.

"If they don't have sufficient staff, that's the board's fault and the profession's fault for not insisting on that," she said. The center maintains that the forms are simple enough that accountants, of all people, should be able to fill them out in very little time.

It disputes the contention that all states have the same rules when it comes to accountants - in fact, California has some that are stricter, which could be undermined if Niello's bill passes.

Accountants who have to deal with a financial emergency are free under current law to do so, the center says. They just have to notify the state board by e-mail, and send in the fee later.

Fellmeth said this is exactly the wrong time to ease oversight on the accounting profession, considering recent revelations that accounting firm KPMG may have played a role in the collapse of subprime giant New Century Financial.

"This is a very troubled profession," Fellmeth said. "This is a profession that has apparently learned nothing since Enron."

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Measure dies on changing California CPA licensing

By John Hill - jhill@sacbee.com

Published 12:00 am PDT Saturday, April 12, 2008

A bill to let out-of-state accountants provide many services without notifying the California licensing board has died – at least for now.

Assembly Bill 2473, facing widespread opposition, was shelved this week before it could be considered by a legislative committee.

"Obviously, the time was not right," said Assemblyman Roger Niello, R-Fair Oaks, who co-wrote the bill with Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, D-San Francisco.

But Niello added that "the issue is not going to go away." He pointed out that more than a dozen other states have passed laws allowing accountant mobility. "That's just going to grow," Niello said.

Four years ago, accountants succeeded in getting a bill passed that forced out-of-state practitioners to notify state regulators that they were operating within California.

But California accountants say that requirement created chaos, and pushed for a return to a system allowing out-of-state accountants to provide many services without notification or payment of a fee.

Opponents, led by the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego Law School, said the bill was part of nationwide effort to loosen accounting standards.

Senate President Don Perata, D-Oakland, challenged the state Board of Accountancy to answer a host of questions about it. Others, including State Treasurer Bill Lockyer and the director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, also lined up against the bill.

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Apr 27, 2008

Lawyers Open Their File Cabinets for a Web Resource

ANNE EISENBERG

MEDICAL information is widely available online. Web surfers can research their symptoms at WebMD.com, MayoClinic.com or thousands of other sites.

But free legal information for consumers who want to do some research before they visit a lawyer is far less broadly available on the Web. Now services are appearing that may make it easier for consumers to do their own preliminary homework on legal issues in advance of seeking help from a professional.

JDSupra.com, a new site, is stocking a free, virtual law library by persuading lawyers to do something highly unusual: to post examples of their legal work online for use by one and all, no strings attached. Many of the documents are articles and newsletters that can be understood by ordinary mortals who want more background on a legal issue, or who would like to find lawyers with expertise in a particular area.

It works like this: Lawyers who contribute to JD Supra dip into their hard drives for articles, court papers, legal briefs and other tidbits of their craft. They upload the documents, as well as a profile of themselves that is linked to each document. Site visitors who have a legal problem and are thinking about finding a lawyer can use an easily searchable database to look up, say, "trademark infringement," find related documents and, if they like the author's experience and approach, perhaps click on his or her profile.

Contributing lawyers get publicity and credit for the socially useful act of adding to a public database, and visitors get free information, said Aviva Cuyler, a former litigator in Marshall, Calif., who founded the business. "People will still need attorneys," Ms. Cuyler said. "We are not encouraging people to do it themselves, but to find the right people to help them."

The site opened at the end of February and has attracted about 200 contributors, including small, midsize and large firms, as well as academics and groups like the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the Cato Institute. The basic service of posting documents and linked profiles is free to these contributors; the site charges \$240 a year if contributors want to add links in their profiles to their e-mail addresses, Web sites and blogs. The site will also carry advertisements.

JD Supra is typical of a group of fledgling online legal research services that promise to open a field that was once closed, said David Curle, an analyst at Outsell Inc., a market research firm in Burlingame, Calif., for the professional publishing industry. "There's a real opportunity here in these latent markets as services go beyond lawyer-finding tools" like online lists of attorneys, he said, "particularly in the consumer market, which is wide open."

Services like JD Supra can provide background information for consumers before they engage a lawyer, he said, "and possibly provide them one day with the tools to bypass the lawyers altogether."

While JD Supra poses no threat to giants like LexisNexis with their extensive libraries of documents, the service may be useful to lawyers as well as consumers, said Marc S. Stern, a lawyer in Seattle.

"Attorneys draft many documents that they use once, and then file away, and many are prime examples of a lawyer's craft," he said.

Instead, a brief that took days to write and has an excellent argument could be uploaded to JD Supra and indexed, for instance, by area of law. "Then other attorneys could get the benefit of this analysis when they approach similar cases," he said.

Mitchell J. Matorin, a lawyer in Needham, Mass., who started his own practice last summer after stints at the Justice Department and two large firms, is contributing to JD Supra.

"The site puts solo practitioners like me on an equal footing with huge law firms, providing exposure that would otherwise be nearly impossible to get," he said. People don't have to rely on a firm's name recognition or its size in selecting a lawyer, he said. "Instead," he added, "they can read samples of actual work, and then make an informed judgment."

But the success of JD Supra will ultimately depend on the range of documents it accumulates in coming months, said Elena Garella, a lawyer in private practice in Seattle. "For the service to be useful, many lawyers will need to upload their documents," she said. "It only takes 10 or 20 minutes, but for a lot of lawyers, 10 or 20 minutes is hard to come by."

OTHER innovations in virtual law libraries are concerned with new search technology for legal information on the Web. Thomas Smith, a law professor at the University of San Diego, is the co-creator of a search engine called PreCYdent, now in the beta, or testing, stage, that uses legal citations to find related information (www.precydent.com).

Carl Malamud, an Internet radio pioneer in Sebastopol, Calif., and a proponent of free legal information on the Web, said that dozens of Web sites publishing court and other legal information for public use are either in the works or rapidly expanding their offerings.

"It's about time legal information is free and open online to the public," he said. "Information on medicine on the Web has changed the doctor-patient relationship — but it's still hard to do your homework before you go to see a lawyer. Law is the last bastion."



Americans Have Difficulty Accessing Medical Records

By Robert Davis

In 2001, Sandee Pingatore was determined to find out why her son, Troy, 29, had died in a California hospital while being treated for a drug overdose just hours after she had been told he was stable. But Pingatore was unable to get the hospital to produce a key medical record showing his blood pressure in his final hours.

When the record finally surfaced last year -- too late under state law for Pingatore to file a civil lawsuit -- it indicated Troy had been in mortal danger for several hours while awaiting care.

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When she got the records, she noticed something was missing: a strip-paper readout from a fetal monitoring device from Stover's last routine checkup. She eventually got a readout showing normal activity for a mother and her baby, but in a lawsuit she says she doubts it came from her records.

The hospitals involved -- Fairchild Medical Center in Yreka, Calif., and Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Walnut Creek, Calif., respectively -- deny any wrongdoing.

But the cases reflect a common complaint nationwide by patients and their families: It can be difficult to obtain medical records from hospitals and other treatment facilities after something goes wrong.

Under federal law, every patient or a designated representative has the right to see and copy the patient's medical records. However, missing or disputed records are the most common source of complaints on USA TODAY's Patient Safety website (patientsafety.usatoday.com), which was created in 2006 to give readers a venue to express concerns about inadequate medical care.

Although there are no statistics on such cases, disputes over medical records often are at the crux of malpractice lawsuits. Such claims often center on records that patients or their families, such as Pingatore and Stover, believe were purposely withheld by hospitals.

Harry Rhodes, a spokesman for the American Health Information Management Association, says most cases of missing records are honest omissions. When patients ask for their medical records, the staff provides summaries and what they think are key documents, Rhodes says, but not necessarily everything in a thick hospital file.

But Sidney Wolfe, a physician who heads the health research group at Public Citizen, a Washington, D.C., consumer advocacy group, says "there is essentially a double standard" when it comes to accessing medical records.

When doctors or hospitals ask for records to use in making a diagnosis, they usually get what they ask for, Wolfe says. "If you are in the medical system, it works perfectly fine. If it's just the patient who wants the records or the patient's family if the patient died, it's a whole different story."

The federal law giving patients and family members access to medical records is the privacy section of the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act.

HIPAA allows health care providers to withhold records in some circumstances, as long as they explain why they are doing so. Among the records that may be withheld: psychiatric documents and documents generated in preparation for a legal action. Pingatore and Stover say the hospitals never indicated they were withholding records for any reason.

In her lawsuit against Kaiser, Stover says she suffered emotional damage. Pingatore could not find a lawyer to take her case, she says, because she did not have enough documentation until after California's three-year statute of limitations for filing a civil lawsuit had expired.

Lucian Leape, a professor at Harvard's School of Public Health, says the medical culture does not ensure that hospitals are honest with patients. Leape, one of the founders of the National Patient Safety Foundation, says it's still a challenge "getting people to be honest when things go wrong."

Charles Phillips, an emergency physician from Fresno who provides expert testimony for plaintiffs in court cases, believes thousands of Americans simply give up the fight to get complete copies of their medical records after a problem occurs with their care, because doctors, hospitals and their lawyers can make the process so difficult.

Even when records are provided, they sometimes are obscured, Phillips says, a practice he calls "wrecking" a medical chart.

"I see this all the time. Pages are darkened, they are lightened, they are enlarged, shortened -- put slightly down so you can't see a signature," he says.

In such situations, he says, time is money. "In malpractice there is a time clock working against the patient." Statutes of limitations for medical malpractice cases are set by state law and range from one to seven years.

USA TODAY asked Phillips to review several of the complaints submitted to the patient-safety website regarding disputes over medical records.

The cases involving Stover and Pingatore and her son, Troy Starling, were among those that reflected the effect such disputes can have on a family.

The death of a son

Starling, an auto mechanic from Yreka, Calif., battled addictions to alcohol and the painkiller Vicodin. Despite his problems, he remained close to his mother, she recalls.

"He'd come over, and we'd play cards," Pingatore says. "People called him a mama's boy."

On June 6, 2001, Starling collapsed in his bathtub. According to a police report, he had overdosed on pills, including Verapamil, a medication that lowers blood pressure. He was taken by ambulance to Fairchild Medical Center, a community hospital, and was admitted for treatment of an overdose.

Pingatore, 59, says she stayed at the hospital until 2 a.m. the next day, when a nurse suggested she go home to rest. When she returned the next morning, she was directed to a waiting room. "I heard a 'Code Blue' (signaling a patient in cardiac arrest) and I said, 'God, don't let that be my son,'" she says.

It was. Starling was pronounced dead at 9:20 a.m. Pingatore wanted to know what led to her son's death. The nursing staff had appeared confident Starling would be fine just seven hours before.

So Pingatore asked for Troy's medical records. "The hospital would not respond to my requests at first," she says. "Then they would send an abundant amount of records, dating back to 1989."

The hospital gave her details about Starling's treatment for a bruised hand after he fell from his bike at age 17, Pingatore says, but only sketchy accounts from the night he died. "I just kept trying to get my son's medical records to see what happened," she says.

One key record that was missing was an accurate blood pressure reading from the hours before Troy's death. At the hospital, Pingatore had seen a device that appeared to automatically track blood pressure, and she hoped it would explain what had happened.

California's deadline for any civil action against the hospital expired three years after Starling's death. Pingatore didn't get the records she sought from the hospital until October 2007 after USA TODAY sought them on her behalf. The blood pressure printout shows her son had been left in shock with a median blood pressure of 53/31 for five hours before he died.

Jonathon Andrus, an associate administrator at the hospital, declined to comment on the records or any other aspect of the case.

Phillips, who reviewed the records for USA TODAY, says they prove Pingatore's fears about the last hours of her son's life.

He filed an ethics complaint to the California State Bar asking it to review the hospital's Risk Management Office and legal team over the delayed release of the records.

The California Department of Health investigated last November and found deficiencies in the hospital's handling of the case, according to an investigative report. The state faulted, but did not penalize, the hospital for failing to monitor Starling's heart in the emergency room.

Pingatore asked a local prosecutor to determine whether the hospital could be held criminally responsible. The prosecutor, Siskiyou County District Attorney Kirk Andrus, says he is still investigating.

"I just have a feeling that there is going to be no accountability," Pingatore says. "I just don't know how I will be able to deal with that."

Questions about authenticity

Beth Stover was pregnant and one week past her due date on March 2, 2006, when she went to Kaiser Foundation Hospital complaining of upper-abdominal pressure, a headache and concerns that her baby was not moving much.

Stover, a designer and illustrator, told a labor and delivery nurse she thought she was in labor. Stover was put on a fetal monitor, her medical records show, but was sent home less than two hours later.

"I thought I was going into labor, because I had never experienced those feelings before," she says. "I was having contractions, this upper abdominal pressure, that made it hard for me to walk."

She was given written instructions directing her to call and come back to the hospital if her water broke, if she was bleeding or if she had chills or fever.

Over the next two days, Stover says, she stayed home and waited for her condition to change. The unborn child, named Lehna Jordann Brewer, died in her mother's womb March 4, medical records show. Stover says she tried to find out what had gone wrong. She asked for her medical records but noticed that a fetal monitor strip from her last checkup -- on the day she had gone to the hospital thinking she was in labor -- was missing.

The paper strip, which documents fetal heart rate and evidence of contractions in the mother, was particularly important to Stover because she recalled a technician expressing concern after hearing something unusual on the monitor. When the strip was missing from the medical records Kaiser gave her, Stover wondered whether the monitor had indicated Lehna was in some kind of trouble.

Stover asked the California Department of Health for help. It investigated in November 2006.

During that inquiry, Stover says, "I got a call from the Kaiser ombudswoman who told me that they found the strip."

Unlike the other strips in Stover's file that had her name, date and time, this documentation -- of a healthy baby -- had no time or patient data. On the envelope containing the strip that the hospital said was made days before her baby died is written "Stover, Beth," and "IUFD" for intrauterine fetal demise, "Female 3-5-06."

Stover and Lehna's father, Andy Brewer, do not believe the strip came from their child.

The state did not penalize Kaiser, although investigators noted some of the records Stover had sought were missing when they visited the hospital.

It took four hours for the hospital staff to find them, a delay it blamed on a "fairly new" employee, the state's report said.

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Get copies of documents

The best way to avoid a problem with medical records, health specialists say, is for patients to routinely ask for copies of all documents pertaining to their care.

When records appear to be incomplete, the patient and their family or other advocates can turn to the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Human Services, Rhodes says.

They also can turn to their state medical board. But Julieanne D'Angelo Fellmeth, administrative director at the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego School of Law, says her review of California's medical board found long delays and much frustration, like that experienced by Stover and Pingatore. Her review found that complaints typically took 2.6 years to investigate.

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Patients often struggle for access to medical records

By Robert Davis, USA TODAY

In 2001, Sandee Pingatore was determined to find out why her son, Troy, 29, had died in a California hospital while being treated for a drug overdose just hours after she had been told he was stable. But Pingatore was unable to get the hospital to produce a key medical record showing his blood pressure in his final hours.

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PATIENT SAFETY: Guidelines for getting your case heard

BETTER LIFE: The nuts and bolts of obtaining your files

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Contributing: Marie Skelton and Mark Hannan

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No action taken on chiropractor's DUIs

Antioch man now accused of drugging two women, assaulting one

By John Hill - jhill@sacbee.com

Published 5:52 am PDT Tuesday, April 29, 2008

The California board that polices chiropractors knew that one of its licensees had a drinking problem that had led to three convictions for drinking and driving. But it took no action – until it learned he had been accused of something much more serious.

Jason Phillip Goettsch of Antioch now stands accused of drugging two women in a bar in February and sexually assaulting one of them after taking them to his chiropractic office. He turned himself in Thursday.

Well before the alleged assault, the California Board of Chiropractic Examiners had heard that Goettsch's drinking was running afoul of the law. It got official notice in 2006, and again in 2007, that he had been convicted of drunken driving.

Drunken driving is grounds for disciplining chiropractors and other health care professionals, including taking away their licenses.

But the board took no action after getting notice of the 2006 offense, reasoning that it was Goettsch's first, executive director Brian Stiger said. Goettsch had been convicted in 1998 of alcohol-related reckless driving, but that was not technically a drunken driving conviction and occurred before he became a chiropractor.

After the 2007 conviction, the board normally would have moved to discipline Goettsch, Stiger said. But by that time, its budget had been cut in half by lawmakers unhappy with a series of legally questionable actions last year.

With a depleted staff, Stiger said, the board could only go after chiropractors accused of harming patients – and so put the Goettsch case on hold.

"I would say, based on what I have seen in the files, that the board acted reasonably," Stiger said.

The case is another example of spotty discipline at the chiropractic board, said Julianne D'Angelo Fellmeth, administrative director of the Center for Public Interest Law, part of the University of San Diego School of Law. The center monitors state licensing boards.

"This is a pretty egregious case," Fellmeth said. "They should have gone after this guy before

this."

The Bee reported earlier this year that the board allowed a Los Angeles chiropractor to keep practicing for two years after it got notice that he had been accused of rape. It acted only after four more victims – three patients and one job applicant – reported that they had been sexually abused.

State Auditor Elaine Howle issued a report last month finding that the board had failed to aggressively pursue wayward practitioners and that delays could have allowed chiropractors accused of fraud or sexual abuse to continue to endanger the public.

Goettsch's most recent run-in with the law began when the chiropractor ran into a patient and her cousin at a bar in February, Antioch police Sgt. Diane Aguinaga said.

He is accused of drugging the two women with the "date rape" drug known as GHB and taking them to his chiropractic office, where police say he sexually assaulted one of them.

At some point, according to police, Goettsch was dragging the victim to his car after the assault when an Antioch police officer happened to see him and intervened. The woman was taken to the hospital, and Goettsch was jailed for an outstanding warrant related to one of the drunken driving cases, Aguinaga said.

The woman's blood was tested for the date rape drug, but before the results came in, Goettsch had been released from jail. Police believed he he had fled, but the chiropractor turned himself in on Thursday.

He pleaded not guilty to charges of oral copulation, digital penetration, administering a drug with the intent to commit a sexual act and possession of a controlled substance, said his attorney, Dirk Manoukian.

California law considers abuse of alcohol or drugs by health care licensees to be unprofessional conduct, subject to discipline up to revocation.

In a 2002 case, an appeals court in Los Angeles reaffirmed the validity of a state law that calls for medical doctors to be disciplined for drunken driving and other substance abuse convictions. The court found that such convictions reflect a lack of personal and professional judgment, jeopardize personal and public safety, show a lack of medical knowledge and undermine public confidence in medical professionals.

In nearly 30 cases since 2002, the chiropractic board has disciplined practitioners for drunken driving – sometimes in combination with other misconduct – including at least four cases in which the chiropractors lost their licenses.

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Call Kurtis: Time Runs Out For Becky Anderson

Butchered Patient Dies Before Doctor Goes Before A Judge



SACRAMENTO (CBS13) — If your doctor did something wrong and you file a complaint with the California Medical Board, it could take years before the doctor gets disciplined or removed from practice.

Reporting Kurtis Ming Kurtis brings us the final interview granted by Becky Anderson of Citrus Heights. She passed away, Sunday April 7th.

I've had a lot of time to do some thinking, says Becky Anderson.

Sitting on a swing on a fall afternoon in her backyard, Becky Anderson thinks about the cancer that consumed her body. It's affect on her life dominated her mind.

"I think about how I would've done things different", Anderson told Kurtis. "I also think about what it's going to be like as a Christian (when she passes away)".

It's been a long, difficult nine year battle.

"I've come to terms with it. I'm not afraid of dying. It's going to happen, and I'm at peace with that. I don't want to die, but I'm ok with it. It didn't have to happen so soon. I believe Dr. West played a huge role on that, because it affected my treatment", Anderson said.

Becky didn't know Doctor Brian West had a drinking problem.

She also didn't know he crashed his car drunk on the way to the hospital to treat her.

Becky originally went to the plastic surgeon in 1999 for a breast reconstruction after a mastectomy.

She, like many other Dr. West patients says he made medical mistakes.

She says it kept her from chemotherapy causing her cancer to spread eventually to her brain and liver.

Dr. West performed so many operations on her including one she told him not to do.

She showed us in 2006, how he left her horribly disfigured with a skin graft covering her intestines.

Becky sued Dr. West and got a quarter million dollars.

In the fall of 2005 she filled out this complaint form with the medical board asking it to take away his license.

Call Kurtis has copies of more than 20 other patient complaints on Dr. West.

They range from not properly treating their flesh eating infections, to touching their wounds without gloves, to leaving them permanently disfigured.

Some of these patients treated years ago detected alcohol on his breath during treatment.

A year ago, the state formally charged Doctor West with gross negligence in connection with five patients. To date, he has not stood before a judge and continues to practice in Southern California.

"The medical board has known about me for two years, so why is he still out their practicing", says Anderson.

Julie D'Angelo Felmeth of the University of San Diego audited the Medical Board. She

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says the time frame is egregious. On average, it takes the state agency and the attorney general's office 2 1/2 years from when a complaint is received to when a doctor may be disciplined.

She says that slow process could compromise patient safety.

Felmeth says, a lot can happen in 2 1/2 years and doctors treat twenty to thirty patients a day. For a doctor any moment of impairment or incompetence can mean irreparable harm to a patient.

Felmeth blames a lack of money to pay experienced investigators and experts and a system that could be better organized.

To Becky, it's nothing but bureaucracy to blame.

Her fear... She'd leave this world before going to court.

That fear came true. She died Sunday, April 7th peacefully at home surrounded by her family and friends weeks before Dr. West was set to appear before a judge.

She never had the chance to see the justice system go to work.

In her final interview she left us with hope.

"I just hope somehow the laws do get changed. I know it won't be in my lifetime."

"The laws have got to get changed or this is going to continue", Anderson told Kurtis.

If you have an opinion on this, let your state lawmaker know.

Following our more than 2 1/2 years of investigating, the medical board says they will no longer talk with us about the Dr. Brian West case.

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No action taken on chiropractor's DUIs

Antioch man now accused of drugging two women, assaulting one

By John Hill - jhill@sacbee.com

Published 5:52 am PDT Tuesday, April 29, 2008

The California board that polices chiropractors knew that one of its licensees had a drinking problem that had led to three convictions for drinking and driving. But it took no action – until it learned he had been accused of something much more serious.

Jason Phillip Goettsch of Antioch now stands accused of drugging two women in a bar in February and sexually assaulting one of them after taking them to his chiropractic office. He turned himself in Thursday.

Well before the alleged assault, the California Board of Chiropractic Examiners had heard that Goettsch's drinking was running afoul of the law. It got official notice in 2006, and again in 2007, that he had been convicted of drunken driving.

Drunken driving is grounds for disciplining chiropractors and other health care professionals, including taking away their licenses.

But the board took no action after getting notice of the 2006 offense, reasoning that it was Goettsch's first, executive director Brian Stiger said. Goettsch had been convicted in 1998 of alcohol-related reckless driving, but that was not technically a drunken driving conviction and occurred before he became a chiropractor.

After the 2007 conviction, the board normally would have moved to discipline Goettsch, Stiger said. But by that time, its budget had been cut in half by lawmakers unhappy with a series of legally questionable actions last year.

With a depleted staff, Stiger said, the board could only go after chiropractors accused of harming patients – and so put the Goettsch case on hold.

"I would say, based on what I have seen in the files, that the board acted reasonably," Stiger said.

The case is another example of spotty discipline at the chiropractic board, said Julianne D'Angelo Fellmeth, administrative director of the Center for Public Interest Law, part of the University of San Diego School of Law. The center monitors state licensing boards.

"This is a pretty egregious case," Fellmeth said. "They should have gone after this guy before

this."

The Bee reported earlier this year that the board allowed a Los Angeles chiropractor to keep practicing for two years after it got notice that he had been accused of rape. It acted only after four more victims – three patients and one job applicant – reported that they had been sexually abused.

State Auditor Elaine Howle issued a report last month finding that the board had failed to aggressively pursue wayward practitioners and that delays could have allowed chiropractors accused of fraud or sexual abuse to continue to endanger the public.

Goettsch's most recent run-in with the law began when the chiropractor ran into a patient and her cousin at a bar in February, Antioch police Sgt. Diane Aguinaga said.

He is accused of drugging the two women with the "date rape" drug known as GHB and taking them to his chiropractic office, where police say he sexually assaulted one of them.

At some point, according to police, Goettsch was dragging the victim to his car after the assault when an Antioch police officer happened to see him and intervened. The woman was taken to the hospital, and Goettsch was jailed for an outstanding warrant related to one of the drunken driving cases, Aguinaga said.

The woman's blood was tested for the date rape drug, but before the results came in, Goettsch had been released from jail. Police believed he had fled, but the chiropractor turned himself in on Thursday.

He pleaded not guilty to charges of oral copulation, digital penetration, administering a drug with the intent to commit a sexual act and possession of a controlled substance, said his attorney, Dirk Manoukian.

California law considers abuse of alcohol or drugs by health care licensees to be unprofessional conduct, subject to discipline up to revocation.

In a 2002 case, an appeals court in Los Angeles reaffirmed the validity of a state law that calls for medical doctors to be disciplined for drunken driving and other substance abuse convictions. The court found that such convictions reflect a lack of personal and professional judgment, jeopardize personal and public safety, show a lack of medical knowledge and undermine public confidence in medical professionals.

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NEWS

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The 'God of the Sea' Looks for Greener Pastures

By **ROB DAVIS** Voice Staff Writer

Monday, April 7, 2008 | The developers of the planned Carlsbad desalination plant offer an alluring pitch: They'll harness the limitless ocean and produce enough drinking water to satiate the needs of more than 100,000 San Diego County families.

Those who have opposed Poseidon Resources Corp.'s desalination plant have long pointed to its effect on marine life. The pumps that draw in 100 million gallons of seawater each day can trap and crush eggs, larvae and small fish.

But as the county's awareness of [climate change](#) has dawned, the plant's opponents have seized on its sizeable carbon footprint, a byproduct of the energy-intensive process of sucking in seawater and filtering it through membranes that remove salt.

Poseidon has attempted to diffuse that argument by volunteering to offset some of its carbon dioxide emissions. Though the plant itself will not generate carbon dioxide, the power plants that provide its electricity will. So Poseidon has drafted a climate action plan, which details the steps it will take to offset greenhouse gas emissions, such as planting \$1 million worth of trees in wildfire-affected areas of the county and investing \$4.1 million in rooftop solar panels at the facility. Its efforts led Forbes magazine to recently name Poseidon one of the top 100 companies "going green."

In news releases, the company claims the plant will be "the first major infrastructure project in the state to voluntarily eliminate its carbon footprint."

But Poseidon will not eliminate the desalination plant's entire footprint, and as the proposal winds through its final permitting steps, the gap has become a central focus for regulators. When the California Coastal Commission approved Poseidon's proposal in November -- the final hurdle before the plant could advance -- it did so contingent on a more formal assessment of the company's plan to offset its carbon dioxide emissions. The commission's staff and Poseidon have differing views of how far the company must go to claim that the plant's energy use will not impact climate change. The project returns to the commission for review in July.

Poseidon has not agreed to make the plant carbon neutral, a step that would require the company to zero out the emissions generated by its energy use. Peter MacLaggan, a Poseidon senior vice president, said doing so would render the \$300 million project financially infeasible. Instead, Poseidon says the plant will be "net carbon neutral."

Importing water from Northern California consumes vast amounts of energy, because the water must be pumped over mountains before reaching aquifers that feed Southern California. Poseidon says its desalinated water -- a new source -- will reduce demand for

that imported water and therefore subtracts the energy that would be used to pump water to this region.

Poseidon estimates the plant will release 68,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually, the equivalent of what's released by 11,000 cars in a year or by burning 7 million gallons of gasoline. It then deducts 47,000 tons of carbon dioxide, which it says will be saved because water imports will drop.

The Coastal Commission's staff disputes that the desalination plant's water production will cut imports, which are already constrained. A court order has limited the amount of water that can be pumped out of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, a supply also commonly called the State Water Project. With fish stocks in the delta on the brink of collapse, limits are expected to be in place for years to come. Southern California will likely draw as much water from the delta as it can to meet demand in dry years or fill storage reservoirs in wet years.

"Poseidon's proposed project does not ensure a decrease in imported water supplies to the San Diego Region," a commission staff report states. "Poseidon acknowledges that the State Water Project would continue to pump available water to Southern California users, but then argues that it should still be credited for what would then be a non-existent reduction in emissions."

MacLaggan called the gallon-for-gallon offset "very straightforward," pointing to a subsidy expected from the Los Angeles-based Metropolitan Water District, the wholesaler that provides Southern California with most of its supply. The district is offering to subsidize desalinated water on the condition that the new supply offsets demand.

"Our commitment is to render [the plant] carbon neutral over the status quo," MacLaggan said. "We're not proposing to render its gross energy use carbon neutral. The project wouldn't be viable if we did. People recognize that, and they're trying to load it up with enough mitigation that it's not feasible, so we fall under our own weight."

Bruce Reznik, executive director of San Diego Coastkeeper, an environmental group opposed to the desalination plant, said Poseidon's inability to completely offset its emissions indicates that the technology is not yet financially viable.

If the plant could completely mitigate its energy and marine-life impacts, "we could get behind that," Reznik said. "But there's no way they can do that in a cost-effective manner right now. If we jump to desal, and that's going to be the strategy, we need to make it more eco-friendly."

While Poseidon says its voluntary offsets will cost the company \$66.4 million, it will recoup much of that investment over the project's 30-year life. The bulk of the cost, \$52 million, comes from installing the most efficient pumps and motors available. Poseidon will recover those costs over the life of the project, though MacLaggan said the company would not otherwise have invested in some upgrades.

"Purely from a business perspective, it may or may not be a good investment to put the motors in," he said. "Some [upgrades] may be justified, others clearly aren't."

Energy experts question whether the company has underestimated the total emissions resulting from its energy use. Poseidon based its estimates on figures San Diego Gas & Electric voluntarily submitted to the California Climate Action Registry, which maintains a statewide inventory of carbon dioxide emissions. SDG&E's totals were about one-third

what the California Air Resources Board estimates are generated by power producers in the Southwest.

"Poseidon is using a very low number," said Scott Anders, director of the Energy Policy Initiatives Center at University of San Diego. "I don't see how that's possible, given what we know about emissions in the region and statewide."

MacLaggan said the current figure is irrelevant, because the plant isn't online yet and the emissions estimate will change as the climate registry continues to develop. But the company is committed to using the registry's figures, he said.

"Because we're the first entity to make this voluntary commitment, everyone's throwing rocks at the process," he said. "Nobody's done this before. It's not going to be perfect the first time through, but it will be fairly refined by the time we need to do the calculation for real."

Please contact [Rob Davis](#) directly with your thoughts, ideas, personal stories or tips. Or send a letter to the editor.

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Wiggins: Race, gender still prominent issues

JOHN D. WALLER, Staff Writer

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BENNINGTON — A law school dean told Southern Vermont College students that she believes race and gender still play a prominent role in today's society, but she is encouraged by recent signs of progress.

Friday, April 25

Mary Jo Wiggins, a dean and professor at the University of San Diego Law School, reflected on her own experiences as a black woman growing up in America during and after the civil rights movement. She also looked to the future, saying she believes it is possible for America to become a place without labels and categories.

"Although some do not, I think it can happen," she said Wednesday, "but it won't happen without more aggressive legislation and a drastic change in the tone of our society."

Wiggins capped off a year-long, five-part lecture series at the college on change. The series, "Being Brave in a Brave New World," meant to prepare students for their professional lives, included a steel company executive, a lawyer, a leadership consultant and a fashion executive.

Growing up, Wiggins said she remembers both positive and negative experiences related to her race. A positive one occurred in 1972, when Trisha Nixon, the daughter of President Richard Nixon, came to her Washington, D.C., classroom to read, she said, showing that people were finally willing to

embrace others.

The experience stands out in sharp contrast to one a few years earlier, she said. In this instance, a cross was burned on her family's lawn, when her father, a minister and civil rights activist, was out of town.

When Wiggins looked to the future, she said today's younger generation, college-aged and below, could drastically change the dynamic of race and gender relations future years. "You haven't watched the battles we've watched," she told the college students. "We don't think in the same open and creative ways that you do about race and gender."

Wiggins pointed to Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama's young supporters as a prime example of the younger generation's ability to tolerate and embrace others.

Overall, Wiggins said this year's Democratic primary race between a black man and a woman should have a positive effect on change. "My son and daughter are able to take away a message of empowerment," she said. "I certainly never had that opportunity growing up."

She said increasing globalization, with social and economic interdependence, and an increasing number interracial marriages were two more positive signs.

As for the negative signs in today's world, Wiggins said the income gap between blacks and whites still troubles her. She said political polarization has also led to a lack of dialogue about sensitive issues, and there has been race and gender fatigue in the media.

Although some believe certain black people today are able to transcend race, moving to another world where race does not matter, Wiggins said she believes only four people have been able to do this,

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April 28, 2008

OPINION

The ABA's 'Diversity' Diktat

By GAIL HERIOT

April 28, 2008; Page A19

If you have ever wondered why colleges and universities seem to march in lockstep on controversial issues like affirmative action, here is one reason: Overly politicized accrediting agencies often demand it.

Given that federal funding hinges on accreditation, schools are not in a position to argue. That is precisely why the U.S. Department of Education, which gives accreditors their authority, must sometimes take corrective action. George Mason University's law school in northern Virginia is an example of why corrective action is needed now.



Dennis Kline

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GMU's problems began in early 2000, when the American Bar Association visited the law school, which has a somewhat conservative reputation, for its routine reaccreditation inspection. The site evaluation team was unhappy that only 6.5% of entering students were minorities.

Outreach was not the problem; even the site evaluation report (obtained as a result of Freedom of Information Act requests) conceded that GMU had a "very active effort to recruit minorities." But the school, the

report noted, had been "unwilling to engage in any significant preferential affirmative action admissions program." Since most law schools were willing to admit minority students with dramatically lower entering academic credentials, GMU was at a recruitment disadvantage. The site evaluation report noted its "serious concerns" with the school's policy.

Over the next few years, the ABA repeatedly refused to renew GMU's accreditation, citing its lack of a "significant preferential affirmative action program" and supposed lack of diversity. The school stepped up its already-extensive recruitment efforts, but was forced to back away from its opposition to significant preferential treatment. It was thus able to raise the proportion of

minorities in its entering class to 10.98% in 2001 and 16.16% in 2002.

Not good enough. In 2003, the ABA summoned the university's president and law school dean to appear before it personally, threatening to revoke the institution's accreditation.

GMU responded by further lowering minority admissions standards. It also increased spending on outreach, appointed an assistant dean to serve as minority coordinator, and established an outside "Minority Recruitment Council." As a result, 17.3% of its entering students were minority members in 2003 and 19% in 2004.

Not good enough. "Of the 99 minority students in 2003," the ABA complained, "only 23 were African American; of 111 minority students in 2004, the number of African Americans held at 23." It didn't seem to matter that 63 African Americans had been offered admission, or that many students admitted with lower academic credentials would end up incurring heavy debt but never graduate and pass the bar.

GMU's case is not unique. In a study conducted several years ago, 31% of law school respondents admitted to political scientists Susan Welch and John Gruhl that they "felt pressure" "to take race into account in making admissions decisions" from "accreditation agencies." Several schools, like GMU, have been put through the diversity wringer.

The GMU law school was finally notified of its reaccreditation in 2006, after six long and unnecessary years of abuse – just in time for the next round in the seven-year reaccreditation process. Even then, the ABA could not resist an ominous warning that it would pay "particular attention" to GMU's diversity efforts in the upcoming cycle.

Perhaps the ABA believes that the Supreme Court's 2003 decision in *Grutter v. Bollinger* allows it to force law schools into affirmative action orthodoxy. If so, it is mistaken. In *Grutter*, a razor-thin majority held that the Constitution permitted the University of Michigan Law School to discriminate against whites and Asians to obtain a racially diverse class.

That decision, however, was rooted in the notion that "universities occupy a special niche in our constitutional tradition." In the majority's view, universities are not subject to the same equal-protection standards as other governmental entities; they are instead entitled to deference in their academic judgments. As Justice Sandra Day O'Connor put it, "[t]he freedom of a university to make its own judgments . . . includes the selection of its student body."

Whatever the merit of this reasoning, the ABA is not a university, and its Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is not entitled to academic deference.

As the Education Department's designated law school accreditor, the council decides whether a law school's students will be eligible for federal loans. As state accreditor, it decides which schools' graduates may sit for the bar examination. It is thus part of the governing bureaucracy – the kind of institution academic freedom is supposed to protect universities from.

That's why the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights recommended that the ABA leave issues of diversity to individual law schools. If academic freedom confers upon law schools the right to discriminate, it must also confer a right not to discriminate. Unfortunately, the ABA has instead put into effect more stringent diversity standards.

So now it is up to the Education Department to bring the ABA to heel. In 2006, when the ABA's status as accreditor was itself up for renewal, opposition came from many quarters on many grounds. Surprised, the Education Department put the ABA on a short leash, giving it only 18 months before its next renewal, and requiring it to submit its official correspondence for inspection.

It is now time to find permanent solutions to the problems of ABA abuse. Foremost on the Education Department's list should be to get the ABA out of the diversity business. It is one thing for a law school to adopt its own discriminatory admissions policies; it is quite another to force it to do so on pain of losing federal funding.

Ms. Heriot is a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and a law professor at the University of San Diego. In the 1990s, she was employed at GMU for one year, but had no involvement with the issues in this commentary.

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WAYNE COUNTY

Prosecutor misconduct case still has no takers

BY JOE SWICKARD • FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER • APRIL 17, 2008

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What was expected to take a few days has turned into almost a three-week search to find an agency willing to investigate allegations that the head of the Wayne County prosecutor's drug unit used false testimony to hide an informant's identity in a 2005 cocaine case.

Three prosecutor's offices have turned down requests from the Michigan Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council to handle the investigation of Assistant Prosecutor Karen Plants.

A fourth office has asked for additional background information before weighing whether to step into the case, Kim Warren Eddie, the council's assistant executive secretary, said Wednesday.

"I wish I could wave a magic wand, but I can't," Eddie said. "I can't force anyone to take the case, but I do have years of prosecutorial experience in persuasion."

Eddie declined to identify the prosecutor's offices he'd contacted but emphasized that "this is a difficult case to take on and will require a lot of work."

Plants is suspended with pay after the Attorney Grievance Commission filed a formal complaint against her last month that could result in revocation of her law license.

The commission said Plants knew police and a witness were lying when they testified about a bust involving 47 kilos of cocaine.

According to court records, the police and the witness said they'd had no contact before the arrests, but the witness was a paid informant who tipped off the police and was promised a percentage of any property and money seized from the drug dealer suspects.

Criminal investigations and charges against prosecutors are unusual, said Fred C.

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Life's playlist, reshuffled.

Zacharias, a University of San Diego law professor.

More often, errant prosecutors are fired or otherwise professionally sanctioned, said Zacharias, who has studied the disciplining of prosecutors.

"Proving a perjury case is hard," he said. "Generally, you have to prove not only that the perjury was intentional but also satisfying the elements of obstructing justice or the like."

Under state law, the coordinating council finds another prosecutor to handle a case that would present a conflict of interest to the prosecutor's office. The law also gives the state attorney general the right to take the case.

Plants' lawyer, Kenneth Mogill, said he is "perfectly confident that any fair-minded prosecutor will agree that there's absolutely no basis to charge Karen with anything."

Contact **JOE SWICKARD** at 313-222-8769 or jswickard@freepress.com.

In your voice

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Ttompson wrote:

jdgjim....isn't it the issue of how said perjury obstructed or attempted to obstruct "justice" the hard part, rather than the perjury itself...if there is clear contradicitons on the part of the perjurer. If this perjury case against the Kwamester and Beatty fails to convict it will be due to some legal "technicality" not outright fact of lies caught. I can already imagine a defense of expectations of privacy, yada yada. Quickly enough the lie will become moot, and the debate will be over quibbles. The fact that the Mayor sought and succeeded in firing cops for doing their jobs will get lost in the shuffle.

4/17/2008 10:45:42 AM

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madinmacomb wrote:

If Worthy hadn't covered it up for over 2 years - maybe somebody would take the case. Unfortunately, there appears to be a double standard in her office when it comes to protecting her friends.

4/17/2008 9:28:24 AM

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hambone wrote:

Then they should call it the Martha law. Cause she's the only one convicted for doing it.

4/17/2008 7:35:30 AM

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jdgjim wrote:

Perjury IS difficult to prove. Martha Stewart was NOT convicted of perjury. She was convicted under a specific federal statute which makes it a crime to lie to a federal agent.

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Thompson wrote:

"Proving a perjury case is hard," he said. "Generally, you have to prove not only that the perjury was intentional but also satisfying the elements of obstructing justice or the like." Oh, well then, tell that to Martha Stewart who was convicted of just fibbing to a federal investigator.

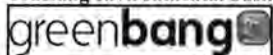
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DoE gets smart with \$50m grid handouts

Posted by jumperhead on April 24th, 2008



How smart are smart grids? Could they do the super hard Sudoku in the Sunday papers? Do they have doctorates in astrophysics? Can they get into a packet of digestives without using their teeth?

Greenbang doesn't know. She's never had one around for tea. But what she does know is that the US Department of Energy is pretty damn keen on them. So keen, in fact, that it's going to spend \$50 million over five years on nine projects that it hopes will make the whole grid more efficient and "aim to reduce peak load electricity demand by at least 15 percent at distribution feeders—the power lines delivering electricity to consumers".

All this sort of stuff will become more and more useful to folks for managing electricity demand when electric cars start sucking out power from the grid, and people with home solar systems start chucking it back in.

Here are the lucky smart grid winners, courtesy of the DoE:

Allegheny Power will develop the "West Virginia Super Circuit" in conjunction with West Virginia University (WVU) Research Park, WVU Advanced Power and Electricity Research Center, North Carolina State University, Research and Development Solutions, Augusta Systems, Inc., and Tollgrade Communications. They will improve distribution system performance, reliability, and security of electric supply through the integration of distributed resources and advanced technologies. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$5.4 million federal/4 million non-federal)

ATK Launch Systems, along with partners Rocky Mountain Power and P&E AUTOMATION, will demonstrate load reduction through an integrated network of diverse renewable generation technologies and intelligent automation. The project will integrate renewable generation and energy storage resources, including a novel compressed-air generation technology, wind-turbines, heat recovery systems, solar trough booster technology, a steam turbine, and hydro-turbine resources. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$1.6 million federal/\$2 million non-federal)

Chevron Energy Solutions will collaborate with Alameda County, PG&E, VRB Power Systems, SatCon Technology Corporation, the University of Wisconsin, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and Energy and Environmental Economics to significantly reduce peak load and measurably improve power reliability at the Santa Rita Jail. The project will integrate solar energy, fuel cell, energy storage and control systems. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$7 million non-federal)

The City of Fort Collins, in cooperation with Larimer County, Colorado State University, InteGrid Lab, Community Foundation of Northern Colorado, the Governor's Energy Office, Advanced Energy, Woodward, Spirae, and Eaton, will research, develop, and demonstrate a 3.5 megawatt coordinated and integrated system of Mixed Distributed Resources in Fort Collins to Achieve a 20-30 percent peak load reduction on multiple distribution feeders. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$6.3 million federal/\$4.9 million non-federal)

Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, Inc., along with Verizon, Innovative Power, Infotility, and Enemex, will develop and demonstrate methodologies to achieve true interoperability between a delivery company and end-use retail electric customers, enhancing the reliability of the distribution grid and the efficiency of its operations. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$6.8 million federal/6.2 million non-federal)

The Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) will collaborate with Exelon/ComEd, Galvin Electricity Initiative, S&C Electric, and others to develop and demonstrate a system that will achieve "perfect power" at the main campus of IIT through the implementation of distributed resources, advanced sensing, switching, feeder reconfiguration, and controls. This effort will be replicable at any municipality-sized system. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$5.2 million non-federal)

San Diego Gas and Electric will develop a dispatchable distribution feeder for peak load reduction and wind-farming in conjunction with: Horizon Energy Group, Advanced Control Systems, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the University of San Diego, Motorola, and Lockheed Martin. The project aims to prove the effectiveness of integrating multiple distributed energy resources with advanced controls and communication systems to improve stability and reduce peak loads on feeders/substations. (Duration: 3 years; Cost \$6.9 million federal/\$4 million non-federal)

The University of Hawaii, in cooperation with General Electric, Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Columbus Electric Cooperative, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Sentech, and UPC Wind, will explore the management of distribution system resources for improved service quality and reliability, transmission congestion relief, and grid support functions. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$8 million non-federal)

The University of Nevada will collaborate with homebuilder Pulte Homes, Nevada Power Company, and GE Ecomagination to address the construction of energy efficient homes that overcome electricity grid integration, control, and communications issues by building integrated photovoltaic systems, battery energy storage, and consumer products linked to advanced meters that enable and facilitate an efficient response to consumer energy demands. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$6.9 million federal/\$13.9 million non-federal)

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DOE and X Prize pledge \$150M in new clean technology grants

Jeremy Jacquot | April 30th, 2008 | 1 Comment



POWER GRID – The electric power grid crosses the entire United States.

The U.S. DOE will invest up to \$50 million in nine electric grid efficiency demonstration projects over the next 5 years, an effort to reduce peak load demand in ways that could prevent the need for more power plants.

These so-called Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration (RDSI) technologies have become a key focus for the federal and local governments, which hope to reduce peak load electricity demand by at least 15% at distribution points.

Though it may lack the pizzazz of wind or solar energy, smart grid technologies have been all the rage in investment circles, with startups like Silver Spring Networks, Ambient, eMeter and GridPoint raking in several funding rounds over the last few months. Other companies, like San Bruno, Calif., Greenbox, are taking energy efficiency online by bringing a Web 2.0 approach to home energy monitoring.

The DOE has selected projects in West Virginia, Illinois, Nevada, California and several other locations. The projects will be overseen by industry-academic partnerships. In San Diego, for example, San Diego Gas and Electric will partner with Horizon Energy Group, Advanced Control Systems, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the University of San Diego, Motorola and Lockheed Martin.

For its part, the Santa Monica, Calif., X Prize Foundation has announced it will invest \$100 million in various clean energy projects, ranging from energy storage and biofuels to efficiency improvements in basic utilities. One grant will be specifically targeted for technologies that promote innovation in grid efficiency and the building of energy-efficient homes.

[Image credit: Argonne Lab]

Tags: co:Ambient, co:EMeter, co:Greenbox, co:gridpoint, co:Silver-Spring-Networks
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[...] Kolevar, assistant secretary for ED/ER, announced recently the DoE will invest \$50 million over the next five years in smart grid and grid efficiency technologies, with the aim of reducing peak demand load by 15 percent at key distribution points. The DoE [...]

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April 16, 2008



Law Briefs

By Doug Sherwin

• • •

The University of San Diego's Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC) seeks an adjunct professor or professors to teach and/or team-teach its energy law and policy course for the fall 2008.

Eligible candidates should be licensed attorneys with experience in energy law or a related field and knowledge of emerging greenhouse gas regulations.

EPIC's energy law and policy course introduces students to the legal, regulatory and environmental concepts relevant to the changing electricity and natural gas industries in the United States. The course examines the historical and legal origins of energy regulation and rate-making as well as provides an introduction to the natural gas and electrical industries. The course explores the rise of competition in both industries, covers California's energy crisis of 2000-01 and its aftermath, and studies trends in renewable and distributed electricity generation.

The course examines the rapidly evolving regulation of greenhouse gas emissions at both the state and federal levels. While previous courses have been offered through EPIC and course materials exist, there is some level of flexibility in the course content and format. Interested candidates should contact Scott Anders, director of EPIC, at (619) 260-4589 or via e-mail at scott-anders@sandiego.edu. **Source Code: 20080415tje**

San Diego Daily Transcript

April 28, 2008

On the Agenda

By Christine Meade

Earnings reports continue to roll in for the week of April 28, but not to be overlooked are the number of educational events dotting the city's calendar. AIA San Diego's Building Code Seminar is on Thursday, the San Diego World Trade Center's Global Logistics Symposium is set for Friday and USD School of Law's conference on international tax issues hits town both Thursday and Friday.

The Downtown San Diego Partnership hosts a City Attorney Candidate Forum on Tuesday from noon-1:30 p.m. at the San Diego Marriot Gaslamp Quarter Hotel. A panel discussion will feature City Attorney Michael Aguirre, San Diego Superior Court Judge Hon. Jan Goldsmith, District 5 Councilman Brian Maienschein and Council President Scott Peters. For more information or to RSVP, call (619) 234-0201.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest invites the public to a U.S. Navy Public Hearing on Tuesday at the Civic Center Library and Wednesday at the Coronado Community Center from 5-9:30 p.m. both days. The public hearing will focus on the Draft EIS/OEIS, with an opportunity for questions and answers during an open house. Visit www.socalranger-complexEIS.com for more

information.

Affordable Housing Advocates honors Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps, LLP at its 17th anniversary fundraiser: Celebration of Justice from 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, at the Prado at Balboa Park. Luce Forward is being recognized for its leadership in affordable housing and development with Market Creek Plaza, the first Community-Development Initial Public Offering. For more information, call (619) 233-8411 ext. 1.

AIA San Diego scheduled a Building Code Seminar for Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Associated General Contractors in San Diego. The seminar will cover the code for 2008 and resources needed by industry professionals to adapt to changes. For more information, call (619) 232-0109.

The USD School of Law hosts the fourth annual International Update: United States, Mexico, Canada, Cross-Border Tax Issues conference on Thursday and Friday at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. The two-day event will provide for networking opportunities on top of the educational presentations on current developments in the law and innovations of international tax. Call (619) 515-3225 for more information.

The San Diego World Trade Center welcomes the Global Logistics Symposium 2008 on Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The symposium features speakers, a panel discussion and an industry showcase geared toward creating environment-friendly and cost-effective supply chains. Visit www.sdwtc.org for more information.

The Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce invites the business community to La Costa Resort and Spa on Friday at 6 p.m. to recognize the top academic programs. For further details on the event, call (760) 931-8400.

April 22, 2008

City sued over approval of concrete plant by creek

OCEANSIDE: The city has been sued over the City Council's approval of a concrete-manufacturing plant that would be built near Loma Alta Creek in central Oceanside.

City officials were served with the suit yesterday. The University of San Diego Environmental Law Center filed it on behalf of the group Friends of Loma Alta Creek.

The lawsuit seeks to stop Robertson's Ready Mix from building the plant at 2847 Industry St.

The lawsuit says the city should have required an environmental impact re-

port. It also says the plant would harm air quality and the ecosystem, affect traffic, increase soil erosion, contaminate the creek with toxic materials and cause flooding.

Robertson's, controversial from the start three years ago, was approved last month by a 3-2 council vote. Councilmen Rocky Chavez, Jack Feller and Jerry Kern voted for the plant; Mayor

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Pendleton 8 Exposed - The Real Story, Part 1

By Kit Lange Special to Salem-News.com

Unfair trials? Coerced confessions? The Marines hung out to dry over the incident at Hamandia could be innocent.

(CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.) - Two years ago the nation was shocked to hear of Marines coming home from the battlefield in shackles. This is not how we treat our heroes, not when they are highly decorated, highly trained, and even more experienced. It was preposterous, we said, to charge Marines with murder for shooting the enemy.

Isn't that what we train them to do?



Marine Sergeant Hutchinson

"Yet that is exactly what we did--and the seven Marines, together with their Navy corpsman, became known as the Pendleton 8. For the last two years, these men have seen their families disintegrate, their careers vaporized, and their freedoms taken, all because their government decided to turn its back on the men who fight to preserve it.



Lawrence Hutchins is one of the so-called "Pendleton 8"

Now at last the real story is available. Over the next few weeks, I will tell you the real story of what happened that day in Hamdania. I will show you the autopsy reports, combat logs and diaries that prove them innocent (and that were barred from the trial!), and the tactics the government used to keep it all under wraps. What's more, I'll tell you what they were trying so hard to hide.

First, read the timeline below. It is the first part of a chronological narrative of the events of the last two years. This will give you an overview of the case, and will help you understand the documents in later installments of this story.

Be warned--this is not a pretty story. It's long. It can be confusing. It will disillusion you, shock you, and devastate you. Most of all, it will make you angry. We have agonized over whether some of this info should be publicized, but in the end there can be no good purpose served by allowing this trend to continue. At the end of the day are a group of men who deserve the truth. After their double and triple combat tours, after their injuries and emotional scars in the line of duty, we owe them this, at least.

Hamdania Timeline (editorial comments in italics)

April 26, 2006: Marines report Iraqi insurgent planting IED. The insurgent was killed in the ensuing firefight.

May 1, 2006: Five days after the incident, Hamdania Tribal members report incident to Marine Corps commanders, alleging murder of Hashim Ibrahim Awad, a policeman under Saddam's regime.

Why is it that, although Awad was 'well-known' to Hamdania police, tribal, and family members, no one was able to identify him--not even his own brother?

Commanding officer, Lt. Col. Furness asked for a formal investigation. "Haditha had just blown up and I believed it was prudent to protect the Command, the Marines, and the Marine Corps," Furness stated later. *He failed to protect his junior Marines.*

May 4, 2006: Initial inquiry completed and briefed to Multi-National Force West.

Regardless of conflicting and questionable testimony of Iraqi tribal and family members, NCIS was asked to investigate.

Original, so-called 'witness reports' were gathered and translated by what the Washington Post refers to as reporters. These are Iraqi stringers whose backgrounds, the Post admits, have not been checked. The testimonies of so-called witnesses in the reports are conflicting. The Post states that its information could "not be independently confirmed." The Post also claims that:

1. "According to accounts given by Hashim's neighbors and members of his family, and apparently supported by photographs, the Marines went to Hashim's home, took the 52-year-old disabled Iraqi outside and shot him four times in the face. The assault rifle and shovel next to his body had been planted by the Marines, who had

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borrowed them from a villager, family members and other residents said."

2. "The Marines grab bed Hashim by the front of his cotton robe as soon as he came to the door, pulling him from the house, said one of his sons, Nadir, 26, an arts student in Iraq...Less than an hour later, we heard shooting."

Note: The prosecution charged that the Marines took Awad out of the home, marched him down the road to the hole, bound him and shot him. Family members and neighbors said Awad was shot in the face four times when he came to the door. One of Awad's sons said he was pulled from the house and they heard shots less than an hour later. The Iraqis apparently couldn't get 'their' version straight. How did the prosecution arrive at its version; toss a coin?

3. "The Post also obtained photos of a dead man, identified by the family and Iraqi authorities as Hashim, wrapped in a plastic sheeting in a wooden casket. What appeared to be at least four bullet holes could be seen in the photo—two in one cheek, one in the chin, and one in the lip."

Awad's brother stated, "And it was clear a bullet had been shot into the mouth and broke part of his bottom teeth." "At daylight, the family found a wide hole in the dirt road about 500 yards from their home, wet with bloodstains and littered with discarded plastic gloves."

"Going in search of Hashim, family members were told that Marines had brought his body to a local police station, Nasir said.

Note: On October, 2006, five months after NCIS' investigation, Navy Corpsman Bacos' testimony, given during the investigation in May 2006, conflicts with Iraqi testimony.

Bacos said, "I witnessed Sgt. Hutchins dead check the man and fire three rounds into the man's [head]. [Then] Cpl. Thomas fired 7 to 10 rounds into the man's [head]."

Bacos' testimony conflicts with Iraqi testimony, with squad members, and with Thomas, himself.

Cpl. Thomas, NCIS Agent James Connolly, and Lt. Col. Furness all said Sgt. Hutchins fired 3 rounds into the man's head to put him out of his misery after Thomas shot him. Yet Bacos says Sgt. Hutchins performed a dead check then "Thomas fired 7 to 10 rounds into the man's [head]." For Bacos to be believed, the deceased would now have a minimum of 10 holes in his head; performing the first military 10 - to 13-hole (dual) (consecutive) dead check.

Bacos contradicts testimony by the other squad members (including Thomas).

CPL Trent Thomas shot 7 to 10 rounds into the man's torso. NCIS and the prosecution couldn't even get the men who made plea deals to corroborate one another. NCIS, the Prosecution, Judges at the hearings and courts-martial for the accused, blindly accepted Bacos' word. Then again, it was NCIS, after all, who gave the prosecution its version.

Note: Both, NCIS agent Connolly and Lt. Col. Furness, later, testified again in court that Sgt. Hutchins performed a dead-check to put the man out of his misery.

In Fallujah, 2004, a Marine was videotaped dead-checking an insurgent in a Mosque. After five months of investigating, no charges were leveled because the commanding officer understood the mind-set of this young Marine. He stated that it was an unfortunate but inevitable consequence of war - and not a criminal violation.

Sgt. Hutchins did not order anyone to shoot. He performed a dead check and put a man out of his misery; an unfortunate but inevitable consequence of war; not a criminal violation.

May 7, 2006: NCIS begins criminal investigation.

For eleven days, in a coercive environment, NCIS denied the Marines and Navy Corpsman their Constitutional right to presence of counsel. Agents failed to audio or videotape interrogations, which went on for as long as 12 hours. There was no corroboration; no proof of NCIS' remarks. May 10, 2006: Marines and Navy Corpsman were detained and restricted to living quarters at Camp Fallujah, Iraq pending return to Camp Pendleton.

Coercive interrogations continued at Camp Fallujah, where on their wall NCIS had a photo of a rubber hose on a white board, with the words, "My Psychological Friend".

Note: The GAO claims that NCIS interview policies are in accordance with generally accepted federal law enforcement standards and applicable laws. Specifically; NCIS interview policies prohibit the indiscriminate display of weapons or the use of threats, promises, inducements, or physical or mental abuse by agents attempting to influence an individual during interviews.

Note: Article 31 of the UCMJ; Evidence acquired in violation of the rights of the accused can be inadmissible. NCIS, DCIS, and FBI policies permit audio or video recordings of witness or suspect interviews in significant or controversial cases. Hamdania and Haditha are both.

Note: "June 26, 2001, Chief Justice Rehnquist concluded that the Coercion inherent in Custodial Interrogation blurs the line between voluntary and involuntary statements, and thus heightens the risk that an individual will not be "accorded his privilege under the Fifth Amendment...Not to be compelled to incriminate himself."

Note: "Agents do not have the authority to make any promises or suggestions of leniency or more severe action to induce a suspect to make a statement." The accused testified they were threatened with the death penalty; "more severe action".

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May 24, 2006: Marines and Navy Corpsman arrive at Camp Pendleton.

The men traveled from Iraq to the U. S. on a commercial airliner unshackled, allowed to roam during layovers, and without real supervision. None of them made an attempt to flee. They obviously weren't considered a flight risk.

May 25, 2006: Marines and Navy Corpsman were rounded up, shackled, and placed in "Maximum-In" restraint at the Camp Pendleton Brig.

Regardless of presumption of innocence and the fact that they were not a flight risk, they were shackled, placed in restraints and forced to remain in solitary confinement for three weeks. (Fourteen months later, September 23, 2007, NCTimes' Mark Walker reported with reference to Lt. General James Mattis, the convening authority, "Mattis has said privately that keeping those men locked up ahead of trial was probably a mistake.")

Sgt. Hutchins spent fourteen months in the brig before his court-martial. Unnecessary suffering while being presumed innocent because of a mistake? Is this acceptable treatment for our Marines?

June 1, 2006: Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al Maliki claims that American violence against civilians had become almost habitual. He said, "We cannot forgive the violations of the dignity of the Iraqi people." Sgt. Hutchins' CO stated he wanted to protect the Command, the Corps, and the Marines.

June 14, 2006: Vice President Cheney stated that the Pendleton Eight were presumed to be innocent and should be treated as such.

June 15, 2006: Restraint level reevaluated and reduced to "medium-in" restraint.

June 21, 2006: The Pendleton Eight were officially charged with the death of Hashim Ibrahim Awad.

Colonel Stewart Navarre was accused July 27, 2006, by defense attorney Jeremiah Sullivan, of questioning his client and others in the brig before announcing charges. Attorneys also complained that NCIS agents attempted additional questioning of their clients without counsel's knowledge or permission. Lt. Col. Sean Gibson did not deny the incident occurred.

July 11, 2006: Civilian attorneys complain that military attorneys assigned to assist their clients were bogged down with large caseloads. Counsel Jane Siegel said, "There are five experienced prosecutors with nothing else to do, sitting in offices and working these cases, and we are still sitting in starting blocks waiting for the assigned attorneys to be made available."

Siegel said a preliminary autopsy report she received was for an exam nearly seven weeks after Awad's death. The report noted "severe decomposition" as well as a lot of bullet wounds.

July 25, 2006: Completed autopsy report lacked conclusive evidence that the man's hands and feet were bound as the government had alleged. The badly decomposed body was exhumed several weeks after burial. No photos of the body were taken, or so the prosecution claimed. The body was returned to Hamdania and reburied. The defense pathologist was only given the opportunity to form an opinion on the report done by the government's pathologist—he was not given access to the body. There are, in fact, photos of the body but the defense is not allowed access.

According to defense attorney Joseph Casas, the number of bullet holes could not be determined.

August 3, 2006: Additional charges filed against Sgt. Hutchins, Cpl. Thomas, and Lance Cpl. Shumate for assaulting an insurgent, Khalid Hamad Daham, two weeks before the April 26 incident. Charges also filed against Lance Cpls. Lopezromo and Lever, and Pfc. Lewis.

NCIS investigators had this information in Iraq and withheld it. Defense attorneys Victor Kelley and Joseph Casas believed this was an attempt by prosecutors to intimidate people to testify against each other. The prosecution was successful!

August 13, 2006: NCTimes interview; "Pendleton Bracing for Start of Alleged War Crime Case." Military Law professor Gary Solis, in reference to convening authority Lt. General James Mattis, stated, "The General is going to rely on his staff who rely on the prosecutors...Once charges have been preferred, that train has left the station and everyone is pretty much on board."

The General (Convening Authority) relies on his staff, who relies on the Prosecutors? That doesn't assure an accused a fair or impartial trial. How does that assure that the accused receive justice?

August 16, 2006: Charges are filed against Lt. Nathan Phan (the squad's platoon leader and senior commander) for an alleged assault on insurgent Daham and two other insurgents. Sgt. Hutchins' defense attorney, Rich Brannon, stated, "I don't know any other reason that he (Phan) would be charged unless he is the person who issued the order..."

In a release announcing the charges against Phan, the Marine Corps stresses that he is presumed innocent, saying "The Marine Corps takes allegations of wrongdoing by Marines very seriously and is committed to thoroughly investigating such incidents. The Marine Corps also prides itself on holding its members accountable for their actions."

August 22, 2006: Lt. General Mattis denies Pfc. Jodka's waiver of article 32 hearing.

Jodka had requested to skip the Article 32 and go straight to trial. Mattis' reason for denial is that Jodka should have the benefit of a thorough and impartial investigation that an Article 32 investigation can provide. Defense attorney Casas intended to waive the hearing because military prosecutors constantly refused him

access to evidence necessary for his defense.

By now, Hamdania and Haditha have generated great public interest in military justice. Several bloggers, commentators and veterans groups have raised questions about whether the system is fairly treating soldiers and Marines facing court-martial.

"Moreover, military justice could benefit considerably from moving to a system where the members (or jury, in civilian terms) are chosen at random, rather than being hand-picked by the convening authority. The convening authority is that official who is in charge of the command and the one who determines whether to bring charges in the first instance."

"The current rules that require the convening authority to appoint members based upon detailed factors, such as "age, education, training, experience and length of service," give the appearance that the panel is beholden to the commander who selected them for duty."

"If our personnel are increasingly being asked to defend democracy abroad, it is only right that our public believe they are receiving the same considerations at home."

August 23, 2006: Several defense attorneys request waivers of Article 32 hearings for their clients.

Lt. General Mattis denies all of them. Reason: "in order to make a fair and impartial decision on the disposition of these cases." Defense attorney Joseph Casas says the Marine Corps has "systematically denied" their requests for evidence, including intelligence reports and the 'rules of engagement' in place at the time.

What happened to the investigative search for the truth at an Article 32 hearing? What happened to General Mattis' claim to fairness and impartiality?

August 30, 2006: Article 32 hearings for Cpl. Maginca and Pfc. Jodka. The lead prosecutor, Lt. Col. John Baker, announces the prosecution does not intend to seek the death penalty against Pfc. Jodka.

Note: Uniform Code of Military Justice 845. Article 45: Pleas of the Accused.

(b) A plea of guilty by the accused may not be received to any charge or specification alleging an offense for which the death penalty may be adjudged.

The prosecution apparently never intended to follow through with the death penalty. The prosecution had an open door to get those who were no longer threatened by the death penalty to make plea deals in exchange for lesser sentences and testimony against the others.

Marine Corps Times, **August 30, 2006:** "The lack of witnesses, including 11 NCIS agents who initially would have testified, shortened the legal proceedings and stunted the details of the alleged murder and government's evidence that would have surfaced during questioning by either side."

Convenient for the prosecution. Why allow the accused to face their accusers when you can coerce them into making plea deals; eliminating the necessity of corroborative evidence, which is required in the defense of an accused.

August 31, 2006: AP Article: "Confessions Key to Case Against Marine Murderers."

Read the title to this article and let there be no doubt that the press tainted, and continued to taint, the accused' chances of any fair or impartial hearing; much less court-martial.

Thomas Watkins, AP, states that alleged confessions appear to form the crux of the government's case. Coercion can be very effective! "Prosecutor Capt. Nicholas Gannon claimed the evidence included a confession by squad leader Sgt. Lawrence Hutchins and a confessional video by Cpl. Trent D. Thomas."

"What exactly they confessed to was unclear; Prosecutors did not elaborate."

September 12, 2006: Article 32 hearing for Lance Cpl. Jeremy Shumate. Lt. Col. John Baker announces the prosecution does not intend to seek the death penalty. This assures the prosecution's plan to obtain plea deals since it had no corroborating evidence. NCIS investigator, Kyle Casey testifies on the stand under oath that Shumate was very quiet, but did not make a statement. NCIS Agent Kelly Garbo's testimony on January 15, 2007, describes the methods agents use in interviewing witnesses and preparing statements: "Two or more agents will conduct an interview and later compile what they hear in the form of a single, typewritten statement, she said. The document is then given to the person interviewed, who is asked to initial each paragraph as having been read and then sign the report as a sworn official statement."

This does not corroborate her testimony that she personally typed Shumate's statement as she interviewed him. There is no audio or video record of the interrogation.

October 6, 2006: nbcсандiego.com: Navy Corpsman Bacos' court-martial. Bacos accepted a plea bargain in return for his guilty plea and for testifying against the other defendants. Bacos' testimony is entirely unchallenged, with no questions or cross-examination.

Bacos testified that Sgt. Hutchins played the major role in the incident, and that he came up with the plan. Later in the trial Bacos states that Hutchins and Thomas called him over to a huddle, and Thomas advised a plan to get Saleh Gowad. Bacos says that "they" began working out what they could do. Maginca, Thomas, Hutchins, and Pennington were working on the plan. They moved to a second position under the trees. When Hutchins told the rest of the men about the plan, the others just said, "I'm in." Bacos says the agreement was to take Gowad from his house against his will. Bacos testifies that the agreement was sealed when squad members said, "I'm in, sir". Others said, "Let's do it." Bacos says he was "not ordered" to take part. Thomas

later testifies that he, Thomas, was 'ordered'.

October 16, 2006: Article 32 hearing for Sgt. Hutchins.

October 17, 2006: Charges referred to court-martial for Jackson, Pennington, and Thomas.

Lt. Col. Paul Vokey, Marine Corps' western defense coordinator, concerning a trip to Iraq for defense attorneys, stated, "It's difficult to coordinate and it's dangerous, but it's also incredibly important because of the seriousness of the charges ...You need to make sure the physical scene matches the testimony. There may be some things in the statements that you find out are completely wrong once you visit the scene." The University of San Diego School of Law hosts a forum about the fairness of the military justice system. Defense attorney Joseph Casas objects to a system that doesn't give the defense unfettered access to any evidence that may benefit the accused early on in the process before a judge is appointed.

In reference to his client, Pfc. Jodka, he states, "We were asking for evidence and being unilaterally denied by the convening authority." (Lt. General James Mattis) Casas raises concerns over the fact that those who are under arrest and awaiting court proceedings in the military justice system are not entitled to post bail and remain free pending the outcome of judicial proceedings.

Former military prosecutor, Kevin Vienna, said that the right to bail "is often illusory." He said that most people can't afford the ten percent fee. Casas raises questions about high conviction rates in military justice and the political influence and undue command influence that can be brought to bear on military juries and court officials. Vienna says they're not unique to military justice. He said they're also high in civilian courts. Vienna adds that, like the military justice system, judges and court officials in the civilian system can also be the victims of political pressure.

Then he adds, "Do I think the system is fair ...Yes." Therein lies the mind-set of the military judicial system: Prosecute and get a high conviction rate!

October 26, 2006: Articles continue to steer public opinion.

1: "Pendleton Plea Deals Spur Legal Concerns: Experts Fear Truth Could Stay in Iraq," reads the headline. "Some military court experts question whether legal expediency will keep the truth from the public and from justice being served," Gary Solis said.

"Plea Agreements Eliminate the Uncertainties Inherent in a Jury trial." In the Hamdania case, he said, "they might also allow the military to limit testimony alleging that failed Marine Corps leadership and training have led to moral lapses in the combat zone." "Guilty Pleas Minimize Marine Corps Exposure to Public Criticism." (The Prosecution's purpose in dropping the death penalty: Under the UCM, 845 Article 45 (b), an accused may not make a plea of guilty to any offense for which the death penalty may be adjudged. This left the door open for the others to testify against Sgt. Hutchins, enabling the government to protect failed leadership, and appease Congress and Nouri al Maliki.)

2: "Encinitas Man Pleads Guilty in Hamdania Killing:" "He (Jodka) also acknowledged that he was among several of the men who fired at Awad, who had been placed in a makeshift hole..." Jodka, in a calm and measured voice, answered a series of questions from Jones (judge) describing the plot and each man's agreement to take part in it..."

"I couldn't see the man in the hole at the time we were firing, sir," Jodka said.

"I only saw him stand up and run down the road to the north."

All the others, in return for their plea bargains, testified Awad was in the hole, hands and feet bound. Yet he ran down the road?

(a) "Marine Testifies to Details of Hamdania Killing"

"Before they grabbed the man from his house, however, Hutchins gathered the men in a circle.

"Sergeant Hutchins then went around to each member of the squad and asked individually," Jodka said in court. "If any person had an objection," the plan would be dropped. "I agreed to that plan," he said, "and I agreed to go forward without objection."

"Unclear from the limited questioning and testimony Thursday was whether Jodka knew at the time that the man the squad shot wasn't Gowad, the initial target. But, the judge told him, "It's Irrelevant who that individual is." [emphasis added]

Irrelevant? An innocent Marine was unjustly convicted and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for something that was considered by the U.S. government to be morally and legally "relevant" or he would not be there. The media reported for over a year before Sgt. Hutchins' court-martial that the man who was killed was an innocent,



Hutchinson during the court martial

handicapped, (retired?) Iraqi policeman and family man. All the while, the prosecution knew full well they could not even prove the identity of the deceased. NCIS claimed they presented a report of a "thorough" investigation to the prosecution. NCIS' claim was false.

(b) Marine Pleads Guilty to Assaulting Iraqi, Linda Deutsch, AP.

At his hearing Jodka told the judge he knew his actions would fuel anti-war sentiment. "Anything like this would present an argument against the war."

"The military judge, Lt. Col. David Jones, interrupted him and said, "I'm not interested in political implications." "He (Jodka) said he ran with others into the darkness, shooting at a figure they could barely see, and found out only later it was the wrong target." Yet Bacos, at his court-martial (hearing), said Awad was bound and dragged from his home with a gag in his mouth, then placed in a hole by the side of the road and shot 10 times."

(c) Heat is on Rest of Hamdania Defendants to Plead. Joseph Low, Magincalda's attorney, said, "It was difficult for the men who took a plea deal because I know they didn't want to do so, but were scared."

Gary Solis, who teaches military law; "There's not much stronger evidence than the testimony of an eyewitness participant," Solis said, noting that the Jodka and Bacos plea agreements require that they testify truthfully or see their deals withdrawn."

The "relevance" in that statement is the threat it implies. Then Solis says, "Their pleas mean the attorney now can't defend on the facts ... they have to raise some other defense, such as they thought they were shooting at a lawful target." An insurgent is a lawful target!

November 6, 2006: 2nd Marine Pleads Guilty in Iraqi's Death "The judge questioned (Lance Cpl.) Jackson and accepted the plea, which is made as part of a pretrial agreement with the government in exchange for lesser punishment."

"Let there be no doubt about the reason for plea deals!" (See November 16, 18, 2006). Gowad, who was on the Battalion's high-value target list...[emphasis added]"

November 8, 2006: Motion hearings for Cpl. Magincalda. 'Marine Denied Bid to Get Out of Brig.'

November 10, 2006: Charges referred to general court-martial for Sgt. Lawrence Hutchins.

November 14, 2006: Cpl. Thomas' Arraignment. 'Hamdania Defendant Enters Not Guilty Plea.'

"Bacos, Jackson and Jodka all told military judges that each of the men agreed to take part in the kidnapping and each knew that the intention was to kill."

They were sent there to "capture or kill" insurgents.

November 16, 2006: General Mattis, said he would not seek the death penalty for Sgt. Hutchins. Quincy, MA. attorney, Gerald Kirby said the plea bargaining does not indicate a strong case against Hutchins. "I have done a lot of trials, and there has to be a heck of a lot of holes in the prosecution's case to do all of this."

November 17, 2006: "Jackson Sentenced to 21 Months in Hamdania Killing."

Judge, Lt. Col. Joseph Lisiecki had sentenced Jackson to 9 years and a dishonorable discharge, but "that punishment was set aside because of Jackson's plea agreement with Lt. Gen. James Mattis, the convening authority over the case as head of the 1 Marine Expeditionary Force."

November 18, 2006: Plea Deals Pile Up for Accused Marine.

"Some observers of the military justice system find the developments mystifying." Gary Solis said he was surprised by the number of plea agreements in this case. David Glazier, who teaches the law of war, said that with such a large number of defendants, prosecutors may be weighing who may be most at fault.

Solis said he's confident there will be trials in the case. "A trial serves many purposes and one is to achieve justice and exact punishment for criminal misconduct". "The accused are well represented. But who speaks for the dead man? Who represents society? That's the purpose of the trial."

Solis should have said "dead insurgent." The identity of the man was not proven. It could just as well be Gowad. Why is there more concern for a dead insurgent the squad was ordered to capture or kill within 48 hours, than for the lives of Marines?

November 18, 2006: Marine Corps May be Done Making Plea Deals in Hamdania Case

"Marine prosecutors will not comment on the case or their motivation for offering deals; however, the plea agreements reached thus far require that those men testify in court against their fellow platoon members, if called to do so."

"...prosecutors presented a "charge sheet" laying out the government's version of what happened."

The government's version? The version the government is not required to corroborate or prove?

November 21, 2006: "Admissions Coerced, Says the Defendant." (Lance Cpl. Pennington) Pennington admitted he made two self-incriminating statements to NCIS agents but said he made them after feeling

threatened by aggressive questioning by one of the agents and being denied a lawyer by another.

"(The agent) said that if I got a lawyer, he would not be able to help me.. I felt that meant that I pretty much had to give them statements. "

Pennington said an NCIS agent also advised him that talking to a lawyer would be "the worst mistake" he could ever make and would hurt his chances of making a deal with prosecutors.

"Military judge, Lt. Col. Eugene Robinson will decide whether Pennington's statements – and a series of his drawings – will be admissible as evidence."

The military judge' and NCIS' testimony was acknowledged, but all of the accused's statements concerning coercive interrogations were ignored throughout the proceedings. At one point Pennington "disputed a prosecutor's assertion's that he tried to strangle Awad with an ascot." "No," Pennington said, "he tried to gag Awad with it."

Another fine example of NCIS' 'thorough' investigatory practices.

December 2, 2006: Hutchins Arraignment Slated for Thursday

Military law expert, Gary Solis, said "...the chances of Hutchins pleading to a reduced offense, as four of the marines have done, are considered remote."

Solis said Hutchins is the least likely to be able to negotiate a plea deal to a lesser offense.

"Given that four individuals have pleaded guilty and made statements pointing at him, he faces the strong possibility of conviction."

Commanders taking the word of Iraqis, coerced interrogations, biased media coverage, zero presumption of innocence, unnecessary imprisonment, coerced plea deals forcing his men to testify "against" him in exchange for lesser sentences...all of this equals no chance for a fair or impartial trial.

December 7, 2006: Sgt. Hutchins Arraignment. Article: "Marine Arraigned in Iraqi Slaying case."

"Aside from the plea issue, one prosecutor, Lt. Col. John Baker, modified the kidnapping charge against Hutchins to read "carrying away Awad" instead of "seizing and holding him". Baker said the wording change reflects his belief that Hutchins played a more active role in the abduction. Shouldn't prosecutor Lt. Col. Baker have been just as concerned with the role Lt. Phan played?

Lt. Phan was the Sergeant's immediate commander. The mission was his responsibility, and that of his senior commanders in turn. Where was the Investigatory search for the truth that the prosecution tried to portray as its objective? The unit's members believed that Gowad was planning to attack fellow Marines. Sgt. Hutchins and his squad saved lives. Where was the credit for that?

December 26, 2006: Mattis on the Marines: Pendleton Commander Upbeat About Morale, Progress in Iraq. On media coverage in Iraq; "the enemy is getting its message across because it has denied the western press access to the battlefield. The media are relying on Iraqi stringers who bring no degree of objectivity. The enemy story gets out unchallenged, furthering the enemy agenda.

Commanders in Iraq and the Pentagon relied on a story that was unverified and unchallenged.

January 11-12, 2007: Article 32 Investigation hearing for 2nd Lt. Phan.

January 12, 2007: Attorney Says Agents Made Up Assault Case.

Defense attorney David Sheldon alleged that NCIS agents fabricated portions of statements that led to charges against 2nd Lt. Phan. Lance Cpl. Faulkner testified that the original statement he signed was typed by NCIS agents who came to him days later and asked him to sign it. He was on guard duty and didn't have time to go over it. Why was NCIS not questioned by the Court or by the convening authority? NCIS agent Kelly Garbo testified they never put falsehoods in official statements provided to prosecutors. What is her proof of that statement? She doesn't tape interrogations. She then said she'd never read her NCIS manual.

That, with assertions of fabricated statements should have been enough to warrant appointment of special counsel to investigate NCIS' policies.

January 15, 2007: NCIS Investigative Methods Come Under Fire Over Prosecution of Marine Lieutenant.

Agent Garbo "acknowledged" that agents do not audiotape or videotape their investigations or interrogations. The GAO report on NCIS says, NCIS, DCIS, and FBI policies "permit" audio or video recordings of witness or suspect interviews in significant or controversial cases".

It's incomprehensible that agents wouldn't find the Hamdania case significant and controversial. With worldwide attention, NCIS had a moral and legal duty to assure the accused of their Constitutional right to properly defend themselves.

During her testimony Garbo described the methods agents use in interviewing witnesses and preparing statements: Two or more agents will conduct an interview and "later" compile what they hear in the form of a single, typewritten statement. The statement is then given to the person interviewed, who is asked to initial each paragraph as having been "read" and then sign the report as a sworn official statement.

NCIS agents are not infallible. They should not be trusted to "compile" statements "later."

How much later? Proof of a witness' statement is important enough to have the witness or suspect write, in his own hand, his own statements rather than to "later" give him a "typewritten" statement, that could be easily changed..."later."

Note : "The Lance corporal who testified said agents brought his statement to him while he was on guard duty in Iraq several days after he was interviewed. He said he had little time to read the document, so he asked if it reflected what he said but did not fully review it. He testified that when the agents told him it accurately described what he had told them, he signed it."

January 18, 2007: Marine Pleads Guilty to Murder in Killing of Retired Iraqi Police Officer

(Cpl.) "Thomas' pleas came as a result of an agreement with prosecutors and the Convening Authority, Lt. Gen. James N. Mattis.

"During his daylong court-martial, Thomas told the judge, Lt. Col. Tracy A. Daly, that neither he nor any other member of the squad had any information that Awad had ties to insurgents..."

When Judge Meeks denied the defense' testimony and evidence concerning Awad, he used the excuse that information on Awad was classified.

Tired yet? As you can see by the above timeline, the railroad job was quite tidy. However, it gets much worse. In Part 2, I'll continue the sequence of events that kept the cover-up going. Stay tuned.

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Shannon April 10, 2008 4:41 pm (Pacific time)

His last name is HUTCHINS, not HUTCHINSON.. Send Our Hero Home!

Editor: Shannon, our error, thanks for pointing it out, our apologies to the family

OORAH April 10, 2008 1:50 am (Pacific time)

To the Salem News- Thank you for printing this article from Kit Lange(www.euphoricreality.com).Finally, maybe the truth will be know and our HERO Sgt.L.Hutchins will be set free.Hang in there Larry,it will all be over soon.Great job Kit,keep them articles coming.Larry,you are in my thoughts and Prayers as well as your Family.God Bless you. OORAH -::S/F

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Business Wire

April 21, 2008 Monday 8:33 PM GMT

Mintz Levin Adds Leading Patent Litigators to Its Growing San Diego Office; Addition of Matthew Bernstein and John Giust Continues Rapid Expansion of Firm's West Coast Presence

LENGTH: 813 words**DATELINE:** SAN DIEGO

Patent litigators Matthew C. Bernstein and John Giust have joined the San Diego office of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. as Members. The addition of Bernstein and Giust, who previously practiced with Fish & Richardson P.C., continues the significant expansion of Mintz Levin's Intellectual Property practice and its presence on the West Coast.

"This is an important strategic addition for Mintz Levin," said Craig Hunsaker, Managing Member of Mintz Levin's San Diego office. "Mintz opened its California offices with the goal of quickly duplicating the Firm's strengths on the West Coast. John and Matt's patent litigation expertise adds to our ability to locally meet every one of our clients' significant legal needs. Many of us have worked with Matt and John, and we know first hand the talent, expertise and energy they bring to Mintz Levin."

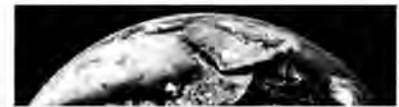
Mr. Bernstein's practice focuses on patent litigation on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants, in courts throughout the country. He has extensive experience trying patent infringement and other cases to both juries and judges. In addition to his patent litigation work, throughout his career, he has also counseled clients on a variety of other intellectual property issues, including trademark, trade dress, copyright and trade secret matters. Mr. Bernstein also counsels clients on a variety of federal government contract matters, including bid protests, claims to the board of contract appeals, Small Business Administration appeals and rights in technical data/patents. His clients have included: Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard, Autodesk, American Suzuki Motor Corporation, Microtune, Dr. Seuss Enterprises, General Atomics, Orincon (acquired by Lockheed Martin) and Lorillard Tobacco.

Mr. Bernstein received his undergraduate degree from Tufts University and his law degree from The George Washington University Law School. He is admitted to the bar in California, the United States District Court for the Southern, Central and Northern Districts of California and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. As an active member of his local community, Mr. Bernstein contributes his time and resources to: Habitat for Humanity, Race for the Cure, the San Diego Zoo, the San Diego Humane Society, and the Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mr. Giust has significant knowledge in patent litigation, intellectual property litigation and ITC proceedings. He has experience in jury trials and administrative proceedings in various fields, including electronics, semiconductors and communications. Mr. Giust has litigated in U.S. District Courts, before the International Trade Commission and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In addition, he served as a Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Mr. Giust earned his B.S. from The University of New Hampshire, his J.D. summa cum laude from American University and his L.L.M. in patent and intellectual property law, summa cum laude, from George Washington University. He is admitted to all State and Federal courts in California, the courts of Virginia and the District of Columbia and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal and Fourth Circuits. He is also registered to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Mr. Giust spent time as an Adjunct Professor of Law at University of San Diego Law School.

Mintz Levin opened its San Diego office in June 2006 with a group of five attorneys. Since that time, the office has



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Stahl Cowen Welcomes Star Corporate and Securities Attorney William M. Holzman

Posted : Thu, 17 Apr 2008 14:40:48 GMT

Author : Stahl Cowen Crowley Addis LLC

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CHICAGO, April 17 /PRNewswire/ -- Stahl Cowen Crowley Addis LLC is pleased to announce the addition of partner William M. Holzman. Bill joins Stahl Cowen after having chaired the corporate practice group of another well-known Chicago firm. Prior to entering private practice, Bill served as the senior branch attorney with the SEC in Washington, D.C.

"We are proud and excited to welcome Bill to the Firm," says Jeffrey J. Stahl, one of Stahl Cowen's managing partners. "He brings great experience and energy to us, on top of being an excellent lawyer. We look forward to expanding our client services, particularly in the realm of corporate securities with Bill's addition. His association will directly benefit the partnerships we share with our clients." Corporate partner Lauane Addis adds that "Bill is a known commodity and a star in the area of corporate law. We are thrilled he decided to join Stahl Cowen over other suitors. It's a testament to our continued growth, firm environment and the quality of our attorneys and clients."

Bill brings over 30 years of experience to Stahl Cowen, focusing his practice primarily on corporate and securities law. He has represented public and private companies and financial advisors in numerous transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, going private transactions, divestitures and private equity transactions ranging in size from a few million to several billion dollars.

Bill received his B.A. with honors from the University of Wisconsin and his J.D. from the University of San Diego.

Stahl Cowen Crowley Addis LLC is a Chicago-based law firm focused on serving the needs of business enterprises in today's dynamic marketplace. The firm provides sophisticated, yet cost effective legal counsel to organizations ranging from the entrepreneurial to large, publicly traded corporations and municipalities. Practice areas include Bankruptcy & Restructuring, Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions, Litigation, Local Government, Real Estate and Trusts & Estates.

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School of Leadership and Education Sciences



Wednesday, April 23, 2008

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USD graduate school ranked among best in nation

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

The University of San Diego's School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) was recently ranked among the best graduate schools of education in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The list cited the top 250 schools of education, among more than 800 in the country.

SOLES was ranked 100th on the list. USD was the top-ranked private Catholic university in the state on the list.

"This ranking signifies the incredible work of the faculty and staff of the School of Leadership and Education Sciences," said Paula Cordeiro, dean of the school. "This sets the bar high for us, and we will continue to strive to be better while preparing the educational leaders of tomorrow."

To obtain the rankings, *U.S. News and World Report* surveyed graduate programs at 278 schools granting doctoral degrees in education in fall 2007 and early 2008. Of those schools, 245 responded and 242 provided the data needed to calculate rankings based on a weighted average of the 10 quality measures described here.

They considered findings from a quality assessment survey completed by deans and school superintendents, student GRE scores and acceptance rates, faculty resources and research activities.

Other top-ranked California universities on the list include Stanford, University of California Los Angeles, UC Berkeley and the University of Southern California.

San Diego Daily Transcript

April 24, 2008

USD grad school ranked among best

The University of San Diego's School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) was recently ranked among the best graduate schools of education in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The list cited the top 250 schools of education, among more than 800 in the country.

SOLES was ranked 100th on the list. USD was the top-ranked private Catholic university in the state on the list. **Source Code: 20080423czf**

Daily Business Report

April 23, 2008

EDUCATION

USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) was ranked among the best graduate schools of education in the country by ***U.S. News & World Report***. The list cited the top 250 schools of education, among more than 800 in the country. SOLES was ranked 100th on the list. USD was the top-ranked private Catholic university in the state on the list. Other top-ranked California universities on the list include **Stanford, UCLA, UC Berkeley** and **USC**.

April 1, 2008

Survey: Charities see increase in revenues

By Helen Gao
STAFF WRITER

The economic malaise has put a damper on charitable giving, but many nonprofit organizations still managed to increase their fundraising revenues last year, according to a national report released yesterday.

Sixty-five percent of charities raised more money in 2007 than in 2006, but the size of their gains has dropped sharply, an annual survey conducted by the Association of Fundraising Professionals found.

The association, which has more than 29,000 members worldwide, released its findings at its 45th International Conference on Fundraising at the San Diego Convention Center.

"The results from our 2007 survey do not present a 'sky is falling' crisis that so many news stories have played out," said association chair Timothy R. Burcham. "At the same time, they show that there has definitely been some negative impact from the economy."

Smaller charities with less resources to cultivate donors are being affected more than larger ones. According to the Association of Fundraising Professionals, only half of the organizations with budgets under \$500,000 raised more money in 2007, compared with 70 percent of organizations with budgets of more than \$5 million.

Almost every technique used to raise money — whether it was telemarketing, direct mail, online solicitation or special events — yielded less success last year than in 2006. The only method yielding an uptick is planned giving, which includes bequests, trusts and annuities.

Just 9 percent of the survey respondents saw fundraising revenues increase by 50 percent or more in 2007, whereas nearly a quarter reported making such gains in 2006.

Edith A. Glassey, chief development officer for the San

Diego County YWCA, said she first noticed a drop in donations to her organization at the end of last year. She estimated that the year-end receipts dropped by 20 percent in December compared with the same period in 2006.

"We are starting to feel the pinch," Glassey said.

Each year, the county YWCA aims to raise \$5 million in public and private funds to pay for programs and services, including Becky's House for victims of domestic violence.

Roderick Reinhart, Chula Vista's assistant library director, said he's especially concerned about raising enough money this year for library programs. The city has been hit hard by foreclosures and its library system depends on donations to pay for books, databases and even renovations.

"Our demands for services go up the minute the economy goes down," Reinhart said, noting that families try to save money by finding free events at the local library to occupy their children.

In upscale Del Mar to the north, the economy doesn't appear to have affected a major community fundraising effort.

The Campaign for Del Mar Shores, which is trying to raise \$8.5 million to buy a surplus school property to prevent it from being sold to a potential developer, has raised \$4.8 million in a matter of months. Mike Peterson, a campaign co-chair, said he's optimistic about being able to meet the fundraising goal.

"We have raised a pretty extraordinary amount of money in six months. If the economy is going to affect our fundraising, it has not done so yet," he said.

There are nearly 11,000 nonprofits in the county, with combined assets of almost \$12 billion, according to a November 2006 study by the Center for Applied Nonprofit Research at the University of San Diego.

April 19, 2008

**Information session on the new
Master's Credential Cohort
Program at the School of
Leadership and Education
Sciences at USD** will be from 3 to
5 p.m. Tuesday in Mother Rosalie
Hill Hall, Room 135. Free.
sandiego.edu or (619) 260-7988.

School of Nursing

19 of 37 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 3, 2008 Thursday

THE BOSTON UNIVERSITY NURSING ARCHIVES ASSOCIATES HOST 2008 ANNUAL MEETING FEATURING REAR ADMIRAL KATHLEEN L. MARTIN

BYLINE: States News Service**LENGTH:** 534 words**DATELINE:** Boston

The following information was released by Boston University:

Accomplished nursing professional Rear Admiral Kathleen L. Martin will give the keynote address at the Boston University Nursing Archive Associates 2008 annual meeting. The event is free, open to the public, and will take place on Wednesday, April 16 at 5:30 PM in the Boston University Faculty Dining Room (5th floor of the George Sherman Union, 775 Commonwealth Avenue).

The Nursing Archives Associates is an organization that supports the History of Nursing Archives, held by the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University. Established in 1966, the History of Nursing Archives consist of personal and professional papers documenting the lives and careers of nursing leaders, including Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Other collections come from notable nursing professionals in the fields of public health, women's rights, education and military history. The papers are preserved and available to scholars and nurses from around the world.

At the event, Rear Admiral Martin will speak on the timely topic of Caring for Those in Harm's Way, drawing from her own experiences during 32 years of active duty in the United States Navy Nurse Corps, before retiring in June 2005. Since completing her military career, she has been serving as CEO of the Vinson Hall Corporation in McLean, Virginia, and as Executive Director of the Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation.

Rear Admiral Martin was initially commissioned an Ensign in the Navy in May 1973 after graduating from Boston University School of Nursing. She went on to receive her Master of Science degree in both nursing administration and as a family health nurse specialist from the University of San Diego in 1992.

Following the receipt of her degree, Rear Admiral Martin assumed her first command in 1993 as Commanding Officer of the Naval Medical Clinic in Port Hueneme and subsequently, from 1995-1998, served as Commanding Officer at the Naval Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina. After being promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral, she was assigned as the Medical Inspector General, a position which she held until 1999, when she began serving as the Commander of the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, until 2002. During this time, she also held the position as the 19th Director of the Navy Nurse Corp. She then became Deputy Surgeon General of the Navy and Vice Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, before concluding her career in the military.

For her service, Rear Admiral Martin received numerous awards. Her military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal (two awards), Legion of Merit (three awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medal. She also proudly wars the anchors of an honorary Master Chief Petty Officer.

In addition to the address by Rear Admiral Martin, the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Boston University Nursing Archive Associates will include hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and the opportunity to meet with those dedicated to recognizing and honoring nursing professionals. RSVP for the event is requested by April 11 at 617-353-3697.

LOAD-DATE: April 6, 2008

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ALL THINGS ANIMAL IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND BEYOND

« Was it a deer? A kangaroo? Nope: a really big rodent | Main | Dog Day Afternoon »

Dispatch from San Diego: Primatologist Jane Goodall keeps a frenetic tour schedule



Times reporter Tami Abdollah sent L.A. Unleashed this dispatch from San Diego, where she is reporting an upcoming story on Jane Goodall (seen at left in a 2006 photo).

SAN DIEGO — About 300 middle and high school students listened closely this afternoon as Jane Goodall, renowned primatologist and a United Nations messenger of peace, did a "pant-hoot" chimpanzee call.

"Hello," she said afterward.

Goodall will spend two days here as a University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecturer.

Outside, before her half-hour afternoon talk, she planted a tree with members of the college anthropology club, grasping dirt between her fingers and throwing it around the trunk of a Pacific Madrone.

"I have to use my hands, even though you're supposed to use a shovel," Goodall said somewhat apologetically.

Once the trunk was surrounded with level dirt, Goodall carefully pressed her right foot over the soil to pack it in and then reached over to a leaf and kissed it. She asked the students to make sure the tree got enough water so that it could grow.

"It's a really good feeling to go somewhere, plant a tree and know it's going to stay there," she said afterward.

The San Diego stop is one of many she has made since she began her frenetic travel schedule after a 1986 conference in Chicago. There she learned about the destruction of chimpanzee habitat and about the conditions of chimpanzees in medical labs...

"...I went in as a scientist...I came out as an activist," Goodall said. "From that day until now, I haven't been any one place for more than three weeks."

She travels at least 300 days a year meeting with youth and encouraging them to care for their environment and the planet.

Tomorrow at 7 p.m. she will talk to college students at the University of San Diego in a lecture titled: "A Reason for Hope."

She will also sit down with this reporter for a one-on-one interview.

—Tami Abdollah

Photo: Anne Cusack/Los Angeles Times

Posted by Tony Barboza on April 16, 2008 | [Permalink](#)

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Our Bloggers

Tony Barboza, a Colorado native who moved to Southern California as a college student, is a reporter for the Times' Orange County Edition, where he covers the beaches and the city of Irvine. A lifelong animal lover, he lives with his 2-year-old cats Mario and Vincent.

Carla Hall, a general assignment reporter, has covered animals and their people across the state of California (and occasionally beyond.) She chronicled the Oakland Zoo's attempts to hand-raise a baby African elephant and followed the Los Angeles Zoo's LA-born gorilla, Caesar, on his trek to a new home at Zoo Atlanta several years ago. Preferring to get up close and personal with her subjects, she once fed corn cobs to the LA Zoo's now-deceased elephant, Gita (no connection between her demise and the feeding) and spent hours interviewing pit bulls at the Laurel Canyon Dog Park. Currently animal-less, she still insists on plying people with anecdotes about her cat, Arnold, who died ten years ago.

Francisco Vara-Orta has been a staff writer at the Times since 2006, writing about birth control for squirrels in Santa Monica and pigeons in Hollywood, the hidden culture of TV pet adoptions, and puppy theft. . . Although he grew up with pet dogs, he realized the sad realities of neglected animals after spending a summer in high school volunteering at a local shelter. An L.A. transplant, Francisco graduated from St. Mary's University in his hometown of San Antonio, Texas, where his dog Diego now keeps his mother company.

Questions? Comments? E-mail us at unleashed@latimes.com.

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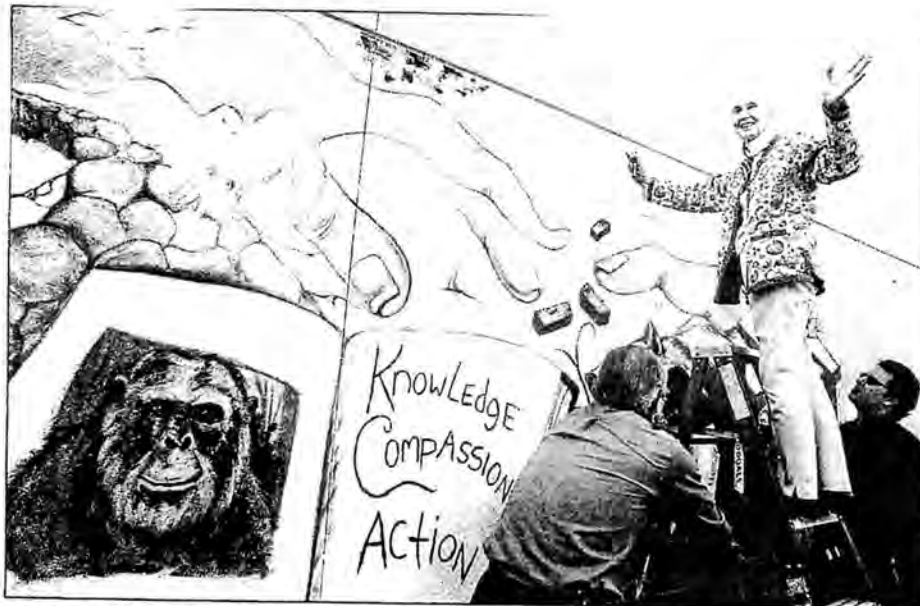
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April 2, 2008



Renowned conservationist Jane Goodall climbed a ladder with help from Assistant Principal Chuck Abel (left) and artist David Miller to sign a mural at Hillsdale Middle School. Miller guided students in creating the mural. *Peggy Peattie / Union-Tribune*

EAST COUNTY

Goodall arrives with message of hope

Chimp expert gives lecture, visits teens

By **Liz Neely**
STAFF WRITER

Even one person can effect real and profound change.

Just ask Jane Goodall, the world-renowned conservationist and authority on the behavior and plight of chimpanzees. Nearly 50 years ago, with little money and no college degree, Goodall embarked on what would become a lifelong journey. She has turned her dream into action, she said, and encourages others to do the same.

"You can use your passion, and you can raise money, and you can gather more and more people, and you can see the difference you make," Goodall told an audience of more than 500 people who heard her lecture. "A Message of Hope," last

night at Foothills United Methodist Church.

Goodall's stop in East County is part of her North American speaking tour, which also includes an April 17 stop at the University of San Diego.

During her one-hour lecture, Goodall talked about growing up in England during World War II, her lifelong love of animals and the unflagging support of her mother, who accompanied her to the East African country now known as Tanzania, where Goodall began observing and studying chimpanzees.

"It's an adventure that continues to this day," she said.

Earlier, Goodall met with children and teens who belong to Roots & Shoots, an international program created by the Jane Goodall Institute in 1991. The clubs encourage young people to make a difference with community service projects focusing on people, animals and the environment.

Clubs exist in nearly 100 countries, with more than 8,500 members worldwide. In San Diego County, there are about 10 active clubs.

Hillsdale Middle School in Rancho San Diego is one of the most established, and Goodall rewarded them with an afternoon visit. Later in the day, she talked with students from across the county about their Roots & Shoots projects.

But at Hillsdale, Goodall, who turns 74 tomorrow, was greeted with the giddy excitement teenagers often reserve for celebrities and rock stars.

The anxious and chatty students fell silent, though, when Goodall walked through the campus to view a mural they had painted in her honor.

They called out, "Welcome, Dr. Jane!" and broke into applause.

As Goodall signed the mural, which includes the likeness of one of her beloved chimpan-

zees, the names of inspirational world leaders, the school mascot and other images, students snapped photos with their camera phones.

Holly Hemmings, a former Hillsdale student who helped design the mural, attends nearby Valhalla High School. The 15-year-old admitted she was nervous just talking to Goodall.

"She's such a big influence, and she's impacted the world in so many ways," Holly said.

Goodall said the reception she gets from children and teens gives her strength. "I find it very moving," she said.

It's the only way she can keep up her hectic schedule, which keeps her on the road 300 days of the year. Goodall, who's also a United Nations Messenger of Peace, lives at her childhood home in London when she's not traveling.

Liz Neely: (619) 593-4961;
liz.neely@uniontrib.com



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ON SCREEN MUSIC THE VELVET ROPE LIFESTYLE SIDE DISH OFF THE WALL ON CAMPUS ARCHIVES NIGHT&DAY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

← COACHELLA: Who needs drums if you have lemons? | Main

Good Gracious: Jane Goodall at USD

On my way to seeing Jane Goodall on Thursday I got a little too in touch with nature.

The University of San Diego's campus was packed to the tipping-point with cars. Traffic was half way to Mission Beach; although the usual porches were replaced with prius' with Patagonia stickers. Inspired by the Goodall good-vibrations I took a note from her (and maybe Robert Frost) and took the road less traveled. While hoards of people walked up USD's concrete catwalk I climbed up a hillside. But somewhere between the wild plants and the golf-course vegetation that had gone rogue from campus I came face to face with the only wild animal I saw all evening (maybe I'm a little bitter that she didn't bring a gorilla...). I met a rattle snake.

Did we miss the irony of driving our cars to a speech about conserving the earth like I almost missed the rattle snake?

Jane Goodall is a world famous primatologist and Nobel Peace Prize winner. She is credited with much of the understanding we have of Chimpanzee's today. She unabashedly opens her speech with chimp noises, smiles, and moves on. She is a soft-spoken English woman whose internal strength helped her overcome real mountains (not just rattle snake hills.) She was unhindered by the prejudices of being a woman or the restrictions of class. A girl, whose family was once too poor to afford a bicycle, traveled to Africa and is today fighting to change the world.

When talking about Gombe Reserve, where Goodall did most of her research I couldn't help but be reminded of our own oasis of a campus. USD, like Gombe, is a green and lush refuge surrounded by metropolitan roads, and city commotion.

And, although USD traded it's Birkeniks for Birkenstocks for the night the reality of our University is one that Goodall speaks of. The campus, in striving to keep the city sanctuary, uses fertilizers, consumes water, and introduces non-native plants to surrounding environments.

Outside of Gombe Reserve, like in the Linda Vista area where USD lies, the harsh realities of class division become obvious. Many of the University's students, myself included, are painfully disconnected from the earth and our environment both naturally and socially. But, I, like Goodall, am optimistic.

Goodall grew up in a world where woman rarely attended college, but today USD's student population is 60 % female. Her speech was given blocks away from a center emphasizing the study of Peace. The University of San Diego has a nationally ranked recycling program among institutes of higher education.

University students are Goodall's first hope for the future: young people. She encourages students to avoid becoming jaded and apathetic. She pushes us to wake up. "Up in the north the ice caps are melting. What will it take to melt the ice of the human heart?"

We must listen to nature; be aware of what it's telling us about global warming and destruction and make a change. The environment, it seems, is like that rattle snake. If we don't listen to the warning signs we must be prepared to get bit.

Posted by Samantha Shorev on April 28, 2008 07:25 AM | Permalink [SHARE](#) [+](#) [-](#) [x](#)

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1. - Teenagers worth listening to ... a day before they play Coachella.
2. - Celebrate Earth at Balboa Park.
3. Pop Noir at Static.
4. Pray for Kehl's ability to maintain the sobriety to blog every last sweaty detail at Coachella.
5. 'Land of Sunshine' goes dark (info)
6. Another album by Gregory Page? Yes.

COACHELLA CHAT: Next year's lineup, a wish list (1)

Sean wrote: So David Dodde favours reunions eh?... [more]

FRO-YO: Yogurt World keeps it cool on Convoy (2)

wrote: Is it kearny or kearney? ... [more]

MORNING COMMUTE: The opposite of shotgun (6)

Derrick wrote: Technically, it's U.S. Customs and ... [more]

COACHELLA CHAT: Final thoughts on Friday (3)

garza wrote: Cut Copy is also coming to san dieg... [more]

MADONNA: Hear her new album tomorrow (2)

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George Varga's 'Who Made You God?'



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April 17, 2008

OUT & ABOUT

**JANE GOODALL GIVES
"A REASON TO HOPE"**
Thursday, April 17, USD.

(SEE LECTURES)



LECTURES

"A Reason to Hope" Jane Goodall, wildlife conservationist and U.N. Messenger of Peace, speaks on saving "threatened species, the planet, and ourselves" for Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series. 619-260-7550. Thursday, April 17, 7 p.m.; \$10.

CLASSICAL

Student Composers' Concert
Includes senior project by Tony Krzmarzick. 619-260-4171. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park), 12:15 p.m., Thursday, April 17. (LINDA VISTA)

Trans-Border Institute Conference Prospects for reform in criminal justice and human rights examined in "Justice Reform in Mexico: National and Local Initiatives." Registration: www.sandiego.edu/tbi. Monday, April 21, 8 a.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Walk on Water Students design, construct, and race buoyancy "shoes" across Sports Center pool during annual competition. Saturday, April 19, 10 a.m.; USD: University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (USD)

Los Angeles Times

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From the Los Angeles Times

Mystery surrounds Tijuana drug shootings

Newspapers are full of unattributed accounts of who was involved and who was killed. Mexican officials remain tight-lipped.

By Héctor Tobar
Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

April 28, 2008

MEXICO CITY — On Sunday, following one of the bloodiest days in Tijuana's history, authorities held no news conferences. The death toll in the gangland-style shootings early Saturday between rival drug traffickers increased to 15 from 13, after two men died of their injuries. But not even the names of the dead were released.

Instead, speculation, rumor and scattered news leaks filled the information vacuum after yet another battle in Mexico's drug wars.

And there were only tentative answers to the larger questions that worry many here: Is this violence between drug dealers a sign that the Mexican government is winning the wars? Or is it just another symptom of a country slipping deeper into an abyss of lawlessness?

Official silence is common in Mexico, where thousands have been killed in drug-related violence since President Felipe Calderon took office in December 2006. But many analysts believe that Calderon's decision to send thousands of army troops to Baja California, Veracruz, Michoacan and other states to crack down on the drug trade is reaping a type of dividend.

The government's efforts have disrupted agreements between trafficking organizations and corrupt officials, setting off turf wars among weakened organizations, analysts and government officials say.

"We wouldn't see so much bloodshed if the Mexican government were more complicit with these [criminal] organizations and just letting them have their way," said David Shirk, director of the Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego.

At the same time, the Tijuana shootout was just one of several seen in border communities in recent years. And unless officials decide to reveal more about who was involved and what happened, the true meaning of the bloodshed is likely to remain a mystery.

On Sunday morning Tijuana residents awoke to a rogue's gallery of criminal names in their newspapers.

"According to reliable sources," reported, the shootout was between rivals within the Arellano Felix gang.

Or maybe not. The national daily El Universal reported that the so-called Sinaloa cartel was to blame.

Several newspapers reported that among the dead was "Crutches," a.k.a. Luis Alfonso Velarde, a reputed local drug lord with a handful of YouTube video tributes to his name.

Another, even bigger "cartel" operative nicknamed "Mr. Three Letters" might be dead too, along with "La Perra," reported El Sol de Tijuana. And they may all have been ambushed by another cartel leader known as "El Cholo."

But no one was willing to confirm any of that on the record.

Official silence, many here argue, helps feed the culture of corruption. It is a widely recognized truth that drug traffickers operate in Baja California and elsewhere with the protection of some public officials.

On Tuesday, Gen. Sergio Aponte Polito, the commander of troops in the Baja region, took the extraordinary step of writing an open letter to a local newspaper that identified several law enforcement officials he alleged were linked to organized crime.

The letter's implicit argument was that officials who protect organized crime are likely to escape prosecution thanks to the culture of secrecy that surrounds law enforcement here.

"Isn't this corruption?" the general asked. "What a disgrace for the society of Baja California!"

Calderon's government has worked hard to clean up law enforcement. His top police official, Genaro Garcia Luna, has purged the Federal Investigative Agency of corrupt cops. Soldiers have temporarily disarmed police in Tijuana and other cities, and several reputed drug bosses have been extradited to the United States.

Yet the widespread violence shows few signs of abating. An estimated 2,500 people were killed in drug-related violence last year, officials say. So far this year, more than 850 people have been killed, according to tallies by news agencies.

The objective measures by which U.S. officials determine the strength of the drug trafficking business also offer a mixed bag.

The supply of cocaine declined in several U.S. cities during the first half of 2007, according to the U.S. National Drug Threat Assessment, a multi-agency report on the problem.

The drop in availability was probably a combined result of several large seizures of cocaine shipments en route to the United States, Mexico's anti-drug efforts, and warfare among rival Mexican traffickers, the report says.

By late 2007, supply "appeared to be returning to normal" in some U.S. markets, the report says. At the same time, the amount of cash smuggled in bulk from the United States to Mexico continued to increase, a sign that traffickers' revenues are still healthy.

"Mexican drug-trafficking organizations are the dominant distributors of wholesale quantities of cocaine in the United States, and no other group is positioned to challenge them in the near term," the assessment says.

Privately, top Mexican officials say that a decisive victory over the so-called drug cartels is impossible as long as demand for cocaine, methamphetamines and other drugs remains high in the United States.

The more realistic goal, one senior official said recently, is to keep the drug traffickers from dominating civic life in the regions where they are most powerful, including border cities such as Nuevo Laredo and Tijuana.

Although Calderon's efforts have reduced drug-related slayings in central Mexico, problems have "ballooned" along the border areas of Tijuana and Chihuahua state in part from narcotics traffickers moving their activities northward, Shirk said.

Shirk also said that the number of federal troops dispatched to Baja Norte and Chihuahua appeared to be lower, both per capita and in absolute terms, than those dispatched to Michoacan and other states where killings have diminished in recent months.

He said he was surprised to encounter only one checkpoint during a trip he took Friday to Tijuana, Ensenada and back via Tecate.

"Having troop inspection points plays a really important function of making the city less navigable," he said. "You can't just kill somebody and escape back to their lair."

hector.tobar@latimes.com

Times staff writers Reed Johnson in Mexico City and Richard Marosi in Tijuana contributed to this report.

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April 22, 2008

ACLU, rights commission from Mexico sign accord

SAN DIEGO: Stressing their joint commitment to protecting migrants' rights on both sides of the border, Mexico's National Commission for Human Rights signed an accord yesterday with the American Civil Liberties Union for San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Under the agreement, formalized at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego, the groups will "explore legal actions" challenging Operation Gatekeeper. The operation is the U.S. government's border-enforcement strategy implemented in 1994, which pushes San Diego's smuggling traffic farther east into the mountains and deserts.

José Luis Soberanes, president of the commission, said cooperative efforts will result in stronger migrant protection. The commission, funded through the Mexican Congress, is a public institution that is outside government control.

Kevin Keenan, executive director of the ACLU-San Diego, said the accord will allow his group to have greater effect. By working together with the Mexican commission, "I expect ... to have our views considered in a much more serious fashion than when it's just the ACLU speaking." -s.d.

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ACLU-SAN DIEGO AND MEXICO'S HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT TO PROTECT MIGRANTS' HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE BORDER

Growing Death Toll Called "Intolerable"

April 21, 2008

ACLU-San Diego and Mexico's Human Rights Commission Announce Agreement to Protect Migrants' Human Rights on Border



1 photo

SAN DIEGO – In a historic agreement to pursue joint strategies to protect the human rights of migrants moving across the Mexico-United States border, the ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties and the Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos today signed a document declaring common goals and principles to address the serious human rights issues.

The Memorandum of Agreement between the two organizations charges the parties jointly to explore legal actions to challenge Operation Gatekeeper and other programs that have contributed to migrant deaths, and to educate a transnational audience about the issue of human rights tragedies at the border. More than \$30 billion dollars have been spent on Gatekeeper since its inception, but the program has done little to prevent illegal entries—it has simply shifted them to the mountains and deserts east of San Diego, where migrants face much harsher conditions in remote, environmentally hostile areas.

The agreement was developed in reaction to the continually mounting death toll of now more than 5,000 migrants along the border, as well as the challenge of advocating on these issues effectively from just one side of the border. With respect to abuses by federal law enforcement agencies, for example, U.S. federal agencies have acted with immunity and a complete lack of transparency.

Kevin Keenan, Executive Director of the ACLU-San Diego and Dr. José Luis Soberanes, President of the Comisión, signed the agreement at the "Justice in Mexico: Evaluating National and Local Strategies" conference at the Joan Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, University of San Diego.

"Through this collaboration we hope to build bridges of understanding and justice, and tear down walls of prejudice and hate," said Dr. Soberanes. "It is intolerable that our two civilized nations have allowed so many deaths of migrants along the border since the adoption of Operation Gatekeeper," said Keenan. "By working together with Mexico's Human Rights Commission, we will hold our governments to account in ways that we could not do alone." David Shirk, Director of the Trans-Border Institute that hosted the conference, said, "We are pleased to serve as the backdrop for the signing of this historic

agreement, and hope that this partnership will lead to a reversal of the tragic trends that have plagued our two nations in recent years.”

The agreement calls for the organizations to host an invitation-only conference of experts in June to focus on bi-national advocacy strategies for attacking inhumane policies affecting migrants, especially deaths from border crossings; to meet again following the U.S. elections in November to update its plans; to cooperate on other lawsuits, advocacy efforts, and educational campaigns on a case-by-case basis; and to seek funding for these efforts in their respective countries. The ACLU of San Diego is not receiving funding from any Mexican source for its work.

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Press Release
MOA PR 4-21-08.pdf

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Beating Them With Their Own Sickle And Hammer

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The Aztlan Civil Liberties Union

Posted on April 23, 2008

Everyone knows that the ACLU are advocates for illegal immigration and open borders, but this takes the cake

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In other words, the ACLU has once again put American sovereignty at risk for its own agenda. It is working with a foreign government to litigate against and undermine the enforcement of our laws. What a bunch of crap.

Lone Wacko sums it up nicely:

The San Diego chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is now working with directly with Mexico's Human Rights Commission, a quasi-governmental group that's independent from but funded by the Mexican government. The ACLU is a very strong supporter of illegal immigration but in the past the only known link between them and the Mexican government was indirect. Any future news report on the ACLU's efforts regarding immigration should mention their new direct link, and if it doesn't please contact the news source's editor. They should also be asked about this at public meetings or wherever else they discuss these issues

This also follows Mexican president Felipe Calderon stating that they're going to use U.S. non-profits to push their agenda inside the U.S.

The release from aclusandiego.org/news_item.php?article_id=000383 is in the extended entry; note that they incorrectly blame border deaths on attempts to enforce our laws, when the actual culprits include those like the ACLU who take every step possible to encourage and enable illegal immigration. They'll be working together to "explore legal actions" against Operation Gatekeeper. They also say that the "ACLU of San Diego is not receiving funding from any Mexican source for its work", hinting that even they know what they're doing is wrong.

Michelle Malkin says: The ACLU should just drop the A.

Indeed. Unless of course it stands for...Aztlan Civil Liberties Union!

» Filed Under 1st Amendment, ACLU, Border Control/Homeland Security, News, Stupidity

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13 killed in Tijuana drug shootout

12:00 AM CDT on Sunday, April 27, 2008

The Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

TIJUANA, Mexico – Suspected drug traffickers clashed on the streets of this border town across from San Diego early Saturday in a wild and bloody shootout that left 13 people dead in a series of moving gun battles.

Gunmen began firing on each other with rifles and automatic weapons in a light industrial area east of the city, according to authorities, ultimately leaving a trail of corpses, spent shell casings and bullet-riddled vehicles across Tijuana.

Eight suspects and one federal police officer were wounded in the pre-dawn shootings, none gravely, said Agustin Perez Aguilar, a spokesman for the state public safety department. No bystander deaths were reported.

It's unclear what prompted Saturday's bloodshed, which is part of a recent spasm of drug-related violence in Tijuana. In the first four months of 2008, the city has seen dozens of kidnappings, assaults and homicides, including children gunned down.

Police said there may have been a falling out between factions of the so-called Arellano Felix narcotics cartel, which has long controlled the drug trade in this city. Or another cartel may be trying to move in.

Experts said the recent spike in violence undoubtedly is linked to a major offensive by authorities against drug traffickers, an operation that has strained delicate alliances between people who once cooperated in the lucrative narcotics trade.

"They are under pressure and turning on each other," Mr. Perez said. "We hope we have a lot more events like [Saturday's]."

Mexican President Felipe Calderon, in cooperation with state and local authorities, has sent hundreds of soldiers and federal police to Tijuana and other trafficking spots this year.

Results have been mixed. The operation has resulted in several high-profile arrests and seizures of caches of drugs and weapons, but organized crime has responded with unprecedented ferocity to intimidate informants and police and to punish rivals they suspect of betraying them.

The resulting violence has terrorized cities such as Tijuana, where cartel hit men have all but abandoned traditional codes of honor.

In January, gunmen stormed the home of Tijuana Deputy Police Chief Margarito Saldana Rivera, killing him, his wife and two daughters, the youngest age 12. A couple and their 3-year-old son were slain the same week in what was believed to be a case of mistaken identity.

City Hall had to be evacuated earlier this year because of a bomb threat. Public shootouts have sent pedestrians scrambling for cover and pinned residents in their homes for hours. Tourism has plunged as fearful U.S. day-trippers steer clear of the city's shops, restaurants and nightlife.

Still, the president's efforts have generally been popular with the Mexican public. And they reflect a heightened level of commitment by the federal government to neutralize criminals and weed out corrupt public officials and police, said David Shirk, director of the Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego,

"Even though it's bloody, even though it's costly, people like the fact that the government's standing up," Mr. Shirk said.

The situation in Tijuana has grown particularly volatile since a Mexican general this week publicly identified more than a dozen high-ranking public officials and law enforcement officers he alleges are in league with organized crime.

Gen. Sergio Aponte Polito made the claims in an open letter to the Tijuana daily newspaper *Frontera*. That led the president to order the general and top state officials to meet with the federal secretary of Defense and secretary of Federal Public Security.

Mr. Perez, the state police spokesman, said police seized 21 vehicles after Saturday's shootout. Some had U.S. license plates.

A security guard patrolling outside a convenience store near the initial confrontation on Boulevard Insurgentes, a major thoroughfare, said the gun battle there raged for at least 10 minutes.

The petrified watchman said he hit the pavement and didn't rise until long after the shooting had stopped. He said he saw abandoned vehicles, scattered weapons, broken glass, a blood-soaked bullet-proof vest and several corpses, including one with its head blown nearly off.

It sounded like "a war," he said. "I thank God that I'm OK."

The Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Drug war's body count still rising

Freedom New Mexico
April 30, 2008 - 10:56PM

The news that at least 15 people were killed in an early morning gunbattle in Tijuana, making it one of that border city's bloodiest days for violent crime, was shocking enough.

The shootings are still mildly mysterious in that Tijuana authorities still haven't said much. But it appears that two factions of the Arellano Felix drug cartel took out their disagreements on one another with rifles and machine guns.

Sadly, as violent as this battle was, it almost seems like a blip in Baja California's recent history of drug-war-related violence. Northern Baja has become Mexico's most violent state, with 400 gangland-style murders in 2007. More than 2,500 people were killed in all of Mexico in 2007 in drug turf wars.

Some commentators have tried to spin this bloodshed as evidence of success in Mexico's latest violent forays in the war on (some) drugs.

“We wouldn't see so much bloodshed if the Mexican government were more complicit with these organizations and just letting them have their way,” said David Shirk of the Trans-border Institute at the University of San Diego. Presumably, without so many corrupt government officials on the take and available to mediate disputes, the only recourse for the traffickers is the gun.

This is a shortsighted effort to see the bright side of a policy marked by unremitting failure and continuing violence. Every Mexican president has promised to get serious about Mexico's drug-trafficking problems and the corruption of police and other government officials that go along with it. Every new president starts bravely. And every president has failed – and will fail so long as demand in the United States for certain illicit drugs is strong.

President Felipe Calderón took office in December 2006 with similar promises. He almost immediately sent federal police to Tijuana to try to break the connection between corrupt local cops and drug traffickers. Violence increased. Just this January he sent 500 more federales to Tijuana.

The violence will continue so long as the U.S. and Mexican governments continue to wage a prohibitory “war” on certain drugs. Criminalizing drug use creates obscene profits and rewards those most adept at concealment, corruption and violence. The results are bloody and sadly predictable.

The solution is not even more government crackdowns but a decision to treat adults like adults when it comes to what they choose to put in their own bodies.



Officials silent after deadly gang shootout

<http://archive.gulfnews.com/articles/08/04/29/10209246.html>

04/29/2008 12:00 AM | Los Angeles Times-Washington Post

Mexico City: Following one of the bloodiest days in Tijuana's history, authorities held no news conferences on Sunday. The death toll in the gangland-style shootings early on Saturday between rival drug traffickers increased from 13 to 15, after two men died of their wounds. But not even the names of the dead were publicly released.

Instead, speculation, rumour and scattered news leaks filled the information vacuum surrounding yet another battle in Mexico's drug wars.

And there were only tentative answers to the larger questions that worry many here: Is all this violence between drug dealers actually a sign that the Mexican government is winning? Or is it just another symptom of a country slipping deeper into an abyss of lawlessness?

Official silence is common in Mexico, where thousands have been killed in drug-related violence since President Felipe Calderon took office in December 2006.

But many analysts believe that Cald-eron's decision to crack down on the drug trade by sending thousands of army troops to Baja California, Veracruz, Michoacan and other Mexican states is reaping a type of dividend.

The government's efforts have disrupted agreements between trafficking organisations and corrupt officials, setting off turf wars between weakened organisations, according to analysts and government officials.

"We wouldn't see so much bloodshed if the Mexican government were more complicit with these [criminal] organisations and just letting them have their way," said David Shirk, director of the Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego.

love from above

Los Angeles Times

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-census1-2008may01,1,4727970.story>
From the Los Angeles Times

Latinos still the largest, fastest-growing minority, census shows

They account for 15% of the U.S. population, according to new 2007 data. Minorities overall make up 34%.
By Howard Witt
Chicago Tribune

May 1, 2008

HOUSTON — The United States grew steadily more diverse last year, with Latinos holding on to their rank as the nation's largest and fastest-growing minority group, a trend with far-reaching implications for American politics and immigration policies.

Newly released figures from the U.S. Census Bureau show that the nation's Latino population grew by 1.4 million in 2007 to reach 45.5 million people, or 15.1% of the total U.S. population of 301.6 million. Blacks ranked as the second-largest minority group, at 40.7 million.

Overall, the nation's 102.5 million minorities accounted for 34% of the U.S. population, a new milestone on America's inexorable journey toward greater diversity and a harbinger of the growing political clout of nonwhites.

The latest population figures "certainly do suggest some dramatic changes, particularly in states like Texas and California that have experienced these population shifts first and fastest," said Karl Eschbach, the official Texas state demographer and a professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio. "What does this imply for the future of our country? That's a complex question. I would predict that by 2040, we would have a very different definition of majority and minority in America."

Tensions over America's growing Spanish-speaking population have been mounting in recent years, driven by the fears of many political conservatives that the country is being overrun by both legal and illegal immigrants, the majority of them from Mexico.

Anti-immigrant groups commonly estimate that 12 million illegal immigrants are currently living in the country, and a patchwork of laws cracking down on them and mandating English as Americans' official language have flourished at the local, state and national levels.

But the new population figures shed little light on that debate, because the Census Bureau does not attempt to determine immigration status as part of its surveys. What census officials are able to say is that of the 1.4 million increase in the Latino population last year, about 38% was attributable to new immigrants entering the country, legally or illegally.

"There's a real perception among some Americans right now that immigration is suddenly at their front door," said David A. Shirk, director of the Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego. "They are not used to it. They are not convinced that those groups are going to effectively assimilate. And they are very concerned that our way of life in the United States is going to have to change as a result of that."

Highlights from the 2007 census data:

- * Four states and the District of Columbia were regarded as "majority minority," meaning that more than 50% of their population consists of nonwhites. Hawaii led the nation, with a population that was 75% minority in 2007, followed by the District of Columbia (68%), New Mexico (58%), California (57%) and Texas (52%).

- * California had the largest Latino population of any state last year, with 13.2 million accounting for 36% of the total population. Texas was next, with 8.6 million (also 36% of the population), followed by Florida, with 3.8 million (21%).

- * Texas had the largest numerical increase in Latinos between 2006 and 2007 (308,000), followed by California (268,000) and Florida (131,000).

- * In New Mexico, Latinos constituted the highest proportion of the total population, at 44%.

- * Illinois' minority population reached 35%, ranking it 15th in the nation. The number of blacks (2 million) and Latinos (1.9 million) was nearly even, although the Latino population grew by 3%, while the black population was nearly unchanged.

- * Nationally, Latinos were the fastest-growing minority group, with a 3.3% population increase. Asians were the second-fastest-growing group, with a 2.9% increase. The black population grew by 1.3%, and the white population grew by 0.3%. Native Americans grew by 1%, and native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders grew by 1.6%.

- * Latinos are considerably younger than other population groups. They had a median age of 27.6, compared with 36.6 for the population as a whole. For blacks, the median age was 31.1; for Asians, it was 35.4; and for whites, it was 40.8.

Complete 2007 figures can be found at the U.S. Census Bureau website, www.census.gov.

If you want other stories on this topic, search the Archives at latimes.com/archives.

TMSReprints



Posted on Sat, Apr. 05, 2008

'Invisible Children' shining a spotlight on Ugandan refugees

By ROBERT BUTLER
The Kansas City Star

Religious faith can change the world.

Political movements can change the world.

But a movie? That's a stretch.

And yet "Invisible Children: The Rough Cut" has exerted a huge influence even before it begins screening in commercial theaters.

The documentary was shot in 2003 by three young men from Southern California who journeyed to Uganda and lived among thousands of homeless and often orphaned children, refugees of a civil war being waged against the government by a rebel group known as the Lord's Resistance Army, or LRA.

The LRA raided villages, often killing the adults and abducting children, who were trained as soldiers. Young people in northern Uganda learned to travel by night, to remain "invisible" to avoid being taken.

(The plight of young Ugandan refugees was also the subject of "War Dance," the Oscar-nominated documentary that played here last month.)

The three Americans — Jason Russell, Bobby Bailey and Laren Poole — not only made a film about their experiences, but they also created an international not-for-profit organization, Invisible Children Inc., dedicated to publicizing and relieving the plight of refugees of the Ugandan conflict.

"Invisible Children: The Rough Cut," a work in progress (the completed film will be released theatrically next year), will be shown at 7 p.m. Thursday in Whitfield Conference Room on the Avila University campus at 119th and Wornall. Admission is free.

The event is sponsored by two student groups, Avila's Concept and Design Production and Group Activities Programming.

The unfinished film was screened for the first time in June 2004 at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego. It has since been shown at schools and churches throughout the United States and abroad and has been instrumental in mobilizing young Americans to its humanitarian cause.

In large part that's because the filmmakers, themselves 20-somethings, have tailored their campaign to appeal to American teens, many of whom compare their own comfortable lives to those of their Ugandan counterparts and are moved to get involved. Many colleges, high schools and churches now have their own chapters of Invisible Children.

In addition, the group has lobbied the U.S. and Ugandan governments to take a more active role in ending the conflict. While the Ugandan civil war has wound down, more than 1.5 million people remain homeless, most living in refugee camps.

Invisible Children Inc. has raised money and volunteers to build schools and provide other humanitarian aid.

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The Harvard Crimson ONLINE EDITION

News

Fellow Presents Prison Injustice

PBHA fellow discusses her work defending the wrongfully accused

Published On 4/18/2008 1:43:26 AM

By **LAUREN D. KIEL**
Crimson Staff Writer

Perched on the arm of a red leather sofa in the Parlor Room of the Phillips Brooks House (PBH), Emily L.A. Maw told the story of Travis Hayes, who spent 10 years in prison after being wrongfully convicted of second-degree murder.

Maw, PBH's second-ever fellow, spoke about her role as the director of the Innocence Project New Orleans to members of the Harvard community yesterday.

Hayes was one of the 13 wrongfully convicted prisoners in Louisiana and Mississippi that the project has helped exonerate since its inception in 2001.

Even after Hayes' supposed co-conspirator was proved innocent, it took the project more than two years to get him freed.

During her talk, Maw showed PowerPoint slides bearing the name, image, and time spent in prison of each of the men the project had helped get out of jail.

The Phillips Brooks House Fellows program began last fall with funding from Jonathan I. Kislak '70. In September, the program brought its first fellow to campus: Dee L. Aker, the interim director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego.

The PBH fellow selection committee chose Maw from a pool of six candidates. Department administrator for PBH Zandra I. Kambysellis said the committee thought that both the diversity of Maw's work and her young age would appeal to students.

"She was someone we thought that students could really relate to because she is an emerging professional, though very accomplished," Kambysellis said.

On Wednesday, Maw participated in a dinner discussion with about 10 students in the Lowell House Junior Common Room.

Her time on campus will also include two lunch workshops with students, as well as a number of meetings with students and student groups.

Maw, a graduate of Edinburgh University and Tulane Law School, said she became interested in the death penalty in the United States after studying a case in college. After coming to the United States, Maw worked on death penalty cases for five years before getting involved with the Innocence Project.

"I really wanted to do something that had more of a collateral effect on the entire system," Maw said. "The idea that you can do casework that has a broader impact was really exciting."

—Staff Writer Lauren D. Kiel can be reached at lkiel@fas.harvard.edu

<http://www.thecrimson.com/article.aspx?ref=523154>

23 of 37 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 3, 2008 Thursday

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY TO HOST DISCUSSION ON CATHOLIC PEACEBUILDING

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 541 words

DATELINE: Washington, DC

The following information was released by Catholic University of America:

Twenty-five years after the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a pastoral letter on war and peace, Catholic scholars and practitioners will gather at The Catholic University of America on Monday, April 7, to discuss the Church's work on conflict resolution and promoting peace.

In 1983, U.S. bishops released *The Challenge of Peace*, which called on Catholics to contribute to creating peace around the world. Participants will discuss the progress of this challenge by looking at the theological, ethical and practical dimensions of the Church's work on conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconciliation.

Maryann Cusimano Love, associate professor of politics and Life Cycle Institute fellow, organized this conference as a founding member of the advisory board for the Catholic Peacebuilding Network, a voluntary network of practitioners, academics, clergy and laity from around the world that seeks to enhance the study and practice of Catholic peacebuilding.

At a time when Pope Benedict XVI's visit to The Catholic University of America highlights the contributions that Catholic universities make, this conference also highlights the contributions universities and organizations make to peace around the globe, Love says.

The conference, which will be held at CUA's Aquinas Auditorium, is part of a series of events on Catholic peacebuilding. Love also helped to organize Catholic peacebuilding events at Georgetown University and the University of Notre Dame.

Details of the event to be held from 3 to 5 p.m. follow.

Catholic Peacebuilding and Integral Human Development: Tensions and Insight from Practice

After the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, Catholic Relief Services made peacebuilding one of its priorities. Rev. William R. Headley, C.S.Sp., dean of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies at the University of San Diego and former director of the Catholic Relief Services Peacebuilding Programs, discusses what lessons can be learned from the agency's efforts to integrate peacebuilding and development.

What Kind of Peace Do We Seek? Emerging Norms in Peacebuilding Institutions

Maryann Cusimano Love will discuss how approaches to creating peace in Catholic social teaching compare to efforts to institutionalize peacebuilding in U.S. foreign policy and international organizations.

Peacebuilding and Reconciliation: Interfaith Dialogue and Catholic Spirituality

Rev. Peter C. Phan, the Ignacio Ellacuria Professor of Catholic Social Thought at Georgetown University, will talk about the role of inter-religious dialogue and inter-religious cooperation in peacebuilding.

[Print](#)

UN launches first expert team on conflict mediation

The United Nations has launched a five-member expert team which will help the world body deal better with crisis around the world, the UN Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA) has said.

The Mediation Support Standby Team will assist UN envoys charged with resolving crises and will spend most of its time in areas prone to conflicts, B. Lynn Pascoe, the UN undersecretary general for political affairs and a former US ambassador, said Wednesday while announcing the first such expert team.

"Successful conflict mediation is a complex enterprise requiring precisely the kind of mobile expertise this new team can provide," Pascoe said. "Even the most experienced envoys cannot do it alone. They can benefit from the kind of timely and expert advice that this team has to offer."

The team is funded by the Norwegian government but the UNDPA has the sole authority to manage the team and its work, including dispatching the experts to hot spots.

The team is headed by Joyce Neu of the US, the founder and executive director of the Joan B Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego.

Other team members are Jeffrey Mapendere (Zimbabwe), an expert on security arrangements; Patrick Gavigan (US-Ireland) on transitional justice and human rights; John McGarry (Canada) on power-sharing; and Andrew Ladley (New Zealand) on constitution-making.

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Other

5 of 37 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 2, 2008 Wednesday

WOMEN'S CENTER SUMMIT EXPLORES LEADERSHIP

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 765 words

DATELINE: San Diego, CA

The following information was released by the University of San Diego:

The USD Women's Center hosted their March 28 summit as part of Women's History Month, but the event provided plenty of valuable insight into the increasingly important role of women every day. The summit took an in-depth look at the role of female leadership, the political landscape for women and a panel discussion on the role of gender and leadership.

Sara Headden, a graduate assistant with the Women's Center, said the event explored ways to "empower women, open minds to the issues that help them identify as women, examine gender roles and to look for ways to develop more women leaders at USD."

Roundtable discussions opened the day with participants speaking and writing their own story in terms of exposure to leadership and thoughts on how it has influenced them before sharing these thoughts with everyone else at the table.

The next session offered two avenues for exploration.

One was showing the film documentary *Running in High Heels*, which explores the intertwining of sex, money and politics in the lives of everyday women and reveals the difference between what women say they want and what they act on.

The other involved Paige Haber, a teaching and research assistant and lecturer from USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) leading a discussion about progressive leadership models and theories based on female pedagogy. She had each person write down traits of male leadership and female leadership. She then discussed numerous leadership models, from perspectives such as the Great Man Theory to trait, behavioral, situational and relational theories.

Haber said studies show that the number of women in leadership roles has risen dramatically, but the growth hasn't been at the elite level. Haber said only about two percent of all Fortune 500 companies have female leaders. Much of the rise in the number of women leaders comes from new industries and self-made opportunities. Haber offered one interesting statistic - 420 women-run businesses are started every day. Following these sessions, Headden directed participants to ask three different people one of three different questions:

what is one thing you learned from either the documentary or the leadership lecture

what is your name and its significance

what influence has one female leader had for you

Noelle Norton, a USD political science professor, provided an interesting lecture on various aspects of the role of gender in politics. Hillary Clinton's involvement in the current U.S. presidential race was discussed. Norton explained several myths facing female political candidates and why they don't win: a reluctance to run for office; getting a later start in their careers as opposed to men; they're only running because it looks good to have a female representing the party; and an institutional barrier because there are more male incumbents.

Norton also touched on the need for more female voices on political committees dealing with women's issues and

looked at the landscape for female leadership in other countries. She spoke of gender quotas in foreign countries and how it has been a move in the right direction for the future.

A gender and leadership panel discussion was next. Three speakers - SOLES Dean Paula Cordeiro, Gina Bongornio, a graduate student in SOLES' Marital and Family Therapy program, and educator/author Virginia Loh - each spoke about leadership.

Women's rights have certainly advanced, but Loh believes today's woman needs to do more. We have not had to fight. Maybe we've taken it for granted, and if so, there's something lost there. I feel it is my civic duty to vote. I have a duty to serve. It's my duty to recycle, my duty to be more educated and to be more responsible.

Loh says women need to do a better job of helping each other. I think women don't network well. There's an old boys' network. Why isn't there a women's network?

The day ended with a look at USD's female leadership needs. The USD student body is 60 percent female. Two women - President Mary E. Lyons and Provost Julie Sullivan - hold USD's top administrator positions. Darlene Marcos Shiley is president of USD's Board of Trustees. Sydney McRae was recently elected as 2008-09 Associated Students President, becoming only the fourth female to hold that post. Women's Center director Erin Lovette-Colyer led an open discussion and participants spoke of ways to foster a better understanding of gender roles and respect for each other.

For more information about USD's Women's Center, go to www.sandiego.edu/womenscenter.

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April 2008

Rudolph and Sletten Inc. has been named general contractor for the \$28 million Hahn University Center expansion and renovation project at the University of San Diego.

The work is slated for completion in May of 2009.

Hahn University Center — which already is 33,000 square feet — will be expanded by 53,000 square feet. The center contains dining areas, meeting rooms, lounges, and offices for students and faculty.

Kevin Hom + Andrew Goldman Architects, PC of New York and Architects Mosher Drew Watson Ferguson of San Diego are designing the project.

It's the fourth job on the USD campus for Redwood City, Calif.-based Rudolph and Sletten's. Its other USD campus projects included the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, Donald P. Shiley Center for Science and Technology, and the School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

Daily Business Report

April 7, 2008

ADVERTISING

The **San Diego Advertising Club** presented 120 awards for excellence in 15 different professional advertising and graphic design categories to 38 different advertising and marketing companies at its 2008 San Diego ADDY's Creative Show Friday at the **La Jolla Marriott** in La Jolla.

Weldon Donaldson, who has worked in advertising sales for more than 40 years and has served on the boards of numerous nonprofit agencies and community organizations, was honored as the 2008 recipient of the Paula E. Sullivan Award for outstanding career achievement. Donaldson, a consultant with the **National City Mile of Cars**, worked at **KFMB-TV** for 24 years and has served on the Holiday Bowl Committee for 16 years. He has served as a board member for the **Hall of Champions, Crimestoppers, Downtown YMCA, Our Lady of Peace High School** and was a founding board member of the **San Diego Advertising Fund for Emergencies**, a nonprofit that assists local advertising and media professionals facing a life crisis. The Sullivan award is named after the woman who opened the city's first all-woman advertising and public relations agency in 1946.

ADDYs, were presented in three different categories -- Gold (1st place), Silver (second place) and Bronze (third place), as well as Best of Show. Categories included sales promotion, collateral materials, direct marketing, out-of-home advertising, non-traditional advertising, consumer or trade publications, newspaper, interactive media, radio, television (including cinema), mixed media, advertising for the arts and sciences, public service, self-promotion and elements of advertising.

Recipients of Best of Show awards were **MeringCarson** in the professional category for the agency's work for the **California Travel & Tourism Commission**, and **Brad Muramoto** of **The Art Institute of California-San Diego** in the student category for his work on **Petsmart**. Judges Special Awards were presented to **Murphy Design's Mark Murphy** and **Peter Delgado** of The Art Institute of California-San Diego.

Among the San Diego Creative Show recipients with multiple awards: **Bailey Gardiner** (one Gold, two Silver, three Bronze); **Farm Advertising** (five Silver, six Bronze); **Greenhaus Advertising** (one Gold, five Silver, six Bronze); **Matthews Evans Albertazzi** (one Gold, two Silver, two Bronze); **MEA Advertising** (two Silver, one Bronze); **MeringCarson** (four Gold, 10 Silver, nine Bronze); **Mentus** (one Gold, one Bronze); **MJE Marketing** (two Bronze); **Murphy Design** (one Gold, three Silver); **Savacool Secviar** (three Silver, two Bronze); **Shilo Advertising** (five Gold, three Bronze); **Studio Conover** (five Silver, three Bronze); **9Myles** (two Bronze); **Fishtank Brand Advertising** (one Silver, one Bronze); **Lyon Advertising** (two Bronze); **Mobile Marketing Nationwide** (two Bronze); **Ninthlink Interactive** (one Silver, one Bronze); **Red Door Interactive** (two Bronze);

Sapient Advertising (one Silver, one Bronze); **The Starmack Group** (two Bronze); and **University of San Diego** (two Bronze).

For the second year in a row, students from The Art Institute of California-San Diego swept the student competition with 34 awards to 12 students in 12 categories.

Student winners of multiple awards included: **Brad Muramoto** (Best of Show, one Gold); **Peter Delgado** (Special Judges Award, one Gold); **Kyle Klemetsrud** (one Gold, two Bronze); **Mina Lee** (one Gold, one Silver); **Ryan Rosene** (one Gold, one Silver, one Bronze); **Jordan Roach** (two Silver); **David Gonsalves** (one Silver, one Bronze); **Maeden Cruz** (two Silver); **Ana Galvez** (one Silver); **Victoria Labra** (two Silver); **Jose Elsinger** (two Bronze); and **Gabelel Meza** (two Bronze).

Student Loans in Jeopardy?

Reported by: Sharon Chen

Last Update: 1:11 am



At the University of San Diego's Financial Aid office, students are worried about their college dreams getting shattered.

"They're really nervous because they don't know if they're going to be able to get their loans," said Dolores Blackwell, Financial Aid Student Adviser. Blackwell says many students are so worried, they're even thinking about not going to college altogether.

With the U.S. economy in a slump, lenders are nervous. It's a combination of the financial market continuing to unravel in addition to the subprime mortgage loan crisis. Many lenders are putting college loans on hold while some are pulling funding altogether.



"Different lenders are reacting in different ways," said Judith Lewis Logue, Director of Financial Aid at USD. "What they really need to be concerned about is what's happening at the college they plan to attend, because it's different for different schools."

Logue has a brighter side to the story, she says funding isn't sinking college careers just yet, she says it all depends on the lender.

"Some of the lenders who got into it for the student loans -- and that was their sole motive -- they are falling by the wayside." said Logue.

According to Logue, USD only works with the larger lenders. She also says journalists aren't telling the whole story. While it has been reported widely on the lender crisis, she says not much has been said about the help on the way.

"The U.S. Secretary of Education has met with the U.S. Treasurer and they have made a commitment that there will be money for students to borrow," said Logue.

So whether it's money borrowed from the bank or the government, there will be money for education and that's news students can use.

Logue says for students new and returning, the best place to check for answers is with the Financial Aid office. They will no whether there is a problem and what is the best way to resolve it.

5 of 45 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 22, 2008 Tuesday

MAYA KEYES SPEAKS UP DURING USD'S DAY OF SILENCE

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 653 words

DATELINE: San Diego, CA

The following information was released by the University of San Diego:

The names were read, one by one. Each story accompanying the person's name was personal, yet sadder and more disturbing when the end result - death - was revealed. For Maya Keyes, enough was enough.

"I could stand here for a very long time; quote all sorts of statistics. They're really horrible. Between being homeless and losing friends to hate-crime violence, I have a wealth of equally horrible stories I could share. Experiencing these things one too many times is what shoved me into activism," said Keyes, who spoke to USD students on April 16 at Hahn University Center for National Day of Silence.

"All of these voices have been silenced by the hatred and intolerance of the people who still believed that LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) people are second-class citizens, that we don't deserve the same right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness that is afforded our heterosexual counterparts."

Keyes, 22, is the daughter of 2008 Republican presidential candidate Alan Keyes and his wife Jocelyn Marcel-Keyes. It was in 2005 that her parents, who knew of her sexual preference sometime before it was made public in 2005, kicked her out of their Maryland home and refused to financially support her college education goals. She initially attended Brown University on a scholarship, but said she's currently on leave. Keyes keeps busy through activism on behalf of LGBT community groups and volunteering for several organizations, including one that sent her to Southern India for one year to teach English and computer skills to tribal community members.

Keyes, during her 20-minute speech at USD, appeared slightly nervous at the podium. Her words, however, spoke volumes. While she praised the symbolism of having a National Day of Silence, a youth movement bringing attention to the silence faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, Keyes made it clear to the audience that silence isn't the only way to make a statement.

"So many people are willing to be quiet about these things and that's not really going to change. We can't expect the government to change it for us. We can't expect anyone who hasn't been through it to change it for us and we can't expect anyone else to do anything about it until we get up and start getting angry and we start making noise."

PRIDE, an alliance of students at USD who are part of the LGBT community and seek inclusion and acceptance on campus, embraced Keyes' appearance and her words.

"We wanted to have someone we could connect with, even if it was going to be a little uncomfortable," said Jessica Swetin, PRIDE's vice president. "I think some of the things she said were uncomfortable to hear, but that's fine. We all need to be open to that."

Claire Kelly, co-chair of PRIDE, said having Keyes at USD served as an inspirational voice for PRIDE members. "Before even knowing her story, USD hadn't brought too many young female speakers and to me that was important because right now, the majority in PRIDE are young women."

Swetin said Keyes' impact went beyond her speech. "Earlier in the day (on April 16) we had a discussion with USD

faculty and staff, Claire, myself and other members of PRIDE. We talked with them about some of the breakdowns in bridging faculty, staff and students on campus. In regard to the LGBT community, Maya was really helpful in bringing some issues to the surface and giving us direction on how to talk to our faculty, staff and the administration and how to take the next step forward."

April is LGBT Awareness month at USD. Among the next events occurring on campus is an April 30 candlelight vigil in memory of Lawrence King, a 15-year-old high school student in Oxnard, Calif., who was allegedly shot and killed in February by a classmate after asking him to be his valentine.

For more information about PRIDE, go to www.sandiego.edu/pride/

LOAD-DATE: April 23, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newswire

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3 of 12 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 10, 2008 Thursday

MUGS OF MESAS SHOWCASES SOUTHWESTERN ART

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 319 words

DATELINE: San Diego, CA

The following information was released by the **University of San Diego**:

A new exhibit at USD's David W. May American Indian Gallery features nearly 50 prehistoric mugs and bowls from the May Collection and explores the history of ceramics from the Southwest.

The exhibit focuses on an interesting and unusual type of prehistoric pottery found in the Four Corners regions of the American Southwest between A.D. 1000 and 1280, said Tim Gross, the exhibit curator. These single-serving vessels or mugs are found in sites like the Cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde and at sites in Chaco Canyon, he said.

Also on display are the Mimbres bowls from the May collection with beautiful depictions of life forms on their interiors, he added.

In addition to Gross' work, Paul Johnson designed the exhibit which features photographs by William Lile.

The free exhibit will be open from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and by appointment in the May gallery in Room 214 of Serra Hall. The exhibit will run through November. To arrange a viewing or learn more about the exhibit call (619) 260-4238 or go to www.sandiego.edu/anthropology/may/exhibits.php.

The David W. May American Indian Collection was bequeathed to the **University of San Diego** in 1994 by Zama May, in honor of her late son, David, who attended the university from 1969 to 1975 and tragically died of cancer at age 22.

Members of the May family were avid enthusiasts of the Southwestern United States and were especially interested in American culture and traditions. They traveled extensively, starting in the 1950s, camping throughout the deserts of the Southwest and visiting many of the most remote and inaccessible areas.

The collection now includes more than 1,700 objects, including basketry, pottery, wood carvings, jewelry, textiles, folk art, musical instruments, paintings, fetishes, ceremonial costumes and accessories, stone tools, weapons, cradleboards and dolls.

LOAD-DATE: April 11, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newswire

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2 of 12 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

April 10, 2008 Thursday

A CELEBRATION OF L.I.F.E.

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 483 words

DATELINE: San Diego, CA

The following information was released by the University of San Diego:

The themed phrase says it all: Living is for Everyone.

The University of San Diego is hosting L.I.F.E. Week (April 6-11), which offers education and activities for reminding the university community about the celebration of life. The week has already spotlighted human trafficking, immigration and, on Wednesday, abortion and adoption. A focus on AIDS (Thursday) and genocide (Friday) will complete the schedule.

An information table outside Hahn University Center during lunchtime hours on Wednesday offered information and a life-size poster explaining the "effects of abortion" as well as small fliers with emotion-filled thoughts from unidentified women who have had an abortion. "We made the decision together, but I've never felt so alone," says one flier. Another says, "Not even a day after, I'm already regretting it, just sitting here, wondering what he or she would have become."

The evening program featured a screening of Juno, nominated for four Academy Awards in 2007, including best picture, at the UC Forum. The movie told the story of a quirky 16-year-old who has an unplanned pregnancy and, instead of having an abortion, opts to put the baby up for adoption. The film shows awkward, funny and tender moments involving the lead character, her interactions with her own family, those around her and how she grows as a person.

Following the movie, Sarah Jensen-Elhoff, director of the Adoption Center of San Diego, spoke about its portrayal of adoption and about adoption as she knows it through her work. She answered questions from students, many whom saw Juno for the first time on Wednesday. Elhoff hadn't seen the movie until a month ago, but a friend recommended it to her.

"The point of it is that your audience, the young people, need to hear about adoption," Jensen-Elhoff said, recalling what her friend said. "This is a positive view of adoption to people who are experiencing unplanned pregnancies. They're not going to watch a documentary about adoption ... but it was presented in a very realistic way. She seemed normal. She wasn't the bad girl, not the drug addict, the runaway. She seemed normal. There were things that made it interesting. They liked her and thought she made a good decision. I think that's a positive."

A Mass for Peace, with a special life focus was held at Founders Chapel, on Wednesday night.

In addition to the daily spotlight on a different issue, students can vote on the best advertisement with the L.I.F.E. Week theme. There are 20 entries on display inside the UC for students to vote for the best one.

For more information on L.I.F.E. Week, which is being co-sponsored by Students for Life, University Ministry, Associated Students, Residential Life, Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and Sigma Phi Epsilon, go to www.sandiego.edu/administration/missionministry/

Inside USD

LOAD-DATE: April 11, 2008

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

San Diego Mayoral Candidates Spar

May 01, 2008
Alison St John



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(San Diego mayoral candidates participate at a forum at USD on April 30, 2008. *Alison St John/KPBS*)

The Primary election for everything except the Presidential race is less than a month away, and the San Diego mayor's race is heating up. KPBS reporter Alison St John has more on what the candidates had to say at a mayoral forum last night at the University of San Diego.

The most serious threat to incumbent mayor Jerry Sanders is businessman Steve Francis, who is massively outspending the mayor by paying millions of dollars of his own money for TV ads. Francis earned the first laugh of the evening.

Francis: I mean, I'm really the underdog here. I'm going up against the machine. I'm going up against a PR machine this city has never seen.

Sanders argues his almost daily press conferences are the fulfillment of a promise he made during his first campaign for mayor, when he beat Francis.

Sanders: I'm pretty proud of the way that we have communicated with the public and that's one of the things that I promised in the last campaign -- that I would communicate on things that go well and things that don't go well and I've given out a lot of bad information, not something that an incumbent mayor normally likes to give out.

In past press conferences of his own, Francis has made it clear seeing millions of his own money going out the door is not something he likes very much. But he argues that by not accepting any contributions, he is independent of special interests, and yesterday he issued the mayor a challenge.

Francis: You've raised almost half a million dollars -- over 60,000 has come from people or employees or clients of lobbying firms that who do business with the city of San Diego. Can you at least today join me and not take any money from anybody who is doing business with the city of San Diego, at least you can do that?

Sanders: I would be willing to accept Mr. Francis's pledge if he would shut his check book - put the \$4 million back in his checkbook, get rid of all of his ads. If he wants to do this based on \$320,000 donations .. You don't buy a lot of influence with \$320,000.

Sanders says \$320,000 is the lowest campaign contribution limit for any mayor's race in a big U.S. city . He says more than 8,000 donors have supported him financially in his last campaign and this one. Sanders says Francis' strategy demonstrates elitism rather than independence.

Sanders: What this amounts to is Steve is saying only wealthy people can run for office.

Defying this logic, mayoral candidate Erik Bidwell openly admitted he has only about \$300 dollars in his campaign war chest. Disarmingly honest and sporting dreadlocks, Bidwell, who is 25, is described on the ballot as an "entrepreneur" because he sells tee shirts.

Bidwell: I would argue that I definitely bring something to the table in that I don't know how things are done as usual.

Bidwell says he doesn't mind taking the risk of being politically incorrect.

Bidwell: I think that raising taxes might be a pretty obvious thing that San Diego needs to do - if that's the case, I think we need to go ahead and start paying a little more for our city.

Here Bidwell offers a real alternative to voters. Both Sanders and Francis agree they won't raise revenues with taxes -- at least not until they've got the city finances sorted out.

The fourth candidate at the debate, Floyd Morrow, a democrat, agrees taxes are already too high. He'd turn to the federal governments for more revenues.

Morrow: We can't continue to ignore the gorilla if you will in our play pen, we shouldn't be in Iraq.

Morrow talks about working together with federal, state and local governments to divert the billions being spent on the war to solve problems at the local level. Morrow is at the other end of the experience spectrum from Bidwell.

Morrow: I bring to the table about 20 years of public experience.

Twelve of those years were as a San Diego city councilman in the late 60s and 70s.

The final candidate in the mayors race, James Hart, didn't show up at the forum. While there are five candidates in the race, incumbent mayor Jerry Sanders and Steve Francis are widely seen as the frontrunners.

In closing statements, Francis talked about vision.

Francis: I want to take the best ideas of republicans and democrats, of labor and of business, of young and old, let's all come together, have a vision and work towards that, let's quit fighting.

But, says mayor Sanders, that's easier said than done. He goes back to "actions speak louder than words."

Sanders: I can't just stand up here and talk about visions and how I would do things. I have to talk about what I've done. Today I've talked about the steady progress we've made as a city in getting the city's finances back on track, an open honest city budget, you have to do that, you can't just talk about it.

But there'll be plenty more talk leading up to the June 3rd election. With five candidates in the race, if nobody gets more than 50 percent, there could well be a run-off in November.

Alison St John, KPBS News

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Mayor Sanders Goes On The Offensive Against Francis Campaign Ads

Reported by: Eric Collins

Last Update: 1:07 am

Mayor Jerry Sanders goes on the offensive against challenger Steve Francis and his campaign ads.

The gloves came off at Wednesday night's mayoral debate at the University of San Diego.

The incumbent says he's not beholden to developers and special interest money.

"Mr. Francis built his businesses that have made him wealthy on employing more lobbyists than anyone in San Diego," said Sanders.



Francis fired back.

When asked how he would solve San Diego's huge backlog of deferred maintenance, he pointed the finger at Sanders and the 40 million dollar lawsuit involving the controversial Sunroad building.

"We've already paid about a million dollars, a million dollars in outside legal fees, so it's those kinds, that's the kind of management that we're dealing with that causes us to have an infrastructure problem that we can't solve," said Francis.

Francis has spent more than two million dollars on television advertisements.

Sanders has spent about \$63,000 dollars on newspaper and Internet ads.

The election is June 3.

San Diego Daily Transcript

April 30, 2008

Chamber to host mayoral debate

In partnership with the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce will present a city of San Diego mayoral debate 4:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the University of San Diego Joan Kroc Institute of Peace & Justice Auditorium.

The mayoral debate is part of the chamber's San Diego Good Government series, sponsored by **AT&T** (NYSE: T), and will bring together business and civic leaders to hear from San Diego mayoral candidates Eric Bidwell, Steve Francis, James Hart, Floyd Morrow and current Mayor Jerry Sanders. **Source Code: 20080429czr**



Tuesday, April 29, 2008

editor@sddt.com

<http://www.sddt.com>

Source Code: 20080429czr

San Diego Regional Chamber to host mayoral debate

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

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The mayoral debate is part of the chamber's San Diego Good Government series, sponsored by AT&T, and will bring together business and civic leaders to hear from San Diego mayoral candidates Eric Bidwell, Steve Francis, James Hart, Floyd Morrow and Mayor Jerry Sanders. Following questions from a selected panel, audience members will have the opportunity to present questions to the candidates.

April 24, 2008

Charger Girls hopefuls go through their paces

By DAVE THOMAS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

They came from near and far Sunday, April 13, all with hopes of one thing: becoming a San Diego Charger Girl.

Several hundred young ladies auditioned for the team on the first day of trials at the University of San Diego. Those who made the initial cut (some 65 to 70) would move to the next round, with the final selections set for this Friday.

According to Charger Girls director Lisa Simmons, there was a possibility the auditions could top last year's turnout of just over 400 women.

"We have a huge talent pool to pull from," Simmons said. "We not only have former cheerleaders from several different NFL teams here, but we also have one woman from Japan trying out."

Women not only were auditioning from San Diego, but also from Orange County and Los Angeles, among other areas.

Along with those auditioning for the first time and those who didn't make the cut before, there were also 15 veteran Charger Girls who would re-audition on this day.

"I think it is more stressful for the veterans," said Simmons, a former Charger Girl herself. "On the one hand, they go in knowing so much more than those here for the first time. On the other hand, they know how much there is to lose."

Among those trying out for the first time were several girls from the La Jolla and Pacific Beach areas.

La Jolla resident Stephenie Sharp was making her first go-



PAUL HANSEN | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Pacific Beach residents Emily Griffiths (left) and Dawn Newbegin take a break from the Charger Girl tryouts at USD Sunday, April 13.

round at auditions. A psychology/biology major in college, Sharp said she met some new friends in the first hour of the day.

"There is definitely a lot of anxiety right now," Sharp said. "I'm here looking for the experience and it is a great opportunity."

Pacific Beach resident Emily Griffiths, who was born and raised in San Diego, was also trying out for the first time.

"I am so nervous," Griffiths said. "This would be a dream come true to make the team."

Griffiths added that she has been a huge Chargers fan and a season ticketholder for the last decade.

Fellow PB resident Dawn Newbegin was making her first attempt at landing a spot on the squad.

"I'm going to turn the nerves into energy," she said with a smile. "My sister was supposed to come with me today, but she didn't."

Newbegin added that she had

made some new friends and was excited to have an opportunity to make the team.

Simmons said she could definitely relate to the anxiety that those auditioning go through.

"At first they are nervous, then excited, then eager to get registered," Simmons said. "One of the great things about this is that many of them make new friends while they're here."

Simmons said the Charger Girls continue to blossom and have doubled their efforts in giving back to the community in the last two years.

"The Chargers as an organization have been extremely supportive of the Charger Girls," Simmons added. "They take a lot of pride in the team, and I have a lot of respect for the girls."

When all is said and done on Friday, a few dozen young ladies will embark on a new or return experience as members of the San

April 17, 2008



Charged up

Hopefuls flock to USD for Charger
Girls tryouts, including La Jollan
Stephenie Sharp. 15

Charger Girls hopefuls go through their paces

By DAVE THOMAS | VILLAGE NEWS

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VILLAGE NEWS/PAUL HANSEN

La Jollan Stephenie Sharp gets ready to audition for the Chargers Girls April 13 at USD.

areas.

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When all is said and done on Friday, a few dozen young ladies will embark on a new or return experience as members of the San Diego Charger Girls. ■

Charger Girl Auditions Commence April 13th

Written by Imperial Valley News

Wednesday, 09 April 2008

San Diego, California - The San Diego Charger Girls are holding open auditions on Sunday, April 13 at the University of San Diego's Jenny Craig Pavilion. Registration and check-in begins promptly at 9 a.m., followed by a preliminary dance audition starting at 10 a.m.

The Charger Girls are one of professional sports' most exciting and competitive dance teams. In recent years, the very popular day-long dance audition has seen over 400 hopefuls from across the nation and overseas try-out for only 28 highly-coveted spots.

"We are one of the premier dance teams in professional sports and our auditions are always hotly-contested," Charger Girl Director Lisa Simmons said. "We are always looking for a lot of energy and excitement on audition day. Applicants can expect a very competitive atmosphere."

Charger Girl applications are only available on-line at www.chargers.com and applicants must be at least 18 years old. The application along with a \$20 registration fee should be submitted via mail or hand-delivered no later than today for pre-registration status. Women are encouraged to send a 5x7 (or larger) headshot and/or full-body shot with their application. Walk-ups will be accepted at the door with a \$25 registration fee. Please make check or money order payable to e2k Sports.

Applicants are urged to arrive early, bring plenty of fluids and a light snack. A two-piece leotard and flesh colored tights/hosiery are required. Also, jazz, dance or athletic shoes are mandatory for the audition.

Judges will be looking for the brightest young talent with dance ability, crowd appeal and showmanship. Finalists can expect an interview and a final dance audition during the week following the audition.

Team members must have flexible schedules for twice-weekly rehearsals, games and public appearances prior to and during the season.

For additional information call 866-492-4337 or visit www.chargers.com

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News > Greek Affairs

Friday, April 18, 2008

Miss Greek competition raises \$20,000 for cancer organizations

By LIA GANOSELLIS, Alligator Writer

Friday, April 18, 2008 1:24 AM EDT

Print Page

UF's chapter of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity raised about \$20,000 for cancer organizations Thursday night at its second annual Miss Greek competition.

The event featured members of 16 UF sororities who danced, sang, twirled batons and played piano for a crowd of about 600 at the Phillips Center.

The money raised through the event will go toward the American Cancer Society and Bleed Purple Foundation, a cancer-support organization created by the University of San Diego's chapter of Delta Tau Delta.



(Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff) Virginia Bussey, Miss Phi Mu, performs a pantomime during the Miss Greek fundraising pageant at the Phillips Center on Thursday night.

Lindsey Rivers of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority received first place in the competition and a \$500 scholarship provided by the fraternity.

Rivers performed her own rendition of Leann Rimes' "Big Deal."

In addition to the talent portion of the show, each contestant presented a speech on the meaning of philanthropy.

Jesse Kirsch, chairman of this year's competition, said he was impressed with each girl's performance.

"Everybody proudly put forth effort in a different way," Kirsch said.

While entertaining, he said the most important aspect of the show was raising money for the cancer organizations.

Kirsch added that a member of one of UF's fraternities is undergoing treatment for testicular cancer.

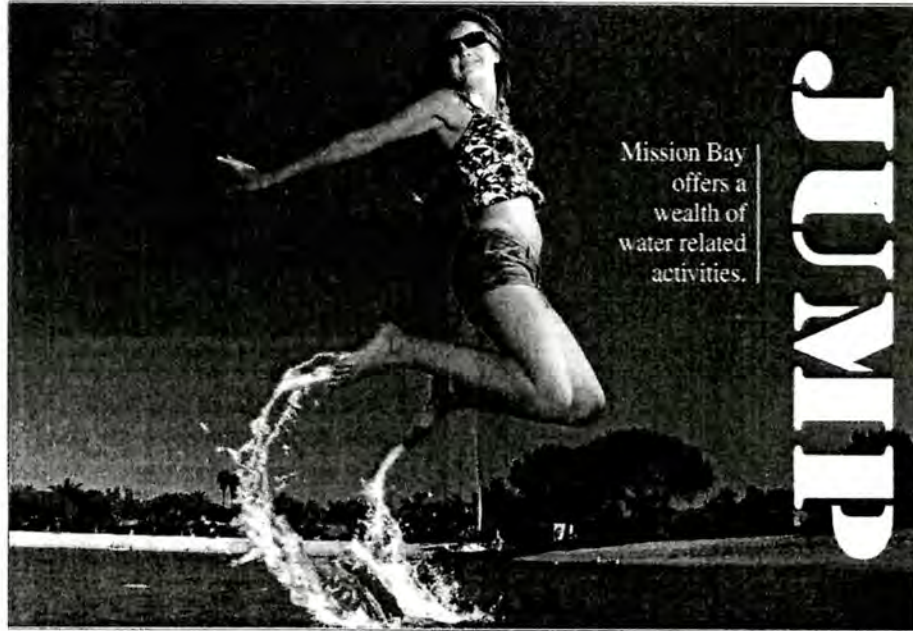
"Cancer is something that affects us all," he said.

Dani Black, a telecommunication sophomore who attended the event, said she was especially impressed with Jamie Dollinger's talent performance.

Dollinger, who represented UF's chapter of Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority, danced to a compilation of songs, beginning with "The Twist" and ending with "Soulja Boy."

"These events are crucial because it's a good way to raise a lot of money in a fun way," Black said.

She added that a little competition helps draw more support.



ROD DEUTSCHMANN / SCOUT MANAGING EDITOR

University of San Diego junior Holly Kidd jumps at one of the many 'hidden' coves in San Diego's Mission Bay. This weekend's warm weather saw the more popular San Diego beaches packed — with their parking lots filling to capacity early. But as many locals know, and is apparent in the above photo, there are plenty of hidden, out-of-the-way, beaches and coves that never fill — even at the height of the summer tourist season. While this photographer did promise not to give out this location, if you spend some time visiting Mission Bay — you're bound to find it.

ABOUT MISSION BAY

Mission Bay is used by motorboaters, sailboaters, rowers, waterskiers, picnickers, joggers, and swimmers. It is also home to many species of birds, fish, and other animals and has a nature reserve at its northern end near Crown Point.

The bay consists of 4,235.6 acres, approximately 46% land and 54% water. There are 27 miles of shoreline, 19 of which are sandy beaches.

Lifeguard staffing on Mission Bay beaches is primarily seasonal, usually beginning with school spring break, continuing with spring weekends, becoming daily during summer, and reduced to weekends after summer through October.

There are no significant currents on Mission Bay, nor is there any surf; but there is a hazard posed by the drop-off. It can be a particular problem for small children.

► DIANE BELL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

22-inning game is morning topic in Ireland pub

his Internet blog. "Suddenly I was no longer an anonymous zoo patron but a famous composer."

The zoo tour guide, it turns out, was a singer in the Master Chorale.

Dreyfuss coincidence

The appearance of actor Richard Dreyfuss at the Beach House in Cardiff on Sunday was a grim reminder to some patrons of the 1975 movie "Jaws." He co-starred in the dramatic tale of a great white shark terrorizing a tranquil beach community.

The actor recently bought a home in Encinitas and also owns a house that he is selling in Carlsbad.

The Longest Game

Linda Spuck was at a pub in tiny Dingle, Ireland, earlier this month, when she heard folks at a nearby table say: "Can you be-

lieve that the game went 22 innings."

They must be talking about the Padres, concluded the Union Bank executive from San Diego. Spuck had checked the Internet earlier that day and read of the Padres' 2-1 loss on April 17 to Colorado in the 22nd inning.

She chatted with the visitors, who turned out to be from San Marcos. They had checked on the Padres shortly after getting up at 8 a.m. Ireland time — and the game was still going.

Wedding news

Cuban-born Manny Ramos was shopping in a local Vons when he saw his daughter, Suzie, a senior at the University of San Diego, on the cover of a magazine.

"It was a bit strange seeing her there on the grocery store shelves with the other magazines, especially in a wedding dress," Ramos said. He notes that Suzie is neither married nor engaged.

Not to worry, though. She is an aspiring model and her first magazine cover was for *San Diego Magazine's* bridal issue.

Big bucks for books

Coronado resident John Her-

mann remarked about local author Charlie Jones' surprise at the wild sales prices on Amazon.com (up to \$144) for Jones' book of sports quotes. As it turns out, Jones was unaware that publishers had sold out of his book, so booksellers with remaining copies had raised their prices.

Hermann, likewise, says the third edition of his book, "Motorcycle Journeys Through the Alps and Corsica" (\$24.95 list), sold out last summer.

On Amazon.com, a German bookseller is seeking 243 euros (\$380) for a copy.

"The French are a little more sober — only 80 euros (\$125)," Hermann says.

In Japan, the price was up to 13,000 yen (\$125) for a used copy. In Great Britain, a used book was even more — 65 pounds (\$129).

Potential buyers, though, may be relieved to hear that a fourth edition of Hermann's book is now available — for \$29.95.

Diane Bell's column appears Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Fax items to (619) 260-5009; call (619) 293-1518; e-mail to diane.bell@uniontrib.com; or mail to The San Diego Union-Tribune, Box 120191, San Diego 92112-0191.

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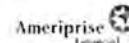
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Juliet Brace, Eric Torykian

Published April 27, 2008

Juliet Elizabeth Brace and Eric Aram Torykian were married on Saturday in San Diego. The Rev. Richard T. McCue, a Roman Catholic priest, performed the ceremony at Founders Chapel on the campus of the University of San Diego.



The bride, 35, is the director of marketing at FMT Consultants, a computer software company in Carlsbad, Calif. She graduated from the University of California, San Diego. She is a daughter of Dee J. McKinsey of Salida, Calif., and N. Lee Brace of Bakersfield, Calif.

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The bridegroom, 36, is a mortgage banker at a Las Vegas branch of Countrywide Bank. He is also a vice president of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation, an organization of which his father was a founder that benefits the children of servicemen and women killed in action and of federal law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. He graduated from the University of San Diego and has a master's degree from the University of Southern California. He is the son of Mary Lou Torykian and Richard P. Torykian Sr. of Rockville Centre, N.Y.

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To find reference information about the words used in this article, double-click on any word, phrase or name. A new window will open with a dictionary definition or encyclopedia entry.

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Newspaper awards five scholarships for \$1,000

4.15.2008

EASTON, Md. — Henry Bennett, Brice Collamer, Adam Holter, Kristin Hulshart and Katie Scott are the 2008 recipients of \$1,000 scholarships from The Delmarva Farmer.

These five students were chosen from a pool of 120 applicants from Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey. Over the course of March, members of the scholarship committee read each application and sat down to debate the merits of all 120 applicants.

"We were very excited this year with the quality of the applicants," said Stephanie Jordan, chairwoman of the scholarship committee. "Each student works hard, both in the classroom and in the agricultural community, and that's really inspiring to see. And as an added bonus, we got to award five \$1,000 scholarships this year.

"It's unfortunate that we can't help each and every applicant. We were impressed with each student's dedication to school and to agriculture, and hopefully, in the future, we'll be able to give out even more scholarships."

Jordan also encourages students who were not awarded scholarships this year to apply again next year.

Applications will be made available in January 2009 for the 2009-10 school year.

Henry Bennett, of Frankford, Del., is a senior at Indian River High School, and will be attending the University of San Diego. He will be majoring in business and marketing, and minoring in Spanish.

Brice Collamer, of Hanover, Pa., is a senior at South Western High School and will attend an out-of-state school to major in engineering.

Adam Holter, of Jefferson, Md., is a senior at Middletown High School and will be attending Frederick Community College with the intent of transferring to Shepherd University.

Kristin Hulshart, of Macungie, Md., is a junior at Delaware Valley College and is majoring in horticulture and commercial crop production and marketing/plant health management.

Katie Scott, of Laurel, Del., received her associates in applied science in production agriculture from Delaware Technical and Community College and is currently attending the University of Delaware to obtain her bachelor's degree.

Detailed profiles of each scholarship winner will appear in The Delmarva Farmer golf tournament supplement in August.

LARGEST EMPLOYERS

Ranked by total number of local employees as of April 1, 2008

Rank (last year)	Company Address Web site	Telephone Fax Toll-free number	Total number of employees: • 2008 • 2007 • % change (loss)	Full-time employees: • 2008 • 2007	Part-time employees: • 2008 • 2007	Company description	Local executive • Title(s)	Personnel manager	Parent company • Location	Year established locally
1 (1)	State of California 1350 Front St., #604, San Diego 92101 www.ca.gov	(619) 525-4641 (619) 525-4640	41,400 40,600 (1)	na na	na na	Administration of state functions, services and agencies	na na	na	na na	1850
2 (2)	Federal Government (various locations) www.usa.gov	(800) 689-9889	40,800 (2) 39,900	na na	na na	Administration of federal functions, services and agencies	na na	na	na na	1850
3 (3)	UC San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla 92093 www.ucsd.edu	(658) 534-2230 (658) 534-5529	30,078 26,924 (2)	18,775 16,399	11,303 10,525	Higher education, research and health care	Marye Anna Fox chancellor	Thomas R. Luetj	na La Jolla	1960
4 (4)	County of San Diego 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego 92101 www.co.san-diego.ca.us	(619) 531-5100 (619) 531-6076	16,303 16,147	16,086 15,982	237 165	Municipal and regional government services	Whiter board chief administrative officer	Carlos Aranz	na San Diego	1850
5 (5)	San Diego Unified School District 4100 Normal St., San Diego 92103 www.sdsd.net	(619) 725-8200 (619) 291-7182	15,800 (3) 14,555	na na	na na	Public education	Terry Grier superintendent of schools	Sam Wang	na na	1954
6 (6)	Sharp HealthCare 6625 Spectrum Center Blvd., San Diego 92123 www.sharp.com	(619) 499-4000 (619) 499-4140 (600) 827-4277	14,390 13,872	5,328 5,949	5,064 4,923	Health care, hospitals, medical groups, health services, health plan	Mike Murphy president and CEO	Janel Vitalekos	na San Diego	1946
7 (7)	Scripps Health 4275 Campus Point Court, San Diego 92121 www.scripps.org	(619) 676-7200 (619) 676-6757 (600) 727-4777	11,690 10,866	8,571 7,902	3,119 3,064	Hospitals, medical offices and clinics, home health services	Chris Yan Gorder president and CEO	Vic Buzachero	na na	1924
8 (9)	City of San Diego 202 C St., San Diego 92101 www.sandiego.gov	(619) 236-6400 (619) 236-5515	11,054 11,195 (1)	9,405 9,655	1,559 1,540	Municipal government-public agency	Jerry Sanders mayor	Hadi Dehghani	na San Diego	1850
9 (10)	Qualcomm Inc. 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego 92121 www.qualcomm.com	(658) 587-1121	9,444 8,211 15	na na	na na	Develops, delivers digital wireless communications products and services	Paul E. Jacobs CEO	Daniel Sullivan	Qualcomm Inc. San Diego	1985
10 (11)	Kaiser Permanente 4647 Zen Ave., San Diego 92120 www.kp.org	(619) 528-5000 (619) 528-7535 (600) 464-4000	7,608 7,330 (4) 1	4,362 4,853	3,246 2,477	Health care, hospital, outpatient surgical centers, urgent care clinics	Nathaniel L. Gobre senior vice president	Cherie Sampson	Kaiser Foundation Hospital/Health Plan Oakland	1967
11 (8)	San Diego State University-EMC 5300 Campanile Drive, San Diego 92182 www.sdsu.edu	(619) 594-5200	6,939 11,247 (3)	2,589 3,621	4,370 7,616	Higher education	Stephen Weber president	Rachel Thaler	na na	1805
12 (12)	U.S. Postal Service, San Diego District 11251 Rancho Carmel Drive, San Diego 92199 www.usps.com	(619) 674-0420 (600) 275-8777	6,854 6,946 (1)	5,885 6,187	969 759	Provides worldwide mail service, handling 44 percent of world's mail volume	John Platt San Diego District manager	Belinda Olson	U.S. Postal Service Washington, D.C.	1869
13 (13)	AT&T 121 W. Broadway, San Diego 92102 www.att.com	(600) 310-2355	5,600 5,600 0	na na	na na	Wireless, television, high-speed internet and voice services	Mark Lucile vice president	na	AT&T Inc. San Antonio	1877
14 (15)	Sempra Energy 101 Ash St., San Diego 92101 www.sempra.com	(619) 696-2000 (619) 696-4379	5,092 5,264 (3)	4,837 5,040	255 224	Energy services and infrastructure	Donald E. Felsinger CEO and chairman	Joyce Rowland	Sempra Energy San Diego	1908
15 (14)	San Diego Community College District 3375 Camino del Rio S., San Diego 92108 www.sdccd.edu	(619) 308-0500 (619) 388-8913	4,850 4,778 4	2,073 1,868	2,777 2,910	Associate degrees in academic and vocational majors	Constance M. Carroll chancellor	Wayne Murphy	na na	1914
16 (16)	General Dynamics NASSCO 2794 E. Harbor Drive, San Diego 92113 www.nassco.com	(619) 544-3400 (619) 544-7605	4,700 4,600 2	na 4,610	na na	Design, construction and repair of ocean-going vessels	Fred Harris president	Don Dame	General Dynamics Falls Church, Va.	1959
17 (18)	Northrop Grumman Corp. 9376 Spectrum Center Blvd., #2121, San Diego 92123 www.northropgrumman.com	(658) 514-9000 (658) 499-0100	4,190 4,155 1	na na	na na	Command and control and communication solutions	John Pardo corporate lead executive	Rady Lozano	Northrop Grumman Corp. Los Angeles	1959
18 (17)	SAIC 10260 Campus Point Drive, San Diego 92121 www.saic.com	(619) 826-6000	4,156 4,549 (9)	na na	na na	Provides scientific, engineering, systems integration and technical services and solutions	Ken Dahlberg CEO and chairman	Bernie Theale	SAIC San Diego	1969
19 (22)	General Atomics P.O. Box 85608, San Diego 92186 www.ga.com	(619) 455-3000 (619) 455-3621	3,716 3,046 22	3,665 3,007	51 39	Defense and energy systems	J. Neal Blue CEO and chairman	Karin Yatar	General Atomics San Diego	1955
20 (20)	Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego 3020 Children's Way, San Diego 92123 www.rchsd.org	(619) 576-1700 (619) 968-4057 (619) 768-9029	3,516 3,260 8	2,324 2,172	1,192 1,087	Health care for children of all ages, regional pediatric trauma center	Kathleen Sellick president and CEO	Robert Braithwaite	Rady Children's Hospital & Health Center San Diego	1954
21 (21)	University of San Diego 5928 Alcalá Park, San Diego 92110 www.sandiego.edu	(619) 290-4500 (619) 790-9537	3,230 3,196 1	1,429 1,341	1,801 1,857	Private university	Mary Lyons president	Gregory Poppe	na na	1948
22 (NR)	Palomar College 1140 W. Mission Road, San Marcos 92069 www.palomar.edu	(760) 744-1150 (760) 744-8123	3,199 2,809 14	768 749	2,431 2,060	Community college	Robert Deegen na	John Tortorolo	na na	1946
23 (NR)	Elite Show Services Inc. 2678 Camino del Rio S., #260, San Diego 92108 www.eliteshowservices.com	(619) 574-1589 (619) 574-1588	3,123 2,821 10	287 268	2,838 2,563	Facility and event staffing, management and consulting	John Koriopoulos president and CEO	Cheryl Chile	na San Diego	1995
24 (19)	Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino 1832 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside 92040 www.barona.com	(619) 443-2300 (619) 938-1270 (658) 722-7662	3,100 3,463 (10)	na 3,400	na 65	Gaming and hospitality	Rick Salinas HR manager	Rick Salinas	Barona Band of Mission Indiana San Diego	2002
25 (23)	Palomar Pomerado Health 15255 Inwood Drive, San Diego 92128 www.pph.org	(619) 675-5100 (619) 675-5132 (600) 628-2380	3,016 3,124 (3)	2,357 2,476	659 648	Inpatient hospital services, outpatient services, home care, health education	Walter George chief human resource officer	Janel Workman	na na	1950

In case of a tie, employers are ranked alphabetically.
 - and - Without data
 - na Not available
 - NR Not ranked
 - (NR) Not ranked
 - (2) Not ranked
 - (3) Not ranked
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 - (17) Not ranked
 - (18) Not ranked
 - (19) Not ranked
 - (20) Not ranked
 - (21) Not ranked
 - (22) Not ranked
 - (23) Not ranked

Source: The companies and the California State Employment Development Department.
 It is not the intent of this list to endorse the participants nor to imply a company's size or numerical rank indicates its quality.
 (1) Employment figures are as of April 1, 2007, and obtained through the California State Employment Development Department.
 (2) Employment figures are as of Jan. 1, 2008.
 (3) Figures provided by San Diego Unified School District Web site.
 (4) Includes staff and physicians.

Researched by Kevin Black

EarthFair: a great way to spend a Sunday

A QUICK GUIDE TO WHAT TO SEE AND DO AT THIS LANDMARK EVENT.

by Chris Klein

San Diego EarthWorks annual EarthFair in Balboa Park is the largest free annual environmental fair in the world. EarthFair 2008 will be our 19th anniversary. Each year, the EarthFair draws around 60,000 visitors.

Produced by 400 volunteers, EarthFair 2008 will feature more than 250 exhibitors, special theme areas, a Food Pavilion, a special Kids' Activity Area, five entertainment venues, the Children's Earth Parade (All Species Welcome) and Alternative Fuel Vehicle Show.

Exhibitors

The exhibitors form the heart of EarthFair. They represent every type of environmental organization, governmental program and commercial enterprise with goods, services and causes that address our environment and quality of life. EarthFair exhibitor fees are graduated to allow everyone to participate, from the smallest club to the largest corporation.

It's impossible to list everything you'll find at EarthFair: traditional conservation organizations, wildlife preservation groups, products made from natural and organically grown crops, organic gardening information, alternative energy vehicles, eco-tourism opportunities, many alternative and traditional health care products and services, pet adop-

tion services, clean air and clean water products, rainforest preservation groups... the list goes on and on.

If your organization, club, or company is interested in exhibiting at EarthFair, please visit www.EarthDayWeb.org.

Special for Kids

In our Children's' Activity Area, sponsored by Pardee Homes, you'll find crafts, games, face painting, storytelling, and a hands-on activities for children of all ages. Activities are designed to educate, entertain and inspire youth, in the spirit of Earth Day. This year, participants will learn to make paper out of recycled junk mail, find out about recycling, make gift cards from recycled materials, and take part in a number of eco-friendly crafts. Our Children's Stage features youth-oriented performances throughout the day.

Entertainment

EarthFair will feature five stages. We've already mentioned the Children's Stage, featuring music, song and storytelling aimed at the younger set. The Sun Stage (behind the Hall of Champions), and Moon Stage (at Park and Presidents Way) will feature a variety of contemporary music by local artists. The Folk Music Stage (by the U.N. building), hosted by the San Diego Folk Music Heritage Society, will feature some of our city's finest folk music artists. Finally, the Magic Stage, in front of the Lily Pond along El Prado, will host the "Wizard of Water" show: magic, music and dance all wrapped around water education.

Green Building

Exhibits in the Pan American Plaza showcase products and technologies that can make your home more environmentally sustainable. If you're building a new structure, or adding to an existing home, alternative home-building technologies, such as straw bale and steel-frame construction, will be of interest. Find out about energy- and resource-saving products and materials, like energy-efficient appliances and low-E windows. A wide variety of solar electric systems – available now, to help you get off the grid – will be shown.

eARTh Gallery

The eARTh Gallery features works by artists using recycled materials or showing depictions of "Endangered Spaces" in San Diego County. The artwork will be presented next to the Children's Area in the Pan American Plaza (close to the Auto Museum).

Food Pavilion

Tired of the nitrate-filled hot dogs and sugar-loaded sodas you usually get at large public events? Then step right up to our Food Pavilion for a change of pace. You'll find out-of-the-ordinary vegetarian fare that will make you wish it was available in the park all year long. The Food Pavilion is located on the grass field by Park Blvd. and Presidents Way.

Children's Earth Parade

The Children's Earth Parade (All Species Welcome) starts at 10:30 am by the Spanish Village and marches through the Park to the Children's Area in the Pan American Plaza. Participants are invited to dress up as endangered species, present their favorite earth-friendly messages. To find out more about the Children's Earth Parade, including how you can participate, please visit www.EarthDayWeb.org.

Cleaner Car Concourse

The Cleaner Car Concourse features vehicles of all descriptions that run on alternative fuels (hybrids included) or are particularly energy efficient. This isn't just "the future": these are vehicles being used on the road today. The vehicles will be on display in the Pan American Plaza.

Do you have a vehicle that belongs in the show? Visit the website for more information and to register.

Stuff to Buy

You'll see lots of stuff to buy at EarthFair. As in previous years, non-profit organizations are free to sell goods and services to support their operations. In fact, for many of the smaller non-profits, EarthFair can be a significant source of funding for their activities.

(Continued on page 31)

Earth Artists

Do you have art works or craft pieces that are made from recycled, found or sustainable natural materials, or that are concerned with the environment? If so, we invite you to display your works at the **eARTh Gallery** at EarthFair on April 20. There is no charge to show your works, and a modest fee if you would like to offer them for sale.

You can register for the eARTh Gallery online at the EarthWorks website, www.EarthDayWeb.org. For more information, please call the EarthWorks office at: (858) 272-7370.

EarthFair Sponsors

San Diego EarthWorks Acknowledges and thanks our sponsors and supporters without whose generous support the EarthFair would not be possible:

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Children's Sky Stage Children's Area

Produced by Betsy Hawkins

- 10:15 Aunt Tille the Clown & Arch – *Interactive Dance, Guitar & Marionettes*
- 11:15 Josiah the Musical Storyteller
- 12:15 Dance Scene – *Children's Variety Dance*
- 1:30 Capoeira Brasil – *Afro-Brazilian martial arts*
- 2:15 Dona & Michael with Wilma the Python – *Read Aloud Stories*
- 3:15 All Star Dancers – *Tap and Ballet*
- 4:00 Bafflin' Bill Cody – *Magic*

Moon Stage

Park & Presidents Way

Produced by Keeth Mahoogan Productions

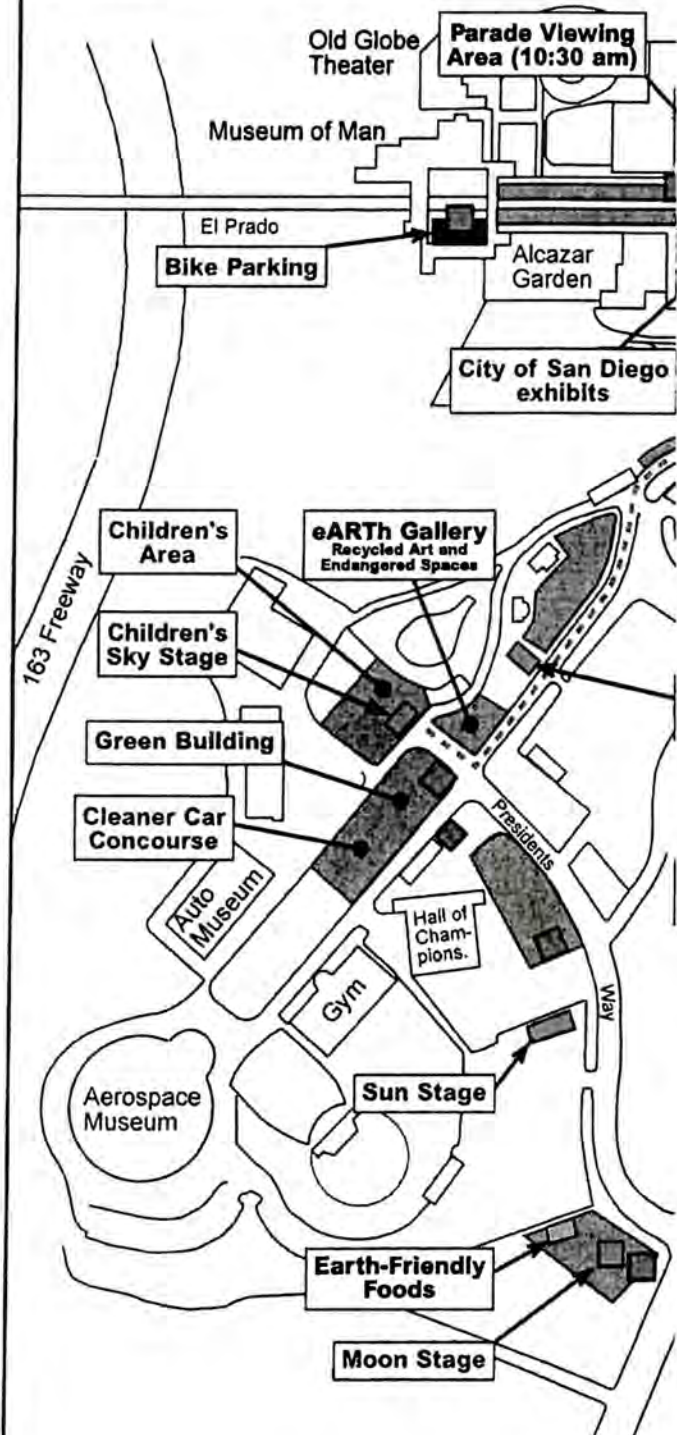
- Manganista
- TapWater
- Sara Meslrow

Multi-Cultural Earth Day World Beat Cultural Center

Music – Exhibitors – Food

San Diego EarthWorks presents ... **EARTHFAIR 2008**

April 20 • Balboa Park • 10am - 5pm
www.EarthDayWeb.org



April 20, 2008

Come join our campus

South County hopes to attract Weber's interest

A proposal to SDSU President Stephen Weber: The big news out of South County has probably reached you on Montezuma Mesa.

Otay Land Co. is providing 210 acres and \$2 million in planning money for Chula Vista's university campus. The project already has 550 acres, and Otay Ranch Co. may cut a similar deal soon.

Now, the site has highway access and a fine shopping center nearby. Major land holdings are set aside for an Eastern Urban Center (read hotels, offices and condo towers) and a Regional Technology Center (tomorrow's energy research leaders in a world going increasingly green). South County officials are confident Otay Land and Otay Ranch will do University Village housing right.

No mini-dorms here. Oops, we forgot that "mini" and "dorm" are four-letter words to you,

President Weber.

South County has land — land! And open space. Weber doesn't have much open space. Economic incentives? Wait until President Weber sees what Aunt Cindy (economic development guru Gompper-Graves) has cooked up. There may even be a football stadium for the Aztecs to play in.

South County has been flirting with the likes of PLNU, USD, a UCSD grad program, High Tech High and Monterrey Tech on a consortium campus. They're high scholastic achievers, no doubt, but not Big Man on Campus material like SDSU.

South County has landed an international energy research institute, the only one in North America. It's housed temporarily at San Diego State. But quicker than you can say "grant money," it will be the cornerstone of South County's new campus. SDSU faculty members can follow it — or be left behind.

North County Times

April 2, 2008

Academy for Business Success classes to begin — The University of San Diego's Office of Corporate and Professional Education invites businesses to attend the Academy for Business Success to improve planning, strategy, infrastructure, growth and profitability.

Classes can be taken within a curriculum to attain the Certificate in Business Success or can be taken on an individual, as-needed basis. They will be held on the University of San Diego campus; the first one is set from 6 to 9 p.m. April 9 in the Douglas F. Manchester Conference Center.

Go to www.sandiego.edu/success or call (619) 260-7699.

April 20, 2008

World Affairs Council will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Remington Club, 16916 Hierba Drive, Rancho Bernardo. Laura Taylor, program officer at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, will talk about "Nepal at the Crossroads." (858) 487-1776.

CLASSES | WORKSHOPS

The Elizabeth Hospice will offer volunteer training, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 7-9, Elks Lodge, 2430 S. Escondido Blvd., Escondido. Register by April 30. (760) 737-2050.

Students who are considering attending MiraCosta College to earn an associate degree or complete a certificate are eligible to attend MiraCosta College Academic Boot Camp, July 14-15 at University of San Diego. Limited to the first 100 students who apply. Free. (760) 795-6844.

SAN DIEGO

CITYBEAT

April 2, 2008

Including Samuel: Photojournalist Dan Habib created this documentary about his 7-year-old son Samuel, who has cerebral palsy, and his family's efforts to keep him in the mainstream as much as possible. *Including Samuel* is a look at how successful and nurturing integration can be for kids with or without disabilities. Screens at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 4, at the Mother Rosalie Hill Hall Auditorium on the USD campus. \$10.

1

enlace

April 19, 2008

Conferencia

La Fundación Bravo presentará a John Trasviña, presidente de la Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, como parte de su serie de conferencias el martes 22 de abril al mediodía en el Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice de la Universidad de San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego. Gratis. Informes: 619.270.8252.

Athletics

April 30, 2008

Tim Sullivan

For Toreros, Hill's street has no blues



FULLERTON — Rich Hill is out to repeal the law of averages. His brand of baseball is not so much a game of percentages and probabilities as a relentless pursuit of perfection.

The contrarian coach of the USD Toreros may be doomed to disappointment, but he steadfastly refuses to become resigned to it. In a game characterized by lapses and lulls, fits and starts, Hill strives for a constant crescendo.

"This program, it is very non-dogmatic," Hill said last night at Cal State Fullerton. "We challenge our players to think differently. The main emphasis in this program is staying present and treating each game like it's the seventh game of the World Series, like it's the Super Bowl."

"We really believe that it's a one-game season every time we step on that field. I think college baseball can be played at somewhat more of an emotional level, like a Friday night football

SEC Sullivan, D7

► SULLIVAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Top-line arms help overcome costly tuition

game."

Hill's is a football philosophy largely influenced by a close friend who coaches basketball, but its baseball application has been breathtaking this spring. Last night's 12-3 loss at Fullerton ended a Toreros streak of 16 straight victories; almost a solid month of unbroken success.

If you're keeping score, put Rich Hill down for a shrug.

"Rational thinking says it's got to end sometime," Hill said during a pregame dugout interview. "I don't think like that. Why can't you win a one-game season every day?"

The short answer is that baseball simply doesn't work that way. Daily dominance is terribly difficult to sustain because today's juggernaut is only as strong as tomorrow's starting pitcher, and tomorrow's starting pitcher might show up with a hanging curveball.

The 1927 New York Yankees — the consensus choice as the greatest ballclub ever assembled — managed to lose 44 times in a 154-game season. The 1916 New York Giants won 26 games in a row only to finish fourth in the National League standings.

In this game, man's reach exceeds his grasp more often than not. The hallmark of Hill's program has been his ability to render the odds irrelevant.

Consider: The scholarship limit for NCAA Division I baseball programs is 11.7. Tuition, room and board at USD cost close to \$45,000 per year. Hill's challenge, therefore, is to sign enough top-drawer talent to build a solid base, then fill in the gaps with guys whose families have the means to fund a big-budget education.

Hill can't afford to make mistakes. He can't afford injuries. He has to depend on a handful of full-ride phenoms and a multitude of serviceable walk-ons. Though Toreros first baseman Jose Valerio is hitting .358, his ability to compete is contingent on a work-study program that includes team laundry responsibilities

after home games.

"Usually after a game, I'll throw (the uniforms) in the wash, catch some TV, put them in the dryer, and go home," Valerio said. "With that money, I pay off my housing."

Granted, USD has a lot to offer, but it also has a lot to ask.

"It is an expensive school," reliever A.J. Griffin said. "It makes it a little harder for us to recruit. But we try not to let that affect us. We just get as good guys as we can, and I think we rival some of the best teams in the nation."

"It's not always how good the players you have. It's how good they are that day."

On those days when Brian Matusz is pitching, the Toreros rise close to the cream of college baseball. The left-handed junior has won nine of his 10 decisions and has 99 strikeouts in 73 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. Stabmate Josh Romanski is 8-0 and doubles as a slugging center fielder between starts.

Like Padres General Manager Kevin Towers, Hill has placed a priority on front-line pitching and has learned to stretch his resources with left-overs.

"It's very similar to what

the Padres do," Hill said. "They go after big arms. That's where they're going to spend their money, (and) premium position players. We spend our big money on 15 or 16 guys. The positive side of that is that we have a small roster and the guys we commit to get the reps (in practice and in games) and they really do get better."

Freshman third baseman Victor Sanchez, who spurned a six-figure offer from the Chicago Cubs, leads the Toreros with 11 home runs. Two seniors — catcher Logan Gelbrich and second baseman Kevin Hansen — have conspicuously avoided checking their batting averages all season, but more out of superstition than shame.

(Cover your eyes, guys. Gelbrich is hitting .307, Hansen .350.)

Collectively, the Toreros are 35-12. And though Hill's concept sounds contradictory, "peak performance on a daily basis" is as laudable a goal as it is lofty.

"There's no crime in breaking the law of averages."

Tim Sullivan: (619) 293-1033; tim.sullivan@uniontrib.com

April 30, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

USD's win streak ended by Fullerton

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

games.

USD's school-record 16-game winning streak came to an abrupt end last night with a 12-3 loss at Cal State Fullerton.

The streak helped USD crack the Top 10 this week — checking in at No. 8 — in *Baseball America's* national rankings, and the Toreros (35-12) appeared eager to keep the good times rolling when catcher Logan Gelbrich hit a two-run homer in the first inning against the No. 12-ranked Titans (27-15).

Fullerton came right back with two runs in the bottom of the first, but the Toreros added a run in the second to make it 3-2.

That's when things began to unravel.

The Titans scored five runs in the bottom of the second off USD starter Ricardo Pecina, who was coming off the strongest start of his three-year career. Pecina (4-3) wasn't as sharp this time out. The junior left-hander allowed seven hits and seven runs (five earned) over 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings, with three walks and six strikeouts.

The Toreros bullpen did not fare any better, allowing five more runs over the next six innings. Not that it mattered. Fullerton starter Kevin Rath was pulled after two innings and three Titans relievers checked USD on four hits over the final seven innings.

The Toreros now will turn their attention to this weekend's three-game West Coast Conference series at Pepperdine. First-place USD leads the Waves by three

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Titans Snap USD's 16-Game Winning Streak

USD saw its nation-best 16-game winning streak come to an end with a 12-3 loss.

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Kevin Hansen led the USD offense going 3-for-4 with one double.

April 29, 2008

FULLERTON, Calif. - The seventh-ranked University of San Diego baseball team saw its nation's leading 16-game winning streak come to an end with a 12-3 loss to No. 12 Cal State Fullerton Tuesday evening in a non-conference game at Goodwin Field.

With the loss, the Toreros fall to 35-12 overall, drop the rubber game with the Titans and saw their program-best 16-winning streak come to an end. With the win, the Titans improve to 17-15 overall.

The Toreros wasted no time in scoring as they put up two runs on one hit in the top of the first inning. Kevin Munoz got things started with a walk, then moved to second on a James Meador fly out to centerfield. Logan Gelbrich then launched his seventh home run of the season over the scoreboard out in left field to give USD a 2-0 lead.

Fullerton then responded in their half of the inning scoring two runs on three hits. Erik Komatsu hit a run-scoring triple for the first run of the inning and Jared Clark drove in Komatsu with a RBI single through the right side to tie the game at 2-2.

USD then regained the lead in the top of the second inning as they scored one run on three hits. Kevin Hansen got things started with a stand-up double down the left field line and Jose Valerin drove in Hansen with a RBI single up the middle to give USD a 3-2 lead.

The Titans then score five runs on three hits in the bottom of the second inning to take a 7-3 lead. The Titans scored their runs on Josh Felthauer RBI single, a Christian Colon RBI single, a USD fielding error, a Jared Clark sacrifice fly and a Gary Brown sacrifice fly.

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CSF then added two more runs in the bottom of the sixth inning on a two-run Komatsu home run over the right center field fence to push the Titans lead to six at 9-3.

The Titans the out the game out of reach in the bottom of the eighth inning on a Khris Davis three-run homer over the right field fence to put the game at its final of 12-3.

Offensively for the Toreros, Hansen led the way as he went 3-for-4 with one double as the only USD player to record multiple hits.

Ricardo Peciña (4-3) was saddled with the loss on the mound for USD as he allowed seven runs, two unearned, on seven hits in 4.2 innings of work. Ryan Ackland (1-1) picked up the win on the mound for Fullerton as he allowed no runs on one hit in 3.0 innings of work.

The Toreros will return to action on Friday as they travel to play No. 13 Pepperdine University to begin a three-game

West Coast Conference game.

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April 28, 2008

Toreros roll on to 16th straight

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

It seems as though it's been someone different stepping up each game for USD's baseball team during a school-record



Jose Valerio

w i n n i n g streak that reached 16 with yesterday's 11-3 West Coast Conference victory over Loyola Marymount.

Junior first baseman Jose Valerio took his turn yesterday, hitting two home runs that produced six RBI at Cunningham Stadium.

"Anytime you're part of a group or part of a team, everybody is expected to contribute," said USD coach Rich Hill. "The thing I'm most proud of with Jose is he just waited . . . When he got his chance, he really

went off. That's the most spectacular thing about his deal."

Valerio, from Castle Park High, redshirted in 2005 and got but 20 at-bats the past two seasons as understudy to starter Daniel Magness.

"I've been waiting for my shot," said Valerio. "I never said anything because I knew I would get it."

Magness graduated after last season, creating an opportunity. Valerio emerged from a group of candidates, batting .356 with two homers and 12 RBI coming into yesterday's game against the Lions (20-23, 5-10 WCC).

Valerio hit a grand slam in the second inning that just cleared the fence inside the right-field foul pole. There was no doubt on a two-run homer in the eighth that sailed over the trees beyond the left-field fence.

"I would ask myself, 'Can I play at this level?'" said Valerio.

"Then I got my shot. The confidence is there now that I can go out and compete."

USD's Kyle Blair (5-2) got the victory in relief of starter Sammy Solis. Blair struck out eight in five innings, allowing two runs and three hits. James Meador added a two-run homer and three RBI for USD.

USD (35-11, 13-2 WCC) leads the conference by three games over second-place Pepperdine (8-4), which took a week off from conference play. The Toreros travel to Pepperdine this weekend for a three-game series.

NBCSanDiego.com

Toreros Moving Up

Jim Stone, NBC 7/39 Reporter

POSTED: 1:01 pm PDT April 28, 2008

UPDATED: 1:09 pm PDT April 28, 2008

SAN DIEGO -- What has been a banner year in athletics at the University of San Diego is continuing with the nationally ranked Toreros baseball team moving up in the polls.

USD is now ranked seventh, eighth and 12th in the nation in the three college polls after extending the nation's longest winning streak to 16 straight games over the weekend with a sweep of Loyola Marymount.

The Toreros now carry a record of 35-11 into a non-conference matchup at Cal State Fullerton on Tuesday night. They're 13-3 in the West Coast Conference and will face the other conference powerhouse in Pepperdine over the weekend in Malibu.

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Baseball Moves up to No. 7 in Latest Polls

USD is ranked as high as No. 7 in the latest Collegiate Baseball top-30 poll.

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USD is ranked as high as No. 7 in the latest Collegiate Baseball top-30 poll

April 28, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego baseball team has moved up two spots to No. 7 in the latest Collegiate Baseball top-30 poll, moved up three spots in the latest Baseball America top-25 poll to No. 8 and jumped up seven spots in the latest Rivals.com top-25 poll to No. 12.

The Toreros ran the nation's longest winning streak to 16 games with a 4-0 record this past week. The Toreros began the week with an impressive 4-2 win over No. 25 Long Beach State on Tuesday. In the game, Ricardo Pedraza tossed the best game of his career, allowing one run on four hits, while striking out a career-high 11 batters. The Toreros then opened a three-game series with Loyola Marymount by downing the Lions 11-3. Brian Malusz was dominating on the mound, allowing three unearned runs on six hits, while striking out nine. Offensively for the Toreros, Logan Gelbach led the way as he went 2-for-5 with one double and four RBI. On Saturday, the Toreros claimed the series with a 6-4 win, holding off a late LMU rally to win. Sophomore All-American AJ Griffin picked up his 10th save of the season and became the all-time leader in career-saves at USD with 21. On Sunday, the USD bats were red hot as Jose Valero led the way going 2-for-4 with two home runs and six RBI, including his first collegiate grand slam. James Meador was also solid at the plate for the Toreros as he went 3-for-5 with one double, one home run and three RBI.

The Toreros will put their 16-game winning streak on the line Tuesday as they travel to play Cal State Fullerton in a 6 p.m. non-conference game at Goodwin Field.

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Sweet 16 in a Row for the Toreros With 11-3 Win Over LMU

Jose Valerio hits two home runs and had six RBI in the win.

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Jose Valerio hits two home runs and had six RBI in the win.

April 27, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - Junior first baseman Jose Valerio goes yard twice as the ninth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team cruised their way to a 11-3 win over Loyola Marymount University Sunday afternoon in a West Coast Conference game at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

With the win, the Toreros improve to 35-11 overall, move to 13-3 in the WCC, complete a three-game sweep over the Lions and extend the nation's longest winning streak to 16 games. With the loss, the Lions fall to 20-23 overall and 5-10 in the WCC.

The Toreros got on the scoreboards first as they scored six runs on six hits in the bottom of the second inning. Lugan Gelbrich led off the inning with a double and moved to third on a Victor Sanchez single to centerfield. After Kevin Hansen walked to load the bases, Jose Valerio then hit his first collegiate grand slam over the right field fence to give USD a 4-0 lead with no outs. Ryan Davis then kept things rolling with a single through the right

side and moved to second on a Kevin Muro sacrifice bunt. James Meador then drove in Davis with a run-scoring double to left field and the final USD run of the inning came on a Jesh Romanski RBI single through the right side to give USD a 6-0 advantage.

After each team then scored a run a piece in the third inning, the Lions took back two runs in the top of the fourth inning on a Brett Mendoza two-run single to cut the lead down to 7-3.

USD then went on to take those two runs back in the bottom of the sixth inning on a Meador two-run homer over the left field fence, which scored Nicol, who had singled, to give USD a 9-3 lead.

The Toreros then put the game completely out of reach in the bottom of the seventh inning on a two-run Valerio homer over the left field fence to give USD a comfortable 11-3 lead.

Offensively for the Toreros, Valerio led the way as he went 2-for-4 with two home runs and six RBI. Meador was also solid at the plate for the Toreros as he went 3-for-5 with one double, one home runs and three RBI.

Kyle Blair (5-3) picked up the win on the mound for the Toreros as he allowed no runs on one hit, while striking out eight in 4.2 innings of work. Xavier Esquivel (4-3) was saddled with the loss for the Lions as he allowed seven runs on six hits in 2.0 innings of work.

The Toreros will return to action on Tuesday as they travel to play Cal State Fullerton in a 6 p.m. non-conference game.

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Ricardo Pecina Named WCC Pitcher of the Week

Pecina allowed one run on four hits while striking out a career-high 11 batters against No. 25 LBSU last week.

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April 28, 2008

AN BRUNO, Calif. - Junior left-hander Ricardo Pecina of the seventh-ranked University of San Diego baseball team has been named the West Coast Conference Pitcher of the Week.

Pecina tossed one of the best games of his career in the win over No. 25 Long Beach State this past Tuesday, as he scattered four hits, struck out a career-high 11 batters and allowed one run to cross the plate in 7.2 innings of work. In Pecina's last four outings, he has now rung up 34 batters and only issued three walks to lower his ERA to 3.53. On the season, Pecina is 4-2 and has 48 strikeouts.

Pecina and the Toreros will return to action on Tuesday as they head to No. 12 Cal State Fullerton for a 6 p.m. non-conference game with the Titans at Goodwin Field.

Pecina allowed one run on four hits while striking out a career-high 11 batters against No. 25 LBSU last week.

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April 27, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

USD win streak reaches 15 games

UNION-TRIBUNE

One of USD baseball coach Rich Hill's favorite phrases is: "Stay in the moment."

At the moment, the No. 11-ranked Toreros have won a school-record 15 straight games, the latest yesterday's 6-4 West Coast Conference victory over Loyola Marymount at Cunningham Stadium.

Highlights for the first-place Toreros (34-11, 12-2 WCC) included starting pitcher Josh Roman-ski improving to 8-0 on the season after allowing five hits and four runs — all in the fifth inning — over seven innings with nine strikeouts. Sophomore closer A.J. Griffin finished off the Lions (20-22) in the ninth for his 10th save of the season and 21st of his career, a school record.

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Toreros Hold off LMU Rally, Claim Series

AJ Griffin set a new program-record with his 21st career save.

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Sean Nicol led USD offense as he went 2-for-5 with one RBI

April 26, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The ninth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team held off a late Loyola Marymount University rally to claim a 6-4 West Coast Conference win Saturday afternoon at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

With the win, the Toreros improve to 34-11 overall, move to 12-2 in the WCC, claim the three-game series over the Lions and run the nation's longest winning streak to 15 games. With the loss, the Lions fall to 20-22 overall and 5-9 in the WCC.

Once again the Toreros wasted no time in scoring as they put up one run on one hit in the first inning. Kevin Munro got things started with a walk and moved to third on Sean Nicol's single to right field. James Meador then drove in Munro with a sacrifice fly to right field to give USD a 1-0 lead.

USD then put took complete control of the game by putting up five runs on six hits in the bottom of the second inning. Vidar Sanchez led off the inning with a single up the middle and moved to second on Jose Valerio's single through the right side. After Nick McCoy advanced each runner with a sacrifice bunt, Munro drove in Sanchez with a ground out to the second baseman. Sean Nicol then hit a RBI single up the middle for the second run of the inning. Meador kept things rolling with a single through the left side and Josh Romanski drove in Nicol with a run-scoring double to left centerfield and the final two runs came on a Logan Gelbach two-run single up the middle to give USD a comfortable 6-0 advantage.

The Lions then came back by putting up four runs on two hits in the top of the fifth inning. The LMU runs came on a AJ LaMonda RBI single and a three-run Angelo Songco double down the left field line cutting the lead to 6-4. But the Lions could come no closer as USD came away with the 6-4 win.

Romanski (8-0) picked up the win on the mound for the Toreros as he allowed four runs on five hits, while striking out nine in 7.0 innings of work. Sophomore closer AJ Griffin set the new program-record with his 21st career-save as he allowed no runs on no hits in 1.0 innings of work. Martin Viramontes (2-4) was saddled with the loss for the Lions as he allowed six runs on eight hits in 2.2 innings of work.

Offensively for the Toreros, Nicol led the way as he went 3-for-5 with one RBI. Meador went 2-for-3 with one RBI and Valerio, Sanchez and Munro all went 2-for-4 with Valerio recording a double and Munro adding in an RBI.

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The Toreros and Lions will return to action on Sunday as they conclude the three-game WCC series with a 1 p.m. game at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

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April 26, 2008

USD wins 14th straight

USD's school-record roll continued with an 11-4 West Coast Conference victory over Loyola Marymount at Cunningham Stadium.

It was the 14th straight win for the No. 11-ranked Toreros (33-11, 11-2). Junior left-hander Brian Matusz (9-1) allowed six hits and three unearned runs in seven innings while striking out nine Lions (20-21, 5-8).

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Toreros Pound Lions in Game One, 11-4

Brian Matusz strikeouts nine in winning his ninth consecutive game.

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Brian Matusz allowed three unearned runs on six hits, while striking out nine in 7.0 innings of work.

April 25, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - Behind another outstanding pitching performance from junior All-American Brian Matusz, the ninth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team cruised their way to a 11-4 West Coast Conference win over visiting Loyola Marymount Friday afternoon at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

With the win, the Toreros improve to 33-11 overall, move to 11-2 in the WCC and run the nation's longest winning streak to 14 games. With the loss, the Lions fall to 20-21 overall and 5-8 in the WCC.

USD wasted no time in scoring as in the first inning the Toreros scored two runs on two hits. With two outs, James Meador got things rolling with a single to the shortstop and moved to second when Josh Romanski drew a walk. Logan Gelbrich then drove in both runs with a two-run double to left center to give USD the early 2-0 lead.

SD added to its lead in the second inning, scoring two more runs on two hits. Jose Valerio got things started when he was hit by a pitch and he moved to third when Nick McCoy doubled to right centerfield. Kevin Muno drove in Valerio with a groundout to the shortstop. Sean Nicol then drove in McCoy with a single through the left side to move the score to 4-0.

After USD scored two runs in the bottom of the fourth inning on a McCoy sacrifice bunt and a Nicol run-scoring double, the Lions took advantage of a USD miscue and scored three runs to cut the lead in half. The LMU runs came on a Songco RBI single, the second run came when Spraker hit into a double play and the final Lion run came on a Koch run-scoring double to move the score to 6-3.

The Toreros then exploded in their half of the inning scoring five runs on three hits to put the game out of reach. Hansen led off the inning with a single up the middle, stole second and moved to third on a Valerio ground out. After McCoy was hit by a pitch, Muno drove in Hansen with a RBI bunt single down the first baseline. Nicol then walked to load the bases and James Meador hit the ball to the second baseman, who bobbled the ball, which moved each runner up one base and scored the second Torero run of the inning. Romanski then pushed across the third run on a groundout and Gelbrich hit a two-run bloop single to right field to cap the scoring for the inning and give USD a 11-3 lead.

LMU then took back one run in the top of the ninth inning to put the game at its final of 11-4.

Offensively for the Toreros, Gelbrich led the way as he went 2-for-5 with one double and four RBI. Both Nicol and

Hansen went 2-for-4 at the plate, each having a double and Nicol recording two RBI.

Matusz (9-1) won his ninth straight game on the mound for the Toreros, as he allowed three unearned runs on six hits, while striking out nine in 7.0 innings of work. Andy Beal (4-5) was saddled with the loss for the Lions, as he allowed seven runs on eight hits in 5.1 innings of work.

The Toreros and Lions will return to action on Saturday as they play a 1 p.m. WCC game at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

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Dirtbags Nearly Comeback on USD Closer, Fall 4-2

LBSU Sends Tying Run to Plate in the Ninth

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Godfrey's pinch-hit double in the ninth sent the tying run to the plate.

April 22, 2008

SAN DIEGO-- No. 25-ranked Long Beach State sent the tying run to the plate in the ninth, after being baffled by Ricardo Pecina (4-2), as AJ Griffin survived a shaky 1.1 innings to send No. 9-ranked San Diego (32-11) to a 4-2 victory over the Dirtbags (23-15).

Pecina was forced from the game in the eighth, after giving up a Kip Masuda's two-out single, and a walk to Jonathan Jones, after the lefthander struck out a career-best 11 and retired 12 in a row prior to Masuda's second hit of the day.

The next four outs for Griffin were not easy, as he gave up a two-strike, two-out RBI single to Steve Tinoco in the eighth and a solo home run to Shane Peterson, to make it 4-2, to lead off the ninth inning.

Griffin then surrendered a one-out, pinch-hit double to Brandon Godfrey and then had to get a groundout and a strikeout to preserve USD's 13th victory in a row. It was Griffin's ninth save of the year.

Pecina surrendered just four hits, prior to Griffin giving up three hits.

San Diego took a 1-0 in the third inning against Brett Lorin (2-3), after the LBSU righthander retired the first eight batters of the game. Sean Nico's two-out single followed a two-out double by Jose Valerio and a walk, which gave USD a 1-0 advantage.

Lorin then gave up two more runs in the fourth inning on an RBI single by Victor Sanchez and a sacrifice fly to make it 3-0.

Tyler Topp then surrendered a run in the fifth, with two outs, after Lorin went the first four innings giving up three runs on four hits.

LBSU returns home to host Pacific for a three-game series this weekend, beginning on Friday at 6:30 p.m.

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 - 04/24: Saint Mary's (Calif.):Three Run Bottom of 8th Costa Baseball
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 - 04/24: Stanford:Milleville's Bases-Loaded Double Completes No. 5 Stanford's 7-4 Comeback Victory Over Saint Mary's
 - 04/24: Arizona State:#4 Baseball Takes Down #15 Titans in Ten Innings
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April 23, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

Pecina whiffs 11 as USD wins record 13th in row

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

USD left-hander Ricardo Pecina had an appropriate description for the run both he and the Toreros are enjoying.

"It's like a freight train," he said.

Nonstop.

Pecina struck out a career-high 11 in yesterday's 4-2 victory over visiting Long Beach State, leading the No. 12-ranked Toreros to their school-record 13th straight victory. It is the longest active winning streak in the nation.

Pecina had the worst start of his career a month ago against Cal State Fullerton, failing to finish the first inning. Something clicked shortly thereafter.

"Confidence," said USD pitching coach Eric Valenzuela. "Nothing changed mechanically. Sometimes for guys it just takes that one time to feel it. He's feeling absolutely dominant. And he hasn't lost it."

Pecina is 3-0 in his past four starts with 34 strikeouts and just three walks over 28 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings. "I was trying to be too fine," said Pecina, a junior from Madison High. "I was too worried about walking guys. I do better when I just go after guys . . . I just want to keep getting the ball and getting out there. It feels good."

Pecina (4-2) allowed four hits and one run in 7 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. He did not walk a batter until tiring with two

outs in the eighth.

USD closer A.J. Griffin came on to get the final four outs against the Dirtbags (23-15), getting his 20th career save to tie the school record held by Tony Perez.

Jose Valerio doubled just inside the third base line in the third inning, and Sean Nicol singled him home to make it 1-0. USD (32-11) added two runs in the fourth.

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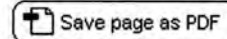
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- San Diego 1700 AM

North County Sports Online Daily Magazine News

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Toreros Talk

SAN DIEGO (USD) - Junior left-hander Ricardo Pecina recorded a career-high 11 strikeouts and sophomore closer AJ Griffin ties the all-time career-saves record to help propel the ninth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team to a program-record 13th consecutive win over No. 25 Long Beach State, 4-2, Tuesday afternoon in a non-conference game at USD's Cunningham Stadium.



Posted by Jonathan Greene at 9:02 AM
Labels: USD

4SD Postgame Show Sports Ticker

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April 21, 2008

USD pitching earns 12th straight win

Freshman Solis steps up in sweep of Saint Mary's

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

USD right-hander Matt Couch was given a spot in the Toreros' weekend rotation three years ago when teammate Nate Boman suffered a season-ending arm injury.

Couch was sitting in the second row yesterday at Cunningham Stadium, his right arm in a sling, when a similar opportunity arrived for freshman left-hander Sammy Solis.

Like Couch, Solis made the most of it.

Solis pitched six innings without allowing an earned run to lead the Toreros to a 5-1 win over Saint Mary's and a sweep of the three-game West Coast Conference series.



Matt Couch **Sammy Solis**

completes his degree next year and maybe it "will add some miles an hour to my fastball."

"It's really a blessing in disguise," said Couch. "I'm supposed to be here another year and be with this team."

And, if all goes well, in the rotation with Solis, not in the stands watching him.

"Sammy stepped forward when he was given the chance and was phenomenal today," said USD coach Rich Hill. "I thought he was awesome."

It was the 12th straight win for No. 12-ranked USD (31-11, 10-2 WCC), which did not allow an earned run in the series against the Gaels (20-16-1, 4-8).

Solis (3-1) struck out six and did not walk a batter while dropping his ERA below 2.00.

Couch was there to cheer on Solis and his teammates, as he has been since being injured last month in a game at Hawaii-Hilo. Couch suffered a torn ligament that required Tommy John surgery.

"It's tough, but it's going to do nothing but make me stronger," said Couch, whose 23 career victories rank eighth on the USD list. "I really believe that everything happens for a reason."

Couch, a senior from Sacramento, faces a year of rehab before he can return to the mound in a game. The positive aspect for him is that he will receive a medical redshirt, will still be on scholarship as he

WCC standings

	Conf.	Overall
USD	10-2	31-11
Pepperdine	8-3	25-13
USF	6-5	22-16
Santa Clara	6-5	20-15
Gonzaga	5-6	23-16
LMU	5-7	19-20
Saint Mary's	4-8	20-16
Portland	2-10	17-23

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James Meador Named WCC Co-Player of the Week

Meador went 7-for-16 (.438) with one double, one triple, one home run and a team-best eight RBI this past week.

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April 21, 2008

AN BRUNO, Calif. - Sophomore outfielder James Meador of the ninth-ranked University of San Diego baseball team has been named the West Coast Conference Co-player of the Week.

Meador, a 6-1 sophomore from Ramona, Calif., helped lead the Toreros to a perfect 4-0 record this past week, thus running the team's winning streak to a season-high 12 games. Meador went 7-for-16 (.438) with one double, one triple, one home run and a team-best eight RBI. Meador led the team's offense in both Saturday's and Sunday's wins over Saint Mary's going a combined 5-for-9 with one triple and one home run and five RBI. On the season, Meador is leading the team's hitting with a .366 batting average, has 52 hits, is tied for the team lead in doubles with 11, leads the team in triples with two, has four home runs and is third on the team in RBI with 40.

Meador and the Toreros will return to action on Tuesday as they host No. 25 Long Beach State in a 3 p.m. non-conference game at Cunningham Stadium.

Meador went 7-for-16 (.438) with one double, one triple, one home run and a team-best eight RBI this past week.



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- 04/21: Cincinnati:UC To Face Xavier on Monday Night
- 04/21: UAB:UAB Hosts Jacksonville State Tuesday Night
- 04/21: Florida Atlantic: Little League Day at FAU Stadium on Friday
- 04/21: Penn State:Saturday is football-baseball twinbill for multi-sport Nittany Lion
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- 04/21: San Diego:James Meador Named WCC Co-Player of the Week
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April 20, 2008

Toreros win again

USD reached the 30-win plateau for the ninth straight season with its 11th straight victory, a 6-0 West Coast Conference win over **Saint Mary's** at Cunningham Stadium.

Josh Romanski (7-0) allowed five hits and struck out five in seven innings and reliever Matt Thomson checked the Gaels on one hit over the final two innings as the pair combined for USD's fifth shutout of the season.

James Meador led the No. 12-ranked Toreros (30-11, 9-2) with a home run and three RBI against Saint Mary's (20-15-1, 4-7).

The series concludes today at 1 p.m. at USD.

North County Times

April 20, 2008

Toreros extend streak

The University of San Diego baseball team, ranked No. 12 in the nation by Baseball America, stretched its winning streak to a season-high 11 games with a 6-0 victory over Saint Mary's at Cunningham Stadium.

Junior All-American Josh Romanski (7-0) remained unbeaten for the Toreros (30-11, 9-2 West Coast Conference) by pitching seven shutout innings, allowing five hits and striking out five.

April 19, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Toreros offense torrid in 10th straight win

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

USD lost four of last year's most productive hitters, leaving several questions for the Toreros offense this season.

Those questions have been answered during a winning streak that reached 10 games with yesterday's 9-2 West Coast Conference victory over Saint Mary's at Cunningham Stadium.

"The offensive approach has been awesome," said USD coach Rich Hill. "We are grinding out at-bats. We are not striking out. Executing. Getting barrels on balls. I think we've had double-digit hits throughout the streak. Guys have just come on and had great at-bats. That is the most impressive thing during the streak."

The No. 12-ranked Toreros have batted .356 during the streak — averaging 13 hits and 8.6 runs a game — with several new faces leading the way.

Last year, first baseman Jose Valerio and James Meador rarely played and barely batted .200 between them. Valerio (.358) and Meador (.357) came into yesterday's game as the top two hitters on the team. Center fielder Kevin Munoz's three hits against Saint Mary's boosted his batting average to .301 and he leads the Toreros with 17 stolen bases. Freshman third baseman Victor Sanchez has a team-leading 11 home runs and 43 RBI.

With the win over Saint Mary's (24-14-1, 4-6), USD (29-11, 8-2) leads the WCC by 1½ games over second-place Pepperdine.

USD starting pitcher Brian Matusz (8-1) allowed two unearned runs in the second inning when Saint Mary's tied

the game 2-2, then allowed just three singles over the next five innings while the Toreros scored seven unanswered runs.

Matusz had 10 strikeouts and did not walk a batter in eighth innings. He leads the nation with 90 strikeouts in 66⅔ innings.

April 16, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Pecina has command as Toreros rip Irvine

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

A month ago, USD junior left-hander Ricardo Pecina couldn't find his command and failed to finish the first inning in a start against Cal State Fullerton. Everything is different now.

Pecina made his third straight strong start, pitching No. 12-ranked USD to a 7-1 win over No. 5 UC Irvine yesterday at Cunningham Stadium.

Pecina (3-2) was in complete control against the Anteaters (23-7), allowing one run on seven hits over 7 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings and striking out seven without issuing a walk. Sophomore closer A.J. Griffin pitched the final 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings for his eighth save of the season and 19th of his career, one shy of the school record set by Tony Perez.

Kevin Hansen had two hits and three RBI for the Toreros and James Meador added two RBI. The victory was the ninth straight for USD (28-11), which plays host to Saint Mary's this weekend in a three-game WCC series.

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Baseball Moves up to No. 12 in Latest Polls

USD is ranked as high as No. 12 in latest Baseball America top-25 poll.

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April 14, 2008

SAN DEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego baseball team jumped up one spot in the latest Baseball America top-25 poll to No. 12, moved up seven spots in the latest Collegiate Baseball top-30 poll to No. 13 and fell six spots to No. 19 in the latest Rivals.com top-25 poll.

The Toreros posted a perfect 5-0 record this past week to run their winning streak to eight games. The Toreros began the week taking a pair of games from UC Riverside, 11-4 on Tuesday, and 7-2 on Wednesday. Then San Diego went on the road and swept the University of Portland over the weekend. In Tuesday's game, every hitter that went to the plate recorded at least one hit with Kevin Hansen leading the way going 4-for-5 with one double and one RBI and Sean Nicol went 3-for-5 with one double. In Wednesday's win over UCR, Jose Valerio led the way as he went 2-for-4 with one home run and three RBI. On Friday, the Toreros got another solid offensive output as Valerio led the way going 3-for-5 with two doubles and one RBI. Josh Romanski, Kevin Muno, Nicol, Meador and Logan Gelbrich all recorded two hits on the day for the Toreros. On Saturday, the Toreros were able to hang on to a 5-4 win with AJ Griffin picking up his second save in as many days allowing no runs on two hits while striking out two in 1.0 innings of work. Offensively for the Toreros, Meador led the way going 2-for-5 with three RBI. Gelbrich also looked impressive at the plate as he went 2-for-5 with one home run and two RBI and Nicol and Hansen all recorded two hits on the day. Finally on Sunday, a hit parade propelled USD to a 13-8 win. For the fifth consecutive game, the Toreros recorded double-digit hits, as USD had 19 hits, led by Meador who went 4-for-6 with two home runs and five RBI. Victor Sanchez also looked impressive as he went 3-for-5 with one double, one home run and four RBI to run his home run total to 11 on the season.

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USD will return to action on Tuesday with a 3 p.m. non-conference game against No. 5 UC Irvine at Cunningham Stadium.

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April 14, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Aztecs, Toreros complete sweeps

San Diego State senior right-hander Shane Kaufman had a career-high 11 strikeouts yesterday as the Aztecs completed a three-game Mountain West Conference sweep of Utah with a 6-2 victory at Tony Gwynn Stadium.

Kaufman (1-1) allowed six hits and one run in 7²/₃ innings and issued just one walk. He put the finishing touches on an outstanding weekend of pitching for the first-place Aztecs (21-15, 9-3), who recorded 42 strikeouts in the series against Utah (13-17, 3-5). The Utes came to town with a conference-leading .330 team batting average.

SDSU shortstop Troy Hanzawa led the offense with three hits and three RBI.

SDSU plays host to UC Riverside tomorrow at 6 p.m.

USD beats Portland

USD won its eighth straight game with a 13-8 West Coast Conference win at **Portland** to complete a three-game sweep that moved the Toreros into first place in the WCC.

The No. 13-ranked Toreros (27-11, 7-2) jumped out to a 13-1 lead, capped by James Meador's three-run homer in the seventh inning. Portland (16-20, 2-7) closed the gap with seven runs in the bottom of the inning.

Meador finished the game with four hits and five RBI.

Teammates Victor Sanchez and Nick McCoy added three hits apiece, with Sanchez getting four RBI.

USD plays host to No. 7-ranked UC Irvine tomorrow at 3 p.m.

— KIRK KENNEY



The Oregonian

Baseball: Toreros

Monday, April 14, 2008

The Oregonian

sweep the Pilots

A seven-run seventh inning wasn't enough for Portland, as No. 13 San Diego completed a three-game series sweep with a 13-8 victory Sunday afternoon at Joe Etzel Field in Portland.

The Toreros (27-11, 7-2 West Coast Conference) scored at least one run in each of the first seven innings to build a 13-1 lead, and the Pilots (16-20, 2-7) had seven runs in the bottom of the seventh inning.

The first six Pilots batters in the inning reached base and a three-run homer by Cory Wiltshire and two-run double by Danny Meier highlighted the scoring. The Pilots ran USD starter Kyle Blair (4-3) and hit reliever Matt Thompson hard, but freshman left-hander Sammy Solis got the Toreros out of the jam and then held Portland in check in the final two innings to secure the victory.

Softball: PSU loses

PCSC doubleheader Sacramento State scored a combined 25 runs on 37 hits in sweeping a doubleheader from Portland State in Sacramento, to move into sole possession of first place in the Pacific Coast Softball Conference. The Hornets rallied from a 7-1 deficit for a 13-7 win in Game 1, and scored six runs in the sixth inning to break a 3-3 tie for a 12-3 victory in Game 2. Sacramento State (24-15, 6-2 PCSC) now holds a one-game lead over Portland State (22-20, 5-3).

Oregon State: The Beavers (25-21, 3-6 Pacific-10 Conference) came up short against No. 22 California (34-16, 3-6) in a 3-0 loss in Berkeley, Calif.

Oregon: Sari-Jane Jenkins reached base all three at-bats versus No. 8 Stanford (37-7, 4-5 Pac-10), but the Cardinal held off the Ducks (26-19, 1-8) 2-1 in Stanford, Calif.

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AJ Griffin Named WCC Co-Pitcher of the Week

Griffin picked up two saves over the weekend to go along with five strikeouts and a 0.00 ERA.

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April 14, 2008

SAN BRUNO, Calif. - Sophomore closer AJ Griffin of the 12th-ranked University of San Diego baseball team has been named the West Coast Conference Co-Pitcher of the Week.

Griffin, a 6-5 sophomore from El Cajon, Calif., helped lead the Toreros to a 5-0 record this past week. Griffin recorded two saves this past week in consecutive games against the University of Portland. He allowed no runs to cross the plate, on four hits, while striking out five in 4.0 innings of work. On the season, Griffin has run his save total up to seven, is bolstering a 2.35 ERA and is 1-1 overall.

Griffin and the 12th-ranked Toreros will return to action on Tuesday as they host No. 5 UC Irvine in a 3 p.m. game at Cunningham Stadium.

AJ Griffin named WCC Co-Pitcher of the Week.

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April 13, 2008

USD wins again

USD closer A.J. Griffin got out of a bases-loaded jam in the ninth inning by striking out the last two hitters, preserving the Toreros' 5-4 West Coast Conference victory at **Portland**.

Griffin earned his seventh save in relief of Josh Romanski (6-0), who allowed four runs over the first eight innings against the Pilots (16-19, 2-6) James Meador drove in three runs and for the No. 13-ranked Toreros (26-11, 6-2).

April 12, 2008

USD beats Portland

USD left-hander Brian Matusz (7-1) won his seventh straight game in the Toreros' 7-4 West Coast Conference win at Portland. USD's Victor Sanchez hit a three-run homer in the fourth inning against the Pilots (16-18, 2-5 WCC). Josh Romanski added a solo homer in the ninth for the No. 13-ranked Toreros (25-11, 5-2).

April 10, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

This time, USD tops UCR here

UNION-TRIBUNE

USD picked up where it left off in a home-and-home series with UC Riverside, scoring early and taking advantage of three errors for a 7-2 victory yesterday at Cunningham Stadium.

The 13th-ranked Toreros (24-11) scored four runs in the first inning, highlighted by Jose Valerio's two-run, bases-loaded single. Valerio, batting a team-leading .380, added a solo homer in the sixth that gave USD a 5-2 lead.





USD freshman left-hander Sammy Solis (2-1) allowed eight hits and two runs in six innings. Solis struck out seven and did not walk a batter. USD won 11-4 Tuesday at Riverside (9-18).

The Toreros resume West Coast Conference play this weekend with a three-game series at Portland.



UCR can't overcome San Diego's early lead

San Diego 7, UCR 2 The Toreros sweep the two-game baseball series.

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The Press-Enterprise

San Diego scored four runs on three hits in the first inning and went on to win, 7-2, over visiting UC Riverside on Wednesday in a non-conference baseball game.

The 13th-ranked Toreros (24-11) swept the two-game series against the Highlanders (9-18).

Drew Garcia extended his hitting streak to 10 games for the Highlanders with a run-scoring double in the third to cut the Toreros' lead to two.

But Jose Valerio's solo home run in the sixth opened up a three-run advantage for the Toreros.

The Toreros' bullpen limited the Highlanders to two hits over five innings. Sammy Solis picked up the win after striking out seven in six innings.

Ryan Platt suffered the loss after allowing four earned runs in three innings.

April 7, 2008

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Toreros sweep Gonzaga

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

USD catcher Logan Gelbrich wasn't where he wanted to be and neither were the Toreros coming into their West Coast Conference series over the weekend against Gonzaga.

They still aren't — but they're getting closer.

Gelbrich hit his fourth home run of the three-game series and drove in three runs to help the No. 17-ranked Toreros to a 9-3 win at Cunningham Stadium.

USD opened WCC play last week by losing two of three games to Santa Clara. The series sweep over Gonzaga moves the Toreros (22-11, 4-2) within a game of first-place USF in the conference standings.

"There was no panic," said Gelbrich. "It was just disappointment. Everybody wants to play their best. That was clearly not it (against Santa Clara). We knew we had to get better and stepped up our play across the board this weekend."

Gelbrich struggled to get his batting average over .200 earlier this season while making an adjustment in his stance. He abandoned the experiment when the team returned from a trip to Hawaii. Gelbrich has gone 15-for-32 since then, including 7-for-11 against Gonzaga.

April 5, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

Matusz, Gonzaga errors enable Toreros to cruise

By Kirk Kenney
STAFF WRITER

ues today at 1 at USD.

It's difficult enough to beat USD left-hander Brian Matusz when he's on his game.

Toss in — or throw away — five errors by Gonzaga in yesterday's West Coast Conference game and it's virtually impossible.

Matusz and mistakes enabled the No. 17-ranked Toreros to cruise to a 10-2 victory at Cunningham Stadium. Matusz (6-1) won his sixth straight game, giving up six hits, walking three and striking out eight over seven innings. Matusz, who did not give up an earned run, has allowed just three earned runs over the past 47 innings.

USD (20-11, 2-2) has had its ups and downs offensively, but the Toreros were given four unearned runs by Gonzaga (16-12, 1-2).

The Toreros also had 11 hits, including three by catcher Nick McCoy (Westview High). McCoy had two RBI and teammate Josh Romanski drove in three runs. The Toreros have been bolstered by the emergence of McCoy and first baseman Jose Valerio.

McCoy, who redshirted last season and had just two career at-bats coming into the season, has become Matusz's personal catcher. While his defense earned McCoy a spot in the lineup, he's also helped himself at the plate. McCoy boosted his batting average to .306 (11-for-36) and has eight RBI.

Valerio had just five career hits in his first two years at USD, but a recent hot streak this season has him hitting .364 (12-for-32).

USD freshman third baseman Victor Sanchez returned to the lineup after missing a week because of a shoulder injury.

The three-game series contin-

NBCSanDiego.com

USD Celebrates No-Hitter, First in 12 Years

The University of San Diego's All-American pitcher Josh Romanski threw USD's first no-hitter in 12 years against Harvard.

The Crimson came close to breaking up the no-hitter in the 7th inning but Torero shortstop Sean Nicol came to the rescue, making a great play to preserve Romanski's run.

Romanski posted a season-high eight strikeouts in the win and lowered his ERA to 4.04.

He has been named West Coast Conference Co-Pitcher of the Week for March 31, 2008.

He was also National Co-Pitcher of the Week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA).

Romanski has been named to the watch-list for the Roger Clemens Award for best pitcher in college baseball.

The Toreros will host the Gonzaga Bulldogs April 4, 5, and 6 at Cunningham Stadium.

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April 3, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

USD falls short against USC

UNION-TRIBUNE

seven hits in eight innings.

USD's baseball team loaded the bases in the bottom of the ninth but couldn't score and lost 3-2 to USC yesterday in a nonconference game at Cunningham Stadium.

USC (13-14) scored first on Derek Perren's two-run double to right field in the first.

The 14th-ranked Toreros (19-11) got a run back in their half on Josh Romanski's RBI single and tied the score in the third on a run-scoring single by Jason Hansen. But USC retook the lead in the fifth.

USD loaded the bases with one out in the ninth, but two consecutive strikeouts ended the threat.

Hansen and Jose Valerio were both 2-for-4 for USD and Kevin Munoz went 2-for-5.

USD's Ricardo Pecina (1-2) allowed one run on four hits, striking out nine over seven innings. Coronado High alum Kevin Couture (2-2) got the victory, allowing two runs on

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Baseball America Highlights Sanchez and Matusz as Top Performers

Sanchez named top freshman at midpoint of the season and Matusz named No. 2 pitcher

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Brian Matusz named No. 2 pitcher in the nation, according to Aaron Fitt of Baseball America.

April 16, 2008

Story by Baseball America's Aaron Fitt

The uniform start date limits the regular season to 13 weeks, but if you factor in a week for conference tournaments, a week for regionals and a week for super-regionals, we're halfway to Omaha with eight weeks in the books. It's a perfect time to look at some of the top performers and storylines of the first half.

Top Player

A trio of stellar Player of the Year candidates separated themselves from the pack in the first half of 2008. You can't go wrong with Arizona State first baseman/left-hander Ike Davis or Florida State catcher/right-hander Buster Posey, but we'll give the nod to Georgia shortstop Gordon Beckham, who put up monstrous numbers in a less dynamic offense. No player meant more to a very good team in the first half than Beckham, whose 16 home runs not only lead the nation but are twice as many anyone else on his team. He also leads the Bulldogs in batting (.432), on-base percentage (.530), slugging (.871), RBIs (39) and stolen bases (10 in 11 attempts) while drawing twice as many walks (24) as strikeouts (12) and playing a strong shortstop.

Davis has emerged as the greatest threat in the Sun Devils' murderer's row, leading the nation with 57 RBIs while batting .423/.484/.876 with 14 homers, 20 doubles and five steals in six tries. Perhaps just as importantly, he has settled into ASU's closer role since Jason Jarvis was lost to academic ineligibility, going 4-0, 1.12 with three saves and a 21-3 strikeout-walk ratio in 16 innings over 11 appearances.

Posey started the year as a similar two-way threat, earning four saves without allowing a run in five relief appearances, but lately he has focused on catching and leading Florida State's potent offense. He ranks among the nation's top five in batting (.469), OBP (.571) and slugging (.862) and has amassed 10 homers and 40 RBIs.

Top Pitcher

Major league scouting directors were nearly unanimous in voting San Diego left-hander Brian Matusz and Missouri right-hander Aaron Crow onto Baseball America's preseason All-America first team. The pair entered the season as the top two pitching prospects for the 2008 draft, and they have lived up to every bit of their billing, matching each other eye-popping performance for eye-popping performance every week. But Crow has been ever so slightly better despite worse conditions, and he edges Matusz for midseason top pitcher honors.



Matusz has gone 7-1, 1.99 and leads the nation with 80 strikeouts while walking 18 in 59 innings. Since being roughed up in his season debut against San Diego State, Matusz has been unbeatable, and not far from unhittable.

But Crow stole the headlines with a 42 2/3 inning scoreless streak that ended Friday against Texas. Even after he allowed nine runs in five innings in a howling 30-40 mph wind, his ERA was just 2.05; before that it was a minuscule 0.69.

"His stuff was good, but he wasn't ahead in the count, and they were geared up to hit him," Missouri coach Tim Jamieson said after the Texas loss. "Crow really makes teams either really bad or really good. Teams will cheat a little on the fastball and if he's not locating, they'll get out in front of the fastball. I think a lot of things got to him—he won't admit it, but the streak, the pressure, the wind blowing out, there were a lot of factors. When I heard the

forecast, I said it was going to end tonight."

It ended with a thud, but Crow still managed to last five innings and pick up his eighth win of the year, tied for the most in the nation. He has 71 strikeouts and 13 walks through 57 innings and three complete-game shutouts in eight starts. Big 12 coaches have been downright effusive in their praise for Crow, who has not only shown command of a plus fastball, plus slider and solid curveball but has also demonstrated toughness and fierce competitiveness.

"He's got it all," said longtime Texas Tech coach Larry Hays. "He's got outstanding stuff, good velocity, lots of movement, and put that together with that little bulldog he's got in him and boy, he's been the real deal. We came out and matched him, but we ended up with a 1-0 loss, and I don't know if we ever got close to winning. Right now, he's the best thing we've seen."

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"We've had some great pitchers in the league, but he's right up there. He doesn't have the stature of a Roger Clemens, but that kind of stuff, that kind of competitiveness. You look out there and think, 'Well, he'll wear down.' But you look at what he's throwing in the eighth or ninth, and well, that's not right."

Top Game

In that same April 11 contest where Crow's scoreless streak came to an end, the Tigers overcame an early 9-0 deficit to blast Texas 31-12 behind four home runs and nine RBIs by Missouri senior outfielder Jacob Friday.

Top Individual Performance

April 11 was a good day in college baseball. That same day, San Diego State sophomore righthander Stephen Strasburg struck out 23 in a one-hit shutout against Utah. Strasburg can make his own strong case for midseason pitcher of the year honors, going 4-1, 1.97 with a 73-8 strikeout-walk ratio in 50 innings.

Top Freshman

Victor Sanchez arrived at San Diego bearing an enormous burden before he ever played his first game for the Toreros. Along with righthander Kyle Blair, Sanchez was the centerpiece of the nation's No. 1 recruiting class, and he had already proven himself against college competition last summer, when he was the No. 1 prospect in the Northwoods League. All he had to do this spring was step right into the middle of a power-starved USD lineup and cushion the loss of mainstays Jordan Abruzzo, Justin Snyder and Shane Buschm. The Toreros boast one of the nation's best pitching staffs, but more than anything they needed Sanchez to be an elite power hitter to give their lineup some punch.

He has delivered in a big way, batting .317/.387/.833 with 11 homers (more than a third of USD's team total) and 41 RBIs. He has made 10 errors at third base, but he shows aptitude for the position and has made some terrific plays at the hot corner. And he's come up with a slew of clutch hits already in his short collegiate career.

Sanchez narrowly beats out Tennessee center fielder Kentrail Davis (.370/.471/.608 with eight homers, 34 RBIs and six stolen bases in eight tries), Rice shortstop Rick Hague (.368/.436/.602, six homers and 35 RBIs) and Mississippi lefthander Drew Pomeranz (.3-1, 1.89 with 46 strikeouts and 12 walks in 38 innings).

Top Senior

Just like last year, when Vanderbilt's Casey Weathers took the nation by storm, the best closer in college baseball is a flame-throwing senior. Georgia righthander Joshua Fields has given up just one unearned run and five hits in 17 innings over 18 appearances, racking up 10 saves and a 33-8 strikeout-walk ratio. A first-team preseason All-American as a junior in 2007, Fields struggled to a 1-6, 4.48 mark a year ago and did not sign with the Braves as a second-round pick. That's looking like a smart move, as Fields has overpowered hitters this spring with a 95-97 mph fastball and vicious 62 mph curveball.

"What we did a little bit differently out of the gate with him--it's probably one of the reasons we lost a few close games early--but I haven't used him in the eighth inning. It's one-inning saves," Bulldogs coach David Perno said. "He hasn't thrown a lot of innings, but the numbers are Little League-ish, and it's amazing to me. First and foremost was the fastball command, which has gotten back to form. Fortunately for us, he's cleaned up his mechanics, got his fastball command back. And he's got the best breaking pitch we've had."

Fields edges California second baseman Josh Salin (.433/.513/.764, 11 homers, 36 RBIs), Nebraska righthander Johnny Dorn (4-1, 1.98 with 55 strikeouts and 13 walks in 55 innings), Kentucky outfielder Sawyer Carroll (.456/.542/.816, 10 homers, 48 RBIs) and Michigan catcher/first baseman Nate Recknagel (.394/.473/.781, 11 homers, 36 RBIs).

Top Coach

In 2007, Nebraska started the year in the top 25 before a number of off-field distractions and chemistry problems derailed the Cornhuskers' season. They finished 32-27 overall, 14-13 in the Big 12, but coach Mike Anderson still shepherded them to a second-place finish in the Tempe, Ariz., regional. This year, Anderson has taken a less heralded team with far fewer expectations and led it to a 25-6 start, and an 11-3 mark in conference play.

"I keep saying I don't think we're the most talented team by any stretch of the imagination, but we perform well together," said Anderson, whose team was picked to finish sixth in the Big 12 preseason coaches poll. "Our starting pitching has been good, and from that point on we just play well together. If you see our team, we're not overpowering, we don't have the power numbers. I think we've got starting pitching that's been very productive, we've gotten clutch hitting, and we play solid defense. We've gotten key hits when we needed them."

Credit Anderson for his steady influence and ability to get his team to play for each other. He gets the nod over California's Dave Esquer, UC Irvine's Mike Gillespie and Florida State's Mike Martin.

Top Position

Rarely has college baseball seen such a bumper crop of star first basemen with bright professional futures. Like Crow and Malusz, the outstanding first-base prospects have all played at a very high level.

Besides Davis' amazing exploits at Arizona State, South Carolina's Justin Smoak (.362/.497/.677, 10 homers, 29 RBIs) has cemented his reputation as the best prospect in the bunch. Miami slugger Yonder Alonso (.358/.533/.679, eight homers, 33 RBIs) isn't far behind Smoak and is part of the nation's most dangerous lineup at Miami. David Cooper (.385/.488/.777, 14 homers, 39 RBIs) could sneak into the first round and is a major reason California has reached No. 5 in the rankings. The reigning Freshman of the Year, North Carolina's Dustin Ackley (.377/.472/.582, six homers, 29 RBIs, 13 stolen bases in 15 inns) isn't eligible for the 2008 draft but has kept on producing as a sophomore.

Two other potential first-round picks who project as first basemen in pro ball have played well across the diamond at third base. Brett Wallace (.388/.509/.682, nine homers, 42 RBIs, 10 SB) has hit like crazy for three years at Arizona State, and Allan Dykstra (.310/.518/.575, eight homers, 20 RBIs) has produced despite getting nothing to hit in Wake Forest's disappointing lineup.

Weakest Position

Where have you gone, Shane Robinson? Sugar Shane has left and gone away. And no college outfielder has made a serious run at player of the year honors in 2008.

By most accounts, this is the weakest outfield crop in recent memory. There's a chance that no college outfielders will be taken in the first round in June, particularly since there are so many other impact bats available at the corner infield positions. Last year's midseason player of the year, Texas' slugging outfielder Kyle Russell (.248 with seven homers), struggled for most of the first half, and fellow Longhorn and first-team preseason All-American Jordan Danks (.324/.452/.515 with three homers, 25 RBIs and nine steals) has been steady but not spectacular. The other first-teamer, Miami's Dennis Raben (.264/.423/.542 with four homers) was slowed by a back injury and hasn't really gotten going since his return. The lack of elite outfielders could allow an athlete like Pepperdine's Eric Thames (.408/.510/.816, 10 homers, 47 RBIs, 10 SB) to climb up draft boards in a hurry if he keeps producing at such a high level.

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Rays have chance to make double history

By Paul White, USA TODAY

The Tampa Bay Rays are certain to make one bit of history with the first pick in this year's Major League Baseball draft, but they can add to it if they choose Vanderbilt third baseman Pedro Alvarez.

Alvarez, one of the top prospects in the June 5-6 draft at Orlando, could give Vandy the first back-to-back overall No. 1 picks after Commodores pitcher David Price last year. Price was taken by Tampa Bay, which becomes the first team with the first pick in consecutive years since the draft began in 1965. This will be the Rays' fourth overall No. 1 in 10 years. The others were outfielders Josh Hamilton in 1999 and Delmon Young in 2003.

Only since 2005 has the team with the worst record in the majors been guaranteed the first choice. Previously, the No. 1 pick alternated from year to year between the worst team in the National and American leagues.

The Rays are not tipping their hand — general managers and scouting directors are so religiously closed-mouthed about the draft they don't even like to publicly rate the strength of a particular year's draft.

But the consensus this year is that the hitters are ahead of the pitchers, with Alvarez leading a line of potentially potent bats, many of whom are college players who could rise quickly to the majors.

In fact, University of San Diego left-hander Brian Matusz is the only pitcher likely to be taken among the first five picks, and the run on hitters could last much longer than that.

Tampa Bay could opt for someone other than Alvarez for a variety of reasons:

- He's a third baseman, the position played by Evan Longoria, the team's 2006 first-round pick who recently made his major league debut and six days later signed a six-year, \$17.5 million contract. Alvarez is not as accomplished defensively as Longoria, so he could change positions.
- Alvarez missed 23 games this season with a broken bone in his right hand. But the left-handed hitting native of New York City is back, though his .299 average and three homers in 87 at-bats are off last year's .386 and 18 homers.
- And he'll be represented by agent Scott Boras, whose tough negotiating tactics sometimes scare off teams.

One of the possible alternatives for the Rays comes with a different deterrent. Shortstop Tim Beckham from Griffin (Ga.) High School ranks with first baseman Eric Hosmer of American Heritage High in Plantation, Fla., as the prep players most likely to be in the top handful of picks. Beckham, an honor student, has committed to play at Southern California, so he has that leverage in negotiations.

Hosmer, another Boras client, has signed with Arizona State.

Another Beckham, though no relation, has thrust himself into the picture this spring. University of Georgia shortstop Gordon Beckham is hitting .427 with 20 home runs in 171 at-bats and is in the mix with other college hitters that include first basemen Justin Smoak of South Carolina, Yonder Alonso of Miami (Fla.) and Brett Wallace of Arizona State, catcher Buster Posey of Florida State and second baseman Jemile Weeks of Miami.

Weeks is the younger brother of Milwaukee Brewers second baseman Rickie Weeks and has the most notable bloodlines among this year's

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Rays acquire OF Gabe Gross from Brewers

Ted Fleming
RaysDigest.com

Apr 22, 2008

The Tampa Bay Rays made a trade prior to their first game in the House Mouse acquiring outfielder Gabe Gross from Milwaukee for a minor league hurler. Ted Fleming of Rays Digest reports from Lake Buena Vista.

LAKE BUENA VISTA - The Rays announced before Tuesday's game at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex that they have acquired outfielder Gabe Gross from the Milwaukee Brewers for minor league hurler Josh Butler.

Gross, 28, was in the middle of the Brewers 9-8 win over the Cardinals this afternoon and was 2-4 with three runs scored to raise his season average to .209. This year he has no homers and 2-RBI in 16 games.

"We've been talking to the Brewers about him since spring training," said Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations Andrew Friedman. "We feel like he's going to help us defensively and we like him batting against right hand pitching. We feel like he has the combination of patience and power from the left side."

The Maryland native broke in with the Blue Jays in 2004 and has a career .241 batting average with 20 homers and 87 ribbies in 309 big league games. He was a first round pick (15th overall) in 2001 out of Auburn.

Butler, 22, was playing for the Vero Beach Devil Rays and was 0-2 with a 6.35 ERA. The graduate of the University of San Diego was the Rays second round in the 2006 Draft. He finished his career at USD with a 3.41 ERA and a 18-14 record over three years.

A roster move will be made when Gross reports, at this point the likely name would be Justin Ruggiano, however Friedman would not comment further until he sits down with manager Joe Maddon to discuss it.

"Within the context of our roster and our personnel, we feel he (Gross) can help us win games," said Friedman. "I'm not sure when he is going to report yet so we won't make a move until he is here."

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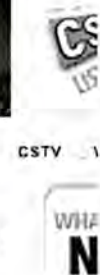


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Softball Makes The Grade

USD softball earns NCAA recognition for Academics

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Alyssa Schott spends time in Study Hall

April 29, 2008

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - The NCAA honored the University of San Diego softball team with public recognition awards as one of 29 Division I softball teams for their latest multi-year Academic Progress Rate scores.

"Our student-athletes are dedicated to pursuing excellence both on and off the field and I am honored the NCAA has recognized our academic success for the second consecutive year," said head coach Melissa McElvain.

Of the 29 different softball teams to make the list, USD has faced four schools on the list (Harvard University, Stanford University, Texas A&M University, and UCLA) this season. San Diego was the only PCSC school to achieve the top 10 percentile list for softball. Loyola Marymount and Santa Clara each honors in other sports.

These teams posted multi-year APR scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in all of Division I softball. The 712 teams recognized this year represent 11.4 percent of the 6,272 Division I teams. The list includes 401 women's teams and 311 men's or mixed squads. A total of 192 Division I institutions had at least one team on the top APR list. High-performing teams receiving awards posted APR scores ranging from 965 to a perfect 1,000 over the data collection period.

"Congratulations to these teams and their student-athletes for success in the classroom," NCAA President Myles Brand said. "They are setting a great example for their peers and future student-athletes, as well."

The effort is part of a public-recognition program the Division I Board of Directors approved in January 2006. Last year, a total of 839 teams were recognized.

For the second consecutive year, Yale University had the most teams (28) recognized. By conference, the Ivy Group had by far the most number of teams honored (150), followed by the Patriot League (89) and the Big East Conference (47).

By sport, women's tennis featured the most teams (46), followed by women's volleyball (41) and women's golf (39). The men's sport with the highest number of teams were basketball and cross country (both with 33) and golf (32). This is the first year that basketball led men's sports.

Last year, a total of 839 teams were recognized. There are fewer awards this year than last year because there are fewer teams with perfect scores. The number of teams in some sports may exceed 10 percent depending on how many achieved perfect 1,000 APR scores. In some sports, teams had to maintain a perfect score over the four-year period in order to be recognized.

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- ▶ [04/30: Utah State:Aggie Season Action At Hawa](#)
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- ▶ [04/30: Saint Mary's \(Ca Championship](#)
- ▶ [04/30: UCF:Knights Fin Win at Bethune-Cookm](#)
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Toreros Fall 5-8, 1-2 in Doubleheader against Saint Mary's

The Gaels claim the series

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Lindsay Fleet homered against Saint Mary's Sunday afternoon

April 27, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team wrapped up their final PCSC road trip as lost a pair of games to the Saint Mary's College Gaels, 5-8 in game one and 1-2 in game two.

In game one, USD jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the first inning. Each team went scoreless through the fourth inning before the Gaels recaptured the lead posting three runs. USD responded with a two-RBI homerun by Lindsay Fleet tying the game at 3-3. Saint Mary's took control when they posted five runs in the seventh inning. USD mounted a comeback scoring two more runs cutting the Gaels lead to three but came up just short of the win.

In game two, Saint Mary's scored in the second inning and fourth inning to take a 2-0 lead. USD's lone run came in the bottom half of the fourth inning and were not able to push across a tying run as the Toreros wrap up the weekend with a 1-2 loss.

San Diego moves to 16-36 overall and 3-13 in the PCSC. San Diego will return home to the USD Softball Complex as they prepare this week for their final conference series against the Sacramento State Hornets. Doubleheaders are set to start at noon on Saturday, May 3 and Sunday May 4.

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- 04/28: Metro State: Softball Takes Three from Colorado State
- 04/28: Softball Game Time Changes for May 5th
- 04/28: Down Breaks Madonna University Single Season Strikeout Record
- 04/28: San Diego: Toreros Fall 5-8, 1-2 in Doubleheader against Saint Mary's
- 04/28: Southeast Missouri State: Big-Inning Goons Redhawks, 7-5
- 04/27: UCSB/UCSB Avoids Sweep, Defeats UC Davis 11-2
- 04/27: Ripstate Sweeps Mercer To End Season
- 04/27: Northern Colorado: Bears Enter Uncharted Territory
- 04/27: Loyola Marymount: Fenix Gains 499th Career Win
- 04/27: Santa Clara: Broncos Blanked in Sunday's Doubleheader
- 04/27: Southern Illinois: Softball comes from behind to beat Missouri State, 4-3
- 04/27: Adelphi: Softball Sweeps Dowling
- 04/27: Saint Joseph's: Fair's Pitch-Hit Double Lifts Hawks Softball to Split with George Washington
- 04/27: Cal State Fullerton: Doublette Pitches Titans to Series Win
- 04/27: Saint Mary's (Calif.): Softball Snags First Place Spot in PCSC with Series Sweep

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USD Drops Doubleheader at Saint Mary's

The Toreros look to bounce back Sunday afternoon

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Soto hit a two-RBI homerun in game one loss to Saint Mary's

April 26, 2008

MORAGA, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team posted fell today in a doubleheader against the Saint Mary's Gaels Saturday afternoon from Cottrell Field in Moraga, Calif. The Toreros lost 2-3 in game one and 5-1 in game two.

In game one, Saint Mary's jumped out to an early 1-0 lead. The Gaels increased their lead 2-0 in the fifth inning. San Diego made a comeback in the seventh inning when Celeste Soto recorded a two-RBI homerun tying the game 2-2. However the Gaels locked up the win 3-2 in the bottom half of the inning defeating USD.

In the afternoon match-up, the Toreros again fell behind after SMC scored three runs in the first inning. The Toreros recorded a run in the top of the sixth inning and would not score again. The Gaels would score their fourth run in the bottom of the second inning and their fifth and final run in the third inning defeating USD 5-1.

The Toreros fall to 16-34 of the season and a Pacific Coast Softball Conference mark of 3-11. The Toreros return to the diamond on Sunday afternoon for their final doubleheader on the road starting at noon at Cottrell Field.

RELATED STORIES

- 04/28: Houston: Softball Clinches C-USA Regular Season Title
- 04/28: Endicott: Softball moved to Wednesday
- 04/28: UMass: UMass Senior Finding New Ways To Lead Minutewomen
- 04/28: Metro State: Softball Faces CSU-Pueblo in RMAC Tournament
- 04/28: Metro State: Softball Takes Three from Chardon State
- 04/28: Softball Game Time Changes for May 5th
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- 04/28: San Diego: Toreros Fall 5-8, 1-2 in Doubleheader against Saint Mary's
- 04/28: Southeast Missouri State: Big-Inning Queens Redhawks, 7-5
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Toreros Split Series with Santa Clara

USD wins game one 5-3 and drops game two 0-1

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Celeste Soto hit a homerun in centerfield in USD's game one win.

April 20, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team finished their series against the Santa Clara Broncos recording another split winning game one 5-3 and losing game two 1-0.

Both teams battled for control of the game as the Toreros struck first taking a 1-0 lead. SCU answered back with a run tying the game at 1-1. Both teams again scored one run each as the game remained tied 2-2. Santa Clara scored a run in the bottom of the fifth inning but would not score again. San Diego would score two runs in the sixth inning and one run in the seventh inning claiming victory 5-3.

In game two, each team put hits into play but was unable to push runs across home plate. The Broncos had six scoring opportunities, while USD had four chances to score. It wasn't until the bottom of the seventh inning with the Broncos at bat when they scored on a single to left-centerfield to win 1-0.

Celeste Soto hit a homerun with one RBI and two runs scored. Kaitleeji Borja, Kristen Geisler, and Lindsey Fleet all recorded a double today. Jennifer Ellenbeck records the win in game one moving to 6-17 and striking out eight batters. Jessi Waters takes the loss in game two falling to 2-4 striking out six batters. USD moves to 16-32 overall and 3-9 in the PCSC.

The Toreros will travel on April 26 and 27 to Moraga, CA to take on the Saint Mary's College Gaels.

RELATED STORIES

- 04/21: Cornell: Softball Moves Into League Tie for First
- 04/21: Northwestern: Northwestern Sweeps Big Ten Weekly Awards
- 04/21: Maryland Eastern Shore: LADY HAWKS FALL 1-4 TO HAMPTON
- 04/21: Iowa: Busy Week For Hawkeye Softball
- 04/21: Southern Illinois: Softball announces summer day camp dates
- 04/21: Wisconsin: Badger softball drops four games to Iowa and Illinois
- 04/21: Southern Illinois: Saluki sweep on senior weekend Drop final MVC series at home to Creighton
- 04/21: Oregon State: Oregon State softball defeats Oregon 3-1 on Friday to take Civil War series for the 2008 season
- 04/21: UCLA: Softball undefeated by rain
- 04/21: Villanova: Softball Doubleheader vs. St. Joseph's Time Change
- 04/21: Cleveland State: Burt Named Horizon League Player of the Week
- 04/21: Princeton: No sweep for Tigers this time
- 04/21: Kentucky: U. Kentucky softball team struggles to get hits, runs during sweep at No. 3 Florida
- 04/21: Maryland: Shutout carries U. Maryland softball's Senior Day victory
- 04/21: Stanford: Stanford softball takes two of three from Cal

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April 20, 2008

Softball

The No. 22 SDSU softball team defeated **Colorado State** 4-1 behind another strong pitching performance from Christina Ross. Ross threw seven innings and struck out five to give the visiting Aztecs (34-13, 6-3) their fourth consecutive victory.


Aztecs outfielder Brittany Knudsen broke a 1-1 tie in the sixth inning with a two-run triple.

• The USD softball team split a doubleheader with visiting **Santa Clara**, losing the first game 5-4, but bouncing back to take the second game 9-5. Shortstop Carey Casciola went a combined 7-for-8 with three runs scored for the Toreros (15-31, 2-8).

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Ellenbeck's Homer Gives USD Lift Over Santa Clara

San Diego snaps a five game losing streak with a 9-5 win over Broncos

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Jennifer Ellenbeck looks on at her homerun in game two against Santa Clara

April 19, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team posted a split against the Santa Clara Broncos this afternoon snapping a five game losing streak as the Toreros dropped game one 4-5 and came back from behind to defeat Santa Clara in game two 9-5.

In game one, USD found themselves down 3-0 going into the bottom half of the first inning. Solid hitting put two Toreros on base with back-to-back singles. Celeste Soto sent a shot deep into left field good enough for extra bases pushing across the two runs cutting the SCU lead to one. The Toreros scored one run in the second inning and third inning recapturing the lead 4-3. The Broncos came back in the sixth inning pushing in two runs and held tough defensively as USD could not tie up the game losing 5-4.

In game two, San Diego struck first as Casciola lead off with a single. Lindsey Fleet followed two batters later with a double to centerfield giving USD a 1-0 lead. Santa Clara answered back with a single run in the third inning. In the sixth inning, the Toreros went on a hit parade batting through the order and recapturing the lead as the Broncos allowed batters Casciola, Soto, and Lindsey Fleet to take base. Kathleen Borja hit a two-RBI double to left field scoring Casciola and Soto and advancing Lindsey Fleet to third base. Jennifer Ellenbeck followed with a three-run homerun over the left field fence, her sixth of the season, giving USD a 7-1 lead over the Broncos. Santa Clara attempted a rally but came up short with only two runs in the sixth inning and the seventh inning. San Diego added two runs in the sixth inning as well as the Toreros went on to win 9-5.

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San Diego moves to 15-31 overall and 2-8 in the PCSC. Ellenbeck struck out three batters and takes the loss in game one falling to 5-17, while Jessi Waters struck out three batters and improves to 2-3 on the season.

The Toreros return to finish the series with Santa Clara on Sunday, April 20 at the USD Softball Complex starting at 12:00 p.m.

RELATED STORIES

- 04/21: Iowa: Well Named Co-Big Ten Pickin' Of The Week
- 04/21: Cornell: Softball Moves Into League Tie for First
- 04/21: Northwestern: Northwestern Sweeps Big Ten Weekly Awards
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USD Toreros Drop City Championship Series With SDSU

San Diego lost 3-1 in game three of the series with the Aztecs

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Kristen Gensler smashed a triple and scored USD's only run.

April 16, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team recorded a 3-1 loss to their crosstown rivals San Diego State.

The Aztecs struck first in the top of the first inning on one hit giving SDSU a 1-0 lead. SDSU then posted a pair of unearned runs in the third inning to take a 3-0 lead off a USD error.

San Diego's single run came in the bottom half of the third inning when Kristen Gensler sent a ball deep into the right-center gap allowing her to hustle around to third base. Casey Cassiola hit into a second base ground-out allowing Gensler to score cutting the Aztec's lead 3-1. USD was unable to push across more runs as the two teams complete the season series with the Aztecs winning two games to one.

The Toreros will return to the softball diamond this weekend as they take on the Santa Clara Broncos starting with a double header Saturday at noon and 2:00 p.m. followed by Sunday at noon and 2:00 p.m.

RELATED STORIES

- 04/17: Northern Illinois: Weather plays part in Huskies' four errors
- 04/17: Southern Illinois: Salukis split with Aces, Desmoines, Wamsley bring offensive spark
- 04/17: Illinois: Illini softball's offense heats up in win over ISU
- 04/17: Colorado State: Snowfall not an obstacle for the Rams; Mercy rule snaps five-game skid after 5
- 04/17: Oregon: Lucky number seven helps Ducks to sweep Oregon sides by Portland State in first game of four bill, 2-1, and then leads offensive stride in game two
- 04/17: Southern Illinois: Softball to hold Relay For Life Strikeout Cancer Day and honor seniors on Saturday
- 04/17: Iowa: Hawkeye Softball To Host "Strikeout Cancer" Day
- 04/17: Utah State: Softball Travels To Louisiana Tech For Three-Game WAC Series
- 04/17: BU: Toreros staff can't handle Boston College bats
- 04/17: BU: Rivalry role reversal: Both hitting and pitching fall short of fence
- 04/17: Cornell: Softball Tops 'Clue' To Extend Streak
- 04/17: Penn: Getting touches at fall hits in spring
- 04/17: Wisconsin: Wisconsin falls at Notre Dame
- 04/17: St. Gregory's Bell Sets New Mark for Strikeouts
- 04/17: Point Loma Nazarene's Addie Sets School Steals and Runs Records

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April 17, 2008

SDSU beats USD

Senior catcher/designated hitter Megan McDonald's two-out single in the third drove in two runs and helped San Diego State beat host USD 3-1 last night. McDonald went 3-for-4 against Jesi Waers (1-3), who allowed one earned run. SDSU's Brooke Petty and Christina Ross combined to limit USD to two hits. USD is 14-30.

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Toreros to Face SDSU and Santa Clara This Week

\$5 general admission charge in effect for San Diego State game on Wednesday

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Head Coach Melissa McElvain and her staff face SDSU and Santa Clara this week.

April 15, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego softball team has another busy week ahead of them as they wrap up their non-conference schedule on Wednesday night followed by a PCSC series as the Santa Clara Broncos come to town over the weekend.

The Toreros lost the series 1-3 this past weekend to Loyola Marymount. Saturday they won game one 1-0, then lost game two 7-3. On Sunday they fell 1-0 in game one and 1-0 in game two. USD is currently 14-29 overall and 1-7 in the PCSC.

San Diego continues conference play over the weekend when they face Santa Clara. The Broncos are currently 19-19 overall and 3-5 in the PCSC. SCU lost the series against Saint Mary's 0-4 this past weekend. The Toreros and Broncos open up play on Saturday at Noon and 2:00 p.m. and conclude the four game series on Sunday at Noon and 2:00 p.m.

The San Diego State Aztecs are 6-4 in their last ten games and currently on a three-game losing streak. SDSU dropped back-to-back losses against BYU (1-0 in game one, 2-0 in eight innings), as well as a 1-0 decision against the University of Utah. The Aztecs currently hold a 30-13 overall record on the season and a 3-3 mark in the Mountain West Conference.

The 2008 USD-SDSU series is tied at 1-1. The Toreros picked up the first win 6-4 in Arizona at the Diamond Devil Classic. The Aztecs came back to defeat USD 7-3 at the Aztec Softball Stadium. The series concludes Wednesday night at the USD Softball complex with the first pitch scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and all seats are general admission.

RELATED STORIES

- 04/15: BC: Softball Doubleheader Changed To Single Game
- 04/15: San Diego: Toreros to Face SDSU and Santa Clara This Week
- 04/15: Nicholls State: COLONELS SET TO ENDURE CHALLENGING ROAD TRIP
- 04/15: Pittsburgh: Pitt splits a pair with Cautious
- 04/15: Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh sports nap in Stollenwerff family
- 04/15: Princeton: Small ball enough to win four for Princeton softball
- 04/15: West Texas A&M: Lady Buff Softball inks Texas HS Standout
- 04/15: Auburn: Auburn Softball Takes On Georgia In Double-header Wednesday
- 04/15: Neumann: Sebasta and Gaslin named as PAC Players of the Week
- 04/15: Utah: Softball: A pair of aces prepare for doubleheader
- 04/15: UMass: Softball: Soriano joins elite company
- 04/15: Utah State: Utah State Softball Seniors Present The First Annual Beehive Trophy
- 04/15: Penn: With 'Now' up, Softball has no time to regroup: Quakers have dropped eight straight. Wildcats bring potent offense to the table
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Team of the Week



San Diego

The Toreros, coached by Tim Mickelson, needed a victory at the West Coast Conference Championship to get into NCAA postseason play, and that's exactly what they got. San Diego posted rounds of 286-294-308 for a four-shot victory over Pepperdine and St. Mary's to earn its first WCC title and the league's automatic postseason bid. San Diego will be making its second trip to NCAA regionals in school history.

Honor roll:

- **Lamar** won the Southland Conference title for the 22nd time in program history.
- **Georgia State's** only chance of having a trip to the postseason was to win the Colonial Athletic Association's AQ. The Panthers, behind the play of first-team All-American candidate Joel Sjöholm, won the league title by 25 shots.
- In what was expected to be a very close Ivy League Championship, **Columbia** won the league title for just the second time in school history.
- **Florida State** won its first-ever ACC Championship.

Posted: 4/21/2008

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- 4/14 - Bobby Hudson, Texas
- 4/7 - Troy Merritt, Boise State
- 3/31 - Trent Leon, Oklahoma State
- 3/24 - Ignacio Elvira, Texas A&M
- 3/17 - George Bryan IV, South Carolina
- 3/10 - Rory Hie, USC
- 3/3 - Matthew Swan, Alabama
- 2/25 - Joel Sjöholm, Georgia State
- 2/18 - Scott Tashie, Denver

Teams of the Week

- San Diego
- 4/14 - Texas
- 4/7 - Middle Tennessee State
- 3/31 - N.C. State
- 3/24 - Texas A&M
- 3/17 - Mississippi
- 3/10 - UNLV
- 3/3 - Middle Tennessee State
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- 2/18 - Kentucky

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Golf team named Golfweek.com team of the week

Toreros preparing for upcoming NCAA's in mid-May

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Toreros named Golfweek.com team of the week

April 22, 2008

On the heels of their 2008 West Coast Conference team championship, the Toreros received some national recognition today. Golfweek.com named USD the men's collegiate team of the week. Fifth year head coach Tim Mickelson guided his Toreros to the program's first ever West Coast Conference Championship. With the title the Toreros earn the league's automatic bid into the NCAA Regionals (May 15-17). This marks the second trip to the NCAA's in the last three years for the Toreros, USD's team total of 888 was four strokes better than both Pepperdine and Saint Mary's College. Junior Jake Yount won the WCC individual championship with a sudden death playoff victory as he shot a 218 (73-71-74) over the two-day, three-round event. He is USD's first champion

since 1998 (Patrick Hawkins), and third overall. Junior Darin Hall, who finished just one stroke back of Yount at 219, shot a course record 66 in the first round of the WCC Championships. Hall, who led the team in scoring this season (73.53), joined Yount on the 2008 All-WCC First Team. Dale Smith was WCC honorable mention, and Mickelson earned his second WCC Coach of the Year honor.

The Toreros turned in a strong 2007-08 season where they finished in the top five in five events: WolfPack Classic (3rd place), USD Callaway Invitational (2nd place), Barona Collegiate Cup (3rd place), Robert Moore Invitational (5th place) and WCC Championships (1st place). At Barona they placed ahead of 5th-ranked Oklahoma State, marking the first time a USD golf team had beaten a top-10 national program. Junior Blake Trimble was named the WCC Golfer of the Month for March. He averaged 71.2 strokes for nine rounds at three tournaments with two top-10 individual performances (5th & 6th place). For the year Trimble ranks second on the team with his 73.72 scoring average.

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North County Times

April 21, 2008

Softball

■ San Diego State had a season-high 13 hits in a 5-4 victory at Colorado State on Sunday. The Aztecs (35-13 overall, 7-3 Mountain West Conference) won their fifth straight game. Freshman **Brooke Petty** (Vista) got the start for the Aztecs, but only lasted 2½ innings.

■ **Amanda Addle** of Point Loma Nazarene stole three bases against Cal State San Marcos and now has 171 career steals — a school record.

■ Cal State San Marcos upset Cal Baptist, the No. 1-ranked NAIA team in the nation, winning the first game of a Saturday doubleheader 1-0 in nine innings. CSUSM starter **Melissa Lomo** was the winning pitcher, improving to 10-6. Lomo allowed just two hits while walking three and striking out four. In the ninth inning, **Karen Mortz** (Torrey Pines) was placed on second, and reached third on a passed ball. Cal Baptist elected to walk the next two hitters, loading the bases, and **Shantl Poston** chopped a single over the shortstop's head to beat Cal Baptist ace **Amy Thomas** (25-3), a first-team All-American.

Men's golf

■ San Diego State shot an 11-over-par 291 on Sunday to finish seventh in the U.S. Intercollegiate at Stanford. Freshman **Matt Hoffenberg** (213) tied for 13th.

■ The University of San Diego won the West Coast Conference championship with a three-round score of 888 at the par-72 Chambers Bay Golf Course in Tacoma, Wash. Toreros junior **Jake Yount** was the medalist, beating **Chadd Cocco** of Saint Mary's on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff. Both players had tied with 2-over par 218s. **Blake Trimble** (Torrey Pines) shot a 227 for the Toreros to finish in a tie for 19th. USD earned an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament, scheduled for May 15-17.

Track and field

■ UC San Diego's **Emily Gregor** finished fifth in the women's 10,000 meters at the Mt. SAC Relays, running a school record 35 minutes, 26 seconds, exceeding the NCAA Division II qualifying mark. The Tritons' **Diane Dunn** ran 17:29.38 in the women's 5,000 at the Mt. SAC Relays, exceeding the NCAA Division II qualifying mark.

■ **Stephanie LeFever** scored 4,690 points in the heptathlon at the California Invitational at Azusa Pacific. It was the second-best mark in UCSD history.

UCSD's **Kayleigh Knudson** scored 4,538 points in the same meet, the third all-time best mark for the Tritons.

■ UCSD's **Andrew Van Straaten** scored 6,169 points in the decathlon at the California Invitational, the third-best mark in school history.

■ Two San Diego State athletes set personal records and another logged an NCAA regional qualifying mark at Cerritos College. **Michele Damhausen** established a personal best in the women's discus with a toss of 152 feet, 8 inches. She also competed in the javelin (128-0) and hammer (116-2). Teammate **Tamara McMillan** excelled in the hammer, setting a personal best with a throw of 150-7. The junior college transfer also participated in the shot put (39-7¼) and discus (128-10). In the women's pole vault, **Monica Pacas** cleared 12-7½ to tie for third place. It was the seventh time this season that Pacas posted an NCAA regional qualifying mark. The Aztecs also had **Christin Shibley** (tied for sixth, 12-1¼) and **Katie Vo** (tied for ninth, 11-7¼) finish in the top 10 in the event.

— John Maffei

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USD Golfers win first ever WCC Championship title

Junior Jake Yount earns medalist honors in sudden death playoff

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April 15, 2008

WCC Final Results



Jake Yount wins 2008 WCC medalist honors

University Place, WA) - The USD golf team, under the direction of 5th-year head coach Tom Mickelson, won the 2008 West Coast Conference Championship today after turning a final round team score of 308 to finish the three-round tournament at 888. The team is USD's first for the golf program since joining the WCC back in 1980. Last year Mickelson guided his team to a 2nd place finish. Playing at the Chambers Bay Golf course (par 72 - 7,178 yards) just outside of Tacoma, Washington, the Toreros held off Pepperdine, the league's perennial power and 2007 champion, and Saint Mary's College. Both schools shot final day team scores of 301 and finished four strokes back at 92.

SD junior Jake Yount (Danville, CA; De La Salle HS) earned medalist honors after winning a sudden death playoff on the second hole against Chadd Cocco of Saint Mary's. Both players tied at 218 after three rounds with Cocco carding a final day 71 to Yount's 74. But in the playoff, after both players pared the par-4 1st hole, Yount scored a 4 on the par-3, 176 yard 17th hole, while Cocco doubled it. Yount's scores for the three rounds were 73-71-74, while Cocco matched with his 74-73-71. Yount becomes USD's first WCC golf champion since Patrick Hawkins claimed the title back in 1998. By winning

the WCC title, the Toreros earn the league's automatic bid into the 2008 NCAA Championships (May 15-17; site tbd). This will be USD's second trip to the NCAA's in the last three seasons (2006).

Besides Yount, the Toreros received solid play this week from junior Darin Hall (Golden, CO) who led the event after two rounds. Hall shot a final day score of 77 to finish in a tie for 3rd place overall, and just one stroke back of Yount and Cocco, with a total of 219 (66-76-77). His first day 66 set a new course record for Chambers Bay GC. Hall was joined by USF's Chris Cunningham who carded three straight 73's for his 219 total. USD sophomore Dale Smith (North Yorkshire, England) finished tied for 11th overall at 224 (71-72-81). First year junior Blake Trimble (Rancho Santa Fe, CA; Torrey Pines HS) birdied three holes on the back nine today to finish with a 76 and finish in a tie for 19th overall at 227 (76-75-76). Freshman Jason Shano (Scottsdale, AZ) finished in a tie for 34th at 236 (76-78-82).

Following USD, Pepperdine and Saint Mary's in the final team standings were Loyola Marymount at 903 (293-296-314), Portland at 905 (301-300-304), Santa Clara at 910 (294-303-313), San Francisco at 912 (300-307-305) and Gonzaga University at 922 (310-302-310).



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Dale rises to USA challenge

Apr 30 2008 by Allan Boughey, Evening Gazette



RISING Tees Valley star Dale Smith is enjoying a super season of golf in the US.

Despite a nasty shoulder injury that kept the Saltburn Golf Club youngster from playing for his college for three months at the start of the academic year, Dale has bounced back in style.

The 20-year-old is nearing the end of his second year at the University of San Diego and has just helped the college team win the West Coast Conference Championships at Chambers Bay Golf Club, in Tacoma, Washington - a course that will host the 2015 US Open.

The triumph, in which Dale came ninth in the individual event, qualifies San Diego for the NCAA regional finals at the start of May.

The England international said: "It was very disappointing that I couldn't play the fall semester at the end of last year due to a shoulder injury.

"From September to November I didn't play at all.

"After another successful summer with my club, county and country, the injury that I had carried since the winter finally got the better of me, and I had to take over six weeks off.

"It meant that I had December and January to get my game back in shape for the important spring events."

Dale got his game together and blasted back with scores of 74, 67 and 71 for a -4 total at a college tournament in Hawaii.

Now Dale is looking forward to the NCAA event and added: "I was fifth in the WCCC event last year and I was hoping to better that but I'm delighted that we have the regional final coming up with the possibility of a NCAA national finals appearance for the first time in school history.

"We definitely have the talent to do so; we just all have to get our games to click at the same time I guess."

Dale also has one eye firmly fixed on the coming season back on home soil.

He said: "After hopefully ending the season over here on a potential high, I'll be looking forward to a successful summer on British soil.

"My schedule for this summer hasn't yet been finalised, but I will most definitely be looking forward to playing in the likes of the Berkshire Trophy, the English Amateur and the Tillman Trophy.

"One of my main goals this summer will be to put in a really good performance at the North England Youth Championship at Middlesbrough GC.

"It's a really well run tournament, the field is always getting stronger and it's nice to see an increasing number of our local guys playing. There's no doubt we have one of the strongest districts in terms of junior/youth golf."

Dale is also hoping to play a part for Saltburn this season.

He said: "Last year proved a very successful year again for my home club.

"We narrowly missed out on winning the Teesside Union first division for the second year in a row. However, this disappointment was most definitely overshadowed by another win in the Yorkshire Divisional Championships, this time taking the YUGC 2nd Division.

"In the space of two seasons, we have managed to win the sixth, fifth, fourth, third and second YUGC Divisions, and we finished with a very strong performance at the Yorkshire Team Championships - one that promised so much more with only nine holes left to play.

"However, another successful year proved that Saltburn Golf Club can now be said to be one of the very best in Yorkshire, and this coming season should only get better with the additions of Jason Jones and Nigel Storey to the line-up, and a new team manager in Geoff Emmerson.

"We definitely have the firepower to go out and win both the Teesside Union first division and the Yorkshire Team Championships this summer, and I can't wait to be a part of that."

Dale is planning on turning professional once he has completed his golf scholarship at San Diego.

He said: "I'm looking at trying to obtain a sponsor sometime in the near future as I'll be looking at turning pro in the next 18 months after I finish university."

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Tacoma, WA - Thursday, April 17, 2008

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Knee surgery sidelines Woods

News Tribune news services

Last updated: April 16th, 2008 01:28 AM (PDT)

Tiger Woods had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Tuesday to repair cartilage damage, his second operation in five years on the knee. He is expected to miss at least a month.

The surgery, announced on his Web site, came two days after Woods finished three shots behind Trevor Immelman at the Masters. He most likely will miss The Players Championship, but should return in time to play the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines on June 12.

"I made the decision to deal with the pain and schedule the surgery for after the Masters," Woods said. "The upside is that I have been through this process before and know how to handle it. I look forward to working through the rehabilitation process and getting back to action as quickly as I can."

The surgery was performed in Park City, Utah, by Thomas Rosenberg, who also operated on Woods' left knee in December 2002. Woods also had surgery in 1994 on his left knee to remove a benign tumor.

Woods gave no indication his knee was bothering him the first three months of the season, when he won his first four tournaments to extend a winning streak that dated to September.

"Tiger has been experiencing pain in his knee since the middle of last year, and when he had it looked at by his doctors, arthroscopic surgery was recommended," said Mark Steinberg, Woods' agent at IMG. "Tiger has played through the pain in the past, but knew it would be better for him to have the procedure done as early as possible."

Steinberg said the surgery repaired cartilage damage. The 2002 surgery drained fluid from around the anterior cruciate ligament and removed a benign cyst.

Woods won the Bridgestone Invitational and PGA Championship in consecutive weeks in August, the latter his 13th career major. After tying for second at the Deutsche Bank Championship to Phil Mickelson, he won the final two events to capture the FedEx Cup, won his unofficial Target World Challenge in December, and won his first four events until tying for fifth at Doral last month.

During the final two events of the PGA Tour season – the BMW Championship in Chicago and the Tour Championship – Woods occasionally would press his foot against a cooler on the tee box and stretch his knee.

He also stumbled behind the eighth green at Southern Hills during the final round of the PGA Championship, right after he chipped in for birdie and was backing up to throw a fist pump.

Otherwise, there were no other outward signs he was hurting.

The recovery is expected to be four to six weeks, meaning Woods will not be able to defend his title May 1 in the Wachovia Championship.

"Of course, we're disappointed when Tiger is unable to compete in a PGA Tour event," commissioner Tim Finchem said on the tour's Web site. "There is really never a good time for an athlete – especially one of Tiger's caliber – to take weeks off from competition during the season. But his health concerns have to come first."

Toreros, Waves tops in WCC

The San Diego men's golf team captured its first West Coast Conference title, while the Pepperdine women's team won its seventh straight WCC crown Tuesday at Chambers Bay Golf Course.


The Toreros led from the opening round of the three-day event, and shot a final-round 308 to finish at 24-over-par 888 – four strokes ahead of Pepperdine and Saint Mary's.

San Diego's Jake Yount – voted WCC player of the year – and Saint Mary's Chadd Cocco tied for first at 2-over 218. Yount came away with individual medalist honors after winning the second hole of a sudden-death playoff. Pepperdine's Andrew Putnam, a three-time Washington state champion out of Tacoma's Life Christian, finished tied for 11th at 8-over 224. He was named conference freshman of the year.

The Pepperdine women – led by Leanne Bowditch and Taylore Karle, who tied for first at 4-over 220 – posted a three-round score of 905 to finish 37 strokes ahead of second-place San Francisco. It marked the 10th WCC team title in the past 11 seasons for the Waves.

Originally published: April 16th, 2008 01:28 AM (PDT)



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Golfers in 1st after first of three rounds at WCC Championships

Junior Darrin Hall cards 66 at Chambers Bay Golf Course

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04/14/2008



Darrin Hall

April 14, 2008

LIVE SCORING

First Round Results

University Place, WA) - The USD golf team finds itself in first place after the first of three rounds of the 2008 West Coast Conference Championships. Junior Darrin Hall carded a 66 (6-under-par) on the par 72, 7,164 yard Chambers Bay Golf Course which is just outside of Tacoma Washington. San Diego's first round team score is an outstanding 286 (6-under-par), 7 strokes better than second place LMU. Following USD and LMU in the team standings is Santa Clara (294), Saint Mary's (298), Pepperdine (300), San Francisco (300), Portland (301) and Gonzaga (310). Following Hall, teammate Dale Smith sits in 3rd place after he fired a 1-under-par 71.

Junior Jake Young also turned in a solid first round with a score of 73, good for a 6th place position heading into today's afternoon round. Both Blake Trimble and Jason Hano shot 76 which puts them in a tie for 24th. Santa Clara's Jonathan Keane is currently in 2nd place behind Hall after he shot a 69. Rounding out the top five individuals is LMU's John Lim and Portland's Justin Smithisler, both with even par 72's.

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USD Golfers in WCC Championship

Chambers Bay to host tournament Monday and Tuesday

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April 14, 2008

LIVE SCORING

UNIVERSITY PLACE, Wash. - The USD men's golf team will compete in the West Coast Conference Championship today and Tuesday at Chambers Bay Golf Course (par 72). This is the first time since 1991 the WCC Championship will be contested in the Pacific Northwest - 1991 at Heron Lakes Golf Course in Portland the last - and just the second time in the state of Washington, the 1980 toumey at Sahalee Country Club in Seattle the other. Chambers Bay has already been selected to host the 2015 U.S. Open and the 2010 U.S. Amateur. The Toreros hope to land their first WCC title and the league's automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament. Last year the Toreros placed 2nd overall marking the sixth time they have finished runner-up.

This season the Toreros have turned in four top-5 team finishes with their most recent top-5 showing at the Ron Moore Invitational where they place 5th. They finished 3rd at the Barona Collegiate where they finished ahead of 5th-ranked Oklahoma State, and also finished 2nd at their own Callaway Golf Invitational. USD is paced by junior Blake Tomblife (73.50 scoring average) and junior Darin Hall (73.76 scoring average). Also competing at the WCC's will be junior Jake Yount (74.42 scoring average), and freshmen Jason Shane (74.30) and Gunner Waite (75.36). At last year's WCC Championships, Darin Hall was USD's top finisher at 221 (74-72-75), good for 5th place overall.

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Toreros competing at Morris Williams Intercollegiate

First time appearance for USD at prestigious event

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April 7, 2008



Darrin Hall

Austin, TX - The USD men's golf team is competing in the 42nd annual Morris Williams Intercollegiate, a 15-team, 54-hole stroke play event being hosted by the University of Texas. The tournament two-day, three-round tournament is held annually in memory of former University of Texas golf star Morris Williams, Jr., who died in a plane crash while serving in the Air Force in 1953. Former medalists at the Morris Williams Intercollegiate include such names as Fred Couples, Ben Crenshaw, Brad Elder, Bob Estes, Justin Leonard, Phil Mickelson and Payne Stewart.

WHEN: Monday, April 7 - Tuesday, April 8; the tournament field will play 36 holes on Monday and 18 holes on Tuesday.

WHERE: The University of Texas Golf Club - Austin, Texas (par 71, 7,412 yards); the tournament will be played at The UT Golf Club for the first time after being held at Austin Country Club the last nine seasons.

WHO: Joining the Longhorns in a challenging field will be No. 1 Alabama, No. 12 Auburn, BYU, No. 24 Central Florida, Fresno State, No. 25 Louisville, New Mexico, No. 6 Oklahoma State, Pepperdine, San Diego, TCU, No. 22 Texas Tech, Tulsa and defending Morris Williams champion No. 16 UNLV (rankings from the April 4 GolfWorld/Nike Coaches' Poll)

TOREROS COMPETING: USD head coach Tim Mickelson is traveling the following players for this week's competition: Blake Trimble, Jake Yount, Darrin Hall, Gunner

Weibe, and Jason Sharp.

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THE 2007 MORRIS WILLIAMS INTERCOLLEGIATE: UNLV claimed the rain-shortened, 36-hole edition of the 2007 Morris Williams Intercollegiate with an eight-under 568 at Austin Country Club. Tulsa's Ryan Henry, Texas A&M's Austin Schauer and New Mexico's Steve Saunders finished as the tournament's co-medalists, as each finished with a five-under 139.

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- 04/07: Ohio: Schaus Named Ohio Director of Athletics
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- 04/07: Fayetteville State: BRONCOS FINISH SECOND AT CAROLINA SANDS
- 04/07: San Diego: Toreros competing at Morris Williams Intercollegiate
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April 7, 2008

The award goes to ...

A quick glance at local college athletes honored by their respective conferences.

■ USD's **Blake Trimble** (Torrey Pines) was named the West Coast Conference men's golfer of the month for March. Trimble, a junior, tied for sixth with an even-par 216 in the 80-player USD Callaway Invitational. He was 21st in the 60-player Barona Collegiate, again shooting even-par 216. At the Ron Moore Invitational, Trimble carded a 7-under 209 —

and finished fifth in the 80-player event. ■ San Diego State's **Aaron Goldberg** (La Costa Canyon) was named Mountain West Conference men's golfer of the month for March. The senior earned his second straight monthly honor of the 2007-08 season and the fifth of his career, joining UNLV's **Ryan Moore** as the only golfers to have won the award at

least five times since the conference's inception in 1999. Goldberg logged three top-six finishes in March, leading San Diego State to a pair of tournament titles and one second-place showing. At the Fresno State Lexus Classic, Goldberg carded a 5-under 211 to tie for sixth out of 103 golfers. His opening-round 67 matched his second-best effort of the

spring as SDSU successfully defended its team championship. At the Barona Collegiate Cup, Goldberg tied for sixth after shooting a 7-under 209. At the Oregon Duck Invitational, Goldberg was the Aztecs' top performer, finishing in third place at even-par 216 out of 64 golfers. Overall, Goldberg leads the team with a 70.93 stroke average, which is also tops

in the Mountain West.

■ Palomar golfer **Chris Stellen** (Carlsbad) was named the Pacific Coast Conference athlete of the week after shooting a 7-under 65 at the Oaks Creek Golf Club in Irvine, leading the Comets to a victory over Irvine Valley. Palomar is ranked No. 1 in Southern California.

— **John Maffel**

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For veteran Wiebe, it's all about chances

By John Romano, Times Sports Columnist

Published Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:57 PM

LUTZ — He was terrific, and then he was awful.

And, by the end, he was practically forgotten.

He was not the winner. That was Tom Watson, and he was already sitting in the scorer's trailer. He was no longer the challenger. That was Scott Hoch, and he was tossing his putter in the air on No. 18.

No, when the Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am was nearing its end Sunday afternoon, Mark Wiebe was just another guy with a white visor, a red face and a dark mood.

My, this should have been his tournament. Goodness, this could have been his time.

For Wiebe, a journeyman for more than 20 years on the PGA Tour, his career was not simply reborn when he turned 50, it was practically reinvented.

He had played 499 tournaments on the PGA Tour and had won twice in the 1980s. And then, 10 days after becoming eligible for the Champions Tour in September, Wiebe won a tournament. He won another last week. Sunday would have been three wins in 13 starts, a Tiger-like rate for geezers.

Except he didn't bring it home. In fact, he barely made it home.

A three-stroke lead with four holes to go, Wiebe eventually finished three behind Watson. And don't think this was a monumental Watson comeback, because it was far more of a colossal collapse.

"Did Tom win or did I lose?" Wiebe repeated the question. "In my heart of hearts, I'd say I lost."

Through the first 50 holes of his debut at TPC of Tampa Bay, Wiebe could hardly do wrong. He had just one bogey and was sitting comfortably at 12 under heading to the tee box at No. 15.

He pulled his first drive into the water. Teeing it up again, he hit his second drive close to the water, and it settled in a bunker. And the guy who had gone 30 holes without bogey was on his way to a triple.

If you were calculating his chances by the scoreboard, you might have thought Wiebe still had a shot at winning. But scoreboards do not weigh disappointment, and they cannot measure heartache.

The truth is, Wiebe was on his way to losing by the time he came off the 15th green. He had double bogey on No. 17 and another bogey on No. 18. He slipped to a tie for fifth place and probably kissed off about \$175,000 worth of prize money in four holes.

"When you go from having a chance to win to not ... it's really hard to tee it up," Wiebe said. "You try like hell and, you know, you can't win."

The real shame is Wiebe would have made a wonderful Outback champion. He does not have Watson's resume, and he might not have had Hoch's chance for a dramatic finish, but he was among the best stories in the field.

As much as the Champions Tour lives off big names on a final go-around, its purest heartbeat comes from guys such as Wiebe. A player who gets a second chance at a career he never had.

Not that Wiebe was a complete bust on the PGA Tour. He was a serviceable player for a very long time. From 1997 to 2001, he had nine top-10 finishes and averaged about \$350,000 a year.

But age and a bum elbow began to conspire against Wiebe by 2002. He lost his tour card and spent most of his time trying to make a comeback on the Nationwide Tour.

Between the PGA and Nationwide, he missed the cut in 57 of the 70 tournaments he played. His average salary in 2002-06 was around \$11,000, which works out to about a 97 percent pay cut from the previous five years.

The only thing that could save Wiebe was his birth certificate. His belly was hiding his belt line and it was hard to tell if his hair was more sandy or gray, but his career was getting younger by the day.

Elbow surgery had corrected his physical problems, and his son Gunner, a golfer at the University of San Diego, helped fix a flaw in his swing. All Wiebe needed was to hit his 50th birthday on Sept. 13 last year to become a new man.

He has gone from playing minor-league tournaments and hoping for sponsors' exemptions to becoming one of the hottest seniors around. Sunday's fifth-place finish put him over \$1.1-million in earnings in his first seven months on the Champions Tour.

"I was more excited than I was bummed out I was turning 50," Wiebe said. "I had no idea what was in store for me. I had no idea how neat it was going to be to see all the guys I started with on the tour."

When looking at it from that perspective, maybe Sunday's collapse wasn't so bad after all.

It had been a long time since Wiebe had given away a tournament on the final day, and the pain was as real as he recalled. But at least he had a chance to win.

And, these days, that means more to Wiebe than ever before.

*John Romano can be reached
at romano@sptimes.com.*

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USD's Thomas Liversage selected to 2008 NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Individual Championships

Dean Jackson, WCC Freshman of the Year, named an alternate

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Thomas Liversage

April 30, 2008

INDIANAPOLIS—The NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Subcommittee has selected the 64 singles players and 32 doubles teams that will compete in the 2008 NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championships. USD senior Thomas Liversage (Johannesburg, South Africa) has been selected for the individual championships. Currently ranked #51 in the nation, Liversage went 24-12 overall this season and 15-8 in dual matches for the 57th-ranked Toreros (12-11). Jackson, who was recently tabbed the WCC Freshman of the Year after going 28-6 overall from the No. 2 singles spot, has been selected as an alternate. He currently is ranked 63rd in the recent ITA/ITA rankings.

The singles and doubles competition will be conducted May 21-26 at the Michael D. Case Tennis Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, following the conclusion of the team championship (May 16-20). The University of Tulsa will serve as host. All matches shall be the best of three sets. Regular scoring and a 12-point tiebreaker at six games all will be used for all matches.

Automatic qualification into the Division I singles championships will be awarded to any conference with one or more eligible singles players ranked in the ITA Top 125 for eligible/entered singles players. For conferences with more than one singles player within

the ITA Top 125 eligible/entered singles players, the subcommittee will apply the NCAA selection criteria to determine which student-athlete is the automatic qualifier from those conferences.

Automatic qualification into the Division I doubles championships will be awarded to any conference with one or more eligible doubles teams ranked in the ITA Top 60 for eligible/entered doubles teams. For conferences with more than one doubles team within the ITA Top 60 eligible/entered doubles teams, the subcommittee will apply the NCAA selection criteria to determine which doubles team is the automatic qualifier from those conferences.



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- 05/01: UCLA: UCLA Tennis Players Chosen for NCAA Individual Draws
- 05/01: Alabama A&M: MVPs and Academic Award Winners Honored for 2007-08
- 05/01: Florida State: Auburn And Bowles Qualify For The 2008 NCAA Singles And Doubles Championships
- 05/01: Yale: All-Ivy Teams Announced
- 05/01: TCU: TCU names athletes of the month
- 05/01: Southern Mississippi: Men's Tennis Gets Addition For 2008-09 Season
- 05/01: Grand Valley State: Men's Tennis Travels to Drury for First Round Action
- 05/01: Miami: Vallverdu, Sundberg Selected for NCAA Championships
- 05/01: Adelphi: Tobiasz, Voytko Earn Post Season Honors
- 05/01: Wake Forest: Pan, Forman Selected to NCAA Individual Championships
- 05/01: Adelphi: Men's Tennis Earns NCAA Division II Regional Birth
- 05/01: Illinois: Three Illini Selected for NCAA Championships

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Dean Jackson named WCC Freshman of the Year

Thomas Liversage joins Jackson on WCC First Team Singles

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Dean Jackson, WCC Freshman of the Year

April 24, 2008

2008 All-WCC Men's Tennis

San Bruno, Calif. - San Diego's Dean Jackson earned the WCC Freshman of the Year men's tennis honor after turning in a spectacular first-year campaign for the Toreros. Jackson also ranks among the nation's best, coming in at No. 57 on the ITA ranking. Pepperdine's Andre Begemann was named WCC Player of the Year for the second consecutive year after leading the Waves to their 39th WCC Men's Tennis Championship. Begemann, a 2007 All-American, is currently the highest ranked WCC player on the circuit, checking in at No. 9 on the ITA listing. Saint Mary's Michael Wayman and Pepperdine's Adam Steinberg have alternated sharing the WCC Coach of the Year honor since 2004, with Wayman earning the nod last year and in 2004, while Steinberg picked up the award in 2005 and 2006. This year Steinberg and Wayman share the honor as the 2008 WCC Co-Coaches of the Year for leading their respective teams to first and second place finishes at the 2008 WCC Men's Tennis Championship.

Joining Begemann and Jackson on the all-conference first team is 2007 WCC Freshman of the Year, Bassam Beidas of Pepperdine. Beidas is currently listed at No. 35 on the ITA

ranking. San Diego's Thomas Liversage earned a spot on the first team for the second year in a row, after leading the Toreros this season from the No. 1 spot on the singles ladder. Filip Zivkovic of Portland earned a spot on the first team after leading the Pilots this season with a perfect 18-0 singles record. Saint Mary's Joel Kusnierz rounds out the all-conference first team after leading the Gaels to their first championship appearance and a second place finish in the 2008 conference tournament.

Pepperdine placed three netters on the all-conference second team in Omar Altmann, Mahmoud Kamel, and James Lemke, marking Lemke's second appearance on the all-conference squad. Loyola Marymount's Ivan Lopez earned an all-conference nod for leading the Lions to a fifth place showing at the WCC Championship. Lucas Tirelli of Saint Mary's earned his first all-conference honor, while San Francisco's Thong Tu and Santa Clara's Jay Wong return to the all-conference team for the second consecutive year.

All three first team doubles duos have earned national recognition this season, led by the current No. 26 tandem of Pepperdine's Andre Begemann and Omar Altmann. Returning to the all-conference team this year is San Diego's duo of Thomas Liversage and Chris Costello, while Saint Mary's team of Joel Kusnierz and Lucas Tirelli round out the honors.

San Francisco placed two teams on the second team in Asaf Cohen and Falko Huttenberger along with the Dons' duo of Rainer Nachbauer and Thong Tu. Portland's Filip Zivkovic and Charlie Yemm earned the final spot on the all-conference squad. The honor marks the first time for all three teams.

Player of the Year:
Andre Begemann, Pepperdine

Freshman of the Year:
Dean Jackson, San Diego

Co-Coach of the Year:
Adam Steinberg, Pepperdine
Michael Wayman, Saint Mary's

2008 Men's Singles All-Conference Team

First Team
Andre Begemann, PEP
Bassam Beidas, PEP
Dean Jackson, USD
Joel Kusnierz, SMC
Thomas Liversage, USD
Filip Zivkovic, POR

Second Team
Omar Altmann, PEP
Mahmoud Kamel, PEP
James Lemke, PEP
Ivan Lopez, LMU
Lucas Tirelli, SMC
Thong Tu, USF
Jay Wong, SCU

Honorable Mention
Roman Dojcek, GON; Stefan Feddersen, GON; Joel Kincaid, POR; Marek Dvorak, SMC; Falko Huttenberger, USF

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- 04/25: Texas-Pan American: Vijayaragavan and Dornani Named Second Team All-Southland
- 04/25: Illinois: Former Illini Mike Kosta Serving as Guest Speaker on Campus
- 04/25: Penn State: Rain Pushes Back Start Time of Men's Tennis Bout With Michigan
- 04/25: Memphis: Men's Tennis Inks David Henry to NFL
- 04/25: Northern Illinois: MAC Men's Tennis Action Moved to Rockford
- 04/25: Florida State: No. 13 Florida State Men's Tennis Looking To Clinch NCAA First And Second Round Hosting Rights Against No. 31 Notre Dame
- 04/25: Northern Illinois: Ball State/Toledo MAC Men's Tennis Tournament Semifinal Matchup Moved Indoors
- 04/25: Indiana: Richter Named All-Big Ten
- 04/25: Cal: Freshmen Lead the Way For Cal Men's Tennis
- 04/25: USC: Trojans Push Through To Pac-10 Quarterfinals
- 04/25: Washington: Huskies Wrap Day One At Pac-10 Championships
- 04/25: Arizona State: Miller Advances to Quarterfinals of Invitational Singles at Pac-10 Championships
- 04/25: Illinois: Gonzales and Rowe Earn All-Big Ten Team Selections
- 04/24: Stanford: Stanford Completes Day One Of Pac-10 Tournament, Begins Doubles Play Tomorrow

April 19, 2008

LOCAL COLLEGES

Grossmont unseats Palomar for conference softball title

UNION-TRIBUNE

The Palomar College softball team's amazing streak of 22 consecutive years as Pacific Coast Conference champion has been halted.

Grossmont clinched the title Wednesday, then went out yesterday and beat the visiting Comets 13-2 with a nine-run sixth inning. Grossmont last season tied with Palomar and San Diego City for the PCC title but won it outright this year. Grossmont is 26-10, 12-2; Palomar is 26-13, 9-6.

Tennis

The USD men's tennis team,

the No. 2 seed at the West Coast Conference Championships in Santa Clara, beat **Gonzaga** 4-0. USD will face either **Saint Mary's** or **Portland** today.

• In Moraga, the No. 4-seeded **USD** women's tennis team won its first round WCC Tennis Championship match, 4-1 over **Portland**. The Toreros will face No. 1 seed **Pepperdine** today.

Women's golf

San Diego State is in seventh place after the second round of the Mountain West Conference Championships in Albuquerque, N.M. The Aztecs

posted a 328 for a two-day total of 70-over 654 at the par-73, 6,167-yard University of New Mexico Championship Course.

SDSU freshman Samantha Roberts (La Costa Canyon) came in with the team's best 18 holes of the day, shaving three strokes off her first-round score with a 79 to tie her for 24th place with teammate Maki Kamimura at 15-over 161.

Softball

Lauren Chastain's complete-game pitching performance helped the No. 16 **UCSD** softball team salvage a split in a California Collegiate Athletic Association doubleheader at

home against **Cal State Dominguez Hills**. Chastain went the full seven innings in the Tritons' 2-1 victory, allowing six hits, one walk and an unearned run. UCSD lost the opener 6-4.

Track and field

SDSU senior Alicia Lowery (San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts in conjunction with Morse) qualified for the NCAA West Regionals in the 100-meter dash at the Mt. SAC Relays in Walnut.

Lowery won her timed section final of the 100 with a personal-best time of 11.74 seconds.

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Men's Tennis Falls to San Diego 4-3

Dons took 3-of-6 Singles Matches

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Sophomore Thong Tu earned the 6-4, 6-4 victory on Sunday

April 20, 2008

(Santa Clara, CA) - San Francisco was edged by the University of San Diego, 4-3, in Men's Tennis at the West Coast Conference Championships in Santa Clara on Sunday afternoon. The Dons took three of six singles matches but were shut out in doubles.

In singles action, sophomore Thong Tu defeated USD's Thomas Liversage 6-4, 6-4 at No. 1. In the No. 3 spot, freshman Asaf Cohen took a 6-1, 2-0 victory over Charl Wolmarans, and junior Falko Huttenberger defeated Nils Schive 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 at No. 5.

Freshman Rainer Nachbauer fell to Dean Jackson 6-2, 6-3 at No. 2, freshman Einer Hart fell to Tamer Antabi 6-2, 6-1, and sophomore Mitch Del Rosario fell to Levon Brown 6-3, 6-7, 7-6.

In doubles action, USD swept all three matches. Cohen/Huttenberger fell 8-4 to Jackson/Schive at No. 1. Liversage/Antabi took an 8-6 victory over Tu/Nachbauer, and Del Rosario/Ching fell to Wolmarans/Brown 7-6.

This concludes the 2008 Men's Tennis season. Please check USFDons.com for updates and join us next season.

San Diego 4, San Francisco 3

Doubles

1. Jackson/Schive (USD) def. Cohen/Huttenberger (USF) 8-4
2. Liversage/Antabi (USD) def. Tu/Nachbauer (USF) 8-6
3. Wolmarans/Brown (USD) def. Del Rosario/Ching 7-6 DNF

Singles

1. Thong Tu (USF) def. Thomas Liversage (USD) 6-4, 6-4
2. Dean Jackson (USD) def. Rainer Nachbauer (USF) 6-2, 6-3
3. Asaf Cohen (USF) def. Charl Wolmarans (USD) 6-1, 2-0
4. Tamer Antabi (USD) def. Einer Hart (USF) 6-2, 6-1
5. Falko Huttenberger (USF) def. Nils Schive (USD) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6
6. Levon Brown (USD) def. Mitch Del Rosario (USF) 6-3, 6-7, 7-6

Order of finish: Doubles (1,2,3), Singles (3,1,4,2,5,6)

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 - 04/21: Lewis: Flyers Finish Season
 - 04/21: Northwestern: Northwestern Looks To Rebound At Big Ten Championship
 - 04/21: Indiana: No. 41 IU Stuns No. 15 Michigan In 5-2 upset
 - 04/21: USF: U. South Florida men's tennis finishes second in Big East tournament along women's team
 - 04/21: Minnesota: Gophers bounce back from Saturday heartbreaker/Minnesota suffered a tough loss to Illinois before taking down Purdue on Sunday
 - 04/21: USC: Men's tennis falls short of Pac-10 title
 - 04/21: Florida: After upsetting No. 1 seed Georgia, men fall at SEC Tourney finals to Mississippi
 - 04/21: Texas: Longhorns win share of Big 12 conference title
 - 04/21: Penn: Quakers retained in last weekend
 - 04/21: Nebraska: Tennis toppled by Tulsa
 - 04/21: Bethune-Cookman: FAMU Eliminates Men's Tennis Team in MEAC Tourney Semifinals, 4-0
 - 04/21: West Florida: UWF Men's Tennis Falls to Valdosta State in the GSC Semifinal
 - 04/21: Yale: Yale Tops Dartmouth 4-3
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Bulldogs Fall To USD

No. 2 San Diego 4, No. 7 Gonzaga 0

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Charles Adams

April 18, 2008

Santa Clara, Calif. - The seventh seeded Gonzaga University men's tennis team dropped a 4-0 decision to No. 2 University of San Diego Friday during the opening day of the West Coast Conference Championship in Santa Clara, Calif.

The Bulldogs drop 6-16 with the loss while the nationally-ranked Toreros improve to 11-10.

The No. 58 Toreros opened the match taking the doubles point after posting wins at No. 1 and 2. At No. 1, Dean Jackson and Nils Schive posted an 8-4 win over GU's Stefan Feddersen and Zack Radetzky. USD clinched the point with an 8-5 victory at No. 2 as Thomas Liversage and Tamer Antabi downed Connor Feeney and Cooper Pratt.

San Diego captured the victory, earning points at the No. 1, 2 and 6 spots in singles play. Liversage downed Feddersen 6-4, 7-6 at No. 1, while Jackson posted a 6-4, 6-0 victory over Dojczak at No. 2. The Toreros finalized the victory at No. 6 as Levon Brown defeated Charles Adams 6-4, 6-4.

The Bulldogs will now open consolation bracket play Friday as they face the loser of the No. 3 Saint Mary's College, No. 6 University of Portland contest.

San Diego 4, Gonzaga 0
Apr 18, 2008 at Santa Clara, Calif.
(The Degheri Tennis Center)

Doubles

1. Jackson/Schive (USD) def. Feddersen/Radetzky (GON) 8-4
2. Liversage/Antabi (USD) def. Feeney/Pratt (GON) 8-5
3. Wolmarana/Brown (USD) def. Napolaky/Dojczak (GON) 6-5 DNF

Singles

1. Thomas Liversage (USD) def. Stefan Feddersen (GON) 6-4, 7-6
 2. Dean Jackson (USD) def. Zack Dojczak (USD) 6-4, 6-0
 3. Charl Wolmarana (USD) def. Connor Feeney (GON) 6-2, 3-6, 4-1 DNF
 4. Zack Radetzky (GON) def. Tamer Antabi (USD) 7-6, 7-6 DNF
 5. Cooper Pratt (GON) def. Nils Schive (USD) 6-3, 3-6, 1-0 DNF
 6. Levon Brown (USD) def. Charles Adams (GON) 6-4, 6-4
- Order of finish: Doubles (1, 2, 3); Singles (2,4,6,1,3,2)

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- 04/21: USF:U South Florida men's tennis finishes second in Big East tournament along women's team
- 04/21: Minnesota:Gophers bounce back from Saturday heartbreaker/Minnesota suffered a tough loss to Illinois before taking down Purdue on Sunday
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BACK TO SPORTS

April 29, 2008

Aztec, Torero among new Chargers signed

UNION-TRIBUNE

The Chargers added a few interesting names yesterday when they agreed to terms with 17 undrafted free agents, but it will be difficult for any of them to make the roster in September.

San Diego State guard Brandyn Dombrowski and USD outside linebacker Eric Bakhtiari were the locals signed. The Chargers don't have big needs at those positions.

Not that they have pressing needs anywhere.

Of the 53 active players on the roster for last year's AFC Championship game, 47 are still on the roster. Add linebacker Carlos Polk and receiver Eric Parker, who were on injured reserve, and this past weekend's five draft picks and practice squad tackle Tony Pape to that total.

Even if a couple incumbents lose their jobs or are traded and one or two draft picks fail, there aren't a lot of spots available.

There were some interesting pickups.

The Chargers signed offensive tackle Tyler Luellen, who started last

CHARGERS FREE AGENTS

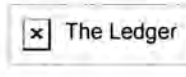
Signed yesterday		College
Player	Position	
Billy Vinnyedje	P-K	Wyoming
Gary Banks	WR	Troy
Greg Bracey	WR	Missouri
Billy Pittman	WR	Texas
Mike Tolbert	FB	Coastal Carolina
Josh Bell	CB	Baylor
Brian Bonner	S	Texas Christian
Stanley Franks	CB	Idaho
John Tereshinski	TE	Wake Forest
Roy Betschart	H-back	Wyoming
Eric Bakhtiari	DLB	USD
Tyler Luellen	T	Missouri
Andrew Crummey	G	Maryland
Brandyn Dombrowski	G	San Diego State
Lamar Divers	DT	Tennessee State
Keith Shologan	DT	Central Florida
Brandon Jackson	WR	North Texas

year on the left side of Missouri's line. He is 6-feet-6, 303 pounds and was a draft prospect.

Defensive tackle Keith Shologan (6-2, 290) out of Central Florida is from Edmonton. He was Canada's top prep prospect in 2004 and is a four-time Canadian national wrestling champion.

Brian Bonner (5-11, 196) is a hard-hitting safety out of Texas Christian, and big center/guard Andrew Crummey (6-5, 308) out of Maryland was hampered by injury concerns during the draft.

— KEVIN ACEE

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Back

Published: Monday, April 28, 2008

Drafting QB Johnson Smartest Move of Day

By Rick Brown

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers entered the weekend's NFL Draft with six quarterbacks on their roster. Since only two can be activated on game days and another is designated as the emergency quarterback, six is more than enough, right? For most teams that answer would be yes. But we are talking about the Bucs here.

Tampa Bay, under coach Jon Gruden, looks at quarterbacks like most people crave chocolate - you can never get enough.

So, is it really any surprise that with their fifth-round draft choice, the Bucs selected Josh Johnson, a quarterback out of the University of San Diego?

Actually, of all of Tampa Bay's second-day picks, this one makes the most sense.

Before you think I'm absolutely crazy, quit reading this column and call for the immediate return of former Bucs' writer Mike Cobb, give me a second to explain.

All of the quarterbacks on the roster have had some sort of experience in the West Coast offense. But only one has been groomed since college for the system. That is Bruce Gradkowski.

At San Diego, all Johnson did was run the West Coast offense. It's natural for him.

Oh, and he was good at it.

"Well, we like the talent of Josh," General Manager Bruce Allen said, when asked why the team took a quarterback. "He has not good statistics, not great statistics but spectacular statistics."

For his collegiate career, Johnson threw for 9,699 yards and 113 touchdowns. He had a completion percentage of 67.98 percent. And of the 1,065 total passes he attempted, he was picked off 15 times.

Oh, he also rushed for 1,864 yards and 19 more touchdowns on the ground.

This is what Johnson did his senior season: completed 206-of-301 passes for 2,988 yards, 43 touchdowns and one interception. Did you see that last stat? Johnson threw ONE interception in 301 attempts.

Granted, San Diego isn't USC - South Carolina nor Southern California. San Diego plays in the Pioneer Football League, a Football Championship Subdivision league whose teams do not offer

football scholarships.

Still, those numbers are hard to ignore.

Allen said Tampa Bay is going to carry just five quarterbacks into camp. Unless something drastically changes, Johnson is going to be one of those five.

Jeff Garcia and Brian Griese are safe. Luke McCown is likely safe as is Gradkowski.

Chris Simms' status is still up in the air. He hasn't played in nearly two years and wants out of Tampa Bay.

Jake Plummer said he's retired, but the Bucs still own his rights.

Garcia is the team's unquestioned starter. But at age 38, Garcia isn't likely to play too many more years.

Eventually, someone else will have to take the reins.

After camp, Johnson could prove to be that young talent in training for whom Gruden has been looking.

MiamiHerald.com 

Posted on Sun, Apr. 27, 2008

Bucs pick QB Josh Johnson in fifth round

By FRED GOODALL

In the end, Josh Johnson was too intriguing a prospect for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to ignore.

The Bucs already had six quarterbacks on their roster, but coach Jon Gruden happily added a seventh Sunday when he selected the strong-armed Johnson late in the fifth round of the NFL draft.

"We like the talent," general manager Bruce Allen said of the small college star. "He has not good statistics, not great statistics, he has spectacular statistics ... and we want to give him a chance to see what he can do in the NFL."

Johnson led the nation in passing efficiency and total offense at San Diego last season, completing 68.4 percent of passes for 2,988 yards and 43 touchdowns. He was intercepted just once in 301 attempts, setting a NCAA championship subdivision record for fewest picks (0.332) per attempt.

The 43-to-1 touchdown-to-interception is impressive by any standards. Nevertheless, there are lingering questions about the level of competition the 6-foot-2, 201-pound prospect faced San Diego, which plays in the non-scholarship Pioneer Football League.

A three-year starter in a West Coast-style offense, and coached by some former members of Gruden's staff with the Oakland Raiders, Johnson threw for 9,699 yards, 113 TDs and 15 interceptions for the Toreros.

"You can't deny he comes from a small college. You certainly can't deny he was very productive and dominated, either," Gruden said. "Is he the quarterback of the future? I don't know. But he will compete. He will be very interesting, I think, to follow."

With Tampa Bay, Johnson will compete for a job behind 38-year-old Jeff Garcia, who led the Bucs to the NFC South championship in 2007.

The other quarterbacks under contract are Brian Griese, Luke McCown, Chris Simms, Bruce Gradkowski and Jake Plummer, who remains on the roster despite being retired. Allen said the club will take five QBs to training camp in July.

The logjam doesn't bother Johnson. The Oakland, Calif., native knows it will take time to develop in Gruden's version of the West Coast offense.

"I get to learn from Jeff Garcia, and he's a great quarterback to learn from," Johnson said. "Growing up in the Bay area I was a 49ers fan, so I've been watching Garcia since I was little. I'm pretty sure they're going to bring me along, and I am going to try and learn as much as I can, and get better every day."

The Bucs went for speed on the first day of the draft, selecting Kansas cornerback Aqib Talib in the first round and Appalachian State receiver Dexter Jackson in the second.

In addition to picking Johnson, the second-day haul included Rutgers guard Jeremy Zuttah (third), Maryland defensive tackle Dre Moore (fourth), Florida State linebacker Geno Hayes (sixth) and South Carolina running back Cory Boyd (seventh).

None of the second-day selections created the buzz Johnson did, though.

Bucs personnel executive Doug Williams helped sell Gruden on the idea of taking a chance on the 21-year-old quarterback.

"We don't want to make any predictions. We've got a long way to go," Gruden said.

"But Doug is very good in terms of evaluating players to see what's going to happen in the next couple of years in this environment. He's confident that we have an environment with Garcia and Griese, some veteran guys ... to have a chance to do some things with this kid over time."

While Johnson would like to have been drafted earlier, he's confident Tampa Bay is a place he can blossom.

"It feels great," he said. "I am ecstatic because this is a perfect fit. To me, this is a blessing in disguise."

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April 27, 2008

Bucs pick QB Josh Johnson in fifth round

By **FRED GOODALL**
AP Sports Writer

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April 28, 2008

Aztecs' O'Connell goes to Pats; USD QB taken

by Bucs

By Mick McGrane
STAFF WRITER

It's like wielding a paint brush in the presence of Monet, like trying to teach music to Mozart.

Kevin O'Connell, meet Tom Brady. While but a select few get a chance to study at the feet of the masters, O'Connell, the former San Diego State quarterback, was awarded that opportunity yesterday when he was selected by the New England Patriots in the third round of the NFL draft.

The fifth quarterback and 94th player taken overall, the 6-foot-6, 225-pound O'Connell will fly to Foxboro, Mass., this week to show his wares to a team whose quarterback has three Super Bowl rings, two Super Bowl MVP awards and zero competition.

"It's absolutely unbelievable," said O'Connell, who was the first Mountain West Conference player selected in the draft. "To be able to be around a player like (Brady), as well as a coach like Bill Belichick and Coach (Josh) McDaniels (the team's offensive coordinator), I'm on cloud nine."

"I just want to be like a sponge around (Brady), to watch everything he does, how he deals with teammates, film study, work ethic, what he



Kevin O'Connell, who'll be learning from Tom Brady, says he's "on cloud nine." *Union-Tribune photo*

does in the weight room. I have a chance to emulate and be around a guy who, in my opinion, is pretty much the best to have ever played the game."

Brady, denied an opportunity to pocket a fourth NFL championship when the unbeaten Patriots fell to the New York Giants in last season's Super Bowl, will turn 31 in August. New England currently lists two other quarterbacks in Matt Cassel, a seventh-round pick out of USC in 2005, and

Matt Gutierrez, an Idaho State product who was signed as an undrafted free agent last year. Cassel has made 14 appearances in three seasons. Gutierrez was inactive as the team's third quarterback in 11 games last year.

The first SDSU quarterback to be selected in the draft since Dan McGwire in 1991, O'Connell worked out for McDaniels in San Diego earlier this month.

"Of all the coaches I met through this process and worked out for, he had, by far, the best approach when it came to teaching," said O'Connell, who last year became the first SDSU player to lead the team in rushing and passing in the same season.

"You could tell from the first time that we put on the tape and went out on the field that he really understood the best way to get things across and the best way to evaluate. I have a tremendous amount of respect for him and the way he's handled the quarterbacks in New England."

"I really didn't have any hopes of when I would go as much as where, and to go to an organization like New England, which is pretty much the class of the NFL in my mind, is a wonderful opportunity."

In addition to O'Connell, SDSU,

which did not have a single draft pick last year, had three other players selected yesterday. Long snapper Tyler Schmitt was taken by the Seattle Seahawks with the 23rd pick of the sixth round (189th overall), and receivers Brett Swain and Chaz Schilens were claimed by the Packers and Raiders, respectively, in the seventh and final round. Offensive tackle Will Robinson was signed by Seattle as an undrafted free agent.

Meanwhile, USD quarterback Josh Johnson, whose 40-yard dash time (4.55) at the NFL Scouting Combine in February was the fastest among quarterbacks, became the eighth quarterback selected when he was taken by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers with the 25th pick in the fifth round.

The 6-foot-3, 213-pound Johnson, who ranked first nationally in total offense among Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) players last season, was the 160th selection overall.

A native of Oakland who threw for 9,699 yards and 113 touchdowns in his four-year career at USD, Johnson was named the Offensive MVP of the East-West Shrine Game in January after throwing for 43 touchdowns with one interception during the regular sea-


son.

Johnson joins a crowded quarterback corps in Tampa. The Bucs currently list six QBs: Jeff Garcia, Brian Griese, Luke McCown, Chris Simms, Bruce Gradkowski and Jake Plummer, though coach Jon Gruden said earlier this month that Plummer told the team he has retired.

Yet having spent his entire career at USD running the West Coast offense, Johnson has at least one advantage in that Tampa Bay employs a similar attack.

"It feels great. I'm ecstatic," Johnson said. "It's a perfect fit, a blessing in disguise. I knew how many quarterbacks they had, but we didn't even talk about that. Coach Gruden just said he wanted me to come in and work and he was real excited to work with me. I'm going to go in there this week and get it going."

New Mexico wide receiver Marcus Smith, a Morse High graduate, was selected by the Baltimore Ravens with the seventh pick of the fourth round. Smith, the 106th pick overall, was the leading receiver in the Mountain West Conference last season, setting a school record with 91 catches for 1,125 yards.

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Leap of Faith

Josh Johnson put up mind-boggling numbers against small-time opponents. How much does that mean to the NFL?

Posted: Tuesday April 8, 2008 9:28AM; Updated: Thursday April 10, 2008 11:48AM

The most intriguing quarterback prospect in this year's draft might be San Diego's Josh Johnson. In four seasons with the Toreros, the 6' 3", 213-pound native of Oakland threw for 9,699 yards and 113 touchdowns, with only 15 interceptions. As a senior he was off the charts: 43 TDs and -- no typo -- one pick in 301 attempts. "You couldn't do that in seven-on-seven drills with no pass rush," says 49ers assistant coach Ted Tollner.

Yet Johnson remains an enigma because he played at the nonscholarship level of Division I-AA, against the likes of Butler, Davidson and Valparaiso. "You're not going to find any corners that run 5-flat up here," says one pro scout. "The windows are a lot smaller and close a lot faster."

Johnson did receive pro-style training from longtime NFL QB Jim Harbaugh, his coach for three years at USD. Harbaugh lauds Johnson's leadership and his ability to process information at



For Johnson, the NFL is a huge leap from USD.

Michael Conroy/AP

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broadband speed. "We ran a version of the West Coast offense, and a lot of our plays were 15 or 16 words," says Harbaugh, now at Stanford. "By the time I would get to word seven or eight, he would finish the play call. He's very quick-minded, and he makes good decisions." He also wins. Johnson was 30-4 as a starter and helped the West to a 31-13 victory in January's Shrine Game, running for 91 yards and passing for 78 and a TD to earn MVP honors. The buzz subsided when Johnson struggled at the combine. He ran the fastest 40-yard dash by a QB that day (4.53) but afterward experienced back spasms that limited his ability to bend his knees and step into his throws, causing his deep passes to flutter. He was sharper two weeks later at his pro day, though a couple of his longer heaves still wobbled. "I'm not saying he doesn't have ability," says another scout, "but he's going to need time. He's not instant coffee."

Johnson, a projected mid-rounder, has worked out for the Jets, Bucs, Patriots, Falcons and Chiefs, with more teams to come. "The scouts know," he says. "They look at things on film like how I anticipate, how I read. That defines what a quarterback is. Everybody has to adjust in the NFL, but I know what I can do."

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April 4, 2008

Rolin gets early nod to be QB for the Toreros

By Glae Thien

SPECIAL TO THE UNION-TRIBUNE

Although standout quarterback Josh Johnson completed his USD football career last season, the Toreros do have their starting signal caller back from last year's season opener.

When he's healthy again, that is.

Redshirt junior Andrew Rolin, who started when Johnson served a one-game suspension last season, has been sidelined for the duration of spring practice because of a stress fracture in his lower back sustained on the first day of drills.

Rolin observed and offered any tips he could to others yesterday while the Toreros neared the midpoint of their 15-day spring session. He plans to return for summer workouts and the season opener at home Aug. 29 against Marist.

"I can't wait," said Rolin, a 6-foot-3, 215-pounder from Rancho Cordova. "I had a blast being able to start. Getting to start while Josh was still there, it was a good experience. This year, it will be fun to be on my own and get the chance to lead the team."

Second-year USD coach Ron Caragher gave Rolin the early nod at quarterback based on his experience. Yet Caragher also said he would wait until fall camp to name the successor to Johnson, who set a school record with 43 touchdown passes and led the nation in pass efficiency last season.

"We won't compare to Josh and expect someone to come in and have those types of numbers," said Caragher, whose club went 9-2 and shared the Pioneer Football League title last year. "But at the same time, we have high expectations. We need someone to lead the offense and complete a high percentage of passes without turning over the football."

The other QB candidates are senior Ben Hanula and junior Jeff Chavcz, who both played in the defensive backfield last season but have quarterbacking experience from high school. Also, sophomore Tommy Eulberg returns.

"Anytime you work with a new quarterback, there's going to be an adjustment period, but I like the guys we have," said senior wide receiver John Matthews, who established a school record with 16 TD receptions last season. "We have a lot of guys competing, and I'm confident we'll find one to lead us."

The Toreros, who lost 16 players to graduation, have 14 returning starters, matching last year's total.

In last season's opener, Rolin completed 12-of-16 passes and threw for four TDs in a 42-32 victory at Azusa Pacific. He had spot duty in six other games.

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WCC Champions

April 17, 2008

At tonight's homestand finale vs. the Colorado Rockies at Petco Park, the San Diego Padres will honor the University of San Diego men's and women's basketball programs in a pre-game ceremony. Gyno Pomare will throw the ceremonial first pitch for the men and Amanda Rego will throw the ceremonial first pitch for the women.

First pitch is at 7:05 p.m., with the pre-game ceremony slated to begin at around 6:55 p.m. If you're unable to attend the game, you can still catch the action and support the university by tuning into Cox Channel 4 San Diego, as USD will be spotlighted via our

"University of ..." commercial campaign throughout the TV broadcast.

Students, faculty and staff who would like to attend can purchase tickets through the Padres Ticket Office at 1-877-FRIAR-TIX, or go to Padre Tickets for more information on prices and best available seating.

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BACK TO SPORTS

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For Grier, dollars didn't make sense

By **Tim Sullivan**
STAFF WRITER

SAN ANTONIO — Bill Grier has chosen comfort over luxury. He has spurned lifetime security and the chance to go home to stay put in paradise.



Bill Grier

The USD basketball coach was tempted and torn by the \$4 million overtures of Oregon State, but he ultimately rejected them as the wrong reason to relocate.

"At the end of the day, it felt if I did it I was doing it for one reason, just for the money," Grier said yesterday. "Granted, it would have been great for my family from a financial standpoint but, you know, I never got into this to make money."

A few hours before he adjourned to the Alamodome for yesterday's Final Four games, Grier sat in the lobby of a downtown hotel, sipping a Starbucks beverage and accepting the praise of his peers for his first-year success at USD. New Mexico's Steve Alford paused to pay his respects, as did St. Joseph's Phil Martelli, and the longer Grier sat, the easier it became to follow his thinking.

San Diego State coach Steve Fisher initially expressed surprise at Grier's decision, citing the perilous nature of their profession and the need to "strike while the iron is hot." Yet to many basketball coaches, congratulations are almost as good as currency. At Oregon State, which last won the Pac-10 title in 1990, the basketball coach is more accustomed to condolences.

"Everybody says Oregon State is a bad job and I disagree," Grier said. "I just think it's a hard job. It's a different job now than it was five years ago because of how good the rest of the Pac-10 is."

"But I do think it's going to take time. It's going to be years before you see any progress. Those were all things that I had to consider. Did I want to bang my head against the wall for a couple of years?"

If coaching at USD is less lucrative, it is sure to be less stressful, too. The same Toreros team that won the West Coast Conference Tournament and upset Connecticut in the first round of the NCAA Tournament should return intact next season, augmented by some sizable Brazilian imports. Though the WCC Tournament is moving from the Jenny Craig Pavilion to Las Vegas, Grier's prospects for sustained success appear promising.

The risk in staying is that Grier may never be as hot a commodity as he is now. The risk in leaving is that following the money sometimes leads to a dead end.

During his 16-year apprenticeship at Gonzaga, Grier worked under Dan Monson, who would be seduced by Minnesota's money, and for Mark Few, who built a program so solid on Monson's foundation that Grier finally concluded Few would never leave. Grier has seen both sides of the stay-or-go dilemma from close range, and sought advice from both Monson and Few during his Oregon State deliberations.

"Dan Monson told me he never felt like he'd made a mistake going to

Minnesota because at the time no one knew that Gonzaga was going to become good and he had an opportunity to quadruple his salary from what it was," Grier said.

"He just said at the end of the day, in the back of your mind, yeah, it's financial security and this and that, but the only thing that's truly going to make you happy is whether you're winning or losing."

Oregon State finished 6-25 this past season and became the first Pac-10 team to go winless in conference play since the league expanded to 10 teams in 1978. Though the Beavers won three straight conference championships for Ralph Miller between 1980 and 1982, recent history has produced only one winning season since 1990.

"There were a lot of guys telling me you've got to do it," Grier said of the job's financial lure. "But there were a lot of guys telling me, 'Hey, I don't know.' Probably the best advice overall that Dan gave me was to stop listening to people: 'You and (wife) Nicole sit down and figure out what's going to make you happy. Don't listen to me. Don't listen to Mark. Do what's best for you.'"

Even this advice didn't make the decision much easier. Grier grew up in Oregon, not far from the Corvallis campus, and his mother still lives in the state, but the coach's local knowledge told him his wife and young daughter might not find the climate as conducive or the attractions as appealing as San Diego's.

"This last year was hard in terms of the amount of time (devoted to a new job)," Grier said. "But the great thing, at the end of the day, was because of where we live and my daughter's age, we had Sea World, the zoo or the beach or whatever. They could enjoy themselves and entertain themselves."

"I was concerned about Corvallis. I knew what it was like 'cause I grew up in the area. You don't have those same options in the winter when it's raining sideways and cold."


Grier said the process of contemplating a job change forces a coach to "separate yourself from the emotional part of it with your players." That works well enough in theory, but the practice is problematic. "I've said this many times: Brad (Holland) recruited them and I got to coach them, but they became my guys," Grier said. "The opportunity to work with those guys was part of the decision-making process. It wasn't just one thing."

Speculation that Grier rejected Oregon State in anticipation of Few leaving Gonzaga for Oregon is provocative, but no better than premature. Oregon coach Ernie Kent has twice taken teams to the NCAA's Elite Eight. Predicting how the coaching dominoes might fall a year or two from now is an exercise as inexact as it is entertaining.


"The phrase is never say never, but one of my factors in leaving Spokane for San Diego was I really, truly believe that Mark is not going to leave (Gonzaga)," Grier said. "I just think the quality of life and his family and the lifestyle that he leads is really, really important to him."

Money makes the list of what's important to Bill Grier, but it's evidently not No. 1.

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Grier to stay at San Diego rather than pursuing Oregon State job

Posted: Thursday Apr 3, 2008 8:16 PM

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SAN DIEGO (AP) -Bill Grier said Thursday that he'll remain the coach at the University of San Diego rather than pursuing the vacant job at Oregon State.

"I have decided to stay at USD because I strongly feel in my heart that this is what is best for me and my family right now," Grier said in a statement released by the school. "USD is a great place and I look forward to working with our staff and players to continue building on what we have started here."

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Grier interviewed for the Oregon State job on Monday.

Grier led the Toreros to the NCAA tournament and a 22-14 record in his first year as head coach.

USD won 14 of its final 16 games. The Toreros beat Gonzaga to win the West Coast Conference tournament, then upset Connecticut for the school's first victory in the NCAA tournament. The Toreros lost to Western Kentucky in the second round.

Grier received a contract extension just before the NCAA tournament.

"We are extremely excited that Bill and his family are staying with our team at USD," athletic director Ky Snyder said in a statement. "We look

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North County Times

April 4, 2008

Grier decides to stay at USD

TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

SAN DIEGO — On Wednesday evening, University of San Diego men's basketball coach Bill Grier left town for the Final Four weekend in San Antonio. By Thursday afternoon, he sent word he'd be back with his return ticket.

Grier decided to remove his name from consideration for the head job at Oregon State, which interviewed the first-year USD coach and Oregon native earlier in the week.

"I don't want to elaborate in detail about this, but I've decided the best thing for my wife (Nicole) and daughter (Giselle, who turned 2 in March) is to stay here," Grier said. "I was in serious discussions with Oregon State. It was a tremendous opportunity to go to a Pac-10 school.

"But I felt this was a great opportunity when I came here, and I still do. We have a solid team coming back."

The Toreros return every player from a 22-14 team, including All-West Coast Conference picks Gyno Pomare and Brandon Johnson. The Toreros earned the school's first NCAA tournament trip since 2004 by winning the WCC tournament, then won the first NCAA basketball game in school history with a

first-round upset of Connecticut.

"All of us are really excited he's staying, but whatever he decided, we understood he has to do what's best for his family," said Pomare, an El Camino High alumnus. "We really like Coach Grier, and it shows he cares a lot about us to stay here. We're going to work hard next year to get back to where we were this year."

Grier declined to say whether Oregon State offered him the job. Oregon newspapers have reported that Grier was presented with a \$4 million package over five or six years.

"I just felt it was better for me not to pursue it any further, and I'll leave it at that," Grier said.

However, Grier did deny reports that surfaced

► TOREROS, C-5

► TOREROS

Continued from C-1

Wednesday that he held discussions with Cal over the Bears' vacant job.

"I have never heard from anyone from Cal," Grier said.

USD athletic director Ky Snyder, who received a phone call last Friday from Oregon State seeking permission to speak with Grier, said Grier was in close communication with him.

"This is a guy who was straightforward with me throughout the whole process," Snyder said. "Sometimes that includes frank dialogue that some people aren't prepared for, but his character and integrity are beyond reproach. It's a pleasure to work with him."

Grier signed a contract extension during the week between USD earning an NCAA bid and the Toreros beating Connecticut. USD doesn't reveal salary information, but he reportedly earns less than the \$300,000 paid to Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett, whose pay is believed to be second in the WCC to Gonzaga's Mark Few.

"It speaks to the integrity and character of Bill Grier," Snyder said of Grier

not pursuing Oregon State's higher paying job. "We want to be able to keep our successful coaches, but we also know there are financial realities with the resources available to us. Men's basketball is critical to our athletic program because it drives revenue, and a successful men's basketball program is going to drive more revenue."

Grier spent 16 years as an assistant at Gonzaga and reportedly turned down two head coaching opportunities before he took the USD job. Few has turned down jobs at major conference schools since he turned Gonzaga into a national power.

Grier said he consulted fellow coaches whom he has turned to for advice in the past.

Said Grier: "I did talk to one coach — but it wasn't Mark — and he told me, 'At the end of the day, you've got to stop listening to me and do what you feel is best for you. Ultimately, you've got to make a decision that you feel good about and you feel is the best decision for you.'"

April 4, 2008

Grier says he is not leaving Toreros

First-year USD coach not pursuing OSU job

By Hank Wesch
STAFF WRITER

Bill Grier is not one and done at USD.

The Toreros basketball coach announced yesterday from San Antonio, Texas, where he will attend this weekend's Final Four, that he would remain at the school, ending speculation that he might be headed to Oregon State after one highly successful season at USD.

"I have decided to stay at USD because I strongly feel in my heart that this is what is best for me and my family right now," Grier said. "USD is a great place and I look forward to working with our staff and players to continue building on what we have started here."

Reports surfaced Monday from Oregon that Grier was in Portland meeting with Oregon State Athletic Director Bob De Carolis about the opening at the Pac-10 school created with the firing of Jay John in January.

On Tuesday, Grier confirmed he



"I have decided to stay at USD because I strongly feel in my heart that this is what is best for me and my family right now."

BILL GRIER, USD men's basketball coach

had talked with OSU officials but denied he had been offered the job or — as some Internet and electronic media reports indicated — accepted it. He described the meetings as a "feeling-out process between both parties."

OSU has been a lower-echelon Pac-10 team for several years and went 0-18 in conference play this season while on a 21-game, season-ending losing streak. Prospects would not seem bright for the needed major turnaround, but the position figured to have appeal to Grier because it is a job in a major conference at a significantly higher salary and would have returned him to his home state and placed him close to his mother, who has health concerns.

USD returns the entire roster from a team that Grier led to a 22-14 overall record, West Coast Conference Tournament championship and NCAA Tournament first-round victory over Connecticut. The latter was the first victory of its kind by a San Diego Division I school and got Grier's name in the hopper as a "hot" prospect for the numerous jobs that come open

SEE **Grier**, D3

► GRIER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

USD family relieved coach is staying put

this time of year.

Yesterday, Grier reiterated that he had not actually been offered the OSU position.

"It never got to the point of serious discussion," Grier said. "I considered it a tremendous opportunity, and I really appreciate that I was considered for the job. But I just felt like, for my wife and myself, the best thing is to stay.

"We have a great team coming back and I'm looking forward to coaching those guys again next season."

Grier's decision came as a relief to USD Executive Athletic Director Ky Snyder, who hired Grier a year ago after relieving Brad Holland of his duties and buying out the final year of Holland's contract. While stressful enough, Snyder said the past week could have been much worse.

"This is a good man, a man of

great personal integrity, and integrity is really important to him," Snyder said. "He was up front with me every step of the way, and that kind of communication in a situation like that is really pleasing to an AD."

Snyder said there were no extra concessions made to Grier.

"He said all along, 'Ky, this isn't about getting more from USD,'" Snyder said. "He made a point of that. We talked about the same things we had talked about before he was hired, building the program here to the level we'd like. He said, 'This is the right place for me.'"

Rob Jones, who was recruited by Holland and then coached through an eventful freshman season by Grier, was also pleased to hear the news.

"I knew there was always the possibility that he might leave," Jones said. "I would have been a little heartbroken, but I understand that it's a business and he has to do what's best for

himself and his family . . .

"It has definitely been the main thing on my mind (the past few days). It affects my life in a major way."

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INSIDE THE U-T



Toreros' coach is staying home

Bill Grier says he will remain the basketball coach at the University of San Diego rather than pursuing the vacant job at Oregon State University.

SPORTS, D1



Associated Press

Bill Grier, who coached the Toreros to the second round of the NCAA tournament this season, announced Thursday that he will remain at the University of San Diego.

Grier decides to stay at San Diego

By Brooks Hatch
Gazette-Times Reporter

OSU will continue search for new men's basketball coach

Oregon State University's search for a new men's basketball coach will continue at the Final Four, which starts Saturday in San Antonio.

University of San Diego coach Bill Grier, the top candidate to succeed the fired Jay John, on Thursday rejected OSU's offer to rebuild its once-powerful program, which has had losing records in 15 of the past 17 seasons. In a statement released by the USD sports information department, Grier said:

"I have decided to stay at USD because I strongly feel in my heart that this is what is best for me and my family right

now. USD is a great place and I look forward to working with our staff and players to continue building on what we have started here."

He told the North County Times newspaper that: "I was in serious discussions with Oregon State. It was a tremendous opportunity to go to a Pac-10 school. But I felt this was a great opportunity when I came here, and I still do. We have a solid team coming back.

"I just felt it was better for me not to pursue it any further, and I'll leave it at that."

Grier is also at the Final Four. The Silverton native and graduate of Cottage Grove High School visited OSU this past Monday with his wife, Nicole, and their 2-year-old daughter.

Grier told the San Diego Union-Tribune newspaper that he never received a job offer. However, according to sources close to the search, OSU athletic director Bob De Carolis was in San Diego on Wednesday meeting with Grier and his representatives so it's apparent OSU's interest in hiring him was genuine.

Grier assisted at Gonzaga University for 16 seasons and Bulldogs' coach Mark Few was the best man at his wedding. Grier said he consulted with confidants in his profession about the OSU job but told the North County Times that ultimately the decision to stay or go was his.

"I did talk to a coach — and it wasn't Mark — and he told me, 'At the end of the day, you've got to stop listening to me and do what you feel is best for you.'"

He also said he has not heard from anyone at California about that opening, despite media reports to the contrary.

Grier was 22-14 in 2007-08, his first season as a college head coach. USD finished third behind Gonzaga and St. Mary's College in the West Coast Conference's regular season, then defeated both teams in the conference tournament at USD's home gym to advance to the NCAA tournament.

The Toreros upset Connecticut in overtime in the first round before being eliminated by Western Kentucky.

Executive senior associate athletic director Todd Stansbury, the other athletic department administrator on the five-

person search committee, is also in San Antonio. Lamar Hurd and A.C. Green, the former players on the committee, will also be in Texas for at least part of the Final Four, sources said.

OSU President Ed Ray completes the committee.

De Carolis said he would have no comment throughout the search until a coach was hired.

De Carolis and Stansbury interviewed other candidates in Phoenix and Chicago last week, but only Grier and St. Mary's coach Randy Bennett were asked to visit campus. Bennett was expected to visit Corvallis on Tuesday, but he did not come. Bennett is also considered a serious candidate for the open coaching job at California.

So who is left? Possibilities include:

- Third-year Portland State coach Ken Bone said he's been contacted by Parker Executive Search, which is assisting OSU in the process. He led the Vikings to the Big Sky Conference regular-season and tournament championships and an NCAA berth in 2008. He has also been a head coach at Seattle Pacific, and an assistant at Washington.
- Indiana University/Purdue University/Indianapolis (IUPUI) coach Ron Hunter had at least one meeting with De Carolis in Chicago last week, according to sources. IUPUI was 26-7 in 2008, but was not invited to any of the three post-season tournaments.

The Jaguars defeated Division II Alaska-Fairbanks by 35 points in the same tournament the Beavers lost to the Nanooks. IUPUI defeated NIT finalist Massachusetts by 12 points, and lost 71-64 to Oral Roberts in the Summit League's conference tournament championship game with an NCAA berth on the line.

Hunter has a school-record 232 victories in 14 seasons at IUPUI, and has averaged 17.8 regular-season wins over the past six seasons. The Jaguars earned an NCAA berth in 2003 and won the old Mid-Continent League's regular-season championship in 2006.


- Former San Diego coach Brad Holland — fired, ironically, after the 2007 season and succeeded by Grier — is also believed to be interested. He played and assisted at UCLA before going 200-176 in 13 seasons at USD, with one NCAA berth. He was 4-26 in 2004, but rebounded to 16-13, 18-12 and 18-14 in his final three seasons.

Tom Shanahan of the North County (Calif.) Times contributed to this story.

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Grier decides to stay at San Diego

By Jeff Goodman

Jeff Goodman is a senior college basketball writer for FOXSports.com. He can be reached at GoodmanonFOX@aol.com or check out his blog, [Good 'N Plenty](#)

Updated: April 3, 2008, 7:22 PM EST

San Diego coach Bill Grier turned down Oregon State's offer and decided to remain with the Toreros, the coach told FOXSports.com.

"I have decided to stay at USD because I strongly feel in my heart that this is what is best for me and my family right now," Grier said in a statement. "USD is a great place and I look forward to working with our staff and players to continue building on what we have started here."

Grier, who took San Diego to the second round of the NCAA tournament after an upset of UConn in the first round, interviewed for the Beavers job early this week. Oregon State offered him the reins to the program, but he turned it down after taking a day to mull it over.

The Toreros coach received an extension just before the NCAA tournament.

"We are extremely excited that Bill and his family are staying with our team at USD," athletic director Ky Snyder said. "We look forward to him and his staff continuing their successful ways with this team and program. We couldn't be more excited."


Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett was also under consideration, but sources told FOXSports.com that he withdrew on Wednesday.

That means Oregon State, which went winless in the Pac-10 this season, is still looking for a replacement for Jay John, who was fired on Jan. 21.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.

Read this article at:

<http://msn.foxsports.com/cbk/story/7982876/Grier-decides-to-stay-at-San-Diego>

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Thursday, April 3, 2008

Grier turns down Oregon State, will stay at San Diego

By Andy Katz
ESPN.com

SAN ANTONIO, Texas -- San Diego men's basketball coach Billy Grier turned down an offer from Oregon State on Thursday, choosing to stay with the Toreros after guiding them to the second round of the NCAA tournament in his first season.

"[I] had a great opportunity to go to Oregon State," Grier told ESPN.com Thursday. "But ultimately it was hard to leave here after one year."

San Diego (22-14, 11-3 in the WCC) won the WCC tournament by beating Grier's former boss, Mark Few of Gonzaga. The Toreros, a No. 13 seed, upset No. 4 Connecticut in the first round before losing to No. 12 Western Kentucky.

San Diego didn't have any seniors on the roster. Brandon Johnson, Gyno Pomare, Rob Jones and De'Jon Jackson, who hit the winning jump shot to beat Connecticut in overtime, all return.

Oregon State could turn to Portland State's Ken Bone to replace Jay John. Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett told ESPN.com last week that he had withdrawn his name from consideration.

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April 3, 2008

USD in wait mode as Grier saga plays out

TOM SHANAHAN
FOR THE NORTH COUNTY TIMES

SAN DIEGO — University of San Diego men's basketball coach Bill Grier didn't address speculation he is leaving for Oregon State at the team banquet Tuesday night, but the parents of the Toreros' only local player said the recent developments didn't spoil the evening.

Gail and Leo Pomare, parents of El Camino High alumnus Gyno Pomare, attended the banquet.

"If Coach Grier stays at USD, that would be fantastic," Gail Pomare said. "He did such a great job this year. But if he goes, he's looking out for his family, and I can understand that."

Grier said reports he had been offered a contract weren't true, although he acknowledged he interviewed for the job in Corvallis, Ore. He returned to USD's campus Tuesday and met with players and media before the banquet.

Before Grier spoke to the players, Pomare and other players arrived for the team meeting expecting the reports on sports radio and the Internet to be confirmed.

USD didn't make players available Tuesday night. Athletic director Ky Snyder said Wednesday in a statement through associate athletic director/media relations Ted Gosen the players would remain unavailable.

"Ky prefers we keep the kids out of it for now," Gosen

said. "Should there be a change in the situation, the players will be made available. Right now it's all speculation."

Sources in coaching circles say Grier has been presented with a package that is believed to more than triple his USD salary. The contract would be \$800,000 per year for five seasons.

Sources in Oregon say the school will have to offer a package worth about \$4 million, even if the length of the contract is longer and the yearly salary lower than the speculated figures of five years at \$800,000 per year.

Former Oregon State coach Jay John earned \$525,000 last year and is owed \$1.1 million over the next two years. He was fired Jan. 20 after a 6-12 start. The Beavers finished the year 6-25 under interim coach Kevin Mouton.

Oregon State athletic director Bob De Carolis and senior associate athletic director Todd Stansbury are believed to recognize a significant bump in salary is needed to turn around the program.

Shortly after Jay was fired, reports in Oregon identified Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett as the leading candidate. Bennett had the Gaels ranked in the Top 25 for much of the second half of the season. However, it was reported in Oregon newspapers on Tuesday that Bennett withdrew his name from consideration.

Grier grew up in Oregon and was an assistant coach for 16 years at Gonzaga, a national power in the Pacific Northwest.

April 3, 2008

Cal reportedly interested in USD coach, too

By Hank Wesch, STAFF WRITER

There is another Pac-10 school besides Oregon State in search of a head basketball coach.

USD coach Bill Grier's name also is being mentioned in regard to the opening at Cal.

Bay Area newspapers reported yesterday that Grier was "believed to have had talks" with Cal representatives at some time Monday night or Tuesday morning on his return to San Diego from meetings with Oregon State officials in Portland.



Bill Grier

Tuesday evening before the USD team's postseason banquet, Grier confirmed the talks with Oregon State but said he had not received a job offer and that it was still a "feeling-out process" on the part of both parties.

Grier, who did not mention contact with Cal in his Tuesday press conference, was en route to the Final Four in San Antonio and did not return phone messages last night. USD Executive Athletic Director Ky Snyder said last night he had not been contacted by Cal representatives for permission to talk to Grier, which is considered a courtesy, but not obligatory, gesture.

Coach Ben Braun was fired March 26 and Cal Athletic Director Sandy Barbour has been conducting a search to fill the opening. Mark Fox of Nevada and Randy Bennett of Saint Mary's reportedly are the leading candidates.

April 2, 2008

Grier, OSU have talked — that's all

Toreros' first-year coach hasn't packed up just yet

By **Hank Wesch**, STAFF WRITER

Bill Grier isn't gone from USD — yet.

At the end of a day filled with Internet and electronic media speculation and reports that Grier had accepted an offer to become the men's basketball coach at Oregon State, Grier met with the media yesterday at the Jenny Craig Pavilion.

It was moments after he met with the Toreros team that won the West Coast Conference Tournament, produced the school's second-highest single-season win total (22) and notched its first NCAA Tournament victory.

It was moments before the banquet to honor that team.

"Obviously there's been a lot of things out in the media today and I haven't seen them, but I've been told," Grier said. "They're not true. I have not accepted a job at Oregon State.

"I have met and talked with them. There were some discussions and there's a feeling-out process that's going on between both parties and that's really all the further it has gone.

"I am still the basketball coach at the University of San Diego."

Whether that statement will hold true for a day, a week, or into next season remains to be seen.

Grier said discussions with OSU are not over. That no timetable for a decision has been set by either party. That he is not the only candidate, but that he doesn't know who the others are. That money is not likely to be an overriding factor in the decision for him should an offer be tendered.

The OSU job would return Grier to his home state and put him only a 45-minute drive from his mother, Janie Attridge, a 69-year-old breast cancer survivor who, Grier said, has been battling health issues for a long time.

It would put him in charge of a Pac-10 pro-

gram, but one that has had little on-court success since the days of legendary coach Ralph Miller and would seem to be at a disadvantage in recruiting because of its location and recent results compared with the other conference schools.

By staying at USD, Grier would have the entire 2007-08 roster returning and two front-line

SEE **Grier, D3**



Bill Grier says money is unlikely to be the deciding factor in whether he departs for Oregon State. *Earnie Grafton / Union-Tribune*

► GRIER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1

Coach confirms talks with OSU on job opening

recruits to add size and depth. He would remain in a city and on a campus of which he spoke highly on several occasions in news conferences before and after the Toreros' overtime upset win over Connecticut in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

"It's a great opportunity there, and it's a great opportunity here, as well," Grier said.

Before Grier denied that an offer had been made to him,

sources in Oregon said it was for "\$750,000 a year" or "six years for \$4.6 million." USD, a private university, does not divulge salary figures.

On March 18, Grier received an extension, of unspecified length, of the contract he received when hired to succeed Brad Holland on March 26, 2007. It is believed to be in the low six figures per year.

"When I first started coaching, I volunteered," Grier said. "I got about \$1,000 in high school (two years at Creswell, Ore., High) and \$5,000 a year when I first started at Gonzaga. Money has not been a motivating factor for me in this profession."

USD Executive Director of Athletics Ky Snyder said he

was contacted by his Oregon State counterpart, Bob DeCarolis, Friday for permission to talk to Grier. The discussions between OSU and Grier took place Monday in Portland.

"You know that when you're operating successful programs it's a possibility that you may lose coaches," Snyder said. "We lost (football coach Jim Harbaugh) to Stanford after he had success here."

"I will tell you this, that as he just told you, Bill Grier is the head coach at the University of San Diego and that's the way that I'm prepared to go right now."

Snyder declined to comment regarding whether he had contingency plans should Grier depart for OSU.

"I'm going to deal with the here and now," Snyder said. "I'll deal with anything else that is presented to me if and when it comes."

Snyder said he had been in close contact with Grier throughout the time Grier was in Oregon and upon his return yesterday afternoon. He said he had no feeling about what the outcome would be, but that he would continue to emphasize the positive aspects of USD in hopes of keeping the coach he hired away from Gonzaga after Grier spent 16 years as an assistant there under Dan Fitzpatrick, Dan Monson and Mark Few.

Hank Wesch: (619) 293-1853;
hank.wesch@uniontrib.com

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USD Wins Three of Four at the San Diego City Championships

The Toreros posted wins in the novice 8, varsity 4, and novice 4

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April 14, 2008



The Toreros posted wins in the novice 8, varsity 4, and novice 4

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego men's rowing team posted its best performances of the season this past Saturday as they raced for the City Championships on Mission Bay.

Rowing well against San Diego State University and perennial powerhouse UC San Diego, the Toreros posted wins in the novice eight, varsity four, and novice four. While the men fell to UCSD in the varsity eight by 1.9 seconds, the V8 had its best race of the season.

"There is no question that it is always going to be tough to get in front of the Triton V8 on the race course. What I am happy with is the fact that we are getting closer to their competitive level with each passing race," stated head coach Brooks Dagman. "It was also a pleasure to watch our novice eight win a really tight race against two capable UCSD crews. I am sure that everyone from both programs are looking forward to the Newport Regatta this coming Saturday for a rematch."

City Championship Results:

Varsity 8

- 1) UCSD/ 5:37.1,
- 2) USD/ 5:39,
- 3) UCSD 2V/ 5:55.5,
- 4) SDSU/6:26.5

Varsity 4

- 1) USD/6:17.6,
- 2) UCSD (A)/6:20.6,
- 3) UCSD (B)/6:59.3
- 4) SDSU/7:16.3

Novice 8

- 1) USD/5:45.9,
- 2) UCSD/5:46.1,
- 3) UCSD (B)/6:00.1

Novice 4

- 1) USD/6:13.5,
- 2) SDSU/6:36.1

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- ▶ 04/14: San Diego:Toreros Win City Championships
- ▶ 04/14: UC Irvine:Irvine Raced at San Diego Crew Classic
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Toreros Win City Championships

USD's varsity 8 won the city championships with a final time of 6:08.0.

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USD's varsity 8 won the city championships this past weekend.

April 14, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - This past weekend, the University of San Diego women's rowing team raced to a first place finish in the annual San Diego City Championships. The Varsity 8 had a great morning, finishing more than nine seconds ahead of cross-town rivals San Diego State University and 23 seconds over UC San Diego. The Toreros raced a fast course, finishing with a final time of 6:08.0. The Varsity 4 also represented the USD well, coming in first place.

The Toreros also competed in the Second Varsity 8 with a second place finish, just 1.6 seconds off of first place with a time of 6:16.6.

The Toreros are now focused on their conference championships, which will be held Friday, May 2 at Lake Natoma in Northern California.

San Diego City Championships

Sea World Channel - Mission Bay, San Diego, Calif.
April 12, 2008

Women's Varsity Eight

1. San Diego - 6:08.0
2. San Diego State - 6:17.5
3. UC San Diego - 6:31.2

Second Varsity Eight

1. San Diego State - 6:15.0
2. San Diego - 6:16.6
3. UC San Diego - 7:08.0

Varsity Four

1. San Diego - 7:26.5
2. San Diego State - 7:30.9
3. UC San Diego - 7:34.36

Novice Eight

1. San Diego State - 6:32.9
2. UC San Diego - 6:45.18
3. San Diego - 6:55.9

Second Novice Eight

1. San Diego State - 6:52.8
2. San Diego - 7:09.3
3. UC San Diego - 7:27.21

Novice Four

1. San Diego State - 7:36.4
2. UC San Diego - 8:12.8
3. UC San Diego Lightweighta - 8:37.

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- 04/14: San Diego:Toreros Win City Championships
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Women's Rowing finishes In Second Place

San Diego looks to City Championships this weekend

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April 6, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego women's Varsity 8 rowing team finished in solid second place at the 35th annual Crew Classic at Mission Bay.

The Varsity 8 boat in the Women's Collegiate Varsity Cal Cup Grand Final finished in second place in the Cup. The Toreros competed against SUNY Buffalo, Sacramento State, San Diego State, and Kansas State. UC Davis was winner of the Cal Cup.

In the Collegiate JV Petite race, the Novice 8 squad finished in fourth place with an overall time of 6:52.84.

The Toreros take the week to gear up for the San Diego City Championship on Mission Bay set to begin at 7:00 a.m.



Toreros row to second place at Crew Classic

RELATED STORIES

- 04/11: Yale:Dartmouth Boston University in Town Saturday
- 04/11: UMass:UMass Rowers Head To Knecht Cup in New Jersey Saturday & Sunday
- 04/11: UCF:Rowing Set to Host Final Regatta of the Season Saturday
- 04/11: Villanova:Villanova Battles Philadelphia Schools on the Schuylkill
- 04/11: Villanova:Villanova Competes in Murphy Cup in Philadelphia
- 04/11: Villanova:Wildcats Take on Huskies in Schuylkill River
- 04/11: Wisconsin:Wisconsin Rowing plans to fill the water in stride
- 04/11: Kansas:Kansas Rowing faces K-State in only home regatta this year
- 04/10: Washington:Husky Rowers Start Season atop Men's Coaches Poll
- 04/10: Washington:Annual Apple Cup Crew Races Set for Saturday
- 04/10: Georgetown:Hoya Crews to Participate in 21st Annual George Washington Invitational Regatta
- 04/10: Georgetown:Hoya Crews to Participate in 21st Annual George Washington Invitational Regatta
- 04/10: Georgetown:Hoya Crews to Participate in 21st Annual George Washington Invitational Regatta
- 04/10: Santa Clara:Women's Crew Pares Well in San Diego Crew Classic
- 04/10: Kansas:Kansas Set to Host K-State in Kansas Cup archive >

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Varsity Eight Advances To Grand Finale

The Novice squad also made the cut for Sunday's finale race

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April 5, 2008



Torero Varsity and Novice advance to Sunday Finals

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego women's rowing team had a successful day on the water at day one of the Crew Classic. The Toreros advanced both their Varsity 8 entry as well as their Novice 8 boat to the finals which will be held on Sunday morning.

The Varsity 8 boat raced well in their heat, the first of three heats facing off against UC Davis, Saint Mary's, UC Santa Barbara, Orange Coast College, and University of the Pacific, the Torero Varsity 8 boat took second place in their heat with a time of 6:34.91, less than two seconds behind UC Davis who took first place in a time of 6:33.56. USD's time of 6:34 was a solid mark compared to the 6:40+ times the other teams in the second and third heats finished with.

The Novice 8 boat raced in the second of three heats taking on Washington State, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara, and Sonoma. The Novice 8 boat finished in third place with a time of 7:37.98 behind first place Washington State and second place UC Davis.

Both the Varsity and Novice squads will advance to Sunday's final. The Varsity 8 boat will be competing for the Collegiate Cal Varsity Cup Grand Finale. They will race at 10:30 a.m. and have been assigned to lane five. They will race against San Diego State, UC

Davis, Sacramento State, Kansas State, and SU New York-Buffalo. While the Novice 8 boat will race at 8:00 a.m. for the women's collegiate JV petite race and have been assigned lane six.

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- 04/07: Kansas State: Kansas State U. rowing team qualifies for Grand Finale in Cal Cup
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- 04/07: Loyola (Md.): Crew Posts Good Result At Johns Hopkins Invitational
- 04/07: San Diego: Women's Rowing finishes in Second Place
- 04/07: Stanford: UW First, Princeton Second, Stanford Sixth in San Diego
- 04/06: Saint Mary's (Calif.): Women's Rowing Wins Two Petite Finals At Crew Classic
- 04/06: USC: The Women of Troy Come Up Just Short in the Final Day of the San Diego Crew Classic
- 04/06: UCLA: UCLA's Open Eight Finishes First at San Diego Crew Classic
- 04/06: Temple: Women's Varsity 8 Places Fourth in Prelim Final At San Diego Crew Classic
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Washington Wins San Diego Crew Classic

POSTED: 1:47 pm PDT April 6, 2008
UPDATED: 4:32 pm PDT April 6, 2008

SAN DIEGO -- It was all Huskies in the finals of the premiere men's and women's races at the 35th annual San Diego Crew Classic on Mission Bay Sunday.

The University of Washington men, who appeared dominant in winning their heat by five seconds Saturday, won Sunday's Copley Cup final by nearly two seconds over Princeton, finishing in a time of 5:39.90. Harvard was third, four seconds behind Washington.

The Washington women took the Jessop-Whittier Cup by defeating the defending champion USC by almost a second. The Huskies covered the course, from near SeaWorld to Crown Point Shores, in 6:22.90.

Both winning times were about 30 seconds quicker than last year, when the field was not as strong.

About 3,500 athletes from more than 100 teams are taking part in the competition. Rowing clubs and high school teams are also participating.

The University of San Diego was second in the final of the women's collegiate varsity Cal Cup. The Toreros time of 6:49.39 was a second, behind the winning rowers from UC Davis. The San Diego State women placed fifth.

Previous Stories:

- April 5, 2008: 35th Annual Crew Classic Held This Weekend



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Men's Rowing Performs Well at Crew Classic

The novice boat won its heat and the varsity 8 finished third in their heat.

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The novice boat won their heat with a time of 6:25.

April 5, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego men's rowing team performed well in the 35th annual San Diego Crew Classic at Mission Bay this afternoon. The Toreros had two boats racing and both finished strong with the novice boat winning its heat and the men's varsity eight taking home a third place finish in their heat.

The novice boat competed in the Derek Guelker Memorial Cup and seemed to cruise their way to a first place finish with a 6:19 run, which was four seconds faster the second place boat from Pennsylvania who finished with a time of 6:23.

The varsity eight also had a solid showing in this annual classic as the Toreros placed third in the Cal Cup A American Specialty Health Cup. The Toreros finished their run with a time of 6:04, which was just under a second slower than the second place boat from Minnesota and eight seconds slower than the boat from Orange Coast who won the heat with an impressive time of 5:56.

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Toreros To Participate In 35th Annual Crew Classic

The largest regatta on the west coast to be held on Mission Bay

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USD prepares for Crew Classic this weekend

April 3, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - After coming home from a successful win at the Berg Cup in Newport Beach, CA, the Toreros face off against several of the nation's top crews at the San Diego Crew Classic this weekend. 2008 marks the regatta's 35th anniversary. The San Diego CREW CLASSIC is a nationally recognized event that features both men and women's crews from many of the PAC-10 and WCC schools. Strong east coast universities such as Harvard, Yale, Princeton & Penn, will be returning to compete and celebrate the 35th staging of this regatta. Races begin early Saturday morning and extend through Sunday afternoon.

The Torero family has reserved tents for family, friends and alumni and will be hosting a barbeque Sunday morning. All are welcome to attend. This event is particularly special for the Toreros because this season marks the 30th anniversary of our Rowing Program. A short ceremony with the University's President, Dr. Mary Lyons, will take place at 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

This year, due to the city's ban on public drinking at beaches and parks, alcohol consumption will be limited to beer/wine gardens. Both beer/wine gardens and the "jumbo-iron" will be in close proximity to our tent location for the spectators' pleasure.

The Race Schedule for the Toreros is as follows:

Saturday:

- 8:00am - Women's Cal Cup Varsity 8 in Lane 3
- 10:10am - Women's JV in Lane 7
- 11:00am - Women's Collegiate Novice A in Lane 6
- 3:40pm - Women's Collegiate Novice B in Lane 1

The finish times of Saturday's preliminary racing will determine the times of subsequent races. We hope to see our Varsity 8 in the Finals on Sunday morning. The potential times would be:

- 8:20am - Petite Finals Women's Cal Cup Varsity 8 or
- 10:40am - Grand Finals Women's Cal Cup Varsity 8

Your Torero women will be rowing with their new blades, which are white with a navy T decal.

Additional information including admission, directions, parking and competition can be found on the San Diego Crew Classic Website. The women's rowing team looks forward to seeing Torero fans, friends and families this weekend.

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- 04/04: Marist:Men's And Women's Crew To Host President's Cup Saturday
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- 04/04: Indiana:Indiana Opens Big Ten Rowing Season At Michigan State
- 04/04: Saint Joseph's:Men's Rowing Opens 2008 at Jesuit Invitational
- 04/04: Clemson:Clemson Rowers Headed to San Diego
- 04/04: Kansas State:Kansas State U. rowing team set to travel to San Diego
- 04/04: Michigan State:Rowing Hosts Spring Races at Grande River Park
- 04/04: Indiana:Hoppers Inspired for first time since 2005 with Big Ten Boat of the Week
- 04/04: Wisconsin:Men's crew ready for take to defeat
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- 04/03: SMU:Entry 15 archive >

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BEACH & BAY PRESS

April 3, 2008

Crew Classic pulls top rowers to Mission Bay

By PAUL DOUGLAS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The 35th annual San Diego Crew Classic rowing regatta will launch their first race of the annual two-day event April 5 and 6, at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of Crown Point in Mission Bay.

The largest gathering of 8-person boats in the world is a spring showcase for top universities and club teams from throughout the country.

USD, SDSU and UCSD will each compete in the preliminary events Saturday that will shape their weekend at the tournament competition.

The local universities will be racing against crews from institutions such as UCLA, USC, Notre Dame, Stanford, Washington and Washington State, Harvard, Purdue, Cal, Texas and dozens more.

USD's and Lady Aztec 8 women's crew will be competing for the Women's Cal Cup, starting in separate heats Saturday morning. But they could go head-to-head in the finals. The SDSU and USD men's crews will also be working toward the same men's varsity Cal Cup goal.

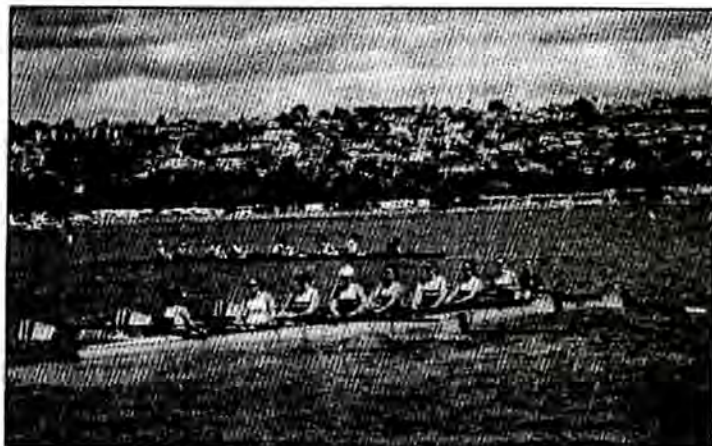
Founded in 1973 with 300 athletes, the San Diego crew competition now draws more than 3,000

competitors from Washington to Minnesota, and from Massachusetts and Florida, to row at Mission Bay.

The races start near SeaWorld and pull toward Crown Point Shores East of Ingraham Street on Mission Bay. Events start every 10 minutes and continue until around 5 p.m. on Saturday.

The championship finals for the Jessop-Whittier Cup for women and the Copley Cup for men will be run mid-morning on Sunday, with some additional club races filling out the afternoon schedule.

SEE CREW, Page 20



PAUL DOUGLAS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The Crew Classic rowing regatta returns to Mission Bay this weekend, with local universities USD, UCSD and SDSU competing against UCLA, USC, Notre Dame and Harvard.

CREW

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Overall the event will include 90 races.

Local club teams of all ages include the San Diego Rowing Club (SDRC) on El Carmel Point and the ZLAC women's club in Pacific Beach. The historic SDRC was founded in 1888 followed by the women founding their own all-women's club ZLAC in 1892.

Many junior-team members of SDRC and ZLAC have earned crew scholarships and will be returning to Mission Bay to represent their universities on familiar waters. Successful junior female crew athletes are often able to earn a college scholarship.

Tickets are \$7 or \$10 for a two-day pass. Guests under 13 and active military, policemen and fire fighters are admitted free. There is a fee for parking near the gate, but free parking is available in the lots on Vacation Isle by Ski Beach. A free ride by Cloud 9 Shuttle is available from the lots to the gate.

Pavilions selling food and beverages are set up throughout the grounds of the event. Crew Classic logo merchandise and other souvenirs will also be on sale along with photos, art, jewelry, athletic clothing, health foods and medical services among the trade show tents.

A huge screen near the alumni tents projects the race progress for fans to watch.

As the competitors near the finish line, after roughly 7 minutes of all-out effort, cheers erupt from the crowd for the exciting finishes. Most races are decided by just 10 feet.

Bring a lounge chair or blanket for seating, since there is plenty of grass or sand for race viewing. No



PAUL DOUGLAS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

This weekend's Crew Classic features six teams per race, starting near SeaWorld and rowing toward Crown Point.

personal tents, bottles, bikes, skateboards or dogs are permitted inside. The weather is predicted to be sunny with temperatures in the mid 60s.

The inspiring athletes from all over North America will represent more than 100 teams. The sport is a purely amateur endeavor with great traditions, which are reflected in the athletes pride, individual dedication and comradery.

The origins of crew competition date back to the mid-1800s. Today modern 62 foot carbon-fiber "shell" and oar materials and other high-tech design features challenge the disciplined athletes devoted to the human-powered sport.

Friends, family and fans numbering more than 20,000 are expected to participate in the festivities including a crew-oriented trade show and the alumni tent gatherings.

When the races begin, six teams will line-up their shells for the start of each race under the sky chair

ride at SeaWorld. The finishes are in full view of the fans on Crown Point.

Crew is the oldest intercollegiate sporting tradition in America.

Teams are classified as collegiate, junior varsity, novice, junior, club or masters. Some classes are further divided into lightweight crews; women in the team must be under 130 pounds and men under 160. Crews race in their class except for the open events where colleges and clubs can go head to head.

Eight-oared crews carry a coxswain to steer and keep the team paced as they battle their competitors.

Collegiate rowers achieve the highest academic performance and graduation rates of any sport according to the US Rowing Association, which was founded in 1872.

Crew Classic event information is available at www.crewclassic.org or at the athletic web sites posted by any of the universities.

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Toreros Finish Second at Collegiate Beach Nationals

USD was just three points shy of claiming the championship.

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beautifuljournal

April 21, 2008



Andrea Csaszai

AN DIEGO, Calif. - The University of San Diego women's volleyball team finished in second place in the 2008 Collegiate Beach Nationals, falling just three points behind the University of Texas for first place. The Toreros did have two teams win their brackets in the second annual event at Mission Beach on Sunday afternoon.

The tandem of Jaimee Sutherland and Jessica Nyrop won Flight B by first defeating Nebraska's Lindsey Licht and Rachel Schwartz in two games, 15-7 and 15-13. In the quarterfinal round, Sutherland and Nyrop downed USC's Geena Urango and Mychaela Miller 21-16 and 21-17. In the semifinal round, USD cruised past Wisconsin's team of Nicole Klingsporn and Brittany Dolgner, 21-19 and 21-14. In the championship match, USD downed the Texas tandem of Michelle Moriarty and Chelsey Klein in three games, 18-1, 21-16 and 15-6.

The Toreros' team of Ali Troost and Kayleen Webster also took a championship in the light C pool. Webster and Troost first cruised their way to a 15-8, 15-7 win over Nebraska's Kori Cooper and Amanda Gates. In the quarterfinal round, USC's Alli Hillgren and Lauren Williams were no match for USD's duo, as Troost and Webster claimed a 21-19, 21-9 win to advance on to the semifinals. In the semifinal round, Troost and Webster rung up a 21-12, 21-9 win over Wisconsin's Caitly Dupont and Katherine Dykstra. In the championship match, the San Diego duo then won a hard fought match over the Texas tandem of Jennifer Doris and Heather Kisner, 17-21, 21-18, 21-19.

In flight A action, USD's team of Andrea Csaszai and Any DeGroot finished third. DeGroot and Csaszai began action with a 15-9, 15-9 win over Nebraska's Jordan Larson and Tara Mueller. In quarterfinal action, San Diego took home a 21-14, 21-19 win over Wisconsin's Audra Jeffers and Allison Wack. The Toreros then fell in the semifinal round, 18-21, 21-16, 16-14 to Taylor Carico and Jess Gysin from USC.

The final USD team of two, Torrey Elick and Breanna Oyden, finished third in the Flight D pool. USD suffered a first round loss to Nebraska's Kayla Banwarth and Brook Delano, 15-13, 15-10. But the Toreros bounced back in the quarterfinal round as they took out USC's Lexie Aiassa and Emilie Stewart, 21-17, 21-6. In the semifinal round, the Toreros tandem saw their run come to an end with a 21-14, 23-21 loss to Nebraska's Banwarth and Delano.

Final standings
1 - Texas - 14 pts.
2 - SAN DIEGO - 11 pts.
3 - Nebraska - 8 pts.
4 - USC - 4 pts.
5 - Wisconsin - 3 pts.
6 - Clemson - 0 pts.

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Toreros to Compete in Beach Volleyball Nationals

USD will compete in this event for the second consecutive year.

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April 9, 2008

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - CBS College Sports Network, along with



Andrea Gwasz and Jaimarie Sutherland.

the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and the AVP, are again teaming up to stage an elite showcase featuring the nation's top women's collegiate volleyball players. Teams from Clemson University, University of Nebraska, University of San Diego, USC, University of Texas, and University of Wisconsin will compete in the 2008 Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship in San Diego, Calif. on Sunday, April 20. The Championship is part of the third annual Collegiate Nationals, a first-of-its kind event that crowns national champions in 11 events.

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Extensive television coverage of the Collegiate Nationals kicks-off with a special one-hour program airing on CBS Sports on Sunday, May 25 (2:00 PM, ET). The show will launch eight consecutive days of Olympic-style programming on CBS College Sports Network, followed by sport specific shows. AVP All-Star and Olympic Bronze Medalist Holly McPeak teams with play-by-play announcer Chris McGee to call the volleyball action.

The Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship, which will take place at Mariners Point in San Diego, features a team-style format with each school fielding four teams of two players. Following the conclusion of the event,

one school will be awarded the overall Championship. All six team's in this year's competition finished ranked in the 2007 CBS College Sports Network/AVCA Coaches Top 25 Poll, including No. 3-ranked USC, No. 5-ranked Nebraska and No. 6-ranked Texas. In addition, 2007 All-American players Taylor Carico (USC), Brittany Dolgner (Wisconsin) and Jordan Larson (Nebraska) will be participating. Nebraska's Larson was part of the team that won the 2007 Collegiate Nationals Beach Volleyball Championship. The complete list of teams and players are included below.

The Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship will adhere strictly to NCAA guidelines for college volleyball.

In addition to volleyball, San Diego will host a collegiate music festival and Championships for flowboarding and competitive eating. This year's Collegiate Nationals competition will again bring together athletes from over 100 different colleges and universities across the country, and will ultimately crown National Champions in 11 categories. For more information, visit www.thecollegiatenationals.com.

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- 04/11: Clemson Volleyball To Play Host To Spring Tournament
- 04/11: Keppel Signs Letter Of Intent To Be Two-Sport Athlete
- 04/11: Bowling Green Volleyball Hosts 19th Annual Spring Fling Tournament
- 04/10: Arizona State Volleyball To Host Open Practiella This Spring
- 04/10: Marquette Four Student-Athletes Honored at National Strength and Conditioning All-American
- 04/10: Georgetown Lynette Master Named Georgetown Volleyball Assistant Coach
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Beach Volleyball Teams Prepare for San Diego

USD will compete in this event on Sunday at Mission Beach.

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04/16/2008

April 16, 2008

Story Written by Raymond Ayala (TheCollegiateNationals.com)



Jaimarie Sutherland competed with Andrea Casazi in last season's event.

The 2007 Collegiate Nationals, saw the crowning of numerous champions and showcased lifestyle sports at the collegiate level. After the success of last year, the 2008 Collegiate Nationals event in San Diego will feature four events, as compared to last year when there were three competitions. This year, along with beach volleyball, flowboarding, and a music festival, a new addition will be the eating contest.

The flowboarding championship was an extremely successful event in 2007. The riders compete at San Diego's famous Wave House, where they throw down on a 10-foot wave simulator known as Bruticus Maximus.

USC senior Derek Zemen went toe-to-toe with over 80 competitors last year at the Wave House, and emerged as the 2007 individual champion of the event.

"Winning this event gave me confidence, and it felt good to win a collegiate national championship," said Zemen.

Zemen explained that though last year's championship was great, he is definitely intent on becoming a back-to-back champion. "This is probably one of my biggest events of the year. This is my last collegiate nationals competition and I want to have fun and hopefully

repeat again as champion."

This year Zemen will be in a mix of competitors that will include participants from Loyola Marymount University, Mesa, Point Loma, San Diego State, UCLA and USC. Chris Neubauer (Point Loma), Tyler McIntyre (Mesa), Jeff Ranta (SDSU) and Andy Gold (Mesa) figure to be the heavy favorites to win this event, along with Zemen.

The eating championship will open its inaugural championship season this year. Collegiate competitive eaters from around the country will be taking part in the event. French fry qualifiers will be held on Friday at RT's Longboard grill and are open to all. Saturday's final will be held at Wave House and each competitor will consume mixed plates. Each plate consists of two hamburgers, two hot dogs, and French fries. The competitor that can consume the most plates will be crowned the champion.



The University of Maryland's Brian "Eatin'" Keaton was ecstatic to compete. "This is definitely one of the biggest eating contests that I am going to be participating in this year. I consider it to be very serious, especially since it is on the national stage."

Some people feel that competitive eating is not a true sport, but Keaton had a message for those who feel this way. "It requires training, ability and skill, just like any other sport. I don't just sit in my room all day and eat, I work out on a regular basis just like any other athlete."

The music competition had entries from over 100 colleges. After the good were filtered out from the bad, A Brief Smile and Mumps emerged as the finalists. Both of these bands will look to further their popularity by participating in this event.

The beach volleyball championship is the only event, which features NCAA athletes. This years contest will feature the Clemson, USC, Texas, Wisconsin, the hometown team University of San Diego, and the defending event champions, Nebraska.

The rosters for all the teams include some of the best players in the country, including 2007 NCAA All-Americans Taylor Carico (USC), Brittney Dolgner (Wisconsin) and Jordan Larson (Nebraska). These volleyball players are used to the hard court, but now they must adjust their game to the beach.

USD sophomore Torey Elick will be one of the participants in the event and she explained the differences between sand and hard-court volleyball. "The adjustment is tough in many ways, playing on the beach you have different factors like the wind, the sun the temperature that can effect your playing."

Although this tournament is not on as large a scale as the NCAA Championships, it is still considered an important event to the athletes. "We all are taking this tournament seriously in a sense that not a lot of teams get to have this experience and we are fortunate that we get to have the chance to participate in this tournament," said USD junior Breanne Ogden.

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- 04/16: Idaho State:Volleyball links a Pair



April 13, 2008

GIVE FAIR PLAY TO USD: I know that newspapers are supposed to be impartial to teams and issues they cover. That is why I get frustrated that the *Union-Tribune* Sports section gives way more coverage to SDSU teams than USD teams. Other than the football team being Division I-AA, USD is consistently better than SDSU in almost every sport, yet the *U-T* continually puts SDSU stories on top of USD ones.

For example, the USD baseball team has been a lot better than SDSU the past five years, but you still give SDSU the headline with USD's game story listed below it.

As a person who grew up in another state, I don't have loyalty toward one school or the other. But when it comes to what is printed in the paper, I want to see the best stories get priority. But if USD is the better story and team, please try to give them at least equal coverage. They have earned it.

TIM TISCHER, *College Area*

April 14, 2008

Uniforms have become rah-rah risqué

By Michael Stetz
STAFF WRITER

Give me an S.
Give me a K.
Give me an I.
Give me an M.
Give me a P.
Give me a Y.

College cheerleaders and dancers got the chance to shine — or “Bring It On” — during the recent NCAA men’s basketball tournament. And they appear to be showing a bit more skin these days.

With peppy hopefuls heading into try-outs for next year’s squads — San Diego

Online: For photos of cheerleaders and dancers at this year’s NCAA tournament, go to nbc.com/sports/msnbc.com/ld/23811730

State University’s start today — it seemed time for an assessment.

Check out the cheerleaders for Kansas State, which I did, but only for journalistic purposes. For the tournament, they donned shiny blue halter tops, short white skirts and big smiles. And that’s about it.

It used to be that most college cheerleaders wore rather conservative attire, such as turtleneck sweaters and pleated

skirts that were short, but not *that* short.

Some still wear traditional uniforms. Others, particularly those on the college dance teams, which augment the cheering squads at some schools, don’t or only sometimes do.

Take the University of Kansas. The national champion’s cheerleaders and dancers sport particularly revealing outfits — sequined halter tops and short skirts for the dancers — which is maybe why Memphis couldn’t hit free throws at the end of last week’s title game.

The University of San Diego also made

SEE **Cheer, B4**



Cristina Martinez Byvik / Union-Tribune

► CHEER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

Politician tried to ban certain dance moves

the tournament, and the private Catholic school's spirit team wore black pants with tops that covered everything but one arm.

"We're more conservative," said Chris Morales, assistant director of marketing at USD. "You look at what you're trying to put out there. We try to push a fun, family environment."

Some programs push the envelope, Morales said. When he saw the Kansas cheerleaders, he went, "Wow."

"We're not so super big on the midriff," he said.

Some in the cheerleading community have grown concerned, particularly when younger girls, in high school and lower grades, start wearing skimpier outfits.

Some colleges have banned uniforms that display the midriff because they are considered too risqué, said Lance Wager, president of the American Cheerleaders Association. In 2006, the National Federation of State High School Associations toughened standards to keep midriffs covered as well.

Fashion trends flow downward from the professional level, Wager said. Most professional cheer squads, such as the Charger Girls, wear revealing tops and short skirts.

The growing trend of shrinking uniforms can be for practical purposes. Cheerleaders today are more athletic and perform a wide range of stunts. The uniforms are tailored to allow them to better execute the moves.

Choreography isn't without controversy, either. The suggestive routines some high school cheerleaders and dance squads began performing led one Texas legislator, in 2005, to try to ban moves he considered too sexy.

Today's uniforms and moves run the gamut, "because what the cheerleader symbolizes in society is quite diverse," said Natalie Adams, co-author of the book "Cheerleader! An American Icon."

"On the one hand, she represents the all-American girl and now athlete," Adams said. "But the cheerleader also represents an erotic icon — the girl you fantasize having sex with."

Oh.

"Some teams are maybe just a little bit too out there," said Rhonda Roberts of the United Spirit Association, which hosts cheer competitions and summer camps.

Appropriate uniforms and music scores are a part of the judging, Roberts said.

"It's a family show."

**Compiled by
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