

31st Santa Barbara Int'l Film Festival

Coverage Begins on page 11



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY: LORENZO BASILIO, RILEY ESGUERRA, CAMERYN BROCK / DAILY NEXUS

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
SANTA BARBARA SYLE
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL**



#10



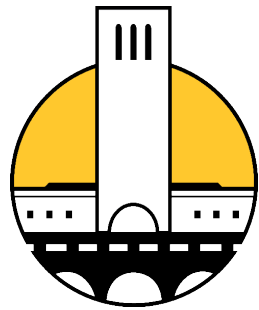
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**FRIDAY | 7PM
ROB GYM**

 **IT'S GAUCHO GAMEDAY**

DAILY NEXUS CALENDAR



IV LIVE presents
IMPROVABILITY'S ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY
Friday, February 12 at
8 pm
Embarcadero Hall, Isla Vista
\$3

David Makovsky &
Ghaith al-Omari
Israelis and Palestinians:
A New Paradigm?

5:00 p.m. on Wednesday,
February 24th at UCSB
Campbell Hall



Magic Lantern Films
presents
TRIPLE HORROR NIGHT
It Follows at 7pm
Crimson Peak at 10pm
Rocky Horror at Midnight
Friday, February 12
IV Theater, Isla Vista
\$4



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Free Public Lecture
Marcy Darnovsky,
Executive Director and
co-founder of Center for
Genetics and Society
Thursday, March 3 at
8:00pm at 1104 Harold
Frank Hall, UCSB



Marcy Darnovsky will unpack the controversies that have erupted in recent months about how we should — and should not — use gene editing tools, and explores the technical, social, and ethical stakes of these imminent decisions.

Sarah Koenig & Julie Snyder, Binge-Worthy
Journalism:
Backstage with the
Creators of Serial
Thu., Mar. 3, at 8:00 p.m. at
Campbell Hall



Ms. Lisa Fischer
& Grand Baton
Wed, Feb 17
8:00 PM
Campbell Hall

"It's clear that she is deeply and internally in love with the act of singing, utterly and blissfully present in the welling up of each note, in the zone of the sublime."
The Huffington Post

By any measure of talent and accomplishment, Lisa Fischer is a superstar. Yet, if you do not know her name it is likely because Fischer has spent the last 20 years as the backup singer for the Rolling Stones, Sting, Chris Botti and countless others. In the documentary film 20 Feet from Stardom, Botti raves, "Everyone knew who Lisa Fischer was, she's the talk of the town... an incredible artist that demands the room's attention."

The Silk Road Ensemble
with Yo-Yo Ma
Sun, Feb 21
7:00 PM
The Granada Theatre



Under the direction of Yo-Yo Ma, the indefatigable Silk Road Ensemble returns for two glorious nights of globally-inspired musicianship. The Grammy-nominated collective of performers from Asia, Europe and the Americas combines superb technique with an eagerness to connect across cultures and musical traditions.

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WEATHER

As always, the Weatherhuman likes hir men like ze likes hir news articles: long and hard-hitting.

Tomorrow's Forecast: Teehee

Man Arrested for 2014 Campus Rape



Daniel J. Chen

Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs
Asst. News Editor

UC Santa Barbara Police arrested one man Wednesday in connection with the February 2014 violent rape and assault of a UCSB student.

Daniel J. Chen, 21, was arrested by UCSB Police Wednesday and charged with four felonies: rape by means of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury; rape in cooperation with another person; battery; and false imprisonment. Chen will appear in Santa Barbara Superior Court on Feb. 16.

Chen is being held in Santa Barbara County Jail without bail. He was arrested in Alameda County in January on an unrelated felony charge, according to the press release, and his DNA was matched to DNA from the crime scene next to UCSB's track.

Chen's Facebook profile says he graduated from Northgate High School in Walnut Creek, Calif. in 2012. Chen attended UCSB from September 2012 to December 2013, according to UCPD.

The female victim was raped and assaulted by three men in the early hours of Feb. 23, 2014, after being taken from Isla Vista to a secluded location next to UCSB's track. Shortly after the incident, UCPD released a sketch of the suspects, depicting two Asian men.

The victim of the crime filed a lawsuit against the University of California in January alleging that the area of the attack was not properly maintained by the university, UCSB's Police Department had not properly investigated the case and that UCSB "skewed" its sexual assault figures to attract prospective students.

In January, Tyrone Maho, an attorney for the victim, told the *Daily Nexus* he hoped the lawsuit would reinvestigate the university's investigation into the assault.

"Our hope with this whole thing is not only to draw attention to what the university did to basically allow this activity to take place ... but also to help with the appeal to find the perpetrators because it has been two years and UC police have not found the suspects," Maho said in January.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



LORENZO BASILIO / DAILY NEXUS

The two parties, Campus United and Peer Action Coalition, were formed in early February to provide "non-toxic," inclusive spaces within Associated Students.

Two A.S. Parties Form in Wake Of OPP Disbandment

Siboney Arias
Staff Writer

Two new Associated Students (A.S.) political parties, Campus United and Peer Action Coalition (PAC), were formed in early February following the disbandment of Open People's Party.

The Open People's Party (OPP) was the primary A.S. political party during last year's spring elections. OPP was disbanded earlier this month as two new political parties, Campus United and the Peer Action Coalition, were created within the last week in an attempt to bring more diversity to the A.S. senate board. A Bill to Switch Associated Students Elections to a single transferable vote system the student elections system to a single transferable vote (STV) process was passed in October and will go into effect this spring which will use ranking averages instead of singular votes to choose election winners.

Dustin Larrazolo, PAC member and third-year biochemistry major, said PAC was created to provide "all-inclusive" and non-toxic spaces within A.S.

"We want to bring everyone home from A.S.

I want to open up these spaces so that people can tell us what to do," Larrazolo said. "The students are the leaders and we [senate] are the vote. I'm strong proponent of that democratic caucuses."

Nushi Yapabandara, PAC member and second-year philosophy, psychology and sociology triple major, said the goal of the Peer Action Coalition is to create a safe and accepting space for students of all backgrounds to experience A.S.

"We want to ensure every Gaucho feels that they can have their voice heard through our group, whether it's them wanting to actively help us with campaigning or if it's them addressing concerns with future candidates," Yapabandara said.

Niki Elyasi, Campus United member and third-year biopsychology major, said Campus United was created to put students first as they are the party's priority.

"We are all about the student experience and improving it the best that we can and taking action on clear consensus student issues that would benefit all of us," Elyasi said. "So we are really a student-focused, student-run movement looking to get involved in A.S."

UNITED p.8

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District Supervisor Candidates Share Platforms

Josh Ortiz
Senior Staff Writer

Santa Barbara County Third District Supervisor candidates spoke with the *Nexus* this week to share their platforms for Isla Vista and the county.

Bruce Porter, Joan Hartmann and Jay Freeman have all declared candidacy for the Third District Supervisor seat since incumbent Doreen Farr announced her retirement in October. Constituents can vote June 7 or Nov. 8. A candidate must receive 50 percent of the votes plus one in order to win in June — otherwise, voters determine the winner in November.

Bruce Porter

15-year Santa Ynez resident Bruce Porter declared candidacy in November after receiving encouragement from neighbors and community leaders.

Porter served 25 years in the U.S. Army and, upon moving to Santa Ynez in 2001, took on executive roles with the American Red Cross local chapter, the Solvang Rotary Club and the local Boy Scouts district. He currently works as president of the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District School Board, chairman of the Santa Ynez Valley Youth Coalition and Edward Jones financial advisor.

Porter announced in late January his plan to initiate an Economic Prosperity Corridor should he be elected as supervisor. According to Porter, most of the tech firms in Santa Barbara County are located in Goleta, which he said forces workers to commute on the 101 from their homes in the rest of the county.

"As I've met with officials at UCSB, I've learned of a wave of new companies and new technologies



Bruce Porter

that will be spinning out of research at UCSB, and in the past a lot of those just went into Goleta," Porter said. "Goleta is pretty well built-out now."

His plan with the Economic Prosperity Corridor is to encourage businesses to "set up shop" in areas like Buellton, Lompoc and Santa Maria to reduce the number of freeway commuters. According to Porter, this initiative will help to reduce pollution, preserve infrastructure and allow UCSB grads to stay in the Santa Barbara County.

"Let's move those new businesses out into other parts of the county where they'll be closer to the people who actually work there," Porter said. "That would be keeping all these great businesses in the county."

As for the county's involvement in I.V., Porter



Joan Hartmann

said he hopes to be a leader and a "champion" for getting the Community Services District (CSD) proposal passed in November. He said the ultimate goal for I.V. is cityhood.

"In the long range, the goal is cityhood for Isla Vista, if that's what the residents want. The CSD is sort of a tiny little step to that eventual goal," Porter said. "[I want to help] shape the whole process over time so that we continue the path to full cityhood."

Joan Hartmann

Santa Barbara County Third District Planning Commissioner Joan Hartmann declared candidacy in early January in hopes to "continue and build on" the role of her soon-to-retire employer Farr.

Hartmann's career began in academia when she



Jay Freeman

earned a Ph.D. in Government from Claremont Graduate School, where she was appointed as the first female faculty member and director of the Public Policy Program. She also served on the faculty at Oberlin College and later served as adjunct professor at USC. She currently serves on the Santa Barbara Foundation's LEAF Advisory Committee and the Wilding Museum's Board of Directors.

According to Hartmann, the platform of her bid for supervisor is "enhancing the quality of life that we cherish in Santa Barbara County."

"I think Doreen Farr has done a really good job connecting people to county resources, and her staff has worked hard to provide good, strong constituency services," Hartmann said. "I would like to build on that."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

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Activists Discuss Israel, Apartheid State Label

The two South African activists, who have both experienced apartheid, came together to speak on why the labeling of Israel as an “apartheid state” is mostly inaccurate

Sohila Sandher
Reporter

Black South African activists Jamie Mithi and Khanyisa Pinini discussed their views on labeling Israel an apartheid state in an event hosted by Gauchos United for Israel on Tuesday in the Isla Vista Theater.

Mithi, originally from Zimbabwe, is an author and law student at University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg. He is an avid debater, ranked fourth globally and first in Africa in the World Universities Public Speaking Championship. Pinini, originally from Johannesburg, has been heavily involved with student leader-

ship at University of Cape Town (UCT) and is a member of the United Nations Association of South Africa: UCT Chapter and has participated two times in national Model United Nations conferences.

Mithi and Pinini both shared their personal experiences with apartheid in South Africa and how their own narratives informed their definitions of the term “apartheid.” Both said they used to support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction movement, but withdrew their support after visiting Israel. The two speakers said they have felt a loss of Black South African apartheid narrative due to the use of the term to label Israel when referring to conflict with Palestine.



SPENCER BRANDT / DAILY NEXUS

Mithi and Pinini, both college students, shared childhood stories from living through apartheid in South Africa.

Mithi first proposed that a major difference between an apartheid state and the status of Israel is historical context. In the context of debate, he presented the claim that Israel is a colonial-settler state, then refuted this idea by stating there cannot be a colonial-settler state if said settlers already existed within an area.

“It is a non sequitur for us to claim that people who have always had a presence in a particular area, are colonizers of the area if they’ve always been there,” Mithi said.

The second level of Mithi’s argument focused on the legislative structure of apartheid versus that of the state of Israel. He said apartheid law’s “four levels of existence,” which are based upon racial discrimination, are “just not the way it is” in Israel’s legal system.

“In Israel, all Israeli citizens have the same rights,” Mithi said.

This difference in citizen rights is what he argues sets apartheid and the Israeli state apart.

His third level of debate focused on the context of the area. He said conflicts in the surrounding areas of Israel are what “led to the conflicts in the West Bank.” This war-zone environment is another factor, according to Mithi, that sets true apartheid apart from the Israel-Palestine conflict.

“It would be complete false argumentation and academically insincere to say that’s apartheid,” Mithi said. “The reality is, what I’m talking about, the scenario of ‘peaceful neighbor,’ where I’m talking about a scenario where the neighbors aren’t seeing eye to eye, right?”

In his closing statement, Mithi said when discussing Israel-Palestine conflict, neither side should vilify the other.

“There is a problem in Israel [and] Palestine, and largely in the Middle East. And I don’t think that the tactic of demonizing the other side leads to the relevant solution,” Mithi said.

Michelle May, a second-year biology major, said she was impressed by Mithi and Pinini’s expertise.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



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DanceSafe Educates Students on MDMA

Peeka Zimmerman
Senior Staff Writer

DanceSafe founder Emanuel Sferios gave a presentation on MDMA effects and safety on Wednesday in an event hosted by Students for Sensible Drug Policies UCSB Chapter (SSDP), Life of the Party (LOTP) and the UCSB Associated Students (A.S.) Public Safety Commission.

A full house was present at Embarcadero Hall as Sferios discussed the history of MDMA, its therapeutic use and public policies regarding the drug. He offered harm reduction strategies, sold drug testing kits and reminded attendees that no drug use is completely safe.

Marjan Riazzi, graduate from UCSB and education and outreach coordinator for the UCSB Alcohol & Drug Program, said it is important students are informed on the effects of drug use and safest possible methods if they choose to experiment.

"We are really excited that you are all here talking about something that is really important and certainly impacts our community," Riazzi said. "We are telling you learn the facts, learn the information ... be safe, we just want you to know all the facts. Sometimes people hear things, especially in Isla Vista, that isn't necessarily true especially when it comes to substances like MDMA."

Cole Garcia, SSDP chapter leader and a second-year biology major, said the goal of SSDP is to educate students on drug safety and public policies that can be ineffective.

"Within the Isla Vista community we are working on similar things to the Alcohol & Drug Program, so harm reduction through education, but another goal of our group is to get future voters in our political system well educated on the ways that

drug policy can be improved," Garcia said.

Sferios said universities typically focus on abstinence when discussing drug use, but they should instead take the same stance as they have on alcohol and educate students on how to partake as safely as possible if one chooses to do so.

"The university doesn't say just 'don't drink, just don't do it!' They say, 'ok we know some people will and if you do you need to know what you are doing to be safe,'" Sferios said. "That same approach really needs to be happening with party drugs like MDMA and I am really glad to see that Life of the Party is here doing that."

According to Sferios, prohibition of MDMA creates a more dangerous situation in which safety education is often neglected.

"I realized DanceSafe and other harm reduction programs are more trying to counter the harm that results from our drug policies," Sferios said.

Sferios said there are beneficial therapeutic uses of MDMA, particularly for treating PTSD, because it releases the brain's stored serotonin.

"The receptors of serotonin are excitatory and inhibitory in all the right places to reduce anxiety while at the same time making the person very alert and increasing activity in the forebrain where you put things in context and look at traumatic experiences without fear," Sferios said.

This is not to say that the drug is always beneficial, as 15 to 20 people a year in the United States die after taking MDMA, according to Sferios.

"I was told by Life of the Party that in the last five years there have been 10 deaths on this campus related to alcohol and prescription drugs but none related to Molly as far as I know on this campus," Sferios said.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



WILL TRAN / DAILY NEXUS

DanceSafe founder Emanuel Sferios suggests a regulated system through which adults could obtain pure, legal MDMA, thus reducing the criminal market and access to minors.



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UNITED

Continued from p.4

Elyasi said Campus United was created to bring more diversity to senate.

"We wanted to get a voice out that we feel hasn't been heard as vocally and that's the voice of the students for improved resources and academic distinction on campus," Elyasi said.

According to Yapabandara, the purpose of the PAC is to give UCSB students from diverse backgrounds a chance to be represented by senators who identify with them.

"Up until now, A.S. has been a very particular type of UCSB student," Yapabandara said. "As someone who was a campaign manager for one of the two major political parties last year, I remember feeling very left out because the students Senate has

had in the past were of a particular social group."

Larrazolo said PAC is comprised of student leaders from Senate, the Office of Student Life, Resident Hall Council and various other student groups to give the party.

"A.S. programs only benefits about 20 percent of students and we strive to expand that through collaborations with Office of Student Life, Residence Halls Association and student clubs to let students understand what resources are available," Larrazolo said. "We strive to have multiplicity representative of our university because every student is apart of A.S. I don't think 23 people should handle 11 million dollars."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



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Santa Barbara County Second To Adopt H.E.A.L.



**Healthy Eating
Active Living**

Courtesy of AVPH.org

The resolution will educate citizens as well as offer healthier food choices.

**Amanda Quick
Staff Writer**

Santa Barbara County has officially adopted the Healthy Eating Active Living (H.E.A.L.) resolution to promote healthy living for residents, becoming the second county in California to do so.

The resolution will ensure residents have access to locally grown produce and provide healthier food options in schools, as well as education about living healthy lifestyles.

First District County Supervisor Salud Carbajal is working with the County to maintain the new resolution and said he hopes the program will reach everyone who is interested in learning about a healthy lifestyle, no matter their current level of health.

"I think we are targeting everyone in general," Carbajal said. "There are disparities in health issues in our community with various groups and income levels, but I think that our goal is to approach the entire community with an understanding that certain communities need a little extra outreach and consideration."

Carbajal said the resolution will help people understand ways to live healthy lives and hopes the program will develop into a community effort.

"Once you make it a community-wide effort, it becomes part of our values in our community to exercise, to be conscious of having a healthier diet," Carbajal said. "And to understand there are some basic things we can do to create wellness and health to prevent certain devastating, long-term medical conditions that only diminish our quality of life or result in huge costs of medical debts."

Carbajal said implementing the principles of the resolution will be an effortful process.

"We will come up with a strategic plan and identify some specific goals whether it be environmental or healthy foods or even employee wellness," Carbajal said.

Trina Long, coordinator of the Nutritional Service Program with the Public Health Department and chair of Live Well Santa Barbara County Coalition, said although H.E.A.L. has collaborated with many entities, the Coalition is at the forefront of the program.

"There are lots of different partners that have been and are continuing to work on different initiatives in our county that focus on healthy living and active eating," Long said. "The Live Well Coalition is the backbone of that partnership. There are different organizations, agencies and government officials with an interest in nutrition, physical activity, environmental health and public healthy eating and active living."

According to Long, the Coalition takes community members' opinions into consideration when making healthy lifestyle plans.

"What we do is look at it as addressing it in a collective impact type of way," Long said. "We have different goals and objectives but when we start talking down to the nitty-gritty, we realize that even though our county program is focused on healthy eating and active living, when we start talking with our partners and with community members, we hear about barriers that need to be addressed in order for us to be successful in getting people to eat healthier and get active."

Long said the Coalition will use community-based education and policy formation to promote H.E.A.L.'s message.

"A group of our coalition partners that are interested in H.E.A.L. are working on getting the word out to private businesses and individuals that can make changes that would support a healthier environment and living for themselves," Long said.

Long said involvement from other local groups and businesses will be important to H.E.A.L.'s success.

"We are planning different ways to get the word out about H.E.A.L., possibly a speakers bureau to cities who do not have a H.E.A.L. resolution yet," Long said. "Also, reaching out to community clubs and organizations such as the Rotary Club to provide information about H.E.A.L. and offer ways that they could bring this back to their employer."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

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MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Jake & Joe: UCSB's Dynamic Decade-Long Duo

Jonah Seif and Jacob Delson, two of the Gauchos' top players, have a bond that goes beyond both their time at UCSB and the game of volleyball itself



JENNY LUO/DAILY NEXUS

Senior Jonah Seif (top) leads the Gauchos in assists (10.29 per set) and redshirt junior Jacob Delson (bottom) ranks second on the team in kills (2.98 per set).



JENNY LUO/DAILY NEXUS

Ryan Burns
Staff Writer

At home against the nation's top team, No. 1 Long Beach State, in front of the biggest crowd of the year, Jonah Seif sets the ball for another Jacob Delson kill. Delson jumps in towards the team celebrating and Seif hits him on the head, showing his approval with a head nod.

The point put the No. 10 UCSB men's volleyball team up 22-19 in the fourth set, sealing the set and sending the match into a fifth, but the Gauchos ended up dropping the final set, losing their closest and longest match of the season.

"I think it's more painful to lose a game like that than to get blown out of the water and get swept," Seif said. "That match was so physically and emotionally investing, and to have a lead at the end and let it slip away was really frustrating."

The moment in the fourth set was bigger than a win or a loss, though. The setter and hitter came together to celebrate the latest assist-kill in a 10-year partnership between, as they call each other, Jake and Joe.

Delson, a redshirt junior, and Seif, a senior, first played sports together in sixth grade when they were on the same youth basketball team. The two eventually played volleyball at rival high schools in the Conejo Valley — Jacob at Westlake High and Jonah at Thousand Oaks.

In their senior year, they joined forces when Jonah decided to play for Delson's club team. The friends insisted, however, that their decisions to commit to UCSB playing volleyball came independent of each other.

"Our senior year, my club team really needed a setter, so I recruited Joe and luckily he came," Delson said. "I committed really early, one of the earliest in our class. He was looking around for a while and eventually told me on the way back from one of our club tournaments that he was going to UCSB."

Seif is the consistent setter that has started for the Gauchos every year of his collegiate career. Delson, the passionate outside hitter who climbed up UCSB's depth chart after redshirting, has become one of the team's most valuable leaders.

In addition to being two of the most commanding personalities on the court, the pair lead the team in several categories.

Seif has made the All-MPSF First Team for the last two seasons and this year he leads the Gauchos in assists per set with 10.29. Along with the senior's numbers, Delson thinks his setter offers more than

just passing to the UCSB squad.

"Jonah always brings energy and it's great to have someone like that on the court," Delson said. "Especially after a long point he'll yell at me to keep me going."

Delson cracked into the starting lineup last year, and has since taken over as one of the key players on both offense and defense. This season he is averaging the second most kills per set on the squad with 2.98 and is third in blocks with .68 per set.

Seif has appreciated playing with his best friend for more than just the statistics. Jacob and Jonah lived together for the first three years of college, creating a connection that extended far beyond volleyball.

"Having someone on the court that you know that well, there's that off-the-court friendship where you trust each other to make plays," Seif said. "I always know Jake's defense will be there and that he'll score big points."

After four years of playing together, the friends know each other's patterns and tendencies as well as their own and have been key members of Gaucho teams the last two seasons.

The pair has yet to win any major tournament though, and when asked what they wanted to accomplish before their college careers are over, the two had similar responses.

"A championship. Or at least a deep run — I mean, only one team can win, but to make a late run at the championship would be really cool," Delson said.

Seif, who is in the middle of his final year with the Gauchos, had a more direct response.

"It has to be a national championship. I'd love to not look back and think that we could've done more. If we do lose I want to get beat and not just lose."

This season Seif and Delson have helped the team earn a couple of impressive wins against No. 5 Loyola-Chicago and No. 11 CSUN. For a deep run into the postseason, UCSB will also have to knock down some of the teams above them in the MPSF standings.

The loaded conference has nine teams in the national top-15, six of which are ranked above the No. 10 Gauchos. By the time tournament season comes around, every match will be a test worthy of a champion.

Jacob and Jonah have some stern tests before they can think about bringing a title home in Seif's last season with the volleyball program, but what would be a better way to finish this chapter of the decade-old duo?

Next for the Gauchos is a home meeting with UCSD this Friday at 7 p.m. in Rob Gym. UCSB swept in straight sets earlier this season.

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SOFTBALL

UCSB Set To Open Season at Arizona Hillenbrand Invitational

Antonia Bird
Staff Writer

This weekend the UCSB softball team will begin its 2016 season as it heads to Arizona to take on a series of preseason games at the Arizona Hillenbrand Invitational.

Following up on their respectable 34-20 overall record in 2014, the Gauchos experienced a bit of a setback last year, finishing just 19-35. With plenty of room to improve, Santa Barbara will enter the 2016 season with the intention of improving its record and dominating Big West play.

On Friday morning, UCSB will take on the Purdue Boilermakers in the weekend's first game. Purdue finished with an overall record of 31-25 last year and advanced to the 2015 Big Ten Tournament quarterfinals.

The Boilermakers enter their 2016 season with confidence, as they will return seven position starters and two solid pitchers in junior Katie Johnson and senior Lilly Fecho. The Gauchos will have to pay close attention to two of the Boilermakers top hitters, short-stop Paris Andrew and designated player Katie Harrison, both of whom batted over .300 in 2015. The Boilermakers have won both previous matchups with the Gauchos.

Santa Barbara will play a second game on Friday afternoon against Nebraska Omaha, which also experienced a tough 2015 season. The Mavericks finished with a record of 22-28 overall and may face a rougher fate in 2016 as they lost multiple key players including two of their starting pitchers. However, this is a good hitting team which scores lots of runs and looks to put pressure on the Gaucho defense.

One of the Maverick's biggest stars is junior outfielder and right hand pitcher Lizzie

Noble, who hit .294 last year, scoring 27 runs and knocking in 36 RBI's. Senior infielder Campbell Ditto will also be a player to look for, as she scored 24 runs and found a way to get on base despite her .242 average. Lizzie Noble, who only saw the mound 10 times last season, will be the expected starter for Friday's match.

On Saturday, the Gauchos will face both the Southern Utah and North Texas. Senior left fielder Kylee Wolf is expected to command the Southern Utah squad this year, as she led her team in hits and runs last year and had the third highest batting average on the team.

This year will likely be one of transition and player development for North Texas, as they added eight freshmen to their roster and lost their top three hitters from last season, all of whom averaged over .300 at the plate.

To close out this weekend's invitational, the Gauchos take on the host Arizona Wildcats. In perhaps their toughest game of the tournament, the Gauchos will face an Arizona team which had 11 players batting over .300 last season, two of which hit over .400. The Gauchos will be put to the test, as many of Arizona's hitters have returned this year to form a powerful batting lineup.

Wildcat junior outfielder Alexis Dotson finished last season with an outstanding batting average of .435. Her teammate, junior outfielder Katiyana Mauga, hit .350 at the plate, good for the fourth best average on the team. In addition to Arizona's intimidating offense, junior right handed pitcher Michelle Floyd can bring the heat as she struck out 135 last season to go with her 3.62 ERA and will look to shut down the Gauchos lineup.

While UCSB has a series of tough games

this weekend, it has strengths of its own and will undoubtedly put pressure on its opponents. As a team, the Gauchos have a respectable batting average of .296 and an on base percentage of .371. They have four players in their lineup batting over .300. Outfielder Kristen Clark, who is a junior, leads the team with a batting average of .356.

In addition, sophomore outfielder Jacqueline Hinojosa leads the team with a .483 on base percentage. Senior catcher Meshalon Moore is also a team leader in multiple categories, as she scored 33 runs last season to go with her 42 RBI's. Senior pitcher Ashley Ludlow and senior pitcher Alex Pingree are both reliable starters for this Gaucho squad and should improve upon their collective 114 strikeouts from last season.

The Gauchos will continue to be a competitive and entertaining team this year, and this weekend's preseason action against solid teams will serve to sharpen their hitting, pitching and defense. Look for the Gauchos to be a contender in Big West play this year.



DUSTIN HARRIS / DAILY NEXUS

UCSB will face five different opponents at the invitational, beginning this Friday.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Gauchos Hope To Bounce Back at UCI & LBSU

Sean White
Assistant Sports Editor

After being defeated by a game-winning three-pointer in the remaining seconds of last Saturday's game against Hawaii, the UCSB women's basketball team looks to recoup on the road at UC Irvine tonight and at Long Beach State on Saturday.

Santa Barbara is 1-3 in its last four games since its 4-1 start to the Big West schedule and currently sits at 8-15 overall and 5-4 in conference play. UCSB ranks fifth in the conference. The pair of matchups will be UCSB's first time facing either team this season.

UCI will look to end its three-game losing skid as the Anteaters are 4-19, 1-8 in the Big West for an eighth place standing. Long Beach State owns the best overall record in the conference at 17-5, and is on a five-game winning streak while sitting in second place of the conference standings with a 6-2 record.

"Records don't matter — you've gotta play," UCSB Head Bonnie Henrickson said. "We're going to get pressed in both games this weekend. We're trying to look at press offense this week leading into it."

After a 25-point performance in UCSB's rout of CSUF, Makala Roper seemed to have regained her scoring touch. However, the sophomore guard followed up her performance with six points and a 2-14 shooting effort in the team's loss to Hawaii.

With the Big West Conference Tournament approaching, Roper is hoping to become a more consistent scorer for UCSB on a nightly basis.

"Taking the game slower and step by step" Roper explained. "Not rushing anything, just letting it flow — it all starts in practice."

Occupying the Gauchos' game plan heading into Thursday's contest is their strategy to combat the Anteaters' size and depth.

"It's a lot of dribble moves," Henrickson said. "It's not a traditional sit down deep, pivot and score

[offense]. It's get off the block a little bit, face you, rip and drive, back you down and spin. There's a lot of dribbling involved and its multiple moves. So our bigs have got to stay down and keep their feet alive."

Despite the versatility within their frontcourt, the Anteaters haven't had much production offensively this season. Overall, they rank last in field goal percentage at 34.4 percent, three-point percentage at 22.3 percent and their average of 12.1 assists per game ranks eighth in the Big West.

Meanwhile, Irvine's defense has emerged during its lack of offense. The Anteaters have held three of their last four opponents under 60 points and recently allowed a season-low 50 points in their loss to Cal Poly.

A central figure within UCI's stout defense has been the play of Mokun Fajemisin. A junior forward, Fajemisin's total of 40 blocks and 2.0 rejections per game leads the Big West. In addition, Fajemisin ranks fifth in the Big West in rebounds per game with a 7.7 average and a total of 154 rebounds this year.

Closing out UCSB's road trip is its matchup against Long Beach State. The 49ers are coming off of a 22-10 season last year in which they put together a 15-game winning streak at one point, but faltered during the conference schedule as they finished with a 9-7 record.

LBSU was knocked out of the first round of the Big West Conference Tournament by CSUF, then lost in the first round of the WNIT to the University of San Diego.

In the midst of a five-game winning streak and in second place, the 49ers may be in route to a strong finish to conference play. Thus far, it has been Long Beach's defense that has led it to such a solid start.

The 49ers' average of 21.5 turnovers forced per game leads the Big West and ranks 12th in the nation. Despite nearly being upset and allowing 71

points in an overtime win at CSUN, Long Beach State has held 12 opponents to 60 points or fewer and five to under 50 points this season.

Complementing the 49ers' defense is their shooting from behind the three-point line. LBSU set a single-game program and Big West record of 20 three-pointers made in its 82-61 victory at CSUF.

Tip-off between UCSB and UCI is set for 7 p.m. tonight at the Bren Events Center. The Gauchos game at LBSU will take place on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 4 p.m. in Walter Pyramid.



LORENZO BASILIO / DAILY NEXUS

UCSB sits in fifth place of the Big West standings with a record of 5-4 this year.

ARTSWEEK

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SBIFF Ronan and Larson

Alex Wehrung
Reporter

Saoirse Ronan and Brie Larson were given the prestigious Outstanding Performer of the Year award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival on Monday, Feb. 9.

Ronan arrived at the Arlington Theatre at approximately 8 p.m. as a group of onlookers watched from outside the barriers. Brie Larson could not attend in person, due to filming commitments for "Kong: Skull Island."

The tribute began with a flurry of montage clips from each actresses' films, set to Lady Gaga's "I'm on the Edge of Glory." When it was over, Larson appeared onscreen, saying that she "loved [the montage]" and that "Saoirse is so incredible and inspiring. Our work cuts well together."

The "Room" actress was able to appear after all. Making SBIFF history, Larson called in via Skype to recount her history as an actress.

"I started auditioning when I was six or seven years old," she said. "Been at this for about 20 [years]. It's been a very long road, but I wouldn't want it to be any different. I wouldn't change it — it brings me closer to who I am."

After a year of acting in plays, her mother got her an agent and she started appearing in fake commercials for Jay Leno.

Larson got her first big break in "The United States of Tara" as Kate Gregson, a role she was initially rejected for. "It set me on my path," she said. She would go on to co-star in "21 Jump Street," "Short Term 12" and "Room," the film she was awarded for.

For her role as Ma, a woman kept captive with her son in a shed for seven years, Larson lost fat and gained muscle and consulted with a trauma specialist. She described how she discovered the film on an emotional level as shooting went on. Like her character's son Jack, she ended up missing the warm security of "Room" after the crew moved out into the chilly cityscape of Toronto.

Larson graciously accepted her Outstanding Performer of the Year Award before leaving the call to catch her plane.

Then, Saoirse Ronan, clad in white, walked onstage with a box of popcorn. As she sat down, she said, "I just realized Brie and I are wearing the same dress," much to the audience's amusement.

The actress, famed for "Atonement" and "The Host," was awarded for the romantic drama "Brooklyn" — which is where she was born, according to the moderator.

Not so, Ronan corrects him: she came from the Bronx. "Obviously. Clearly I was born in the Bronx. Could you not tell by my sassy attitude?"

Like her character Eilis Lacy, Ronan's parents were Irish immigrants. Her mother worked as a nanny and her father worked a variety of jobs, including actor, bartender and construction worker.

One of her first acting gigs came when her father cast her in a surrealist short film. "I started acting when I was very young. Being exposed to a group of young, creative people who interacted with me when I was a kid inspired me to be like them."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



LORENZO BASILIO / DAILY NEXUS

SBIFF Johnny Depp

Vicky Munro
Reporter

The rumours allegedly began earlier in the day but, by 8:20 p.m. on Thursday evening, people were beginning to worry that Johnny Depp might not show up to collect his Maltin Modern Master award from the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. A no-show would have been uncharacteristic of someone whom Scott Cooper, the director of Depp's latest film "Black Mass," described as "one of the kindest, most soulful, most generous men that [he knows]," and true to form, Depp eventually arrived. Depp was rushed past reporters and into the Arlington Theatre by his handlers, although he made an attempt to answer a few questions along the way.

This effort on his part was surprising since, as Leonard Maltin, the film critic for whom the award is now named, pointed out at the start of the evening, Depp is notorious for avoiding press. "People have said in the past week or so: 'Johnny Depp doesn't do things like this,' which

he doesn't," Maltin said, although even without this observation, it would have been obvious to most people in the audience. Depp was visibly nervous and fidgeted throughout the evening with his rings, hair, sunglasses and, most notably, his black and white HUF Plantlife socks. For much of the first portion of the interview, he stared down at his hands, peering sideways at Maltin or up at the audience to see if one of his numerous jokes got the right reaction.

For the most part they did, although some of his more bizarre jokes were lost on Maltin, and this seemed to boost his confidence. By the time Maltin and Depp were halfway through their hour-and-a-half long interview, Depp's body language had opened up. He was looking at and interacting with the audience more, affectionately imitating former co-stars and, on two occasions, gesturing so enthusiastically that he knocked his own microphone. Depp even joked, un-annoyed, with the one bizarre heckler of the evening, who told the actor to "grow more things."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

SBIFF Producers and Writers Panel

Frank Horne
Asst. Artsweek Editor

Producers Panel

Santa Barbara International Film Festival (SBIFF) always manages to draw an engaging assortment of industry professionals to speak on the ins and outs of their trade, which is most likely at least partially due to the festival's snug proximity to the Academy Awards ceremony. A woman in line for the panels could be overheard speaking about how the San Francisco festival she's involved with gets a far shabbier turnout of celebrity guests than Santa Barbara's because it's after the Oscars. Indeed, every speaker on the back-to-back producers and writers panels is nominated for an Oscar this year, working on some levels to promote their films among the city's menagerie of retired Academy voters.

Though the writer's panel was, unsurprisingly, the more compelling of the two, the speakers on "Movers & Shakers," the producer's panel, shared some intriguing behind-the-scenes tidbits about their respective projects. Brooklyn's Finola Dwyer spoke on the challenges of transforming Montreal into 1950s New York, and Mary Parent of "The Revenant" similarly remarked on the magic of transcribing the 1820s American Midwest upon the isolated snowy peaks of Argentina. Parent also quipped that it was the first production she'd been on that set an electric fence up around the caterers to protect them from hungry bears; fortunately, everyone on set avoided Hugh Glass's grisly fate.

Both Jeremy Kleiner ("The Big Short") and Steve Golin ("Spotlight") discussed how their systematically challenging films are set to be screened for representatives of the very institutions they criticize, the former to a group of bipartisan congressmen, and the latter at the Vatican itself. On the topic of challenging institutions, the (all white) panelists very briefly, semi-awkwardly touched on the issue of the Oscars' lack of recognition of diverse talent. Kleiner shrewdly noted, "The Academy is at one end of a long chain of decision-making," scratching the surface of the overwhelming bias toward white involvement in all aspects of film industry production. While it's true that the Academy's nomination decisions take place at the far end of this chain, producers' roles are at the other; they acknowledged the problem without drawing any productive conclusions concerned with solving it.

Writers Panel

An hour and a half after the producers panel, every seat of downtown's historic Lobero Theatre filled up as the sold-out "It Starts with the Script," the festival's largest panel of screenwriters to date, started up. All but two of this year's 10 writing Oscar nominees took the stage to share insightful perspectives on their content and their craft.

Pixar legend Pete Docter ("Toy Story," "Monsters Inc.," "WALL-E," "Up") explained how, often, the crux of a story doesn't materialize until well into the writing process. He described coming upon a storyboarder's sketch of the characters

Joy and Sadness hugging, with the inscription "embrace sadness." "Wow," Docter relayed, "that's the movie!" That small incident led him to the film's central theme: "the deeper happiness that comes from its relationship with sadness." "Ex Machina's" writer-director Alex Garland expressed similar structural perceptions. "Stories are like maths in some respects," he noted. "The equation might just not work." His observations on managing the intricately balanced ecosystem of a story drew murmurs and nods of assent from the rest of the panelists. He said that once you'd worked out and balanced issues in a script, "it's not like the problems are gone, but they've settled, like all the spikes have gone down."

The writers went on to discuss thoroughly the nature of adaptation. Emma Donaghue wrote "Room," an adaptation of her own novel, and found it "hugely satisfying to take this story and tell it over again." She was especially delighted in seeing her characters have physical bodies, capable of expressing human subtleties words themselves can't sufficiently describe. Donaghue also brought up a difference between film and novel writing that rang with veracity for her fellow writers, in that "A book has so much more room, so much more time ... Film has this narrative thrust; it moves forward." Jonathan Herman, writer of "Straight Outta Compton," sardonically joked, "I understand why they hired me, 'cause I'm a white, Jewish gay guy from Connecticut." In adapting NWA's story for the screen, he noticed a "Rashomon" thing going on, with Ice Cube, Dr. Dre and Eazy-E's widow,

Tomica Wright, all reporting conflicting versions of the story. In addition to struggling to capture a semblance of true events, Herman faced a hurdle in convincing hip hop mogul Ice Cube to be comfortable with his character exhibiting moments of weakness. "This is the way a movie goes," Herman explained. "You gotta have a low point and some vulnerability so you can come back from it, you gotta have an arc — the audience will like you more that way."

"The Big Short's" Charles Randolph shared perhaps the most engaging perceptions on the panel. Regarding his emotional standpoint while writing the film, Randolph explained that he was disheartened by the events of 2008, as he'd "always had this nagging feeling that our system was fair, that there was a tangible connection between success and moral goodness." He embellished on "Short's" use of narration and cutaways to break down its economic jargon, used by influential bankers to "obfuscate and hide and empower themselves." The techniques also added to the film a "meta layer which not only described the things, but gave the audience something beyond the characters to connect with." Aside from the probing intellectual discussion, Randolph admitted to slacking off as much as anyone else. He agreed with Josh Singer's ("Spotlight") praise of research, adding, "The great thing about research is you can just read the most obscure crap and think at the end of the day that you did something."

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

SBIFF American Riviera Award

Phi Do
Reporter

From a Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Ensemble to Academy nominations for Best Supporting Actor and Actress, the cast of "Spotlight" has enjoyed several accolades and endless recognition. Their legacy continued on Friday, Feb. 5 through the bestowment of the Santa Barbara International Film Festival's (SBIFF) 2016 American Riviera Award to stars Michael Keaton, Rachel McAdams and Mark Ruffalo. Presented by co-writer/director Tom McCarthy, the award not only honors the careers of these actors, but also highlights the film as a love letter to investigative journalism and proves its necessity in society.

"These towns, these local communities, these cities ... [they] need strong investigative journalism," McCarthy told *The Daily Nexus*. "They need some institution (i.e. the paper there) holding powerful individuals accountable."

Underlying the explicit exposé narrative is a message stressing the peril of investigative journalism, the media's heartbeat that is often regarded as our democracy's fourth pillar to keep those with power in check.

In today's Internet age, employment cuts within the newsroom are hardly surprising. Surveys by the American Society of News Editors and the Pew Research Center estimate a 36 percent decline in daily newspaper editorial jobs since their peak in 1989.

The state of investigative journalism is even more worrying. With the exorbitant amount of time and intricate research required to expose an issue, not to mention potential dead ends and legal battles, investigative writers are often the first to go. Reputable papers with award-winning investigative reporting projects such as Denver-serving Rocky Mountain News and national publications

Newsweek and *Time* have either closed up shop or laid off several of these reporters.

"Spotlight" begs to differ. A film following four investigative journalists and their uncovering of a widespread scandal concerning child sex abuse and cover-up within the Roman Catholic Church, it takes a stand for justice and for reporting that won't tolerate abuse by power-wielding individuals and institutions.

"Spotlight" has given a voice to all the survivors and has become a call to action for pursuing justice around the world in regards to this issue," Ruffalo, who was a late cancellation due to personal family matters as he revealed in an apologetic and appreciative video message that kicked off the event, said. "And being part of a truly beautiful ensemble cast with real chemistry was such a phenomenal experience for me and such a rare experience."

The film has had an incredible and poignant impact on the people, institutions and stories it portrays. On Feb. 4, a Vatican commission on clerical sex abuse held a private screening of "Spotlight" on the eve of its three-day meeting at a church residence in central Rome. The day before, SBIFF's Executive Director Roger Durling himself published a column in *The Hollywood Reporter*, opening up about his traumatic experiences as a victim of priest child abuse and how movies saved his life by allowing him to feel vindicated. It's a notion he continued to uphold as he moderated a discussion between Keaton, who plays editor Walter "Robby" Robinson, and McAdams, who portrays reporter Sacha Pfeiffer.

"Film can help us not to feel alone because we're all in the dark experiencing the same emotions and same things that are being projected on the screen," Durling said. "What's amazing about 'Spotlight' to me is that it's more than just a film — it's a cry of victory."

When asked if she knew what the outcome of

the film would be, McAdams expressed that she didn't. Though she was shocked at first when she realized how little she knew about the issue, she also recognized the need to tell the story.

"The more I got into it, the more I realized you sort of can't tell the story enough," McAdams said. "So it became a no brainer to do it regardless of the outcome, and I'm so grateful that this is the outcome."

The evening took a trip down memory lane with McAdams's and Keaton's careers, exploring through clips of the actors' memorable films, from "Mean Girls" to "Birdman." Both stars have played an array of roles, but still manage to maintain honesty in approaching their characters, Durling notes, particularly praising McAdams's empathetic yet driven interviewing method with the victims in "Spotlight."

"I really took the lead from Sacha herself because Sacha is such an incredible listener," McAdams said. "She just has an amazing ability to get people to open up."

Keaton, for his part, spent a lot of time with Robby in order to nail his character, keeping a keen eye on his mannerisms, his Boston accent and the solid way he held himself. However, he could neither predict the depth nor wide-ranging scope of the film's significance.

"In terms of its impact, one would be, I think, presumptuous and extremely egotistical to think anything more than this is just a good thing to be a part of," Keaton said. "You just go and do your best."

Keaton's own impressive filmography includes two others — Ron Howard's "The Paper" and Mick Jackson's "Live from Baghdad" — in which he also plays the role of a reporter. A self-described news junkie, Keaton had once considered journalism as a career (having taken one or two classes in college), and though he settled on acting, he never

lost his journalistic curiosity.

"When you're dealing with news or journalism, which for me makes it exciting not just as an actor but also in life, it's humming," Keaton said. "There's a frequency. When something's reverberating, you can feel it because it's true."

Sure enough, the newsrooms drew Keaton back in as he relayed his plan to head back to his hometown of Pittsburg with Robinson to speak to the staff of the Pittsburg Post-Gazette as well as screen "Spotlight" and help fundraise for the paper.

"They've got a great editor there who I think was at The Boston Globe," Keaton said. "And he's trying not to lay people off."

This situation plays out all newsrooms with editors desperate to keep their staff intact amidst dwindling funds and readership. Indeed, "Spotlight" itself addresses this issue when newly hired editor Marty Baron (Liev Schreiber) of *The Boston Globe* expresses his concern to Walter "Robby" Robinson (Michael Keaton) about declining subscription numbers and the Internet's breach and disrupt of the classified business.

"So you anticipate more cuts?" Robby asks.

"I would assume so, yes, but what I'm more focused on right now is finding a way to make this paper essential to its readers," Baron answers.

"I like to think it already is."

"Fair enough. I just think we can do better."

Unfortunately, that's a conundrum with no easy fix. After more than a decade of news media decline and many attempts later, we are still searching for ways to "do better." Furthermore, most child sexual abuses don't end with just an exposé; society constantly needs watchdog journalists to follow up. That's a tall order now, as many newsrooms in America are being held together by only shoestrings and bandages.

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Sweet Smarts About Sweethearts

Rae Ann Verona
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is fast approaching. Walk through store aisles and you'll find a plethora of red and pink cards, bears, balloons, chocolate boxes and other items with lovey-dovey messages transferred on them. Somewhere among the merchandise, you'll be sure to find that familiar package of Sweethearts, also known as Conversation Hearts. For over a century, these kitschy candies have been given as gifts of appreciation and love. For me, Sweethearts bring me back to my elementary years of Valentine's Day candy grams where more than one student would drop a package in every classmate's box.

The history of Sweethearts dates back to

1847 in Boston to an Englishman by the name of Oliver Chase who worked in a drug store making lozenges. Back then, when lozenges were all the rage, Chase invented and patented a lozenge cutter that cut lozenges, pulverized sugar and inadvertently became the first candy machine maker. He eventually started one of the United States' oldest and longest running candy company, the New England Confectionary Company, or "Necco." Originally, the candies were in the shape of scallop shells and the messages printed on colored paper and tucked inside them kind of like a fortune cookie. In 1866, Chase's brother Daniel came up with a machine that stamped words directly onto candy using red vegetable dye. The candies then were much bigger and were able to accommodate longer messages. This made them especially popular for weddings with messages like, "marry in pink, he'll take a drink" or "married in white, you have chosen right." By the early 1900s, the shapes of shells, horse-shoes and baseballs turned into hearts. As popularity of the hearts grew, the messages got shorter. For 150 years, what was first a novelty of tiny, motto-printed colored hearts has become a sentimental tradition with their image

recognized by almost anyone. They've become part of popular culture with appearances in shows like "The Simpsons," video games such as *World of Warcraft*, on clothing and accessories and on soaps among many other things.

Despite being around for over a century, the candy hearts have gone through relatively minimal changes. Ingredients are still mixed into a dough, flattened, cut, stamped and dried, turning out billions of colorful hearts per year. Many of their messages like “Be Mine” and “Sweet Talk” remain popular, while some of them have been retired. To keep current, new messages have made appearances and retired throughout the years with timely messages such as “Fax Me,” “Groovy” and “Hep Cat.” The ever-popular social media phrase “Tweet Me” was once a hit. Necco even had a *Twilight* series with phrases like “Bite Me,” “Live 4 Ever” and “Dazzle.” There’s no telling when we’ll start seeing words like “Bae” or phrases like “On Fleek” or “I Can’t Even” on our candy hearts, but the company does currently allow people to customize their own words and phrases for more personalized messages.



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The flavors haven't changed much either since experimentations with new ones caused a lot of upset among fans. While the original flavors continue to be favorites, different varieties are available, including Dazzled Tart which are the more tart and sour flavors, Sugar Free for those that are limiting their sugar intake and Chocolate. Non-flavor-related variations include "En Español" which contain messages in Spanish and Color Your Own which consists of the original flavored hearts in a black-and-white box that younger fans, ages 5-12, can design and submit to Necco's annual Color Your Own Sweethearts Contest for a chance to create a phrase to be included for the following year's mix.



RAE ANN VERONA / DAILY NEXUS

Romantic Getaway to Cold Spring Tavern

Kelli Filbin
Reporter

Feb. 14, a day to take chances with your crush, to shower your significant other with undying love and even treat yourself with something special. A 24-hour period where being cheesy is encouraged and skipping along the streets and plucking flowers isn't looked upon as abnormal. The sun sparkles brighter, the gentle breeze blows kisses into the air and hearts spark with an inevitable glow. Couples prance along the grass, with fingers entwined and heart-shaped eyes. Children beam with laughter and sink their teeth into bite-sized chocolates laced with ribbons of gooey caramel. Vibrant flowers and fuzzy bees dance on the outskirts of a thousand picnics. Life-sized teddy bears and colorful cards are constantly being tugged off the store shelves. Just as it seems that the 24 hours will never disappear, couples flounce to their dinner reservations and wind down the day with a glass of wine and a meal to warm their hearts for the rest of the evening. With a fresh red rose and flickering candle at the table, Valentine's Day offers couples the fairy tale ending they have always dreamt of.

To all those lovebirds, soul mates and newly discovered romances, I have the perfect restaurant for you and your partner-in-crime that will leave you both happier and even more in love than ever before!

Just last year, my boyfriend surprised me moments before dinner with a reservation for us that Valentine's Day evening. Having only been dating for about a month, I had no clue what kind of dinner I was getting myself into but trusting him, I, of course, said yes.

I strolled down the stairs in black patent pumps and a sleek black dress paired with a rose embellished kimono as my boyfriend arrived to pick me up. I ducked my head as I crawled into the passenger seat and he clicked the door behind me. It must have been

at least 20 minutes winding up through the mountains past Santa Barbara. Gusts of wind smelling of rich oak trees wisped through my hair and the tunes of Coldplay left a trail twirling behind us. As we finally parked the car on the sandy stretches alongside the road, the sight of the Cold Spring Tavern restaurant blew me away. He had picked a world winner of a restaurant. We must have trav-



Photo Courtesy of restaurantdiningcritiques.com

eled back in time to the 1800s because large wooden wagon wheels were planted out front with a rocky creek flowing outdoors and dimly lit lanterns surrounding the restaurant.

The Cold Spring Tavern is located on highway 154, The San Marcos Pass that lies a close distance to our beloved Isla Vista. With its rustic setting, it brings people back 130 years to a time easily imaginable in this atmosphere. This cherished restaurant has

been chosen as the best place for a romantic getaway in California. You may want to have something handy for a potential celebrity to autograph because multiple movie and television stars have come to join the experience of time travel. A few steps away from the restaurant, small bands come to perform in a tiny little shack and bar which truly enriches the rustic atmosphere that customers of the Cold Spring Tavern can really immerse themselves in.

As the hostess guided us to our table indoors, we took a seat and noticed a crystal vase filled with a luscious red rose, as well as a dimly lit lantern radiating onto our menus. While munching on soft, warm garlic-basil bread, we hunted through the entire menu: charbroiled tiger shrimp, sautéed duck breast, barbeque baby back pork ribs, New Zealand rack of lamb, buffalo burger, etc. Eventually, we selected an appetizer of Baked Artichoke Hearts that lied in a cushion of melted Jack cheese, sundried tomatoes and garlic cream. To follow up, we ordered an entrée of rabbit loin (layered with wild mushrooms and garlic and stuffed with rabbit mousse) to share. As our orders arrived on steaming fresh plates, the flavors of cheesy garlic artichokes and tender zesty rabbit swirled around our taste buds and sunk into our stomachs with the perfect amount of warmth and succulence. Sides of seasonal sautéed vegetables and garlic mashed potatoes lay delicately next to our entrées and released fresh swirls of steam that warmed our noses. The overload of delectable spices and textures put our conversation on hold. With the final bite of the meal and a splash of ice-cold water, we laid down the tip and strutted out the exit with already a nostalgic desire to return again.

Despite the increase of prices on this lovely holiday, each bite was savored and remembered to this day. No kidding, we are considering the Cold Spring Tavern to be a tradition for every Valentine's Day. So hurry now and book your fairy tale reservations for an unforgettable magical night with the one you love!

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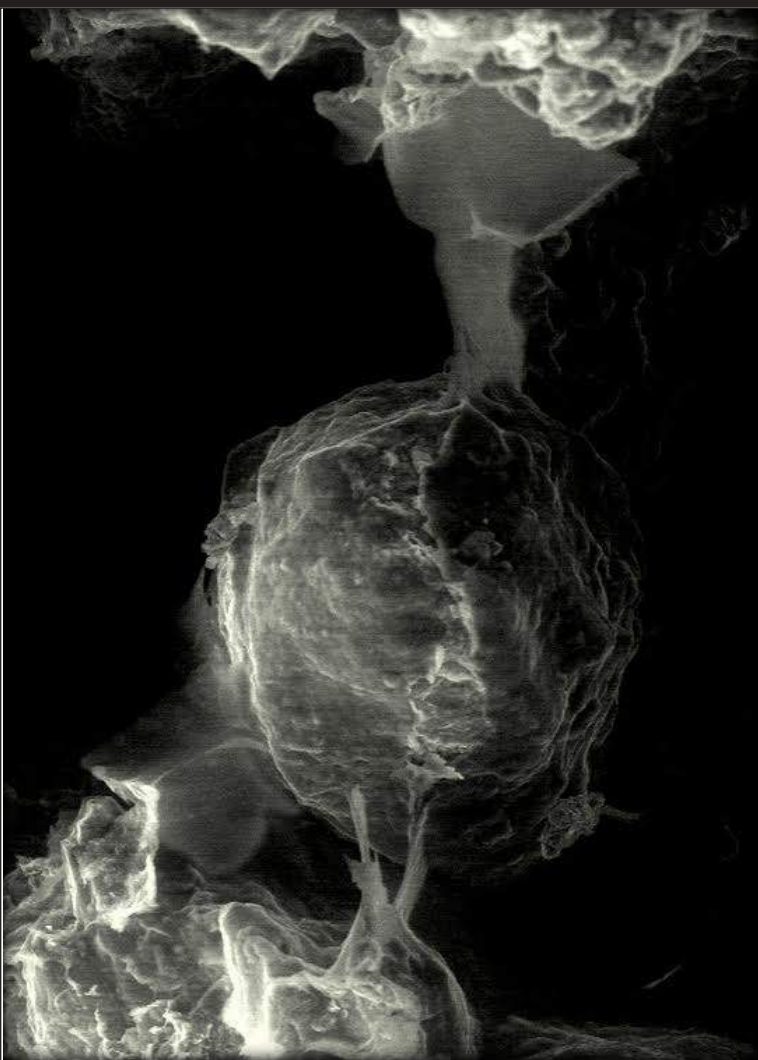


Image courtesy of Joseph Blankinship and Sage Davis

Title: Designing Dirt, Second Place Winner

Nature's best glue comes from bacteria. In this image, strands of bacteria-derived xanthan glue (at bottom) together large aggregates of soil. By encouraging bacteria to secrete these glues, we are exploring soil-based solutions for making California agriculture more adapted to drought and future climate change.



Image courtesy of Tyler Ray

Title: The Badlands



Image courtesy of Preeti Ovarthaiyapong

Title: Ocean Form

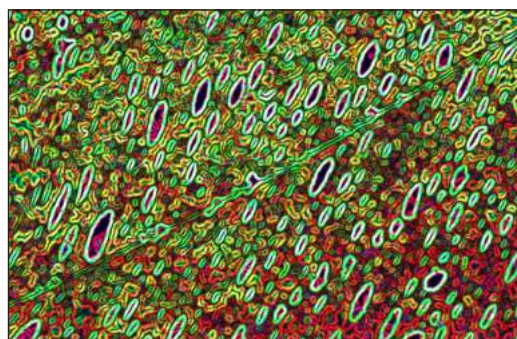


Image courtesy of Dong Woog Lee and Nicholas Cadrov

Title: Lipid Domains 2: Invasion of the lipid domains

Science Through the Lens of an Artist

Natalie Overton
Staff Writer

At first glance, the whirling, shimmering zigzags of color seem like a modern tech-art combination — so distant from their roots in the detailed scientific processes that inspired them. These works of art are abstractions of scientific concepts, brought to the forefront of UCSB's art and science communities by the new Art of Science competition. This program was launched in 2012 as a platform for the intersection of the Arts and the Sciences. The co-organizers of this competition are: Arica Lubin, Jon Schuller and Wendy Ibsen.

Schuller is a professor in electrical and computer engineering here at UCSB, and is currently very much a part of the research world. Ever since graduate school, Jon was fascinated by the intersection between art and science.

"The contest captures this idea that scientists play around, take these pictures and are inspired by them. It's not necessarily just a bunch of people standing at a chalkboard solving equations," Schuller said. "I wanted to find a way to give people an exposure to science that's different from the normal approach."

So upon arriving at UCSB in 2012, he hit the ground running with the motivation for the project, and approached Lubin and Ibsen with a proposition.

Throughout Lubin's scientific career, she has always surrounded herself with the arts.

"I have never let go of the artistic part of me, and I think it's actually really important in the work that I've done as a scientist. I really like being able to be creative in a different way," Lubin said.

She has left research and is now focused on creating educational programs. "Art of science is the best of both worlds. I think it encourages researchers to share the imagination that is inherent to their research process with the public audience," Lubin said. "This forces them to think about ways

they can make their research accessible and ways to communicate complex concepts to the broader population."

She and Ibsen had been talking for a while about how many artistic students studying science weren't recognized or celebrated.

"Using art or visual imagery to tell the story of complex ideas and new discoveries is a really effective way of explaining your research to an audience," Lubin said.

The trio started on the project right away. In 2013, before moving to the downtown museum, the first groups of submissions were on display at the UCSB library. The competition is now supported by the California NanoSystems Institute and Schuller's NSF career award.

Lubin called attention to the psychological benefits of linking the two fields, citing research on Nobel Prize winners and other scientists who were adopted into scientific societies and their record of being involved in the arts. There was a direct correlation.

"Nobel Prize winners actually showed a higher level of artistic ability than did those elected into scientific societies, than did those in the general public," Lubin said. "If you think about it, when we're wanting to solve what we see as society's largest problems, to create new inventions, why wouldn't we use the majority of our capacity?"

According to Schuller, there is a gap in understanding with no bridge to connect the public to the scientific world in a real way.

"I don't think most people really have any sense about what it is that a scientist does. It's more than just in terms of artists and scientists not interacting together. It's about scientists and the general public. I think this is a nice way to illustrate some of the things that are going on without getting bogged down in technical details," Schuller said.

For some final words of inspiration, I leave you with Lubin's reminder: "There's such emphasis on science and engineering and technology in this very narrow perspective. I think it's important not to lose sight of what's created all of those innovations and the discoveries, and allowed our society to flourish the way it has."

Laying Down the Roots of S.T.E.M. Education

Stephanie Pernet
Reporter

"Science is more than a school subject or the periodic table or the properties of waves; it is an approach to the world, a critical way to understand and explore and engage with the world, and then have the capacity to change that world."

In this quote, President Barack Obama brings to light the fact that learning in science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.) plays an enormous role in our world today. Making S.T.E.M. education accessible to all groups and kinds of students is a work in progress; however, researchers at UC Santa Barbara's Gevirtz Graduate School of Education (GGSE) are investigating ways to close the gap between S.T.E.M. education and underrepresented students, specifically those with learning disabilities.

Professor Michael Gerber, associate professor Michael Gottfried and assistant professor Diana J. Arya, all of whom are from the GGSE invited leading scholars and educators from across the U.S. and Canada to participate in "Advancing Individual Differences Research on STEM learning opportunities: A National Conference." A variety of fields were represented in presentations and discussions related to the neglect of and potential actions for individuals with learning disabilities in S.T.E.M. education.

Researchers in special education, literacy, policy, organization and history were present at the conference that took place from Jan. 13-15. In addition, S.T.E.M. educators in math, science and engineering attended. Kindergarten through 12th grade was represented, and issues in higher education were addressed.

According to Arya, bringing in such diversity to the conference is beneficial.

"[There are] different kinds of information that we get depending on how we research the issues of S.T.E.M. education and underrepresented populations. We see our work as complementary for gaining a full understanding the issues and potential resources, and also moving forward to new research opportunities. We learn so much when investigating small groups or single cases, and we also gain valuable information from large-scale investigations. So, all the information we get from such varied practices informs each other's understanding on these issues," Arya said.

With the federal government creating efforts to improve S.T.E.M. education, this conference, funded by the American Educational Research Association, is another step in the process that makes S.T.E.M. education accessible for students who are traditionally underrepresented — particularly students with individual differences.

"Really, S.T.E.M. is for all of us," Arya said. "We're living in a scientific age. Exposing all students to stem issues and education helps our entire society to become more knowledgeable and critical consumers of scientific knowledge."

Data from the Obama administration reveals that 81 percent of Asian-American high school students and 71 percent of white high school students attend a school where the full range of math and science courses are offered. The percentages drop significantly for students of other backgrounds.

"Ultimately, research will focus on: 'How can we make these experiences more accessible so that all kids have an equal chance at learning?'" Gottfried, co-organizer of the event, said.

While the National Science Foundation has been turning its attention to programs that support students with individual differences, Arya also believes that early childhood exposure increases the likelihood of developing interests in S.T.E.M.

"What helps is early, early, early, exposure to S.T.E.M. The earlier we start in a child's experience, the more likely they are going to want to pursue an education in S.T.E.M.," Arya said.

It will definitely take time for educators and researchers to come up with ways on how to close the gap between a S.T.E.M. education and student differences in learning. However, Arya has hope for the future.

"I think that there are different ways that we can study the problem and we're planning for future conferences that will facilitate even deeper discussions about potential programs and projects," Arya said. "There are new ways in which we capture and study large-scale data and there are continued ways we can study on a more micro-scale. As we develop new ways to engage in research, maybe we can get real solids facts on what particular funds of knowledge and resources are crucial for supporting a S.T.E.M. identity, a S.T.E.M. study pursuit, regardless of cultural, linguistic or learning differences."



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ACROSS

- 1 Insect stage
- 6 Sink down in the middle
- 9 Heavy haulers
- 14 Not quite spherical
- 15 Single
- 16 Mild-mannered reporter Kent
- 17 Tennis court official
- 19 Overzealous type
- 20 Point after deuce
- 21 More narcissistic
- 23 Asian New Year
- 24 Harbor long-term resentment
- 27 Portuguese explorer Vasco
- 30 Open court hearing, in law
- 31 News org.
- 32 Construction zone cones
- 36 Earth-orbiting Gagarin
- 39 Birds that symbolize peace
- 41 Right, vis-à-vis left: Abbr.
- 42 Early PC interface
- 43 Glasses, in ads
- 44 More than mono
- 46 Workout facility
- 47 Water, in Juárez
- 49 Amazingly enough
- 51 Creamy confection
- 56 End of a prof's URL
- 57 Type of vegetable oil
- 58 Yucky muck
- 62 Soup scoop
- 64 "Stay put!"
- 66 Partner of vim
- 67 Seventh Greek letter
- 68 Love, to Luciano
- 69 Length-times-width calculations
- 70 Opposite of NNW
- 71 Yankee shortstop Jeter who announced he will retire at the end of 2014

DOWN

- 1 Whatever she wants, she gets
- 2 Zealous
- 3 Rice-A-
- 4 Capital of Austria

- 5 Wd. modifying a noun
- 6 Dr Pepper and Dr. Brown's
- 7 1973 Rolling Stones ballad
- 8 Davis of "A League of Their Own"
- 9 Move like a squirrel
- 10 Right-angle bend
- 11 Political commentator with an Internet "Report"
- 12 Discount rack abbr.
- 13 Glide on ice
- 18 Sunlamp danger, briefly
- 22 Narcissists have big ones
- 25 Men pocketing baseballs
- 26 Sometimes-illegal turns, for short
- 27 Fizzling firecrackers
- 28 Each
- 29 Push gently
- 33 Valet's purview
- 34 Not shut, poetically

- 35 "All Things Considered" airer
- 37 Rogers and Clark
- 38 Beliefs
- 40 WWII vet, say
- 42 Synthesizer pioneer
- 44 Room in una casa
- 45 Conclude by
- 48 Stomach ailments
- 50 Lentil or pea

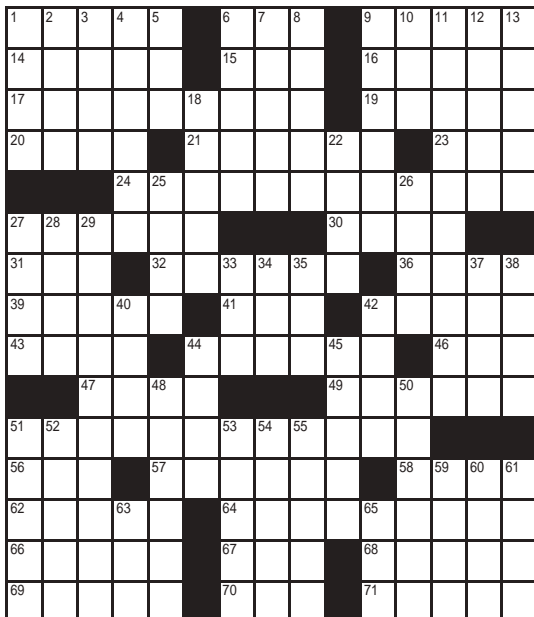
- 51 Aqua ___: aftershave brand
- 52 Firefighter Red
- 53 South American range
- 54 Pays, as the bill
- 55 Radii-paralleling bones
- 59 Skunk's defense
- 60 Fairy tale fiend
- 61 Eye on the sly
- 63 Hawaii's Mauna ___
- 65 Terrible

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	T	A	R	K	I	S	T		C	R	E	M	A
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xwordeditor@aol.com

03/31/14



By Ed Sessa

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Art Must Be submitted By February 25th
All entries will have a chance to make it on the site!
All art on the site will earn \$ Cash \$ every time your art sells!!!

Check out all the details at the above address!!
You Must Include Downloadable Contract W/ Art Entry

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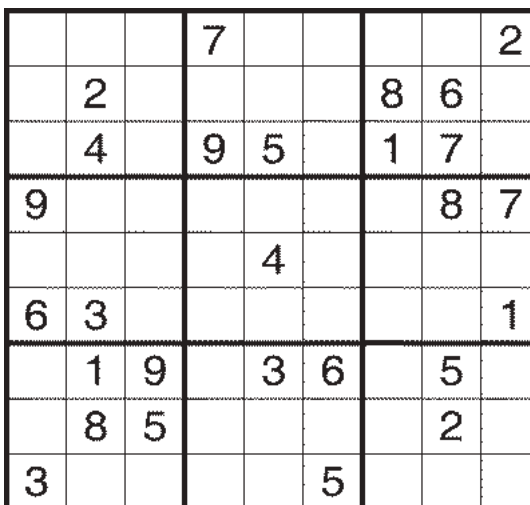
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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE 3/31/14

6	5	9	8	1	2	7	3	4
1	3	4	9	5	7	8	2	6
7	2	8	6	4	3	9	1	5
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Complete the grid
so each row,
column and
3-by-3 box
(in bold borders)
contains every
digit, 1 to 9.
For strategies on
how to solve
Sudoku, visit
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DAILY HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 6 -- You're thinking about romance and beauty. Imagine the possibilities. Let a family member handle a problem at home. Delegate a task you hate. Connect with someone interesting. Add some spice to the package. Slow down to get farther.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 5 -- Take short term, local actions, without force. Paying dues leads to more income. Make a list of what you need. Let someone else win an argument. Being right provides no satisfaction. Patience and flexibility allow greater ease.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 5 -- Make love, not war. Be careful with sharp instruments. Argue privately, if you must. Your attentions linger close to home. Resist the temptation to spend frivolously. Talk to friends for consensus. Share from your heart.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Change your work habits. A new trick doesn't work, and it could cause a breakdown. Postpone chores, and put in the correction. Make a key decision, and a good impression. Tell friends you'll see them later.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Don't save in a sieve. Study the situation. There's another possible problem here. Be prepared for physical labor, with discipline. Revise the language to suit the audience. Reward yourself... fall in love all over again.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 5 -- Don't rush into anything. You're building your family fortune, and things don't go as planned. New problems develop. Avoid reckless spending. Make sure all the pieces fit. Stash valuables in a safe place. Concentrate on your love.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Unexpected situations arise, and actions seem to deviate from the itinerary. Revise agreements. Sell more to old clients. Your popularity is growing. Take it slow and easy with travel and big expense. Partnership provides the key.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Take care of your mind, body and spirit. Pursue peace and privacy with inexpensive pleasures, like tea under a tree, or fragrant bath crystals. Restore your energies. Let your emotions flow naturally. Love your lover.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Play to see who can have the most fun while managing urgencies. Delegate what you can. Pamper yourself. Take it slow, especially around sharp corners. You feel loved and appreciated. Be nice. Share popcorn at family game night.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 6 -- Proceed with caution, one step at a time. Don't get stopped by old fears, but don't rush, either. Get something for your home. Take time to hear everyone's considerations. Repay a favor with delicious flavors.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 5 -- Consider the consequences before diving into action. Wait for more data. Think it over, and figure the costs. The more you learn, the better you look. Craft the message with care. Create something of beauty.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Take small, persistent actions close to home. Little profits add up, and cash flow arises through community connections. Challenge authority, respectfully. A smile dissolves a confrontation. Make a request. Hold onto your winnings. Your love returns magnified.

OPINION

OPINION@DAILYNEXUS.COM

The Problem With Selective Politics

A couple days ago, it was reported that Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire and former mayor of New York City, is considering an independent bid for president. While many candidates have tried (and failed) to run as an independent, the possibility of a successful independent candidate seems likelier than ever. On one side, there is Trump, an extreme far-right candidate calling for a ban on Muslim travel and the construction of a wall across the U.S. border. On the other, there is Bernie Sanders, an extreme far-left candidate and admitted socialist calling for higher taxes and the punishment of large Wall Street financial institutions. If Bernie wins over Hillary, a promising independent bid may be possible. There will likely be many voters unwilling to choose between the extreme right and the extreme left. These voters will undoubtedly prefer a more politically central independent candidate.

A few months ago, I wrote an article entitled "The Power of Polarization." In it, I argued that the biggest problem facing America today is not what you would expect it to be. It's not gun laws, immigration laws or climate change. It's polarization. It's the fact that our nation is divided and is being pulled apart by a society that says we only have two choices: Republican or Democrat. Naturally, one would assume that I would be ecstatic at the potential of a viable independent candidate. After all, if we add one more party into the mix, we will at least have some middle ground to choose from. We won't be forced to choose between a far-right and a far-left candidate. I agree with this logic. In fact, I would prefer there to be a feasible independent candidate, no matter what the circumstances. Even if the candidate has absolutely no chance at winning, at least people will begin to see that there are more than two political flavors.

Unfortunately, there is a deeper problem at hand here — one that we have to address just as much as we have to address polarization.

That problem is selective politics.

Michael Bloomberg became mayor of New York in 2001, running as a Republican candidate. However, before he was a Republican candidate, he was a Democrat. He switched parties not because his beliefs changed, but because he was more likely to win as a Republican. And now

he is doing it again. He has registered as an independent candidate, not because he believes in independent ideology but because that is what is strategic. There is a stereotype out there that all politicians are liars, but when you see a candidate switch parties just in time for a political race, then not only are they lying, they're not even trying to hide the fact that they are lying.

Bloomberg isn't the only one guilty of this. The two major candidates this year — Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump — are just as politically selective, if not more. For example, before 1968 Hillary Clinton was a Republican. While this was a long time ago and she very well could have

had a political change of heart, Clinton has flip-flopped on several key issues, changing her opinions at the most opportune times. Clinton supported her husband's Defense of Marriage Act for years, but when support for gay marriage began to grow stronger, she came out in support of it. She supported the Trans-Pacific Partnership as secretary of state but is now against it as opposition to the deal has grown. She supported the Keystone XL Pipeline in 2010, and as criticism for the pipeline has cultivated, has changed her mind on the issue. As for Donald Trump, he was a registered Democrat from 2001 to 2008. He was once pro-choice and supported policies such as a heavy tax on wealth and government sponsored health-marts similar to Obamacare. He advocated for beliefs that he would demonize in a political debate today. He might seem like a stubborn, unapologetic candidate, but his constantly changing stances on major issues seem to suggest otherwise.

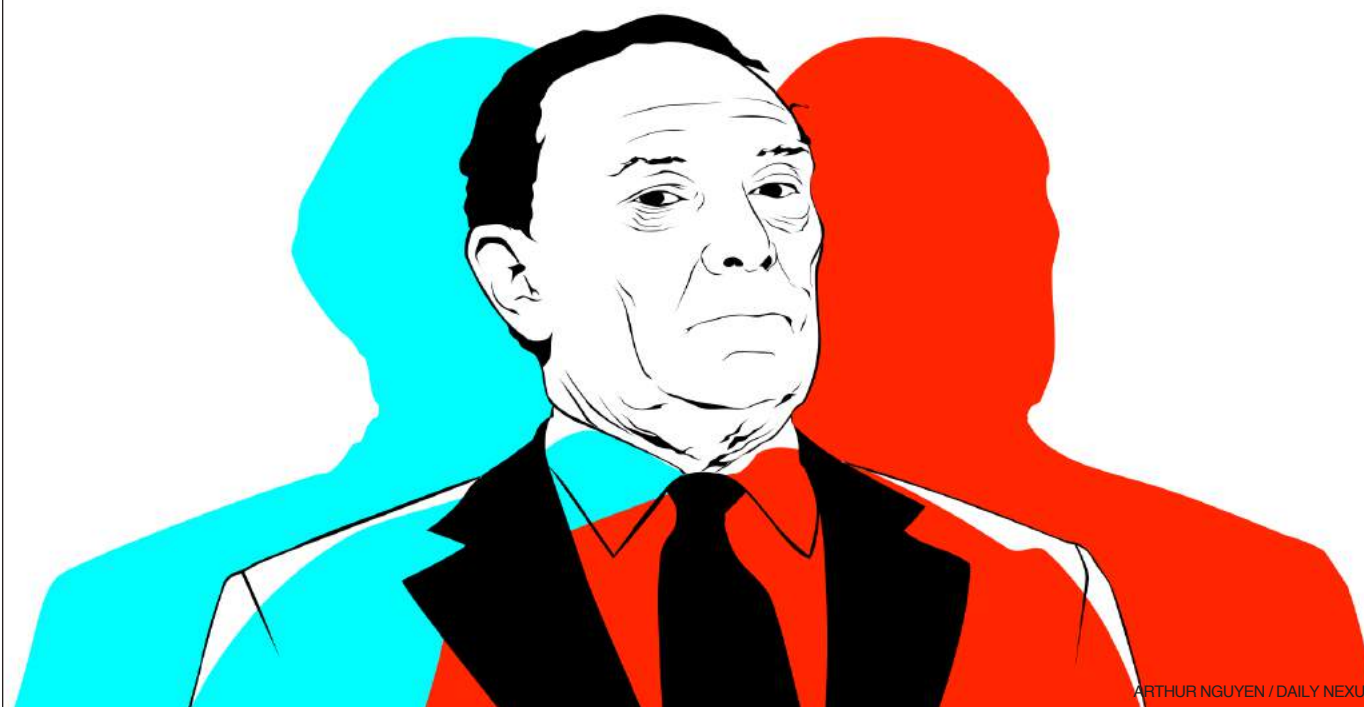
You might be asking yourself, why does any of this matter? Well, it matters because your vote matters. While a vote is, in part, a vote for an

individual and how qualified that individual is to be president, it is also a vote for the ideologies of that individual. Ideologies determine the candidate's policies, and policies define a presidency. Clinton, Trump and Bloomberg have flopped before, and they can do it again, president or not president. This is where the problem arises. This is why selective politics is so dangerous.

If you don't know what a candidate truly believes in, do you really know who you're voting for?

Hayden Plunkett hopes the only flip-flopers you are okay with are the ones on your feet when it's nice out.

???



ARTHUR NGUYEN / DAILY NEXUS