

## First North American Occurrence of Rare Hoodwinker Sunfish Discovered on I.V. Beach

Jacqueline Wen  
Science & Tech Editor

Holy mola.

Recently a shocking, exciting discovery at the Santa Barbara beaches sent the scientific (and non-scientific) community abuzz.

The hoodwinker sunfish (*Mola tecta*) was found at UC Santa Barbara's Coal Oil Point Reserve when it washed in with the tide.

This marks the first ever sighting of this rare species in North America, and only the second in the Northern Hemisphere (The only other record of a hoodwinker in the Northern Hemisphere occurred in 1889 in Holland).

The fish's identification was confirmed by Marianne Nyegaard, the world's leading expert on the hoodwinker and discoverer of this species in 2017.

UC Santa Barbara staff aided in the hoodwinker's identification. Jessica Nielsen, a conservation specialist at Coal Oil Point Reserve, was alerted by an intern that the stranded fish had appeared at Sands Beach.

The general assumption was that it was likely an ocean sunfish (*Mola mola*), the only sunfish species that frequents the Santa Barbara Channel.

When Nielsen posted the news on the reserve's Facebook page, Thomas Turner, an associate professor in UCSB's Evolution, Ecology, and Marine Biology Department, decided to check out the sunfish up close. With his family, Turner went down to the beach. He took pictures of the unusual-looking fish and uploaded them to iNaturalist, a citizen science site which relies on crowdsourcing to identify submissions.

Across the world, Ralph Foster, an ichthyologist at the South Australian Museum, saw Turner's photos in iNaturalist.

"I was extremely surprised to find that the observation came from California and not New Zealand or Australia where previous records have originated," Foster wrote in an email.

Foster immediately contacted his collaborator, Nyegaard of Murdoch University in Australia, to inform her of the sighting.

"Ralph and I often discuss sunfish ID on the iNaturalist platform, but this one was absolutely extraordinary because Ralph asked if I thought it could be a hoodwinker - in California!! I was so absolutely totally sceptical, as I have many times before been excited by a 'hoodwinker' sighting in the

Northern Hemisphere, which then turned out to be just a *Mola mola* or *Mola alexandrini* photographed from a tricky angle," Nyegaard said via email.

While the body form of the Californian sunfish looked much like that of *Mola tecta*, the images didn't clearly show the diagnostic features they needed to positively identify it as a hoodwinker.

"I was therefore extremely reluctant [to identify it as a hoodwinker] and kept thinking I was being hoodwinked by this cheeky Californian fish," Nyegaard continued. "There are three species of *Mola*, and they can all look deceptively similar in that they all resemble outer-space alien fish modelled over a supersized pancake with wings."

The sure way to tell the different *Mola* species apart is to check the back flap, or clavus, where a normal fish's tail is, Nyegaard explained. The hoodwinker has a distinct clavus, with a strip of smooth skin dividing the clavus into an upper and lower part. Additionally, the *Mola tecta* has a low number of bony structures called ossicles on the clavus, different scale structures and a slimmer size.

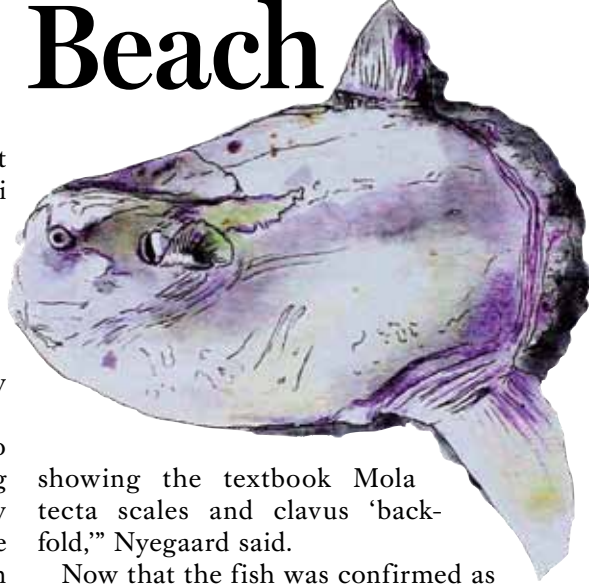
"As Marianne commented, the fish seemed determined not to give up its ID!" Foster said. "It was Tom Turner and Jessica Nielsen of UCSB who came to the rescue. Marianne arranged for them to revisit the specimen and examine and photograph the relevant features. But this relied on them being able to relocate it after the tide receded."

Turner went back to the beach at night to try to find the sunfish, only to realize it had floated away on the tide. "At this point, I'm thinking 'oh, man, we probably had this amazing discovery and we're never going to know for sure [what it is]," he said.

The following day at low tide, he and Nielsen started at Campus Point and Coal Oil Point, respectively, and converged. Sure enough, they found the missing fish, now at an Isla Vista beach. They took tissue samples and better-quality pictures of the mystery sunfish, which then allowed Nyegaard and Foster to definitively confirm it as a hoodwinker sunfish.

"The wait to hear if they were successful was nerve-racking but when the photos finally came through and the ID was beyond doubt, frustration turned to elation," Foster said.

"I was sitting on the edge of my chair that day here in New Zealand trying to be calm, but when their email with photos landed in my inbox I nearly fell off my chair. It was so unbelievably exciting and incredible! The photos were super clear and unambiguous,



showing the textbook *Mola tecta* scales and clavus 'back-fold,'" Nyegaard said.

Now that the fish was confirmed as a hoodwinker, the next question was how did it cross the equator and end up here?

The researchers speculate about whether this was simply a lost individual but aren't sure whether this happens regularly or was a one-time event.

"We've had to revise our ideas about where the hoodwinker may occur, however," Foster said.

Nyegaard's research indicates a temperate distribution in the Southern Hemisphere for this species. But with the *Mola tecta* having been formally described just in 2017, its distribution is not yet fully understood.

For now, Nyegaard will be using the tissue samples to compare the Californian hoodwinker to New Zealand hoodwinkers. With any luck, they may reveal the species' population structures, including where and when it spawns, and if gene flow exists across the regions where it is known to occur regularly (Southeast Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Chile and Peru).

Nyegaard, Foster and Turner all said they'll be keeping a keen eye on iNaturalist after this thrilling encounter.

"The whole episode is testament to the power of citizen science and what the 'connectedness' of the world allows you to do," Foster said. "To be able to rapidly arrange for a re-examination of diagnostic characters on the specimen, from halfway round the world, and have them reported back in real time is fantastic. Without this ability the fish would likely have passed unrecognized."

For Turner, it was "a fun, natural history discovery. It's been fascinating to see just how much interest there is in the story. It just goes to show you that people love biology, and I would encourage [people] to get on iNaturalist."

Nyegaard said, "It was really quite surreal - exactly 24 hours after being alerted to the existence of this fish, we had a solid ID from an impromptu collaboration between California, Australia and New Zealand. All thanks to iNaturalist and people's passion for the natural world and zest for adventure!"



Courtesy of Samantha Sanchez

## Multiple BSU Demands Fulfilled

Sofia Mejias Pascoe  
Asst. News Editor

Last October marked 50 years since the Black Student Union at UC Santa Barbara demanded the university take action to support the success of the Black student community.

Tuesday marks the fulfillment of some of Black Student Union's (BSU) primary goals in its demands throughout the years: the creation of an Office of Black Student Development at UCSB and a space on campus dedicated to Black students.

Chancellor Henry T. Yang sent a message to the BSU Demands Team yesterday, promising funding for BSU's eight proposed positions within the office, \$55,000 annually for BSU programs and that the university would "work toward the vision of a Center for Black Student Development over the next several years," according to the message.

These proposals were part of the most recent set of demands BSU released to the university in February, but built upon over 50 years of efforts from previous generations of BSU students.

For BSU President Mariyah Lewis and BSU Demands Team leader Samantha Sanchez, seeing the fulfillment of these demands warranted a moment for the two to pause from their efforts and celebrate.

"I cried for about two and a half hours," Sanchez said. The commitment the university made to the Black student community by fulfilling these demands speaks to a greater awareness of Black students and their unique needs as a student community on campus, Lewis said.

"It's a good feeling to say the least, to know the administration is pushing for us and striving for better support of Black students on campus," she added.

Yang said BSU's demands represent a vital aspect of university's commitments, which include "creating a culture that affirms the intrinsic dignity in each of us, celebrating differences, and making UC Santa Barbara an inclusive environment in which to live, work, and learn," he wrote in an email.

In an email to Black student groups and community members, Sanchez acknowledged the strides made by UCSB administrators in its support of Black students, noting that these commitments are a symbol of courage as well as progress toward equity.

"It takes strong leadership and courage on the behalf of administration to understand and implement a structure to repair those deficits and restore the Black community's faith in the education system. Today, our university administration displayed both this leadership and courage," Sanchez wrote.

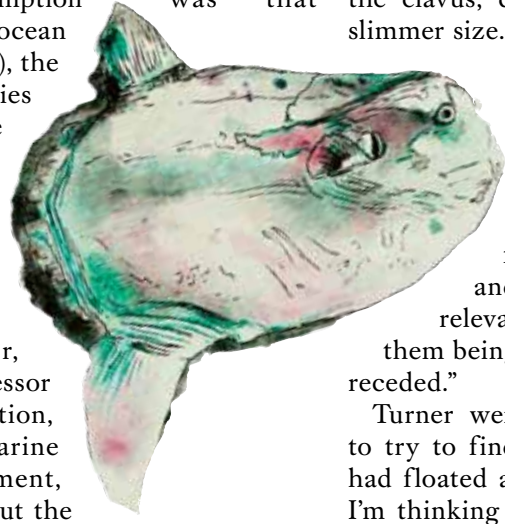
Moreover, Sanchez said the fruition of these demands will pave the way for "monumental initiatives across the UC system to create greater access to higher institutions of learning and overall achievement for Black people and people of color."

Sanchez said that the hiring process for positions in the Office of Black Student Development can start immediately. The positions will be developed within the Division of Student Affairs, and hiring will be led by BSU members and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Margaret Klawunn.

The positions within the office include a director, an assistant director, two academic support counselors, a recruitment and retention specialist, a coordinator of Black student life and two advocacy counselors. The budget for the positions totaled about \$900,000, according to BSU's list of demands, and will be provided by the Chancellor's Office.

But Lewis and Sanchez emphasized that their work to help the Black student community is not over. Changes are still needed within universities to create equity among minority student populations, and BSU is far from short of ideas for how this change can happen, Lewis said.

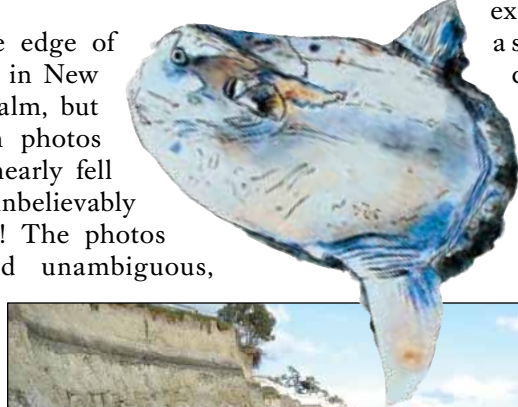
"There are so many more things that we can imagine."



COURTESY OF THOMAS TURNER



The Hoodwinker Sunfish found measured in at seven feet long.



Jessica Nielsen, conservation specialist for the Coal Oil Point Reserve, stands with the fish.

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# A.S. Book Bank Gains New Exposure



CAMERON HSIEH / DAILY NEXUS

Katherine Swartz  
Staff Writer

Students may pay up to hundreds of dollars a quarter for required textbooks; even renting textbooks from the campus bookstore or online adds up.

The Associated Students (A.S.) Book Bank is a student-run service that addresses this problem, offering thousands of textbooks – in all subjects – to loan for the entire quarter.

The Book Bank, located in the Annex across from Storke Tower, is in its fourth year of operation. The problem it faces, however, is a lack of awareness. Of the 2,495 books in the collection this quarter, only 97 were checked out.

Fourth-year communication majors Catherine Barber and Jonathan Lee are working to solve this problem.

Barber and Lee took Professor Walid Afifi's Social Marketing (COMM 168) course in Fall Quarter 2018, where students create proposals to resolve problems in the community.

"So my group in particular wanted to help reduce the cost of textbooks for students, just because a lot of students already have a lot of financial burden in their lives," Barber said.

"Our solution was to come up with some sort of textbook sharing program. But that led to us discovering the A.S. Book Bank."

Barber and Lee sent surveys to around 80 students while creating their proposal, and only one student mentioned the Book Bank by name. Both Barber and Lee were unaware of the Book Bank before they began this project.

"I literally knew nothing about the Book Bank," Lee said. "I didn't even know where the Annex was. That was another thing, we recognized that not a lot of people knew where the Annex was."

Once Barber and Lee heard about the Book Bank, they knew partnering with the organization would be the best way to solve the problem of high textbook prices.

"It's really different from other things that already exist on campus," Barber said.

The A.S. Book Bank is unique because students can check out books for an entire quarter without returning them. Other free options such as course reserves at Davidson Library limit students to two hours in the library with checked out textbooks.

Over the course of Fall Quarter 2018, Barber and Lee created a proposal to make students more aware of the Book Bank, which included updating their website and utilizing social media platforms.

"One of my frustrations with the course was seeing the work that students did, and not getting the chance to implement their work," Professor Afifi said.

Afifi sought to change that this year by introducing a Winter Quarter independent study course, Group Studies for Advanced

Students (COMM 194), where groups could actually implement their work from the fall.

Seven groups continued into winter, including three UCSB projects: the pop-up food bank, a transfer student connectivity program and the Book Bank marketing campaign. The other four projects focused on the broader community, showing the wide range of what students proposed in the class.

"The Book Bank project and the six others being implemented in this quarter provide a concrete example of what's possible from this class," Professor Afifi said.

As a result of the independent study course, Barber and Lee started implementing their ideas to improve the Book Bank at the beginning of the quarter.

"At the end of the quarter [Barber and Lee] asked to meet with me to tell us what they worked on," Katherin Jordan, fourth-year Director of the A.S. Book Bank, said.

The Book Bank's marketing plan is a collaborative process between Barber, Lee and Jordan. The three meet biweekly and regularly email about their plans.

"Pretty much everything Jonathan and I do, we run by [Jordan]. So we ask her what she needs, and she gives us ideas of what we can do. One of the main things she said she needed help with was marketing, and so that's kind of the main thing Jonathan and I have done," Barber said.

Their strategy for the Book Bank was to increase awareness of the program and make it easier for students to check out books.

To do so, Lee said he and Barber had created a new social media plan for the program.

"I post on Facebook and she posts on Instagram, and we have 100+ followers on Instagram and 300+ likes on our Facebook. Apparently people show up at the Book Bank asking about it all the time at the Annex now," Lee said. "The front desk person was like talking about how there are so many people that come by, and seeing an increase in that was really cool for us to see."

Barber and Lee also updated the website so that the entire catalog is online. Students can search by title or ISBN number, and the website will show whether the textbook is available or checked out. Students can then go to the Book Bank to fill out an order form and pick up their textbook for the quarter.

There are plans to expand the website in the future so students can check out books completely through the website.

"One of the things we're working on, which we haven't quite figured out yet, is making it so you can check out the book completely online. Right now, we're kind of working with the website and figuring out how to do that," Barber said.

Another main project of Barber and Lee's marketing campaign is to promote further growth of the Book Bank through book dona-

tion. The Book Bank will hold a book drive during finals week, where students can donate used textbooks.

The book drive is vital to the Book Bank's growth because of limits on where the Book Bank can purchase textbooks from. The Book Bank isn't allowed to purchase books from the Free & For Sale Facebook Page or from the book exchange, because every single purchase made requires a receipt.

"The books acquired have to be through donations or through purchasing books and actually receiving a receipt at legitimate websites or the publishers in general," Lee said.

There will be donation boxes for the Book Drive at the Multicultural Center, the Student Resource Building, the Pardall Center in Isla Vista and at the Book Bank.

"A lot of textbooks end up just sitting on people's shelves or they get thrown away or they get sold for like 99 cents. That's not doing anything to help anyone. So it's just really helpful to donate your textbooks to a good cause and help future students like you save money," Barber added.

The Book Bank's expansion in the future includes plans to depart from the Student Initiated Recruitment and Retention Committee (SIRRC) and become an independent entity.

"SIRRC has been a great supporter and one of the main reasons the Book Bank has stayed alive for this long," Jordan said. "As I started to work on improvements and future plans for the Book Bank, I realized that the Book Bank was outgrowing SIRRC and was ready to become a fully independent entity."

"With the Book Bank being its own, there comes a lot quicker turn around on projects... as well as more money being focused purely on the Book Bank projects and improvements to provide the best resources for students."

As Jordan, Barber and Lee are all seniors, they are looking for others to continue their work in the future. This led to the creation of the marketing intern position, where more than 80 students have already applied.

"We don't want this project to just be a winter quarter thing. The marketing intern would just kind of take on what Catherine and I are doing right now, in terms of running the Facebook, managing the website and the Instagram," Lee said.

The marketing intern would help spread awareness of the Book Bank after Barber, Lee and Jordan graduate.

"This is probably unreasonable, but I think our goal would be to have every student at least know about the Book Bank," Lee said.

"I wish I had known about it sooner, and so even freshmen coming in to discuss it the way people talk about the course reserves, that it would just be common knowledge, and that people would recognize that this is a resource available to them."

# Vista Point



## Weekly Events in Isla Vista

### Isla Vista Open Market

Need fresh air after being suffocated at that last house party? Look no further and make an appearance this weekend at the Isla Vista Open Market. Stop by Little Acorn Park this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to catch some rays and peruse an entire medley of secondhand goods. Vintage clothing, handmade jewelry and sustainably made clothing will all be up for grabs. If you're looking to fill your wallet instead of your closet, patrons are encouraged to sell their own items as well! Venmo is preferred, but cash will also be accepted.

### I.V. Art's Art in A Park

If you're looking to brush up on your art skills this weekend, then you've found the right place. This Sunday, I.V. Arts will be presented its first annual "Art in A Park." The event will take place at Little Acorn Park and will run from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. This free event is specifically catered to those who have never had the chance to have their art displayed. A variety of workshops, such as button-making, jewelry-making, collaging, watercoloring and tie-dyeing will accompany the art displays. There's never a bad time to learn something new, so blow the dust off those brushes and start getting creative!

### \$5 Beach Brunch Yoga w/ Yoga Isla Vista

Science says that raging does a number on the body. If you have found yourself rather achy from a long night out, your two pills of Advil will have nothing on this beach brunch and yoga experience. The event is \$5 and will take place from 8:45 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday. Patrons will meet at the I.V. Co-op patio at 8:45 a.m. and then walk over to the bluffs. After the one-hour yoga session, you'll head over to Yoga Isla Vista to carb away that hangover with a variety of bagels, spreads and fruits. To sign up, reserve a spot at I.V. Food Co-op, located at 6575 Seville Rd., or call the store at (805) 968-1401. Only 35 spots are available each month, so do not slack on this can't-miss experience! If you sign up and do not show, your spot will be given to someone else!

### Last Minute Loads

6716 Pasado Road is much more than an address this weekend. It's a party. Put that noise ordinance to work and bear that brittle Santa Barbara weather this Saturday and come visit Last Minute Loads anytime 7:30 p.m. and 12 a.m. as they'll be featuring more bands than your earbuds can handle. Strings, microphones and drum sets are no good without some talent behind them, so come appreciate what these fine local bands have to offer. No shame in wearing your drunk glasses at this party - all you need is a working set of ears!

### Colour (Pop-Up) Shop

Colour Pop's first pop-up shop at UCSB will be held on Friday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at 6509 Segovia Road, aka the Alpha Chi Omega house. If you're in need of new makeup products, go check it out! The pop-up will be offering new and top Colour Pop products, and 15 percent of the profits will go to the Alpha Chi Omega foundation, which helps with awareness and prevention of domestic violence. Only 50 people are permitted in the house at a time, and all bags/backpacks must be left outside of the house, but shopping bags will be provided. Go get that new lipgloss!

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COMMENTS,  
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# Barbershop Debut Sparks New Buzz in Isla Vista

Max Abrams  
Asst. News Editor

To Richie "The Barber" Ramirez, Isla Vista is more than sun rays and beach days. It is a place of opportunity.

Ramirez, who is the current owner of the Montecito-based barbershop, Richie's Barber Shop, recently celebrated the grand opening of his second location in I.V. The shop, located at 6549 Pardall Rd., debuted on Tuesday and is both the newest and only barbershop in I.V.

Before making the decision to open a second shop in I.V., Ramirez took a grassroots style approach to best figure out the location of his second shop, asking students in the community about their thoughts on having a barbershop in I.V.

"When I came out here, there was no barbershop, so I was like, 'Geesh, where are these kids going [for a haircut]?' So I started talking to kids, asking them where they get their haircut ... [I found out that] a lot of them wait to go back home to get their haircut because there's nowhere to go, and they don't trust anybody," Ramirez said.

While the lack of barber shops may have posed an inconvenience to residents in the past, Ramirez believes his new shop in I.V. will remedy these problems by offering a prime location in I.V. as well as a unique customer experience.

For \$25, many shops offer quality haircuts, but not many offer a quality experience, which Ramirez finds to be a defining characteristic in successful barbershops.

To accompany the debut of his new shop, Ramirez opted to include a pool table, multiple flat-screen TVs, back massagers and refreshments for patrons – all of which he is confident will contribute to the "experience" of coming to his barbershop.

"Getting a haircut, you shouldn't have to be like, 'Oh, I have to get a haircut,' you should be stoked to get a haircut. You get to come, hang-out, get here an hour early, watch the game," he said.

"It's more than a barbershop. It's an experience, and that's what we're providing."

Among other ideas, Ramirez plans to make use of the large white walls surrounding the inside of the shop, flirting with the idea of featuring student-generated art.

Despite the amenities, Ramirez's idea of the

barbershop "experience" did not occur to him overnight.

Before he began working as a barber, Ramirez used to frequent barbershops as often as once a week, where he was attracted to its overall atmosphere and ambiance.

"I was the type of guy, back then, who'd get a haircut once a week because I liked going to the barbershop. I liked hanging out, I liked talking with the boys and watching the games," he said.

With multiple shops of his own, Ramirez aims to replicate the same qualities that initially attracted him to become a regular at barbershops he frequented before he began cutting hair.

After cutting hair in high school, Ramirez was formally introduced to the barbershop world when he was 20, after his best friend convinced him to get his barber license and work at his barbershop.

"I started at a shop in Pismo Beach, came out to Santa Barbara, cut hair at a shop called Montecito Barbers, was there for five years, broke off and built my own shop. And now we're here, number two," Ramirez said.

Currently dividing his time between both locations, Ramirez used to spend all of his time at the Montecito location after opening it in 2010.

Things were going smoothly for Ramirez until the massive flood ravaged through Montecito last January, making it impossible for him and his barbers to work.

Rather than waiting it out, Ramirez devised a plan to work around the flooding by setting up a pop-up shop in the back room of a wine store.

"We were out of work and the village was shut down, so we did a pop-up shop over at Jamie Slone Wines. We had this little space in the back where we put up four chairs, people came in and got their haircut ... it was just a cool thing for the community to come together and help everybody out."

For businesses such as Ramirez's, mudslides can have a devastating impact on revenue, keeping customers away and making barbers unable to reach the shop.

However, the pop-up shop helped Ramirez appreciate the power of community, something he hopes to carry with him to his new location.

"Once you put a barber shop in, you become a hub of the town ... We like to integrate ourselves into the community, we like to do things, have events, after-hour events," Ramirez said.

"We're gonna do as much for the students as possible – this shop is for the students."



IDA KAZERANI / DAILY NEXUS

Barber Richie Ramirez hopes to alleviate the student struggle of finding a good, cheap haircut closeby with his new shop located on Pardall. Ramirez wants to provide a good experience as well as a good cut.

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# UCOP Deems Collegiate Free Speech Order Unnecessary

Simren Verma  
University News Editor

On Monday, the University of California Office of the President released a statement deeming President Donald Trump's announcement of a possible executive order regarding free speech as both "misguided and unnecessary."

Trump's potential executive order would mandate that "colleges allow free speech on their campuses or lose critical federal research funding," according to the statement.

"UC already has clear policies and procedures in place that protect anyone's right to peacefully protest or speak on our campuses."

On Saturday, March 2, President Trump spoke at the Conservative Political Action Conference, where he discussed the executive order.

"I will be very soon signing an executive order requiring colleges and universities

to support free speech if they want federal research dollars," President Trump said at the Conservative Political Action Conference.

"Everyday we're restoring common sense and the timeless values that unite us all. We believe in the Constitution and the rule of law. We believe in the First Amendment right and we believe in religious liberty," he added.

The University of California Office of the President's (UCOP) statement cited the UC as being the home of the free speech movement in the 1960s, along with the fact that UC campuses have hosted conservative speakers including Ben Shapiro, Dennis Prager and Dinesh D'Souza.

The UC has also established a National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement, which is "dedicated to exploring issues and challenges related to free expression through research, advocacy, debate and discussion," according to the statement.

The statement also referred to an incident when a representative of a conservative group was assaulted at UC Berkeley, adding that "the university acted swiftly."

"The campus released a statement strongly condemning the incident and expressing support for the police department's efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice," the statement said. "Chancellor Carol Christ also sent a campus-wide message reaffirming UC Berkeley's commitment to freedom of expression."

UC President Janet Napolitano said the UC does not need the federal government to mandate free speech on college campuses, as it is already mandated.

"Free speech is a fundamental value of the University of California and we already have strong policies in place that protect the free expression of ideas, regardless of political persuasion," Napolitano said. "Protecting free expression has been part of the University of

California's DNA for decades."

College Republicans President Leslie Garcia, however, has differing views.

Garcia said that Trump's proposed executive order is an "incredible idea."

Garcia, a fourth-year political science and Middle East studies double major, added that in the time she's been at UCSB, "college conservatives have seen how far campus administrators and more left-leaning people are willing to go to shut down the discourse."

Garcia referenced when Ben Shapiro came to UCSB, and said that although there was a "leftist outcry" against Ben Shapiro, "the event was still funded and successful."

However, UC Berkeley had not been so lucky due to leftist groups enacting violence in a quest to shut down free speech, she added.

Although President Trump spoke of his intent to issue the executive order, it is unclear when he will officially issue the executive order.

## 4 Organizations Express Interest in Empty UCen Space

Sanya Kamidi  
Asst. News Editor

Four new organizations have expressed interest in the empty space in the University Center, the spot that previously housed Kaplan until October 2018.

The University of California Police Department (UCPD) was the first and only organization to express interest in the space as of December 2018.

Now, Bagel Cafe, Mojo Teahouse, the Isla Vista Trading Post and Off-Campus Senator Sydney Karmes-Wainer have reached out to Gary Lawrence, University Center (UCen) director, to ask about the space.

"I would say that all of the inquiries have been informal and of the "information gathering" type," Lawrence said in an email.

UCPD previously said that if they submitted a proposal for the space, they would be primarily interested in using it as a Community Service Organization (CSO) station.

"This space could enable the UC Police Department and its members to more effectively and routinely interact with the campus community in non-enforcement contacts," UCPD Chief of Police Dustin Olson said in December.

One of the difficulties in filling the space is that it does not have a kitchen, but instead a classroom, which may rule out food-based businesses.

### MOJO TEAHOUSE

Mojo Teahouse owner Boxi Wang said that if Mojo Teahouse was selected for the space, they would only serve drinks. The location in Isla Vista serves drinks in addition to food items such as popcorn chicken.

"From my understanding, it's a pretty cool thing to sell boba at school. I've been to some campuses, but I don't think [any] of them sell boba on campus," Wang said. "They all have coffee and other alternatives, like let's say Jamba Juice, over there, but they don't have anything that's like more towards Asians."

Plus, having a location on campus would allow Mojo Teahouse to pick up some morning sales that they miss out on by being in IV., Wang added.

### BAGEL CAFE

Bagel Cafe Manager Jacob Root said that he had reached out to ask about a space in the UCen in late December or early January, but was told that there weren't any available spaces at the time.

"We're looking to put a satellite-type location out there," Root said.

"We would definitely need to make it semi-kitchen ready because we would want to bake bagels fresh over there," he added.

Root hasn't been able to check out the location yet, however, and said that he was waiting to hear back from Lawrence about the space.

"We'd have to look at the space, like I said, I just don't know how many square feet it is, where the location is," he said.

### ISLA VISTA TRADING POST

Isla Vista Trading Post co-president Julia Rose Feldman said the organization has been looking for a permanent space for a while, especially since they are outgrowing their current storage space in another member's garage.

"Right now we have just been working with our

event-based model, which is great for what it is, but we've kind of outgrown the model," Feldman, a fourth-year environmental studies major, said.

"At a few of our events we weren't able to have the event for as long as we said we would because we just didn't have anything to give out," she added.

Having the permanent space would allow the IV. Trading Post to keep more donations as well as create a space on campus where "where [students] know that the clothes [they donate] are going to be going to another loving home."

"We are excited about the potential opportunity to have the space, but due to limited funding i'm not exactly sure if it's going to be at all possible," Feldman said.

"We haven't heard back about how much it's going to cost, and as a relatively new organization, we have about \$2,000 to our org's name, so we're not sure whether or not it's even feasible."

### SENATOR KARMES-WAINER

Karmes-Wainer reached out to inquire about potentially putting a hot food bar in the space. She put out a petition calling for a hot food bar on campus in January and has since been working in Senate to try to make it a reality.

"We need a proper arrangement where students can build their own healthy meals, like a build-a-bowl hot bar with options for a clean protein, roasted vegetables, whole grains, & healthy fats," Karmes-Wainer wrote in the original petition.

Karmes-Wainer declined to comment about the potential leasing of the space until she had more information.

The vacant UCen space is currently occupied by

the UCSB's Housing, Dining and Auxiliary Services (HDAE) after its main office was damaged by an early February storm.

Lawrence said HDAE would be in the vacant UCen space for approximately two to four months, but that he didn't anticipate their occupancy having any effect on future rentals.

HDAE is currently paying the standard rate while it uses the space. Kaplan paid \$4,420 per month to rent the space.



IDA KAZERANI / DAILY NEXUS

## Deltopia 2019 Parking Information

### Isla Vista Parking



The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office has advised roadblocks will/may be placed in Isla Vista beginning at 4pm on Friday 4/5/19 through 6am on 4/8/19. The roadblocks will/may prevent vehicle access to Del Playa, Sabado, and Trigo roads, from 6500 through the mid 6800 blocks. Other affected areas include the 6500 block of El Nido, Camino Del Sur between Del Playa & Trigo, Camino Pescadero between De Playa & Trigo, El Embarcadero between Del Playa & the loop, and Camino Majorca between Del Playa and Pasado. **Trigo Road residents living in the 6500 block will need to relocate their vehicles parked on the street. Signs will be posted notifying residents (SBSO 805-681-4179).**

### UCSB Campus Parking

**No Overnight Visitor Parking is allowed on the UCSB Campus on Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>**

- **Registered UCSB Students** with an Annual Night & Weekend parking permit can park in designated lots on campus beginning at 9am Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> until 7:30am on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Parking is allowed only in Structure 22, and parking lot 30. All other campus lots are subject to closure and may be physically closed.
- **Apply/order on-line by March 22<sup>nd</sup>** to ensure your permit arrives by USPS mail prior to April 6<sup>th</sup>. Visit our office to purchase a permit now through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Vehicles must display the actual permit decal. **NOTE: Temporary paper permit printouts will not be valid during these dates.**

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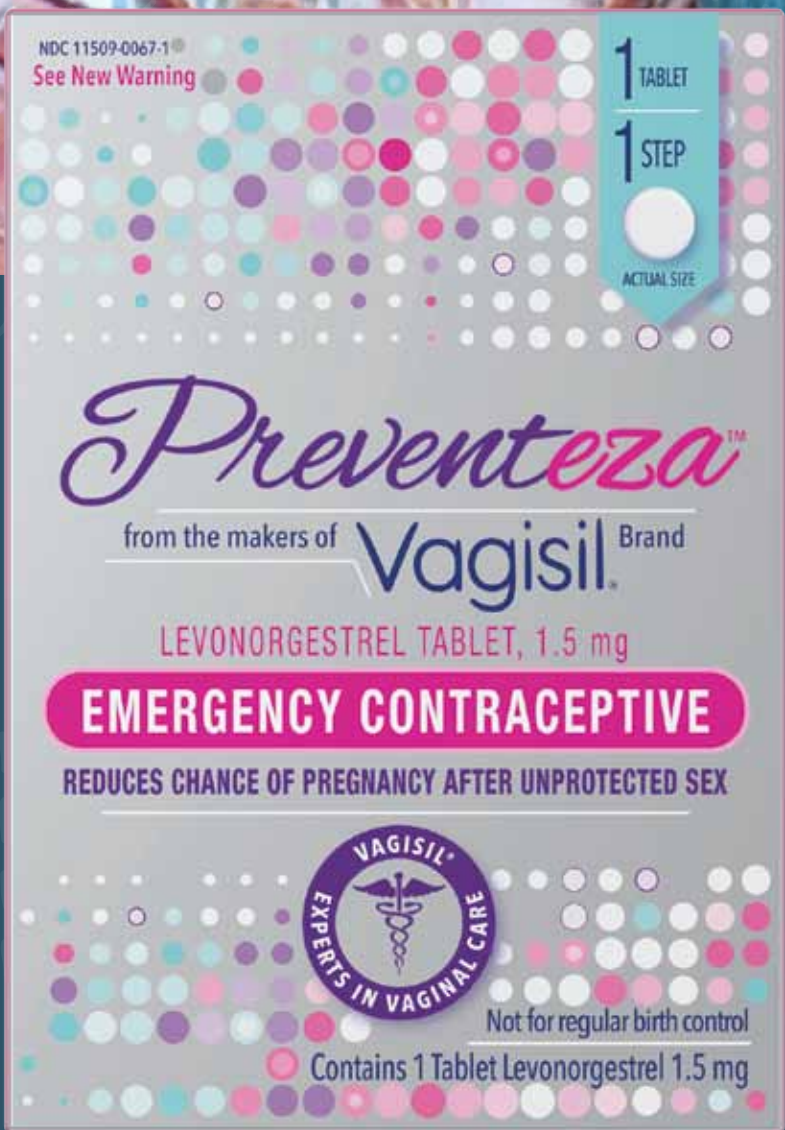
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# Eric Moon Sworn In as New On-Campus Senator

Simren Verma  
University News Editor

Second-year history of public policy major Eric Moon was sworn in on Wednesday as Associated Students' newest On-Campus Senator, replacing former On-Campus Senator Yasamin Salari.

Judicial Council unanimously voted to remove Yasamin Salari, a second-year political science major, on Feb. 26, citing her violation of the eligibility portion of Legal Code, as Salari was not living amongst her constituents.

Moon was the next runner-up to take her place, according to the Spring Quarter 2018 Election results.

In the Spring Quarter 2018 Election, Moon's platform included enhancing library resources and usage by opening up late night study to more floors, repairing and repaving worn-down bike paths and roads and installing and reorganizing bike racks throughout campus.

Moon had also hoped to install condom and menstrual product dispensers in dorm and dining hall bathrooms and collaborate with Lobby Corps and the External Vice President for Statewide Affairs (EVPSA) office to stop tuition hikes.

Moon acknowledged that current senators have already made progress on some of his platform points,

and he now wants to join them on making more improvements.

In particular, he referenced the work that the A.S. Senate is already doing to address menstrual product availability.

"I would be interested in helping out with the efforts that have already started," Moon said in an interview with the *Nexus*.

Moon added that while progress has been made with some bike racks on campus, he would like to make improvements on the bike racks behind the Arbor and Girvetz Hall.

"I'm also interested in working on new ideas, like I'm interested in working on the issue of food insecurity," Moon said.

Even though Moon had not been elected during Spring Quarter 2018, he still focused his attention toward advocating for UCSB students this past year.

Moon went to the last two lobbying trips organized by Associated Students (A.S.) Lobby Corps, one to Sacramento and one to Washington, D.C., and has spoken to legislators on the state and federal levels about higher education issues.

"For the state trip, we talked about the summer Cal Grant and advocated for certain budget asks... more funding for basic needs, more funding for undocumented students in terms of legal help they can get," Moon said.

Moon also recently became one of the two UCSB Campus Leaders of the UC Advocacy Network.

"The UC Advocacy Network is a community of committed people who lend their voices to shape state and federal policies promoting the university's mission of education, research and public service," according to the UC's website.

"These dedicated advocates send letters and emails and call government officials and policymakers to let them know about the positive impact the university has had on them and others," the website added.

This past year, Moon has also served as the Events Coordinator of the A.S. Isla Vista Community Relations Committee.

"I'm looking forward to working with everyone in the Senate. I've known these people for quite awhile now and I'm very excited to work with them within this setting," Moon said.

Moon said he has not received the training that A.S. senators undergo, but he has discussed when and how to undergo the training with Internal Vice President Steven Ho.

Regarding Salari, Moon said he believes Salari served admirably while she was on Senate.

"I'm sorry to see that the situation had to end like this," Moon said. "I wish Yasamin the best in all of her future endeavors."



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

# UC System Walks Away from Elsevier Negotiations

Sofia Mejias-Pascoe  
Asst. News Editor

After almost 20 years of working together, the University of California system abandoned its contract last week with Elsevier, the largest research article publisher in the world, after an impasse over the UC's goal of open access for all UC research.

With the UC system producing 10 percent of scholarly articles in the U.S., the decision to walk away from its contract with Elsevier points to the larger trend in the academic field: the push for open access of research articles, according to a press release from the university.

The negotiations, which began last July, failed to reach a viable agreement that fulfilled UC's aim to form a cost-sustainable contract as well as enable public access to journal articles and research conducted by UC affiliates, according to UCSB Librarian Kristin Antelman.

"The primary objective in the case of the Elsevier negotiation was to enable... everybody in the world to read about the publicly funded research conducted by the University of California researchers rather than just

people who could afford, and libraries or institutions who could afford, to purchase subscriptions," Antelman said.

UC's past contract with Elsevier set them back \$11 million per year, according to Antelman.

To achieve both of its aims for the new contract, UC tried to negotiate for an off-set deal, which would create open access for UC research as well as student and faculty access to other research articles with the same amount of money.

However, Elsevier would not agree to UC's proposal of the off-set deal and instead proposed a contract for open access that would increase the cost of the three-year contract by 80 percent, Antelman said.

UC librarians are already preparing for the implications of the contract termination, which includes a loss of direct access to articles published by Elsevier after 2019.

Although when exactly this access will be lost is unknown, the UCSB library already provided instructions to obtaining alternative access to these articles. Students and faculty can search for open access online, use an inter-library loan or asking a librarian for more options.

"Day in and day out, our librarians are finding content that's behind paywalls, content that is out there that students, faculty [and] the UCSB community need to find," Rick Stockwood, communications and marketing manager at the UCSB library, said.

"If someone stumbles across a paywall like we all do almost everyday, trying to reach something, the librarians are here to help find that content."

Librarians at UC libraries are also able to purchase specific articles for access using the budget that would normally go to funding the contract with Elsevier, according to Antelman.

Part of the library acquisition budget will also go to investing in open access initiatives elsewhere and working with a subcommittee of the Academic Senate to create a fund to facilitate open access of UC research articles, she said.

Currently, UC researchers have to pay an article processing charge to Elsevier in order to enable open access to their articles, which Antelman said usually costs around \$3,000. This fund would help researchers cover this cost.

"Through the subscription dollars the library is currently paying, we would help subsidize those fees

and they would be lower so that if the researcher wanted to publish open access, they would pay much less," Antelman said.

The push for open access of UC research articles started in 2013 when the UC Academic Senate adopted a policy which iterated UC's commitment to "disseminating its research and scholarship as widely as possible," according to the official policy.

UCSB will soon sign onto an "Expression of Interest," according to Antelman, which asserts the importance of creating open access for research article and leaving the subscription model of the industry.

Other UC signatories of the document include UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC San Francisco, UC Riverside, UC Los Angeles and most recently UC San Diego.

UC isn't completely closing to door to Elsevier, however. UC still retains access to most articles from Elsevier before 2019 and room remains for more negotiations in the future, Antelman said.

"We're hopeful that over time, Elsevier will possibly come back with another proposal and that we could possibly have a successful deal concluded, but at this point, it doesn't look like that will happen anytime soon."

# Majority of Pre-Bio Students Decide To Switch Majors

Sean Crommelin  
Copy Editor

As UC Santa Barbara climbs the rungs of academic rankings, a common occurrence has been noted regarding the retention of declared pre-biology majors; according to the most recent data available, a majority of pre-biology majors eventually decide to either switch to another S.T.E.M. major or abandon S.T.E.M. majors entirely.

This data, documenting the number of freshmen who entered as declared pre-biology majors in Fall 2011 and 2012 and the number of those which had managed to complete a degree in Biological Sciences by 2018, is from UCSB's Director of News and Media Relations, Andrea Estrada.

According to Estrada, of the 1,727 biological science majors, 38 percent completed a degree as a biological science major, 23 percent completed a degree in another S.T.E.M. major and 22 percent completed a degree in a non-S.T.E.M. major.

Jeffrey Stoppie, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, commented that the numbers are reflective of other institutions statewide.

"It's not dissimilar, it's actually fairly typical. Biology is something that students see in high school, they already have an exposure to it," Stoppie said.

Stoppie acknowledged the tendency for biology majors to declare the major with a pre-med track in mind, only to realize how overwhelming the major can be later on.

"Sometimes [they switch out] because their grades were not good enough to get into medical school. They think 'well if I'm not going to be a doctor then, I don't want to do biology after all,'" Stoppie said.

The *Daily Nexus* reached out to students to gain insight on their perspectives regarding the department of biological sciences at UCSB, and found several recurring complaints.

While it is to be expected that S.T.E.M. majors be rigorous and require strong academic engagement, many students expressed frustration with the difficulty of prerequisite classes, as well as an initial lack of emphasis on biology during the foundational coursework.

"A lot of Bio students come in unsuspecting of how difficult the gen chem series is, especially resenting it because they're not interested in studying chem in the first place, or necessarily good at it," second-year pre-biology major Aja Whitehead said in an email.

Many students found that the administrators and advisors were at best overburdened and at worst outright unhelpful.

"The school would probably like to think that the major is hard and that's why people are dropping it, but in all honesty I think the lack of support from the department itself plays a larger role," Aidan, a fourth-year biology major who declined to give their last name, said.

"I've had great professors, but the advisors and administrators have never been helpful to me."

Olivia Council, a fourth-year aquatic biology major, expressed similar discontent with advisors who she felt

encouraged her to take an excessive course load during her first quarter after transferring to UCSB.

"I really do feel that students look to the advisors for guidance and help with structuring their plans here and they do not provide that," Council said.

Ivan, a fourth-year biology major who asked that his last name not be used, was among a group of about 20 undergraduate molecular, cellular and developmental biology (MCDB) students who were part of an external review committee. The committee invites other faculty from universities around the west coast to evaluate the department, gather input from students and make recommendations.

"The complaints against the Bio department were pretty strong... comments ranged from poor class structures during the first two years all the way to a deficit advisory team," Rodriguez said.

However, members of the faculty have coordinated with students in attempts to raise retention rates. Mike Wilton and Eduardo Gonzalez, two lecturers in the MCDB department, have worked to make more resources available to incoming freshmen who declare as pre-biology majors.

Associated Students On-Campus Senator Yash Nagpal has also been collaborating with Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) – alongside Wilton and Gonzalez – in an attempt to improve the situation.

"[Wilton and Gonzalez] introduced the mentoring series MCDB 11, 12 and 13, which are to be taken in conjunction with the gen chem series," Nagpal said.

MCDB 11, 12 and 13 serve as chemistry support classes, so one can establish a community of like-minded peers with who to study and hold each other accountable. For classes like the general chemistry series which lack a section, Nagpal believes that these provide a more collaborative and intimate setting.

"Having these support programs that [Wilton and Gonzalez] create is essential to student success," Nagpal said. "They see that students who take MCDB 11, 12 and 13... these students specifically have higher retention rates in the pre-biology major."

EOP students are a demographic which leave the biology major at a much higher rate than the general student body, Nagpal said.

"Low-income students have to work for college compared to their more-privileged peers... because of this they can't devote as much attention to their academics," Nagpal said.

Nagpal is advocating for the expansion of financial support to more EOP-eligible students, which he hopes will alleviate some of this financial stress.

"EOP has an emergency grant alongside A.S., and as a senator I have taken it upon myself to work with the director of EOP, Aaron Jones, to revise the A.S. EOP grant and essentially expand this," Nagpal said.

Although a consensus from students is relatively easy to find just by surveying the academic body, extensive qualitative information regarding the "why" of switching majors has not been compiled.



## Armchair QB



After his latest 21-point outburst, we wouldn't be surprised if Vince Carter is still productive by the time Bryce Harper's 13-year contract runs

# SPORTS

## UCSB Softball

The Gauchos will travel to Fresno this weekend to take part in the Bulldog Classic Tournament. For more details, visit [www.dailynews.com](http://www.dailynews.com).

## Gauchos Seek Longest Win-Streak Since 1980

UCSB Hosts Lindenwood on Friday at Robertson Gym looking to pick up its 12th Consecutive Victory of the 2019 Season

Jorge Mercado  
Editor in Chief

Winners of 11 straight, the No. 4 UCSB men's volleyball team has come a long way this season and they have a showdown with the No. 1 team in the nation next week in Long Beach State it must first not lose focus on its opponent this week, unranked Lindenwood.

Currently, Santa Barbara boasts a 14-3 overall record and, with two wins against UC San Diego, it also has a 2-0 conference record. As it prepares to host Lindenwood, who is 7-11 overall, 3-5 in conference, UCSB also has a 9-1 record at Rob Gym.

In their previous outing, the Gauchos were efficient all evening, hitting .400 (37-11-65) as a team while their opponent, UCSD, hit just .162 (23-12-68). Additionally, in that match, freshman outside hitter Ryan Wilcox led the night with 10 kills.

For UCSB, this will be the first time it ever faces off against the Lindenwood program. However, against similar opponents, Lindenwood is 1-8 with its only win coming against Ohio State, a team UCSB lit up and swept.

Additionally, no one is really excited to play Santa Barbara right now.

On top of being winners of 11 straight, seven of those victories have come against AVCA Top-15 competition. Also, a win on Friday for UCSB would give them its longest win streak

since 1980.

In fact, of the 12 Top-15 teams Santa Barbara has faced, it has gone 9-3 in those games. UCSB has the toughest schedule in the nation when looking at its cumulative opposition, currently holding a 252-140 overall record.

Down the stretch, the Gauchos also have the toughest schedule in the nation, facing No. 1 LBSU, No. 2 Hawaii and No. 3 UC Irvine ranked teams in its remaining conference play.

A big part for UCSB success this season has been because of senior outside hitter Corey Chavers. For the season, he leads the team by far with 236 kills (3.75 k/s) and 32 service aces. Additionally, Chavers is also among the team leaders in digs (66) and total blocks (32).

Chavers has also accumulated three Big West Player of the Week honors this season and has had three matches with over 20 kills.

Another big reason for the Gauchos' success is the collection of freshmen that continue to thrive as the season continues. The aforementioned Wilcox has been arguably the best of the bunch earning three Big West Freshman Player of the Week honors. There have only been nine handed out this season.

This season, the outside hitter has reach the double-digit kill total six times and in this 11-game stretch, he has averaged just over nine kills a game much better than his 6.4 kills per game during the first six games of the year.

He is second on the team in total kills with 132.

As for other freshman, Brandon Hicks has also been impressive.

He too has earned a Big West Freshman Player of the Week honor and has played well on the defensive end for the Gauchos as the middle hitter leads the team in kills with 54.

In terms of their competition, the Lions have been having an up and down season. Since starting the year 2-6, Lindenwood has won five of its last 10 to be at a steady record but it still has a lot of work to be done.

Where the Lions have struggled most this season has been limiting their opponents offensive opportunities. Currently, opponents average a .261 attack percentage and earn 11 kills per set. As a team, UCSB hits .326 for the season and earns nearly 12 kills per set.

The Lions do have three players with more than 100 kills led by junior opposite hitter Charley Hlavin who has 167.

His running mate, Nick Stevenson, is tied for second on the team in kills with 129. Unfortunately, the two combined only shoot a .171 attack percentage.

Overall, this weekend is key for the Gauchos in the sense they cannot get ahead of themselves. It would be easy to overlook a team like Lindenwood, a team UCSB could beat easy. But it shouldn't.

Santa Barbara has a lot of key matches up ahead, especially next week, but the only one that matters right now is unranked Lindenwood.



ALLISON FANN / DAILY NEXUS

## UCSB Aims To Upset Davis in Regular Season Finale

Brandon Victor  
Asst. Sports Editor

Riding its first win streak of the season, the UCSB women's basketball team will look to finish their season on a high-note when they travel to take on UC Davis on Saturday.

With their 61-44 victory over UC Riverside this past week, the Gauchos clinched a spot in the Big West Tournament – something that looked almost impossible at the beginning of conference play. If Santa Barbara can knock off the Aggies, they could finish as high as seventh in the conference, depending on Long Beach's results during the week.

Getting a positive result against top-dog UC Davis will be no walk in the park, however. After losing the second game of conference play, the Aggies have won 12 straight games in conference play en-route to their 13-1 conference record. Impressively, every single one of those wins have been by double digits – including their 70-44 thrashing of UCSB at the Thunderdome.

UCSB's recent success has been predicated on their lockdown defense; in both games last week, the Gauchos held their opponents to fewer than 50 points. In the victory over Riverside, Santa Barbara held the Highlanders to a measly 34 percent shooting, also forcing 14 turnovers.

Another catalyst for the resurgent play of UCSB has been the backcourt of Coco and Danae Miller – with their best games

consistently coinciding with the Gauchos' success. In the Riverside game, the duo combined for 34 points, 13 assists and only three turnovers, as well as chipping in five steals on the defensive end. Conversely, in the previous meeting between Davis and SB, the duo merely combined for 13 points and three assists in the blowout loss.

As has been the case all season, Davis' offense starts and ends with senior star Morgan Bertsch, who currently ranks fourth in the entire nation with 23.9 points per game.

With smooth footwork in the post and a silky jump shot that opponents are forced to respect, Bertsch has consistently been the top player in the conference all season.

In the first matchup between these sides, Bertsch dropped in 27 points on an efficient 10-18 performance from the floor, also adding in seven rebounds for good measure.

Head Coach Bonnie Henrickson tried different matchups against Bertsch throughout the game, but no one could successfully slow her down.

It will be interesting to see how Henrickson handles Bertsch this time around; known for her basketball acumen and ability to make adjustments, Henrickson may opt to double Bertsch and keep the ball out of her hands completely this time around.

While no one else has the individual impact that Bertsch does, Davis has a wide array of weapons who have proven to be efficient scorers this season. With her deft handles and smart decision-making, point

guard Kourtney Eaton has successfully orchestrated the offense all season. Despite averaging only 20 minutes per game, forward Nina Bessolo averages 9.3 points per game, with Bessolo often able to exploit the space cleared by Bertsch on the offensive end.

Given the individual excellence of Bertsch and the weapons around her, it's a near impossible task to completely stop Davis on defense.

If the Gauchos are to have a chance against the Aggies, they will need to improve their efficiency and finishing on the offensive end.

Despite their recent success, Santa Barbara is only averaging 55 points per game in their last four games; for comparison's sake, the Aggies haven't scored below 60 points in any conference game this season. In that first matchup against Davis, UCSB shot only 24 percent from the floor, only hitting four of their 23 attempted threes for the game.

That number will need to rise dramatically if Santa Barbara wants to pull off the biggest upset of Big West play.

With a spot in the postseason already clinched, there is certainly less pressure on UCSB in what should be a difficult game. Still, a good performance on Saturday would do wonders for the Gauchos' confidence heading into the conference tournament.

UCSB will take on UC Davis on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. at the Pavillion.



ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS



# Gauchos Hope To Continue Hot Start to the Season

Jorge Mercado  
Editor in Chief

The rain and the wins seem to be the main storylines for the UCSB baseball team this season. Not only was its home opener pushed to a road series but two of Santa Barbara's games have been canceled in just the first three weeks of the season.

Now, however, UCSB is heading out south for its first true three-game road series of the 2019 campaign as it faces Tulane University. Even more ridiculous, Sunday's forecast in Tulane, Louisiana currently calls for rain.

Regardless, focusing on things the Gauchos can control, they have had an excellent start to the season currently boasting an 8-2 overall mark after winning their sixth straight game when they beat Pepperdine 5-3 on Monday for a series sweep. UCSB is also 4-2 on the road.

As for Tulane, it too has had a hot start to the year as it boasts a 10-3 overall mark and is an excellent 7-2 at home. The Green Wave have also won four of their last five ballgames.

For UCSB, it started the season all about offense. In

its first seven games of the year, Santa Barbara scored 65 runs for an average of 9.3 runs per game.

Since then, however, the run total has slowed down as the Gauchos have mustered just 3.3 runs per contest. The important thing though, UCSB still won all three of its games thanks to some great pitching performances.

Against USC on Tuesday, Feb. 26, sophomore Jack Dashwood was absolutely spectacular. The San Diego native took a no-hitter into the seventh inning and struck out a career-high 10 batters while earning the win in a 2-1 victory over the Trojans.

Overall, Dashwood allowed just one run on two hits. His 10 K's were also the most by a Gaucho pitcher since Noah Davis struck out 10 against Tulane back in 2017. This performance helped the sophomore earn his first career Big West Pitcher of the Week honor.

On March 1, Ben Brecht, the junior southpaw who figures to be the Friday starter this week, also had a terrific performance tossing 6.1 innings five hits, two runs while striking out nine.

If you could imagine, the key difference in the pitching staff this year for UCSB has been the strikeouts. Through the first 10 games last year, Santa Barbara's

staff had 84 strikeouts. This year it already has 104. As a staff, Santa Barbara also hasn't allowed too many walks with just 26 base on balls.

It also helps that while the starters are getting the job done, so are the relievers. Junior righty Chris Lincoln comes to mind when UCSB needs to get out of a jam. The Moreno Valley, Calif. native has four saves on the year already allowing just nine hits and three runs in 10.2 innings pitched. He has also struck out 10 batters.

Still, UCSB will have some tough opposition this week in Tulane. Junior Kody Hoese slashes .404/.455/.754 this season with 16 RBI's. Hoese is the only batter with a plus .400 average.

Even scarier, four of the Green Waves everyday starters also bat above .300 including Jonathon Artigues who leads the team in RBI's with 17. Senior infielder Trevor Jensen bats .386 with a team-high six doubles.

As for UCSB, while its offense has hit a bit of a bump, it still is dominating. As a team, the Gauchos bat .268 while slugging .471 and holding an on-base percentage of .367. Their 13 home runs are tied for 17th for the most in the nation.

Juniors Eric Yang and Tommy Jew have been some of the more consistent bats this season.

Yang leads the team in batting average hitting .447 and has knocked in the most runs with 12. The catcher's .678 slugging percentage also ranks third on the team.

As for Jew, the center fielder has been great as expected on the defensive end and as the leadoff hitter he has done well batting .268. Where he shines is his slugging which is .762, the best mark on the team. His four home runs also lead the team.

Overall, Santa Barbara has some steep competition when it travels to Louisiana, but it also has some momentum. The last two years through 10 games, Santa Barbara was just 4-6 in both seasons. Being 8-2 this year certainly is a sign that this is a new team.

Even if the Gauchos do not complete a sweep and win nine straight once the series is over, a road series victory would be a huge boost for confidence.

UCSB faces Tulane at 4:30 p.m. pacific time on Friday, March 8 at Turchin Stadium. Saturday's match will be noon pacific while Sunday's will be at 11 a.m. pacific with both matches being played at the same location.



NICOLE WALLACE / DAILY NEXUS

## Men's Basketball Looks To Gain Steam Before Big West Tourney

Richard Benites  
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team is back on the road this week, as the Gauchos prepare for their last Big West doubleheader and pair of regular season matches.

First, they'll travel south to Northridge, where UCSB will face off against CSUN. Next, another installment of the Blue-Green rivalry is in store as the team travels north to Cal Poly this weekend.

Last week was full of emotion as Gaucho seniors Armond Davis, Ami Lakoju, Jarrisse Blackmon and Maxwell Kupchak were all honored at the Thunderdome's Senior Night, last Thursday. UCSB was looking to do the double over Long Beach State, whom they had bested on the road about a month prior.

Unfortunately, the seniors weren't able to be sent off on a win as the Gauchos fell just short by a score of 69-64. Still, fans and players alike applauded the seniors' contributions throughout their time here at Santa Barbara.

As it stands, the Gauchos hold an overall record of 19-9 on the season, equaling a win percentage of .679. With men's basketball for the month of February now in the books, UCSB finished with an evenly split performance of 4-4 through the eight Big West Conference matchups they faced.

With the postseason's Big West Tournament just on the horizon, seeding could still be shaken up as the standings still remain unsecure. Following last week's play, UC Irvine have now locked in their place as Big West Conference regular season champions.

However, the Gauchos still have a shot at second place in the league if results go in their favor. Cal State Fullerton, whom the Gauchos beat at their home but lost to at the Thunderdome earlier in the season, currently holds second overall with a conference record of 10-5.

Meanwhile, the Gauchos remain in third with an 8-6 conference record of their own, although a top-three finish isn't guaranteed for Santa Barbara as Hawaii, CSUN, UC Davis and Long Beach State all trail closely behind by only a single win difference.

Thursday's opponents in CSUN are in fine form, as the Matadors are in the midst of a win streak. After losing away at Long Beach State by just a bucket a couple of weeks ago, CSUN has since gone back-to-back-to-back with a trio of wins against UC Davis, UC Riverside and Hawaii.

The Matadors still hold an overall record of 13-17 on the season, a .433 win percentage, but they'll still be hungry to move up the conference ladder come game time.

Historically speaking, the Gauchos lead the two teams' all-time series at a record of 38-19, with the last meeting resulting in a 70-64 home victory for UCSB early last month.

As for Blue-Green rival Cal Poly, the Mustangs have been looking the worse for wear as of late. With a 6-21 overall record on the season, Cal Poly also stands dead last in Big West standings with a conference record of 2-12.

Not to mention, they've averaged 1.5 wins in every month of play this season. The Mustangs will be coming off a most recent 94-85 road loss to Long Beach State, as UCSB will want to complete the clean sweep over their rivals this weekend.

This will be the 115th time the Gauchos have faced their familiar foes, as UCSB leads the all-time series at a record of 79-35. Last time out also resulted in a Gaucho win as UCSB opened this season's conference campaign with a 65-56 home win over Cal Poly.

Freshman forward Amadou Sow is this week's player to watch for the Gauchos. Sow will be coming off a most recent monster performance against Long Beach State, where his stat line ended at 13 points, 15 rebounds, three blocks and a pair of assists.

With a great combination of height and strength, Sow's added agility also makes him an excellent rim protector that enemy teams must script against.

Two great forces will act opposite of each other as the Matadors also boast a big man prospect of their own in freshman forward Lamine Diane. Leading in total scoring for his side, Diane is also a block machine with 63 on the season.

In addition, his 313 total rebounds make up almost a third of his team's total rebounds; it'll be wise for the Gauchos to not allow Diane his normal defensive production following tipoff.

Once more, senior point guard Donovan Fields remains one of the few bright spots on Cal Poly's season.

Fields's total of 451 points and 109 assists leads the Mustangs for the season.

As the major driving force of Cal Poly's offensive production, shutting Fields down will be key for another Gaucho win in the Blue-Green rivalry.

All the action starts this Thursday, March 7, as UCSB heads south to CSUN for a 7 p.m. tipoff time. Then the Gauchos will head north to Cal Poly this Saturday, March 9, which is also set to begin at 7 p.m.

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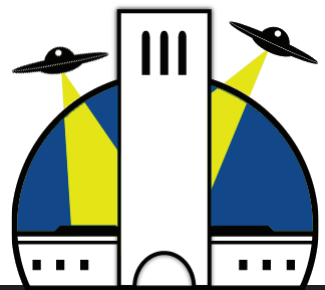
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# NEXUSTENTIALISM

Listicle, Satirical, Never Newsical

## Engineering Department Rampant with Bootcut Jeans and Skechers, Prompts Campuswide Orgasms

Diana Prince  
Staff Writer

UCSB's high-ranking College of Engineering is allegedly rampant with bootcut jeans and Skechers – and everyone is nutting, according to a new observation by Anyone Who's Ever Been on That Side of Campus (AWEBTSC).

Reports come after a student accidentally took the wrong roundabout and ended up at Engineering II.

"Everyone there was wearing 90s dad jeans and gray Skechers. They were also carrying those diagonal backpacks that sling across your body," second-year math major Aimee Rodriguez said. "Never have I nutted so hard!"

The same happened to third-year English major Rick Ridden. "This chick – the way her pants flared around her ankles and the boost her shoes added to her impatient stride! It made me wanna ask her out," Ridden said.

According to experts, the phenomenon of climaxing after seeing oversized jeans and bulky tennis shoes on engineers is normal. "It's been happen-

ing for years. [Engineers] can't help but

exert this very heavy, heated, sexual energy that emits from the tatters of their jeans and the air holes of their Skechers," orgasm expert Jordan Mekooch said.

The history of engineers wearing visually repelling garb is a timeless action – one fueled by the need to downplay their already existent (and potent) sex appeal.

"We need to do everything we can to look absolutely unwantable so it repels partners. If we were to dress like everyone else, our attraction would be too much for the normal masses – they would all just nut at the sight of us!" Jeff Swallows, a spokesperson for the college, said.

Dressing like a divorced father who still uses an atlas is one of the core values of being an engineer, the UCSB College of Engineering formally established in 2002. That year, the college created a mantra that would prompt its student population to commit to the dress code:

*May our jeans be ill-fitting and our tennis shoes bulky*

*Bleep bloop bleep!*

*We're gonna work for startups*

Diana Prince accidentally took the wrong roundabout exit and ended up by Engineering II.



COURTESY OF PIXABAY



## Girl Who Reposts All Her Birthday Wishes To Instagram Story Edges out Ted Cruz and Fyre Festival Guy for Worst Person in the World

Daniel Carroll  
Staff Writer

In an international poll with hundreds of millions of participants, Girl Who Reposts All Her Birthday Wishes To Instagram Story has narrowly been declared the worst person in the entire world. The race was remarkably close, with Texas senator Ted Cruz and party boy fraud The Fyre Festival Guy (aka Billy McFarland) receiving just a few less votes each.

"I just don't understand what's not to like about showing everyone all the love I get on my birthday," Girl Who Reposts All Her Birthday Wishes To Instagram Story said. "I have fun, hot friends and I think it's totally good for the world to see."

While the poll was close at the top, there were indeed some notable figures at the bottom end of the overall voting results. Guy Who Listens To Snapchat Stories With The Sound On When Other People Are Watching TV In The Same Room, TV personality Tomi Lahren and North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un also received their fair share of votes from around the world.

"I am actually quite pleased with this result," Cruz remarked with a boyish grin. "I acknowledge I've done some pretty messed up stuff but we all can agree that Girl Who Reposts All Her Birthday Wishes To Instagram Story is just the absolute worst human in the world."

*Don't wish Daniel Carroll a happy birthday.*

## Professor Tells Terminally-Ill Student 'No Make-Ups, Go Fuck Yourself'

Max Myskowski  
Reporter

This Friday, one professor in the UCSB math department reportedly told a terminally-ill student, Sal Monella, to "get fucked" when said student requested to take a midterm late due to his mortal affliction. Though Sal's days left in the realm of the living may be numbered, he will definitely have to spend at least one of his few hours left on this Earth taking his Math 3B midterm exam. Sadly, this seems to often be the case, as all the professors in S.T.E.M. departments could not collectively scrape together one shit to give about their students.

"It's right there in the syllabus: no make-up exams, no exceptions. I don't know what else to say – other than go fuck yourself."

Students suffering from diseases of all kinds have reported similar findings. From run-of-the-mill cases of Strep and Mono, to even the fabled UCSB Super-Chlamydia (a strain genetically engineered to perfection in the massive petri dish that is Isla Vista), ailing students were unable to get so much as a make-up quiz from their professors.

One professor in the chemistry department allegedly signed off her email to an unwell student "get well soon," despite clear indifference over whether

the student lived or died. This professor was unable to be reached for further comment, as she was busy swimming in a Scrooge-McDuckian vault filled to the brim with textbook royalty money.

Humanities professors, on the other hand, have reportedly allotted an extra three days to all of their students to complete their assignments in order to "reduce student stress" and "ease the burden on students' mental health."

Local dance major Yvanna Shachit didn't happen to see the big deal with all of this, citing her professors' genuine care for how their students performed in their bullshit classes.

"Yeah, I was taking a mental health day on Friday, so I just texted my Dance 45 professor, and told them I wasn't feeling good vibrations that day and they let me reschedule the midterm for next week."

Unfortunately, most professors teaching classes required for majors that actually lead to future employment opportunities do not seem to share this sentiment. In fact, like many maladies, it is not uncommon for practitioners in the Isla Vista area to pronounce a patient's GPA dead upon diagnosis.

*Max Myskowski was sick last week. Could you tell?*



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# ARTSWEEK

## When Misogyny Masquerades as Entertainment: Looking at Today's Rap

Neha Makkapati  
Reporter

"You're such a fuckin' ho, I love it" - **Kanye West**  
"She just bought a new ass but got the same boobs" - **Migos**  
"New freak, had to cut my other lil' bitch off" - **Rich the Kid**  
"Fuck his baby mama, tryna sneak diss. I took her to my penthouse, then I freaked it" - **Future**

Since the day I got into music, hip hop was always my primary interest – the fast-paced flows and mesmerizing beats paired with complex lyrical ingenuity were incredibly appealing. I was never fazed by the way rappers talked about sex, drugs and money; I always figured this was just a part of the genre and never thought twice about it.

Finally, at the age of 20, I began to question the nonchalant objectification of women through the demeaning lyrics I listen to almost every moment of my day. Women become the object of an image that these rappers frame, and their listeners are completely desensitized to it.

What has made it so normalized for rappers, who lead today's most popular musical genre, to generalize and sexualize women as much as they desire?

When I first heard Chance the Rapper's *10 Day*, and then a year later *Acid Rap*, hip hop was the genre that I continued to fall in love with. By the time I was in high school, I was digging through SoundCloud looking for new rappers in a very male-dominated space of music. I stumbled upon some of my favorite rappers like Kanye West, GoldLink and Kid Cudi, all of whom still remain among

my most beloved musicians. I was a teenager listening to women being called "hoes," but it somehow didn't matter to me – it was just a part of the norm of a genre that I *chase* to be interested in.

I frequently attend rap concerts when I get the chance. The room, mostly filled with men, chant in unison: "I fuck yo bitch for the irony." And, without thinking, I sing along to these lyrics as well. That's something that likely won't ever change and it's part of the fun of it for me, despite how unorthodox it sounds.

But as a woman myself, am I a part of the issue? Should I be condemning the lyrical weaponry of almost every contemporary rapper and stand up for the rights that women deserve and are fighting for in our society? Am I a part of the perpetual cycle of objectification by allowing men to demean women and bolster their masculinity in the world of hip hop? I'm not entirely sure why I happily listen to this music while dismissing the way men talk about women.

Hip hop is just supposed to be tough, right? The more badass you are the more you fit in – even the most revered of figures, Dr. Dre, has rapped about his aggression toward women. "Yo, I tied her to the bed, I was thinking the worst / But yo, I had to let my n\*ggas fuck her first, yeah / Loaded up the forty-fo', yo / Then I straight smoked the ho," he raps in N.W.A's "One Less Bitch."

And now, up-and-coming rappers who are molding a new era of rap, such as Kodak Black and Famous Dex, continue this detrimental image of women and have also been accused of abuse in their personal lives. All the while, these artists maintain millions of streams and vastly large fanbases – ones that even include

those who fight for women's rights and equality.

Women have always been a central focus of degenerative rap lyrics. Rappers are constantly telling women how to present themselves or act to their pleasure, portraying women as solely objects of their sexual gratification and depicting them as nothing more than "gold diggers" and "cheaters."

Kendrick Lamar, one of the most cherished rappers, has been criticized for saying, "Show me somethin' natural like ass with some stretch marks." While giving attention to natural female aesthetics other rappers dismiss, he continues to set certain expectations for women and instruct them how to express themselves to fit his own desire.

The hegemonic structure of hip hop has always made assertive the hyper-masculinity present to any listener. This cycle persists as men try to fit in with others by treating women as a marginality in the world of rap. Here, violence and mistreatment are OK. It's OK to mumble slanders of how women are nothing more than vehicles for sex.

Historically, being a man meant being powerful: having the most women, money and drugs. And it was difficult to move beyond this trend. Rap has now stretched so far past this, yet we still hold rappers' words about women to the same standards as we did before.

Because of this, female rappers, who are already quite marginalized in this genre, seemingly play to the hyper-sexuality that male rappers depict women to have. From my perspective, Cardi B and Nicki Minaj, two of the most known female rappers of this generation, play into this trope. Instead of helping



CHRISTINE KIM / DAILY NEXUS

other women in the genre, they reinforce the idea of the limited female space in rap and have even gotten into physical and verbal fights with each other. This disappoints me, as these talented female rappers are overshadowing the beauty of having women in rap in the first place.

Women should have an expanded space in rap music, and women should support each other in the genre instead of allowing for male domination to continue. In the past, when I heard unfavorable lyrics in rap music, I did not take it personally, as it just seemed like an established right for men to disrespect

women in this context. I now think there should be a change in what is considered acceptable. Young girls should not be listening to their favorite rappers call women "hoes" and their favorite songs shouldn't be about "bitches."

Yet, Famous Dex, Dr. Dre and Kendrick Lamar were all in my Spotify 2018 top streamed songs playlist. And honestly, that probably won't change next year. By listening to these artists, I am not supporting rappers' misogyny. Instead, I hope and advocate for change while still appreciating rap music as my favorite genre.

## Is Ariana Grande Helping or Hurting the Queer Community?

Adeline Barron-Merritt  
Reporter

From that epic kiss between Madonna and Britney Spears at the 2003 VMAs to Katy Perry's 2008 hit "I Kissed a Girl," straight artists have been using the taboo of same-sex relationships to cause a stir among audiences, and, unfortunately, we have not left this trend in the 2000s. Music

artists have been "queerbaiting" for a while now, and the LGBTQ+ community is not happy.

Most recently, Ariana Grande is the artist who is a prime example of this dynamic: Her recent music video for "break up with your girlfriend, i'm bored" and her headlining of the Manchester Pride celebration this upcoming August have received plenty of criticism from the

LGBTQ+ community. However, Grande is consistently open about her support and love for the queer community, so what's the big deal here? What *is* queerbait, is Grande guilty of it and why are people mad about it?

In her music video for "break up with your girlfriend, i'm bored," Grande flirts with another woman, and the two lean in for a kiss that is never realized, as right then, the video ends, and the imagery suggests that the singer wants the couple to break up so that she may be with the *woman*, not the man. This would be an adorable twist if Ariana was actually a member of the queer community, but presumably, she is not. Apparently, the video is meant to relay a message of self-love: The other woman was Ariana all along, and Ariana is celebrating herself. But this is never made clear in the video itself.

This ambiguity is a prime example of "queerbaiting" – people in the public eye hinting at same-sex relationships, either in their personal lives or in their work, without confirming their actual "queerness," therefore attracting gay fans while avoiding the discrimination that

these fans face everyday.

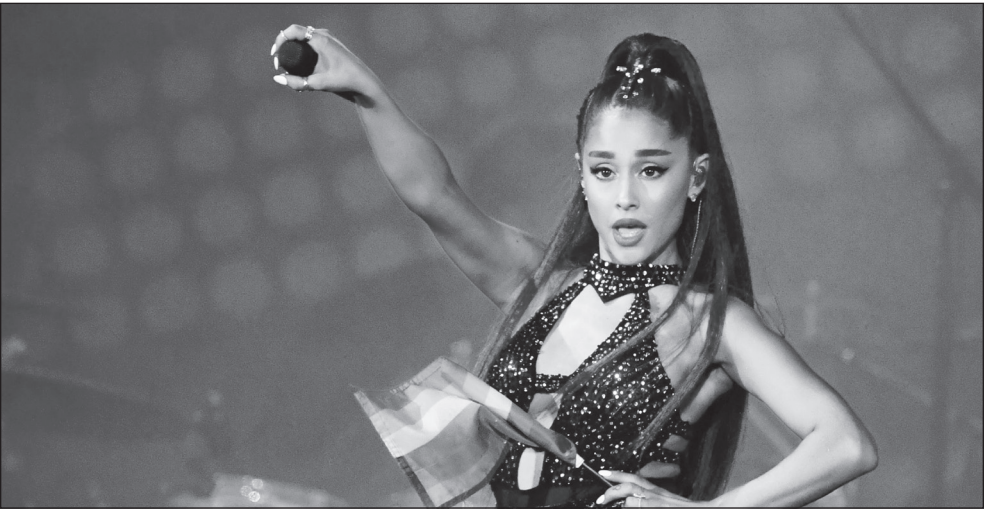
People are angry when straight musicians like Ariana Grande depict same-sex relationships and they are perceived as fun, flirty and harmless by vast audiences. In real life, queer teens are still being called slurs in school halls, trans people are assaulted for their identities and gay couples still worry about what will happen if they hold hands in public. Queerbait is straight artists utilizing the shock factor of gay relationships for attention, without providing any real representation or advocacy for LGBTQ+ fans.

Grande will also be headlining the Manchester Pride festival this August. It is a sentimental moment, as she is returning to the city where the 2017 Manchester Arena bombing occurred, and she will be representing a community that she obviously cares deeply for. However, regardless of her intentions, her name dominating a lineup meant to showcase queer talent, overshadowing the names of other performers, doubling ticket prices and attracting waves of fans – whether they are allies to the queer community or not – is extremely problematic. Pride festivals are meant to be safe spaces

for LGBTQ+ people of all ages and backgrounds, but tickets will likely go to those who are willing to pay the highest prices to see their idols, not to people who desperately need a place to feel accepted.

Ariana Grande is not the only musician who has ever been accused of stealing a spotlight that belongs to a queer artist, but with her millions of fans and followers, her influence cannot go unnoticed. It did not go unnoticed when two straight women kissed on national television, only for cameras to immediately turn to see the reaction of Spears's ex-boyfriend. It did not go unnoticed when Katy Perry sang about hoping her "boyfriend don't mind it."

LGBTQ+ love is not a circus feat, it is not something to be gawked at and it is certainly not something to be appropriated by those who will never face the struggles that come with actually being a member of the queer community. Grande and all other straight artists can certainly be allies, but they cannot claim to support their queer following while using same-sex attraction as a music video prop, or taking up performance space that should belong to queer artists.



Courtesy of Getty Images

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# ON THE MENU



## A Recipe For Success: Buddha Bowls Unveils a New Breakfast Menu

Tiffany Velazquez  
On The Menu Co-Editor

From the Mac Daddy to the New England Clam Chowder, Buddha Bowls has been serving their bread bowl creations to the community of Isla Vista since 2014. Offering both readily-prepared and build your own options, Buddha Bowls has decided to take the next natural step in their flavor journey by unveiling a breakfast menu.

We reached out to the owner, Daniel Dunietz, after hearing about the new changes on Facebook, and he was kind enough to invite us to come in and try the food out. I stopped with a friend on Friday morning during the menu's inaugural week, whereupon Dan greeted us kindly. Preparing everything himself, Dan offered us one of everything on the breakfast menu to give us the full scope of things – bypassing the Breakfast Bowl so as not to overpower us with food right off the bat.

We got started with the Avocado Toast, which was a step up from your run-of-the-mill toast with the addition of tomatoes, feta cheese and balsamic vinegar. While not normally a fan of avocado toast, I found the latter two ingredients really delivered that wow factor and gave it that extra burst of flavor. The bread itself held up well under the weight of the numerous wet ingredients and, all in all, we devoured it just a few bites. Our next dish was the Bacon, Egg & Cheese Sandwich, featuring the added bonus of sausage, which would have otherwise cost extra. A savory and hearty bite, the sandwich was definitely a contender for our favorite. Well worth your buck, it's a big one and requires the use of both hands to truly get a grip on it. Jam packed with both ingredients and flavor, the drizzle of pesto sauce helped it to stand out and easily beat the competition.

Arriving before the sandwich was even completed were the Hash Browns. They were loaded with cheese and bacon – another added bonus – and perfectly crisp. They had that highly desirable cheese pull when sinking our forks in. This was, unfortunately, the only dish we were unable to complete, as we opted to save room for dessert. The shining star of the day was, without a doubt, the Cinnamon Kush. A deeply spiritual experience, it somehow managed to be perfectly soft and fluffy without getting soggy. Composed of french toast with warm, gooey cinnamon icing and powdered sugar, it was the main event and I'm happy we saved it.

As we finished up our food, Dan came over to sit with us and discuss his thoughts on how things seemed to be shaping up during the menu's first week. Happy to hear just how much we had enjoyed everything, he expressed how satisfied he was with the recent turn out. A little slow going at first, the arrival of the weekend appeared to be bringing in the morning rush. Curious as to what had brought about the addition of breakfast, Dan told us the idea had actually been essentially three years in the making. Having tried to incorporate breakfast during the restaurant's sophomore year, the menu items did not succeed as expected, and in fact, many customers actually seemed unaware that breakfast options were being offered at all.

Dan has more hope for this go around, as he's remaining very involved and hands-on while the cooks get the hang of things. His only worry is the Cinnamon Kush, the only item that would not be able to be offered outside of the breakfast hours of 7 to 11 a.m., as the grill is overflowing with savory meats during that time for their traditional menu. After talking it over, we played with the idea of potentially serving it again after the day's dinner rush as a late night munchies option.

So the next time you're craving Buddha Bowls, make sure you take the time to swing by in the morning. Don't be afraid to give your taste palette a change and try their Cinnamon Kush. Enjoy a little something sweet because whatever they're doing here, they should never stop!



# SCIENCE & TECH

## Food Partitioning Allows for Fish's Pacific Coexistence

Jacqueline Wen  
Science Editor

Within the Coral Triangle in the Indo-Pacific region exists the world's greatest richness of marine species, including seven species of territorial damselfish. Also found here is the smallest scale of spatial partitioning recorded for these species, with just one or two meters separating some populations. How, scientists wondered, do these territorial fish cohabit the same coral reefs without directly competing?

The answer lays in utilizing different food sources.

At Kimbe Bay, Papua New Guinea, in the Coral Triangle, researchers used stable isotope analysis to study the damselfish diet. What an animal eats gets incorporated into its tissues. By tracking specific molecules found in potential food sources and detecting them in tissues, the scientists were able to infer the diet of these fish.

"Rather than getting a 'snapshot' of [the damselfishes'] diet by looking at its stomach content, you get a long-term picture of what the animal consumes on a regular basis because the food is incorporated into the animals' tissue," Jacob Eurich, a UC Santa Barbara postdoctoral researcher and the lead author of the paper, said in an email.

Species must consider various significant factors including food sources and level of competition when it comes to their survival. Limited resources such as habitat or food prompt animals to adapt and carve out niches.

Trophic partitioning, the sharing of food resources to minimize competition, occurs commonly among most species. The researchers found that fierce competition from neighboring damselfish species forced populations to adopt this adaptation.

"An animal can't spend all of its time and energy fighting a neighbor," Eurich explained. "Instead, animals can reduce competition by using a different resource. In this study we showed some of the species switched diets to reduce competition."

The results of this study, "Stable isotope analysis reveals trophic diversity and partitioning in territorial damselfishes on a low-latitude coral reef," published in *Marine Biology*, changed the researchers' knowledge of these fish.

As algae-farmers, these damselfish species were thought to have reef-based diets until Eurich and colleagues found evidence of two species foraging in nearby drifting water columns. This indicated pelagic, or open-sea, feeders. Using stable isotope analysis, they discovered that those damselfish species fed on microscopic zooplankton. They also observed an intermediate omnivore group, feeding on both algae and zooplankton.

This opportunistic feeding – when the fish's preferred food sources may not be available for various reasons including competition – establishes one instance of how damselfish can readily acclimate to changing conditions.

Such adaptations may help explain why damselfishes flourish and proliferate while climate change and coral habitat loss cause the die-off of most species. In fact, their high success in survival has earned them the title of 'winners of coral bleaching.'



Courtesy of Jacob Eurich

Eurich and his team's research revealed that different damselfish populations at Kimbe Bay, Papua New Guinea, are able to cohabit the same coral reefs through sharing food resources and switching diets to reduce competition.

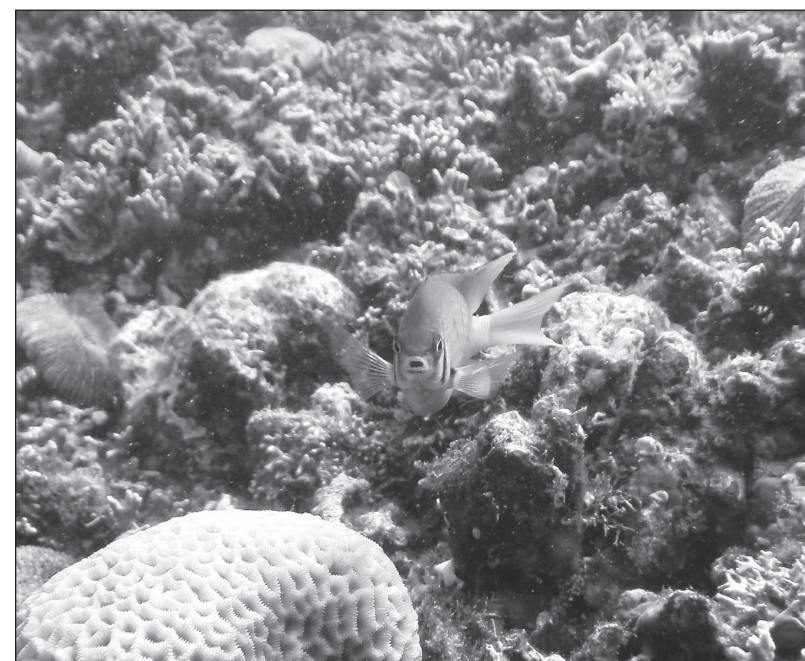
"Baby fish, or larvae, float around in open ocean until they are big enough to settle onto a coral reef. In most cases the habitat they settle on is the habitat that is successful (individuals that settle on bad habitats likely will not make it) and where they will spend most of their life. These species then partition habitat at an even more fine resolution and complement this with trophic partitioning – or using different food sources," Eurich said.

Eurich and his colleagues hope to continue exploring territorial damselfish ecology in areas such as the Caribbean and Great Barrier Reef, to see whether behavior changes by region.

"The study here shows how many of these species may coexist in the future. I think it is important to look at the competition and coexistence of species that may be the most abundant on future reefs."

Based on these new observations of diet and habitat factorings, the study recommends recategorization of damselfishes.

"It is common to generalize what animals are doing, especially when considering how they influence our environment," Eurich noted. "However, now, more than ever, we need to remember that species that look the same may not be doing the same things."



Courtesy of Jacob Eurich

## A Study of Love: UCSB Researcher Examines Altruism in Couples

Kyle Perkovich  
Reporter

What is love?

Love is happiness. Love is warmth. Love is a connection you rarely have the opportunity to experience. These may be the answers you get when asking the people around you to describe this powerful emotion, but what does science say?

As we are increasingly discovering, the emotions we feel every day can be traced back to pathways within our brain. Each fleeting thought or feeling is a complicated, branching trail of neurons within our head, sending chemical messages at speeds we can barely imagine. With modern research, we are learning how to trace the chemical and neural systems within ourselves responsible for the emotions we feel – even those as seemingly abstract as love.

Bianca Acevedo, a researcher at UCSB, has worked with her team and colleagues to help uncover how our brains define love.

According to a recent study, published in the *Behavioral Neuroscience* journal, Acevedo examined the neural basis of a concept called altruism, in which someone acts in opposition of their own self-interest so as to help someone else. From an evolutionary standpoint, altruism is generally seen as a way to protect one's own kin and help pass on genes across species.

To examine human altruism in the lab, the researchers studied and compared the brain patterns of newlywed couples when faced with altruistic situations involving their partners, versus in situations involving strangers.

The study tracked brain activity through a functional magnetic resonance imaging machine (fMRI). The fMRI is able to track changes in soft tissue and blood flow, allowing researchers to see which regions of the brain are activated in response to different given scenarios. Thus, by studying fMRI images while participants reacted to various altruistic scenarios involving first their newlywed partners, then strangers, the researchers were able to isolate specific areas of the brain involved in the emotional processing of loved ones.

This research revealed that there are key chemical differences in the way a person reacts to an altruistic situation with their partner, as opposed to one with a stranger.

As Acevedo explained, "Some of the key patterns of activation were not shown to strangers, but were shown towards the partner."

While certain responses were common between both groups, as with the activation of the amygdala, a region of the brain connected to emotional processing, the differences in brain activity were vital to note.

"One area that showed robust activation in response to partner emotional situations was the ventral pallidum. The ventral pallidum is an area that is important for pair bonding and attachment processes. We did not see activation there for strangers, but did for pairs."

This research is significant, as it helps us to better understand the complex and fascinating ways in which our brains function, allowing us to understand ourselves better than ever before. We continue to learn that everything we feel has some neural basis, and, by discovering these pathways, we can understand our brains in ways we'd never thought possible.

Specifically, Acevedo believes, "It is important that this attachment system is showing response in areas related to attachment for altruism, or what could be construed as a caregiving system."

We are learning more and more about how evolution has led to a compulsion to protect our loved ones and pass on our genes. As research on the subject progresses, findings show that this process is heavily ingrained in our brain systems.

In the future, Acevedo's research will explore "studies of empathy in couples who may have a sick partner", as well as "research on the neural and genetic basis of sensory processing sensitivity." She continues to work on learning about how our genes, chemicals and neurons create the traits and emotions we all have.

With work like this, we hope to further isolate and dissect those areas of the brain that truly make us who we are.



Courtesy of Pixabay

In looking at the brain activity of people placed in altruistic scenarios with their newlywed spouse versus with strangers, Acevedo and her group showed that greater patterns of activation was shown toward the partner than toward the stranger.

# OPINION

## Healthcare in College is a Total Headache



Hannah Jackson  
Opinion Editor

The pain was blinding and seemingly came out of nowhere. The throbbing began in my right temple, which no amount of massaging or pressure could dull. Suddenly, the pain exploded into my eyeball like a piece of shrapnel. I was eight years old and thought I was dying.

When you've been getting chronic migraines for the majority of your life, dealing with constant pain is just a part of daily existence. If someone had told me 12 years ago that today I would be experiencing the same pain on a regular basis, I could not have imagined operating on that threshold of discomfort. Usually, the migraines that I get on a weekly basis are categorized as pesky; they leave me able to function but with noticeable discomfort. However, more serious migraines have made it so that at times I am on the verge of vomiting, sensitive to the faintest light, sound or smell and even partly lose the ability to see.

Elaborate new treatments for migraines are always popping up, with tantalizing FDA-approved labels and seductive promises of reduced and less severe headache days. Sometimes, the treatments seem ridiculous: Botox injections to the head, menthol-infused patches, weird-looking headbands that contain electrodes. But recently, when the FDA approved one out of just three injectable migraine drugs on the market, I immediately knew that I wanted to get my hands on it.

To absolutely nobody's surprise, the American healthcare system is a dense jungle of red tape, and getting a prescription for the injectable medication turned out to be borderline impossible.

"You aren't a good candidate for this drug," my neurologist told me, as he handed me a prescription for an anti-seizure drug called Topamax instead.

"You haven't tried enough medications for your insurance company to cover this one," which essentially meant that if I wanted the injection, I would have to pay thousands of dollars out of pocket every month – just to potentially feel okay.

Thus began yet another seemingly endless trial-and-error run with a foreign medication, and for the third year in a row, I resigned myself to physical pain and chemical cocktails,

hoping that the side effects wouldn't be all-consuming.

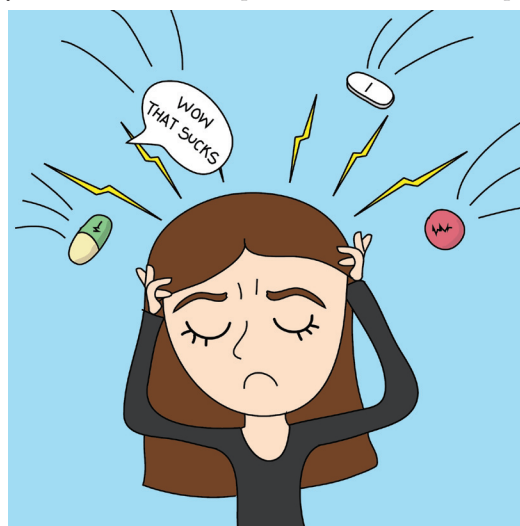
This fear of side effects didn't emerge from nowhere; it had happened before and I was positive that it could happen again. During my freshman year of college, I switched brands of birth control from a standard 21-days-on/seven-days-off cycle to one that increased my hormone levels every week – dually managing to make my painful periods even worse and slamming me with a blindsiding depression.

I spent the first two quarters of my second year in a tailspin. Crying fits would spring up out of nowhere and an increasingly volatile relationship with the person I had considered my best friend was making it all the worse. It took until spring break to admit to myself that what had once been rattled off as a potential side effect had grown into an autonomous beast, encompassing my entire existence.

My personal experience with Prozac has been ideal. On the first sunny day, a few weeks into spring quarter, I found myself imbued with a newfound appreciation for life and sat on the Arbor lawn for over an hour basking in my gratitude. While that initial burst of euphoria doesn't last forever, Prozac has done wonders in anchoring me to the world – a trait that was very much appreciated when a death in the family during spring quarter hit and I realized that had I not been on antidepressants, my grief would have been exponentially more explosive.

Not every experience can be as simple and as painless as my trial with Prozac, which was ironically needed to curb a side effect gone rogue. The migraine medication I take now, Topamax, has catapulted both my body and my mind through a never-ending loop of misery: numbness of the extremities, indigestion so severe that I can barely stomach any food that isn't unexciting and bland, severe dehydration, tiredness, sluggishness, nervousness, loss of appetite, weight loss. But worst of all, beyond any of the frustrating physical symptoms, is what it has done to my mind.

Being on an anti-seizure medication inhibits brain function and having this knowledge is infuriating when there isn't a damn thing to do about it. I can feel my thoughts forming slowly, like a late 90s computer would load a webpage on



CHRISTINE KIM / DAILY NEXUS

The American healthcare system is dense jungle of red tape, and getting a prescription for the injectable medication turned out to be borderline impossible.

Internet Explorer. I feel myself slipping academically, and I have to consciously choose whether or not to produce my optimal standard of work or open myself up to the possibility of earth-shattering migraines.

There is no support available for these kinds of problems in university because, quite frankly, there is nothing to be done. Healthcare is a personal choice to make and ultimately, I am the only person who can decide for myself if these horrible side effects are worth the head-splitting pain I've experienced on a weekly basis for the past twelve years of my life. And I still don't know. That being said though, dealing with side effects that affect academic performance is an incredibly isolating experience – especially when the typical response from friends, counselors, TAs, doctors and professors alike is, "Wow, that sucks."

Experiencing medical crises or medication-induced side effects that have impacted my academic career has been a lonely experience. Friends who do not experience similar health issues rarely sympathize, and I have regularly feared that sharing these problems with my TAs and professors will mark me as a complainer, an excuse-maker or someone who just isn't trying hard enough.

Be there for the people in your life who are facing academic struggles due to health problems. Make an effort to get dinner with them, plan study dates or even just ask them how they're actually doing. Feeling like a stranger in your own body is jarring enough, and the added stress of falling behind in school can only make your sense of self more removed. While it's certainly nobody else's job or obligation to deal with that, having a good support system makes an insurmountable difference.

Hannah Jackson wants to hear something better than, "Wow, that sucks."

## Perfect but Passive: The Problem With the 'Model Minority'

Annabel Li  
Opinion Writer

If you grew up in a Chinese household, chances are that you have been praised with the word "guai" whenever you did something pleasing to your parents. It's sometimes assigned as a pet name, "guai guai."

Growing up, I thought it was synonymous to "good," but that's not completely correct. "Guai" actually means obedient. When I brushed my teeth on time, got straight A's, made dinner for my sisters, I was "guai."

It's interesting, isn't it? I've never heard of another culture where a single syllable could so easily reinforce an entire community's understanding of what was good. Infants grow up into adults with this linguistic feedback loop hardcoded into their neural networks, then they start the engine again with their own children.

I like to listen to podcasts in the morning and walk on the beach, one of my subscriptions being to Vox. I generally have no issue with political bias in media, as long as I'm conscious of it, but I heard something that made me stop: "[Ed Blum] was motivated by these larger concerns about affirmative action and Asian-Americans emerged as the ideal political pawns."

Ed Blum is the lawyer representing the Students for Fair Admissions in an affirmative action suit against Harvard University. Affirmative action was first introduced by JFK as a way to get minorities more involved in certain industries and fields; this then evolved into a system of racial quotas in the college admission system. In 1978, UC Davis Medical School was sued by a young white applicant Allan Bakke when he was informally told that he was rejected due to minority quotas they had to fulfill. The case made it to the Supreme Court, and he

was eventually admitted but not without the ruling that although quotas were unconstitutional, affirmative action was constitutional under some circumstances.

Like a secret weapon, my voiceless pigment is invoked as an example — the attractive numbers, test scores, median income, divorce rate, the immaculate success that refutes the necessity of any person of color to file a complaint.

Today, this same issue has come up with Harvard, but with Asian-American applicants as the plaintiff. Harvard evaluates applicants categorically, rating them in areas like athletics, academics and extracurriculars. Now facing a lawsuit for systematically rejecting Asian applicants, Harvard admissions was found to be consistently marking Asian applicants down in the personality category when other areas had high marks.

So, standing on the beach, listening to the gentle, politically correct voices of these hosts casually attribute Asians to "pawns" was surreal. The possibility of young Asian-Americans feeling genuinely opposed to systematic discrimination against them by a reputable institution like Harvard was so unfathomable, that instead, mental calculus had to be done to come to the more appropriate conclusion. Whites are the real people opposing this issue, and Asians are the "pawns," removing that pesky outlier that is our demographic, and reconciling minority-friendly social liberalism with the support of affirmative action.

"Pawns" may be the more comfortable description, because it's an absurd thought, isn't it? A politically involved Asian-American. The concept of the Asian is not one who is engaged, active or powerful. We're mice. We're "guai."

Perhaps sitting in the adornments of the default, at a clinical distance, it becomes easy to gesture vaguely toward other pigments and say "minorities." This may make it feel rational to hold all pigments to the standard — the best tool in a person's arsenal if they're trying to throw a wrench into the idea that groups like African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans carry any sort of inherent disadvantage with them.

Like a secret weapon, my voiceless pigment is invoked as an example — the attractive numbers, test scores, median income, divorce rate, the immaculate success that refutes the necessity of any person of color to file a complaint. The monetary figures that become a red herring in discussions about white privilege; if white people are privileged, then why do Asians make more?

The things said about Asian-Americans in the media come from anyone but. And part of me feels like we brought it upon ourselves, by being OK with the stereotyping, it is mostly positive after all — what's to complain about? We're doing relatively well in the U.S., so why get into the messiness of politics? We may even take pride in how little we complain, how little we speak up. Maybe that's why our voter turnout rate is 47 percent versus 66 percent from blacks and 64 percent from whites. At the same time, there is a chicken-egg situation: Only 31 percent of Asian-Americans can report being contacted by candidates versus the 53 percent average.

Stereotypes aren't evil, they're the unfortunate products of pattern recognition. It feels logical to paint a mental picture of a white man carrying a yellow face when you hear that Ed Blum is suing on behalf of Asians. Perhaps, sitting in an admissions office, looking at so many qualified Asian applicants, it may feel necessary, even rational, to justify rejection with the prejudice that Asians have no personality.

Going about student life here at UCSB, I'm shocked to see so many Asian students who aren't aware of what's happening to their own community. So many motivated, intelligent and creative individuals who have not had any discussions of the trade-offs present in policies that consider race, or lack of representation in media or never knew the history of the Chinese Exclusion Act or Japanese internment camps. The period of dormancy is over. It's time to become more aware and, if need be, angry.

Annabel Li thinks the perception of Asian Americans as a passive minority needs to change.



TINNA LAM / DAILY NEXUS

# HOROSCOPES

Last print of the quarter? Time to drop some final's week wisdom.

ARIES  
MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

No matter how hard you will it to happen, it doesn't seem like a giant meteor will fall out of the sky and onto your 8 a.m. final in Buchanan. Maybe consider studying?

TAURUS  
APRIL 20 - MAY 20

You will be a member of the bottom half of the class that makes the top half possible!

GEMINI  
MAY 21 - JUNE 20

Don't be that jackass who says "I did alright," when you got a 92.

CANCER  
JUNE 21 - JULY 22

The odds of being struck by lightning are 1 in 700,000. Get that doctor's note ready, cause you've got your one way ticket out of finals, baby!

LEO  
JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

Instead of studying, you'll decide to clean your room for the first time all quarter. WASH YOUR DAMN BED SHEETS!

VIRGO  
AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

Shoot ya shot with the cutie in the lib! No romance sweeter than finals week romance.

LIBRA  
SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

Interesting how you didn't have enough money to pitch for your friend's dog's GoFundMe, but you're suddenly fine when it comes time for spring break in Cabo.

SCORPIO  
OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

Under the influence of Adderall, you will mistakenly find yourself hours deep into Free and For Sale drama instead of your term paper.

SAGITTARIUS  
NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

You'll be that one person who shows up 45 minutes late to the final. How does that even happen? Set an alarm, man...

CAPRICORN  
DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

Your PROFESSOR will show up 15 minutes late to the final! The age-old adage applies: if the professor is 15 minutes late are you allowed to leave? We aren't sure, but probably wouldn't test this one.

AQUARIUS  
JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

You will meet your friend at Cafe for a "study date," buy a Blended, pull out 10 different highlighters, and proceed to get nothing done for five hours.

PISCES  
FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

You'll be that one person who leaves the final in tears. Total Pisces Move.