



Gambian Student Gains Asylum

Once sleeping out of his car and contemplating suicide, student Alagie Jammeh now has a bright future in the U.S.



JENNY LUO / DAILY NEXUS

Jammeh posted his Facebook status in September 2014, and by November he had already been stripped of his scholarship by the Gambian government, one of 70 countries that punishes citizens based on sexual orientation.

Megan Mineiro
Editor in Chief

There was a knock on the window. “Hey, what are you doing here? Are you sleeping in your car?” a policeman asked Alagie Jammeh, an international student from the Gambia studying at UCSB.

Jammeh was in fact living out of his vehicle and struggling to feed himself, sometimes going days without food. The officer warned Jammeh he would be ticketed if he continued sleeping in his car on campus.

In September 2014, Jammeh posted on Facebook that “No one should be denied their basic fundamental human rights

because of their sexuality.” Though he took the post down two days later after receiving calls from relatives back home warning him of the government’s reaction to his statement, it was too late. By November, his presidential scholarship from the Gambian government was cut off.

Jammeh said he desired to be part of a community that embraces all people, irrespective of their gender identity. As a result of his newfound convictions, Jammeh found himself ostracized from his homeland and fearing for his life.

“I was scared the Gambian government is going to send someone in America to kill me,” Jammeh said. “I was terrified that some people who disagreed with what

I said on Facebook would eventually hunt me down.”

Located on the west coast of Africa with a population of approximately 1.9 million, the Gambia is one of 70 countries in the world that can imprison citizens for their sexual orientation. President of the Gambia, Yahya Jammeh — a distant uncle of Alagie — stated during his address to the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 that homosexuality is one of the “biggest threats to human existence.”

“The president of the Gambia has been saying that any gay person that come to the Gambia — we will slit your throat. We will kill you. You will go to jail for the

JAMMEH p.7

UCSB To Begin Using Students’ Preferred Names



REBECCA BALDREE / DAILY NEXUS

The use of preferred names will give trans students the opportunity to use the name most fitting to their identity.

Supriya Yelimeli
News Editor

UC Santa Barbara will begin using preferred names in all campus services on June 16, affecting access cards, class rosters and faculty interactions with students.

Celestino Jones, second-year music composition major, came out as transgender during the beginning of his second year at UCSB. “I’ve been stopped at the dining commons before because I don’t look like a ‘Celeste,’” Jones said, after undergoing hormone therapy that changed his appearance.

He now has the opportunity to purchase a new access card with his preferred name without having to legally change his documentation.

“It grew out of the desire to support transgender students specifically, because there are many transgender students whose legal name is not consistent with their identity,” Leesa Beck, the

PREFERRED p.8



ONE LAST HOME SWING FOR GAUCHO BASEBALL

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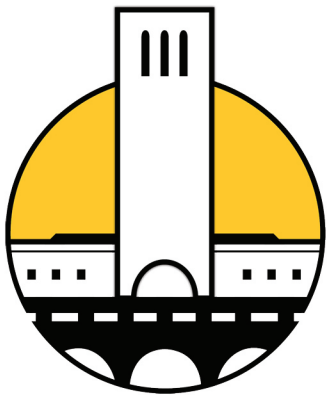
#19

VS



#19 BASEBALL VS RIVERSIDE
CAESAR UYESAKA STADIUM
THURSDAY | 3PM
FRIDAY | 3PM
SATURDAY | 1PM

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24 Hr. IMPROVATHON
Friday, May 27
at 8 pm
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& 10pm
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\$12 at the door



Brothers from Other
Mothers
BFOM's SPRING
CONCERT:
TALENT SHOW
Sunday, May 29 at
7pm
IV Theatre, IV
\$4 - Online or \$5 - at
the door



**READING: Tides by
Pedro Xavier Solís**
Tuesday, May 31, 2016
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
@ McCune Conference
Room

WORD Magazine
WORDSTOCK MUSIC
FESTIVAL
Saturday, May 28 at
1pm
Anisq'oyo' Park
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Visiting Scholar
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Chen: Resilience:
Maintaining Good
Health in the Face of
Adversity**
Wednesday,
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4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
@ Psych 1312
(SAGE Seminar Room)
Room 1213
FREE EVENT



Edith Chen is co-director of the
Foundations of Health Research
Center at Northwestern University.
Dr. Chen received a B.A. in history of
science from Harvard University, and
a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the
University of California, Los Angeles.
She completed a clinical internship at
Western Psychiatric Institute & Clinic,
followed by a post-doctoral fellowship
in health psychology at the University of
Pittsburgh. Dr. Chen was an Assistant
Professor at Washington University in St.
Louis from 2000-2003. From 2003-2012,
she was Professor of Psychology at the
University of British Columbia and the
Canada Research Chair in Health and
Society.

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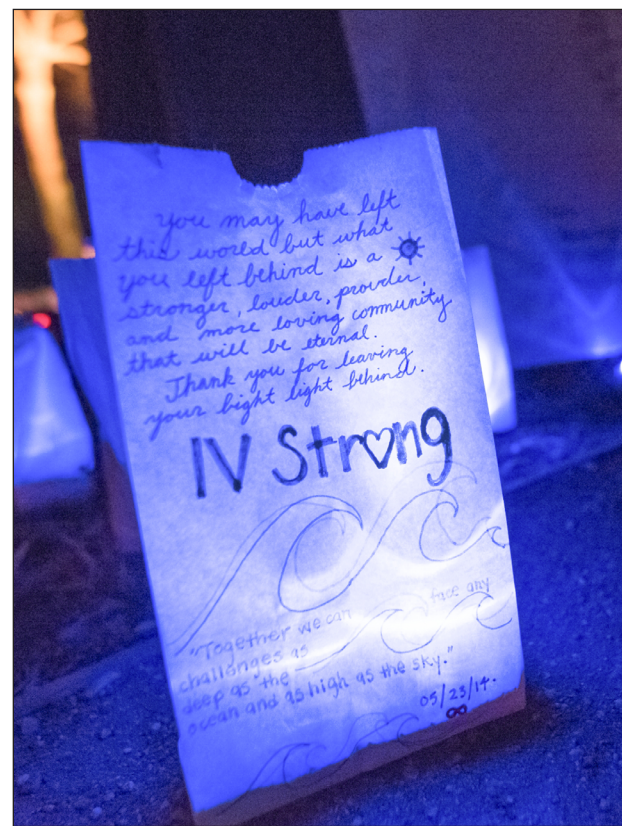
WEATHER

The Weatherhuman thinks that the Feminism Is Cancer rally has some fair points: Those running it are like chemotherapy in that they just cause us all a lot of nausea and discomfort.

Tomorrow's Forecast: Ze spends hir Thursday at hir grandmother's funeral (who died of actual cancer this week) instead of at the YAL rally.

BLUNITE

UCSB students and Isla Vista residents honored and celebrated the lives of the six students who passed away due to the events of May 23rd, 2014, through participating in a variety of memorial events held on and off campus. On Monday, 75 UCSB dance majors, barefoot and dressed in all white, performed The Table of Silence Project, a ritualistic dance that acts as a call for peace and unity during times of hardship and loss. Later in the evening, students and I.V. residents attended "Blunite" in Anisq'Oyo' Park, where community members were able to come together to decorate paper lanterns and canvasses with art, songs and messages in memory of the students' lives.



Bernie Sanders Coming to Santa Barbara



Sanders’s visit follows an appearance at UCSB last week by Danny DeVito endorsing the presidential candidate; DeVito had urged the importance of voting in the Calif. primary.

Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs
County News Editor

Adding to his multi-city tour of California, Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders announced Tuesday that he will hold a rally at Santa Barbara City College on Saturday morning.

Sen. Sanders (I-Vt.) will speak to SBCC students and residents of Santa Barbara from The Great Meadow on SBCC’s West Campus, a large plot of grass overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The rally, titled “A Future to Believe In,” is free and open to the public. Doors open for the event at 7 a.m.

Sanders’s campaign said in a statement that Sanders will be speaking about money in politics, climate change, health care and how to make public colleges and universities tuition-free.

The Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) said the 15x, an express line between UC Santa Barbara and SBCC, will not be running on Saturday.

Cynthia Boche, assistant planning

manager at MTD, said none of the Saturday buses will get UCSB students to SBCC by 7 a.m., but that students may be able to arrive by 8. Boche said she expects an influx of passengers on Saturday morning.

“I think a lot of people from Isla Vista will be wanting to get to the event,” she said.

UCSB students can take the Line 11 bus to the downtown Transit Center and then take Line 4 or Line 17 to SBCC.

Actor Danny DeVito, who has endorsed Sanders, drew hundreds of UCSB students to the Arbor for several hours last week, telling them it was important to vote in the California Democratic primary on June 7.

People planning to see Sanders at SBCC should not bring bags, signs or banners and should limit belongings to small items like keys and phones, the candidate’s campaign said.

After speaking at SBCC, Sanders will head 60 miles north to address supporters at Santa Maria High School’s Wilson Stadium. Students can RSVP for the SBCC rally at Sanders’s campaign website.



National News

Mohan Saxena
Staff Writer

Clinton Criticized by State Department over Emails

The inspector general of the U.S. State Department released a report Wednesday that sharply criticized current presidential candidate Hillary Clinton’s use of a private email server during her tenure as Secretary of State. The report says that Clinton would not have received approval to handle her emails the way she did, even if she had sought prior approval. It also states that her refusal to surrender her emails to the State Department was a violation of departmental policies created to comply with the Federal Records Act. Clinton and her aides largely downplayed the significance of this report, saying they will cooperate with the investigation. Clinton and her top aides have refused interviews with the State Department’s inspector general. [nytimes.com](#)

Several States Sue Federal Government over Transgender Directive

Authorities from 11 states filed a lawsuit in a Federal District Court in North Texas Wednesday claiming the Obama administration was “conspiring to use workplaces and public schools as laboratories for a massive social experiment” following nationwide discussions on civil rights policies for transgender students. The plaintiffs in the case are the states of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin, the governor of Maine, the Arizona Department of Education and school districts in Texas and Arizona. This lawsuit comes 12 days after the Justice Department and the Department of Education issued “significant guidance” to public schools across the nation to enact policies to protect the rights of transgender students. [nytimes.com](#)

International Spotlight

Swiss Court Rules Students Must Shake Teachers’ Hands

A court in Switzerland ruled Wednesday that Muslim students who initially refused to shake hands with their teacher must do so before and after class. Officials said shaking hands is a tradition in Switzerland, but the Muslim boys, originally from Syria, refused to do so over their faith, which they claim bars them from shaking hands with women to whom they are not related. They were originally allowed to not shake hands, but the case eventually turned into a national controversy that led to Wednesday’s ruling. Justice Minister Simonetta Sommaruga defended her ruling by saying the act of shaking hands is part of the Swiss culture. She said upholding culture, integrating foreigners and promoting gender equality were more important than protecting the boys’ religious beliefs. Several Swiss-Muslim groups have said there is no religious justification for not shaking hands with the opposite gender, although one group disputes that claim. [bbc.com](#)

As the 2015-2016 academic year ends, we will miss those UCSB students who passed away during the last year.

In memory of

Lillian Feng
1996 - 2016

Alen Nazari
1990 - 2016

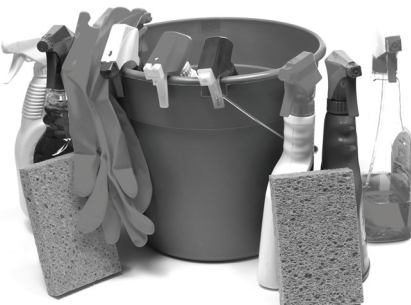
Teresa Marie Igaz
1985 - 2015

Andres “Andy” Esteban Sanchez
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Bill: CCs Must Accept AP Credit for Score of 3

Josh Ortiz
University News Editor

The California State Assembly passed a bill Wednesday to ensure that community colleges in the state award class credit to students who pass their Advanced Placement (AP) exams with a minimum score of three out of five.

“Most students are not aware that different college districts have different AP credit policies,” Assemblymember Das Williams, author of the bill, said while speaking before the Assembly on Monday.

The College Board states on their website that students who earn a score of three or above are “qualified” for the subject in which they are tested.

Forty of California’s 113 community colleges, however, do not grant credit to students who earn a score of three on their AP tests, according to the College Board.

Twenty-four of the 40 colleges require minimum scores of four, and six colleges require a score of five, which is the highest score possible for any AP exam. The remaining 10 community colleges have no existing policies for awarding credit to AP students.

Williams said the varying AP credit policies in California community colleges are problematic because students might have to retake introductory courses for subjects in which they are already competent.

“In an era of tuition increases, impacted classrooms and lengthy time to transfer in degree, this is truly unnecessary,” Williams said.

Williams introduced Assembly Bill 1985 (AB 1985) in February, a bill that would

require two administrative bodies — the California Community College Chancellor’s Office and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges — to award credit to students who score a three or higher on AP exams.

Williams said this resolution would create a “uniform policy” to streamline the AP credit process for California community colleges.

If the bill allows students to replace college courses with AP credit, Williams said it will increase access for popular classes, allow students to graduate more quickly and make community college more affordable.

Assemblymember Donald Wagner from Orange County, however, said he finds there to be “an unfortunate side effect” in the “well-

intended” bill.

Wagner, in the Assembly floor session on Monday, said the bill “intrudes” upon the concept of academic freedom. He said lawmakers ought to respect the

varying policies of community colleges as to what constitutes a suitable AP score for earning college credit.

“Historically in our country we’ve recognized the importance of academic freedom, meaning the right of the professors to decide for themselves,” Wagner said.

Despite these objections, though, AB 1985 passed in the Assembly by a 73-2 vote. Wagner and another assemblymember from Orange County, Matthew Harper, were the only two to vote against the bill.

AB 1985 will now go to the California State Senate, where legislators will continue to review the bill in subsequent committee hearings.

“In an era of tuition increases, impacted classrooms and lengthy time to transfer in degree, [differing AP credit policies are] truly unnecessary.

- Das Williams



Daily Nexus file photo

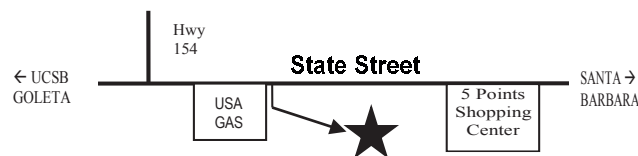
Currently, different community colleges award class credit for various AP scores. This bill would create a more uniform policy, simultaneously alleviating tuition costs at CCs.

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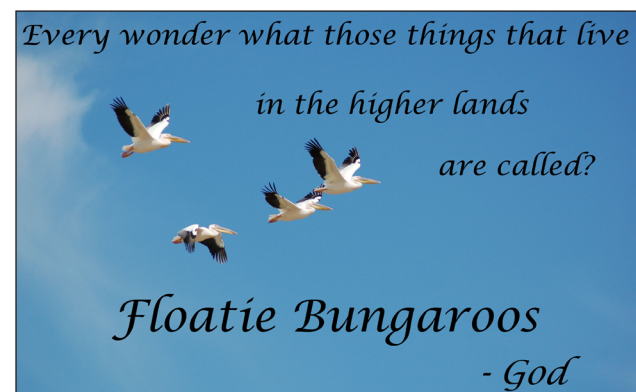


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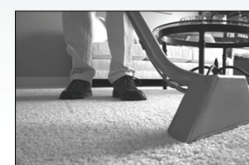


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UCSB Writing Program Creates Science Minor

Maura Fox
Asst. News Editor

Starting next fall, UC Santa Barbara will offer a writing minor for science communication, teaching students to share scientific information with a diverse audience.

The writing program has been developing the minor for 18 months and will accept applications in the fall for classes beginning in Winter Quarter. Interested students will be able to enroll in two new classes — scientific literacy (Writing 159A) and science communication for the public (Writing 159B) — after they complete a variety of prerequisite courses from the writing or science departments.

In addition to completing the prerequisites, students must also assemble a portfolio of past writing work to be considered for the minor.

Karen Lunsford, associate professor of writing, said students in the minor are required to complete an internship or a third “capstone” course, as well as create another portfolio that will “showcase [the] capacities and abilities” that students accumulate in the courses.

While several political changes are based on scientific research, “it’s not enough for our democracy to rely on just the scientists,” Lunsford said. Instead, she said all organizations must seek to understand science and its worldwide implications.

“We’ve seen, very recently, several discussions going on in both the news and among politicians about things like climate change, questions about vaccinations, questions about various topics ... questions all about policy making,” Lunsford said.

Lunsford said students from all departments are encouraged to apply for the minor if they have an interest in understanding scientific research.

“As long as you’re interested in a S.T.E.M. topic, we can help teach you how to read that material,” Lunsford

said. “It is a different route from someone who already has that major, but we do need people coming in from both directions, seeing what people can understand and interpret for another audience.”

Professor Doug Bradley, who will teach scientific literacy in the Winter Quarter, said his class will specialize in learning the basic concepts of science and how students can use multimedia to deliver the information to a large audience.

Bradley said course assignments will have students presenting data in “unique ways” to connect non-S.T.E.M. people to the science field through scientific and quantitative graphics.

“In terms of science communication, good practice would be to connect as efficiently as possible with your audience, a broad audience ... and convey ideas and issues to them that will get them to orient their lives in ways that accord with rational scientific thinking,” Bradley said.

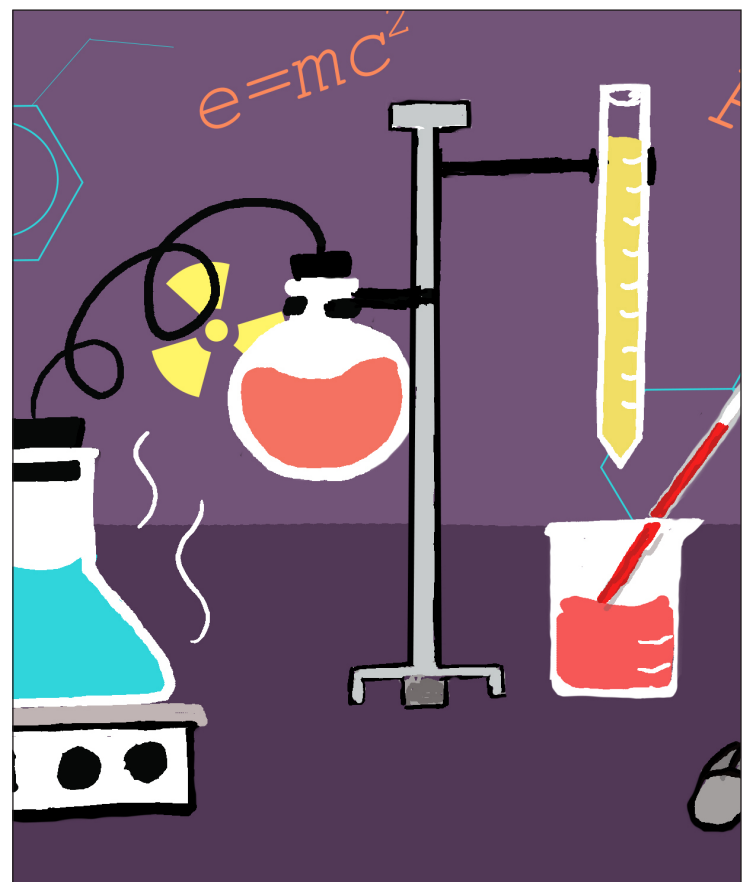
Professor Janet Mizrahi, who will be teaching science communication for the public, said her students will spend Spring Quarter writing press releases and news stories, creating websites and recording podcasts.

Mizrahi wants students to learn the best ways to communicate in the workplace through writing and technology, regardless of the career they eventually pursue.

“I hope they not only become better citizens and better writers, but also more marketable college graduates,” Mizrahi said.

Bradley said “it is particularly urgent right now,” for students to learn from the minor because UCSB was recently ranked eighth in worldwide research by the international Leiden Ranking system.

“That means our professionals need to make darn sure the information they’re conveying to the public is spot on target,” he continued. “We’re trying to support that leadership that the campus is already showing and push it out even further.”



SIERRA DEAK / DAILY NEXUS

The Writing Program will begin accepting applications to the minor next fall, which will include submission of a writing portfolio.

Margaret T. Getman Service to Students Award

In honor of the former UCSB Dean of Student Residents, Margaret T. Getman, this annual award recognizes university staff and faculty who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the growth and development of students and to the quality of student life.

RECIPIENTS ARE:

Melissa Barthelemy
History Department

Laura Crownover
Chemical Engineering

Maritza Mejia-Wilson
Orientation Programs

Michael Miller
Office of Financial Aid
& Scholarships

Bruce Tiffney
College of Creative Studies

Please celebrate with nominees and recipients at a reception on
Wednesday, June 1, 9 a.m., at the Student Affairs divisional meeting in Corwin Pavilion.

The award and reception are co-sponsored by Housing & Residential Services and the Division of Student Affairs.

JAMMEH

Continued from p.1

rest of your life. We will not allow gay men or gay women in our society," Jammeh said.

Jammeh's view on the gay community began to change after he learned his roommate and good friend was gay. He was further influenced by his friend Alexandra Brabson, who told him that individuals are born gay, rather than choosing to be so later in life.

"I couldn't see any single thing that is ungodly or that is mean about gay people, so I decided that it was something that I was going to change my views on. I put myself in their situation," Jammeh said, adding that if people were to insult him because he is black, he "would feel like someone had violated [his] basic human rights."

A STRUGGLE TO STAY IN AMERICA

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security notified Alagie on April 17, 2016, that he had been granted political asylum.

"You can stay here and work here and go to school here, without worrying about being deported," Jammeh recalled his lawyer telling him. "I am still trying to get used to it, because it feels like this is unreal; it feels like I am still dreaming."

Habiba Simjee, coordinator with the Undocumented Student Services at UCSB and an attorney with the UC Undocumented Legal Services Counsel, worked with Jammeh to help find him legal representation after it became clear the first attorney he had been working with was mishandling the case.

"Alagie was in fact in a precarious situation because his funding had been cut off from the Gambian government. He could lose his international student status and then become undocumented," Simjee said. "The previous attorney had made kind of a mess with the case; there were glaring issues."

The two decided Jammeh should be represented by Public Counsel in Los Angeles because of a special agreement with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Asylum office in L.A. that would allow for Jammeh's request to be processed more quickly.

"They have an agreement with the L.A. asylum office to hear their claims by April of the same year, whereas if had he gone with another attorney he would have been on the same schedule as everyone else, and it could take two years or more to get on the asylum calendar," Simjee said. He went on to explain that the special agreement is because the attorneys at public counsel work with the UC Los Angeles School of Law, so for educational purposes students are allowed to go to the asylum hearings, which are scheduled before the end of the academic year.

After visiting Los Angeles to meet with his lawyer every week for about four months, Jammeh travelled to the asylum office in early April for an interview that lasted approximately four hours. Two weeks later he returned to learn whether his request for asylum would be granted.

"It was this long wait. The lady before me, her case was filed to immigration court ... I was scared because my case, if they deny it, has to go through immigration court, which I have to present again and do all those paper work all over again," Jammeh said.

But he was recommended for approval, pending a background check to ensure he had no ties to any terrorist organization and held no criminal

record. Three days later, Jammeh's request for political asylum was granted.

Jammeh felt a responsibility to his supporters to make sure everything went smoothly throughout the asylum application process, according to Simjee, who said the two developed a trusting relationship in which Jammeh often came to her for information and advice.

"I referred him to outside counsel and made it very clear that I couldn't provide legal representation or advise him in his case because that was outside of my boundaries now because he had a lawyer," Simjee said. "Sometimes he would call me even after going to the lawyers in L.A. because he was still so nervous and there were so many pieces that were up in the air ... I didn't care if Alagie would call me at nine o'clock on a Friday night because he just cared so much about all the other people that were invested in him."

Though Jammeh can now work in the U.S., apply for scholarships, eventually become a permanent resident and no longer have to fear for his safety, he said he had mixed feelings when he received the news his asylum was granted because he can now never return to the Gambia.

"I am going to miss the Gambia itself," he said. "Everything about that country. You know, they also call the Gambia the smiling coast of Africa because almost everyone you meet, everyone is smiling. It doesn't matter how their day is, terrible or bad or good, they are always smiling."

Though Jammeh is still in touch with his mother, he no longer hears from any of his 17 siblings, many of whom called him shortly after his Facebook post in 2014 to share their disappointment over his pro-LGBT statement.

"Eventually my whole family stopped talking to me at the same time; that was the toughest part of all this thing," Jammeh said. "[They ask] is the American government trying to influence me, trying to change me ... This has nothing to do with the American government, this has nothing to do with friends here. This is about me. This is about me evolving. This is about me learning new things in my college, this is about me trying to accept people."

Jammeh said his only family is the people at UCSB who have reached out to support him over the last two years, but that they can never replace his brothers and sisters in the Gambia.

"Family is family, you know. You grew up with these people; this is blood. You know them from your childhood to becoming an adult to traveling and everyone has been there whether you are down or up," Jammeh said.

With graduation just three weeks out, Jammeh said he fears having to start a new life when his time at UCSB comes to a close.

"You have to build a whole new family all over again; that's terrifying," he said. "Some of the people that I met here, like David Whitman, the bond we have, it's going to last forever. The bond that I have with Simran and Mary Jacob ... They don't see me as another student, they see me as their friend, as their child."

Simran Singh, director of the office of

international students and scholars (OISS) where Alagie now works, said she and Mary Jacob, senior associate dean for student affairs, made it their goal to give Alagie as normal a life as they could.

"There's no way he doesn't miss his family because he does. He's a kid with 17 brothers and sisters and all of the sudden he has nobody," Singh said. "So we've tried our best to give him an atmosphere where he can be himself."

Singh said she saw Alagie "taxed to the limit" throughout the asylum application process.

"You're put in front of a person who is going to challenge everything you say, and to have the mental strength and ability to sit before somebody

and actually be able to recite what's happened to you in your life in the past, and be able to come out the way he did: phenomenal," Singh said.

When she learned Jammeh had been living out of his car, Jacob invited him to stay in her home during Spring Quarter 2015, during which time she said it took time for him to begin to feel comfortable because he didn't want to take advantage of her hospitality.

"So I made him a dish that comes from Senegal; his mom is from Senegal, so I made

this stew," Jacob said. "He said it was good. It wasn't spicy enough. I made it pretty hot, but it wasn't hot enough, but that I think that made him very, very happy because he couldn't believe that I would do something like that for him."

Jammeh said he does not want people to just feel sorry for him, but instead hopes people will talk to him as they would any other student on campus.

"One of the reasons I am staying on an extra quarter is to have the experiences of college life without worrying about my [asylum] papers, without worrying about other stuff, but just to be a student," he said. "I wanted that so bad. I wanted to go to school, come do your homework, Friday night go have drink with friends."

Dave Whitman, director of LGBT services at the Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity, has worked closely with Jammeh over the last year, sometimes checking in with him multiple times a week to inquire into his well-being, manage angry family members, organize fundraising or arrange speaking engagements.

JAMMEH p.8

“There hasn’t been a UCSB student in collective memory that has gone through what he’s gone through, and so it’s a huge moment to honor allyship.”

- Dave Whitman

“I am going to miss the Gambia ... You know, they also call the Gambia the smiling coast of Africa because almost everyone you meet, everyone is smiling.”

- Alagie Jammeh



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Continued from p.7

Whitman said the majority of students at UCSB can't even begin to "wrap their heads around" the sacrifices Jammeh has made.

A LOW POINT

Prior to reaching out to the university for assistance, Jammeh struggled on his own, searching for financial support that would enable him to stay in school. He applied for dozens of scholarships, but was denied each time because he was not a citizen or permanent resident in the U.S. Jammeh was alone, living out of his car, studying in the library, skipping meals.

Unwilling to drop out of school for fear of being an embarrassment to his country and unable to return home to the Gambia, Jammeh's began contemplating suicide.

“There was a point where I give up, literally give up,” Jammeh said. “I’m not going to drop out of school, that’s not an option for me. I’m not going to go back to Gambia, that’s not an option for me either. I’m not going to do anything. What I am going to do now is just end everything, just commit suicide,” he said.

Jammeh was standing on the Goleta Pier at 1 a.m. determined to end his life in the ocean when he received a call from a friend. According to Jammeh, the conversation was nothing special. They talked about “stupid stuff,” but it was enough to make him reconsider taking his life.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

Continued from p.1

university registrar, said. She also hopes the efforts will improve academic experiences for international students who may use alternate names.

Students are currently able to change their name through Identity Services or by submitting a petition to the registrar. Certain programs, such as G.O.L.D., source data directly from the registrar's office, but many organizations such as GauchoSpace interact with numerous other databases like Identity Services.

Beginning in the summer, the registrar's office hopes to streamline all name change requests by communicating their information to as many "data feeds" as possible.

"We think we have caught most of the major ones, but there are literally hundreds around the campus, so we may continue to find ones that we have missed, and have to make updates after we go live," Beck said.

Departments that require legal verification, such as the financial aid office, Student Health and Counseling & Psychological Services, are the only groups that will receive both the legal name and the preferred name for each student. Staff members at these locations will be directed to use preferred names when addressing students and legal names when submitting and verifying claims, Beck said.

The new system will only allow students to change first

We just want students to feel like there are services in place that are recognizing the experiences that they are having.

- Dave Whitman

names, and students who want to use a different last name will be required to undergo the legal name change process. Although this allows for the use of fake names, Beck said she has spoken with schools who use preferred names and found that students “almost never abuse the system.”

"It would be like putting a weird fake name on LinkedIn or something. No one wants that to be the name their professors are calling them by," she said. "So for now there will be no 'policing' of the names entered. If it becomes a problem down the line, we will reassess."

The registrar's office will be working with the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (RCSGD) to publicize and implement the changes after Spring Quarter grades are finalized.

Dave Whitman, director of the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, said “a lot of people take names and pronouns for granted” because they never feel misrepresented by their legal name.

"Identities are static, sometimes someone goes by one name for a part of their life and they have a shift," he said. "We just want students to feel like there are services in place that validate the experiences that they are having."

At the beginning of each quarter, Jones said he would sometimes find himself staying quiet during roll call, waiting until the end of class to correct his teachers about his name.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.



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UCSB Looks to Secure Third in Conf. Standings

Jorge Mercado
Asst. Sports Editor

Coming off two solid comeback victories, the No. 19 UCSB baseball team will look to close out the season the right way as it hosts UCR in its final series of the season before the 64-team NCAA Tournament.

The Gauchos head into the final weekend boasting a 36-16-1 record, 12-9 Big West, and sit comfortably at third place in the conference. After dropping its home series against CSUF a couple of weekends ago, Santa Barbara has won four of its last five matches including a strong series win at UC Irvine this past weekend.

The Highlanders head into their last series of the season with a 24-28 overall record and a 10-11 conference standing, which places them in a three-way tie for fifth place.

For the Gauchos, clinching a series win over UCR in their final weekend would seal at the very least a third-place finish in the conference, giving them a strong chance to make the postseason thanks to their solid overall record and their great Rating Percentage Index (RPI) ranking. RPI is used to rank sports teams based upon a team's wins and losses and its strength of schedule, which currently stands at 19, the best of any team on the West Coast.

Although slim, it is possible that UCSB could also jump up to second place in the conference standings if it were to sweep UCR, in addition to a series loss by Long Beach State, who is currently in second place in the conference.

For the Highlanders, this weekend will be their last regardless of the outcome. Although they have won series over quality opponents such as LBSU and

Cal Poly, they have not been consistent enough to be a great team. UCR has lost six of seven matches twice this season.

One player the Gauchos need to watch out for is junior outfielder Vince Fernandez, who was just named Big West Player of the Week for his performance this past weekend in which he batted 10-19 (.526), scored six runs and batted in six over the course of four games.

Fernandez currently leads the team in batting average (.361), slugging percentage (.529), on-base percentage (.439), runs scored (39), hits (75), RBI (41), home runs (8) and walks (28).

UCSB will look to counter with strong hitters of their own such as sophomore first baseman Austin Bush who leads the team in RBI (43) and home runs (7). When its hitting is on point, Santa Barbara looks nearly unstoppable. In the 20 games this season UCSB has gotten at least 10 hits; it has been able to come away with victories in 17 of those occasions.

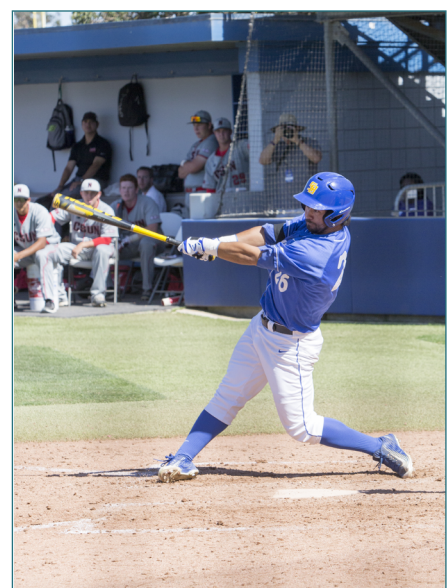
The Gauchos will also look to take advantage of the fact they are at home since they have scored 166 runs at home this season compared to 94 on the road. They also bat and get on base 60 points better at home while also pitching an ERA of 3.70 at home, which is much better compared to 4.49. It also helps that they are currently 23-4 at home as opposed to 10-12-1 on the road.

Crunch time has finally arrived for the No. 19 team in the country and now is the time to put up or shut up. Although it will be another year without celebrating a Big West championship, Santa Barbara has accomplished a lot this season and it would be a shame if it blew its opportunity to make consecutive NCAA regionals because it decided not to show up in

the final weekend of the regular season.

The season has come down to the final weekend and it will be interesting to see which Gaucho team shows up: the young, inexperienced one, or the one that is ready to prove all the doubters wrong.

UCSB faces off against UCR in its regular season finale at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium on Thursday, May 26 at 3 p.m., Friday, May 27 at 3 p.m. and Saturday, May 28 at 1 p.m.



DUSTIN HARRIS / DAILY NEXUS
Preparing for its home finale this weekend, UCSB is 23-4 in home games.

Gauchos in Kansas for NCAA West Regional

Duncan MacPhee
Staff Writer

UCSB men's and women's track and field teams will each send six athletes to Lawrence, Kan. this weekend to compete for a chance at a berth in the 2016 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Ore.

This weekend's NCAA West Regional will begin this Thursday, May 26 through Saturday, May 28 at Rock Chalk Park at the University of Kansas.

The top-48 athletes from the West region in each event will meet in Kansas at the same time as the top-48 from the East in each event will be convening in Jacksonville, Fla. Only the top 12 from each region in each event will advance to the event's schedule in Oregon on June 8-11.

Two of the best chances for UCSB athletes to advance to the national round come from the same event: the 1500m races. Two of the Gauchos' three highest individual event rankings appear in this race.

Senior Shyan Vaziri is the highest seed of any UCSB athlete in each of their respective events at No. 9 in the men's 1500 with an impressive qualifying time of 3:42.23. Assistant Coach Peter Van Beurden and the rest of the team/coaching staff are excited to see what he has in store for them this weekend.

"I can really speak on Shyan's behalf that his goal is to be there with the top guys and to make it all the way to the final rounds of nationals," Van Beurden said. "I think he's definitely going to be focused and confident heading into these rounds, and he has some experience too."

Vaziri is one of three total athletes that will represent Santa Barbara in the preliminary round of the 1500, including somewhat of a surprise qualifier in

junior George Baier (3:45.56) in the No. 45 slot on the men's side as well.

The third Gaucho qualifier in the event is grad student Victoria Tsolis on the women's side, who boasts a No. 15 ranking in her best event with a UCSB record qualifying time of 4:19.02.

Both Tsolis and Vaziri have had their sights set on nationals all season long, and now that they are both just one step away, it's become a much more realistic goal.

Another athlete who has set herself up to have a great shot at the next round is senior high jumper Jessica Emde, who is looking to get to nationals for the first time in what will be her third regionals appearance. Emde is ranked highest of all the Gaucho women with a No. 14 seed that she earned with a qualifying leap of 1.79m in her event.

"I think that she finally has the tools that she needs to survive a meet like this," Assistant Coach Cody Fleming said.

Other Gaucho athletes qualifying for this weekend include three javelin throwers: juniors Matthew Kuskey and Darion Williams for the men along with senior Melissa Rake for the women.

"My 'jav' throwers are healthy, their approaches are on and as a javelin thrower, you can't ask for anything more than that," Fleming said.

The last two spots on the men's qualifying group are filled by sophomore Jeremy Franklin in the hammer throw and junior Myles McDonald in the 400m hurdles.

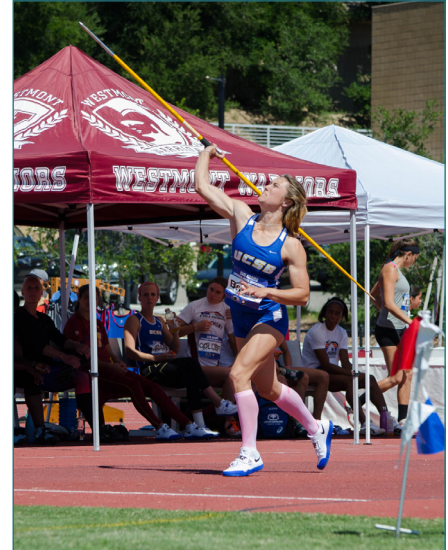
The women's qualifying squad also includes junior Maxine Goyette in the 3,000m steeplechase, freshman Sierra Emrick in the Pole Vault and upstart freshman qualifier Alivia Schlueter in the triple jump.

Head Coach Pete Dolan is excited to see what his

athletes can do this weekend with the opportunity to put themselves in nationals.

"Top 48 in the west, top 48 in the East. Nobody gets through on a pass, nobody gets a prior PR, it's just like you've got to compete on that day [to] make it through," Dolan explained. "That's the coolest thing about the meet. If you're on, you're going. If you're not on, forget about it."

Preliminary round competition will kick off this Thursday, May 26 at noon with the men's hammer and the women's javelin.



CHRISTINA DEMARZO / DAILY NEXUS
A total of six athletes will compete for the Gauchos in the NCAA West Regionals.

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UCSB Anticipates Future, Rebuilds Roster With Recruits

Elliot Thornton
Staff Writer

Despite plummeting to the bottom of the Big West early in the year, the UCSB men's basketball team persevered when it mattered most.

Having to battle through a plague of injuries yet still managing to enter postseason play on a momentous nine-game winning streak — the longest conference streak in school history — Head Coach Bob Williams can only applaud the heart of his players, especially the efforts of seniors Dajuan Smith, Mitch Brewwe, T.J. Taylor, Sam Beeler, John Green and Michael Bryson.

As these fourth-year players prepare for their final goodbyes to the nostalgic tortilla tosses, the Gauchos Locos and their beloved Thunderdome, Williams and his coaching staff have gradually lured top-tier talent in its recent recruiting class.

Kicking off the top of the Gauchos' recruiting class, junior college transfer and Community College Player of the Year Jalen Canty provides a much-needed presence on the block UCSB will lack next year with the departure of seniors Beeler and Brewwe.

Starting all 33 games for the City College of San Francisco last season, the 6-foot-7-inch, 245-pound forward proved to be essential to his team's success, averaging nearly a double-double with 13.1 points and 9.1 rebounds per game to help lead his team to a CCCAA State Championship.

A defensive liability on the boards and versatile back-down post player, the former Washington State commit will be seeing quality rotational minutes from Williams and should mesh well with the team's current arsenal of athletic forwards in Jarriese Blackmon, Alex Hart and Ami Lakoku.

Canty also has some ongoing chemistry with sophomore Gabe Vincent, as both were former teammates on the AAU Oakland Soldiers.

Among other post-man recruits for Santa Barbara is the 6-foot-8-inch senior out of Besant Hill Academy Felix White. A candidate for the First Team All-CIF Division VI, the international forward from Nigeria has the tangible skillset and basketball IQ necessary to excel at the next level.

Aside from his team-leading averages of 17.3 points per game and 10.6 rebounds per game during his senior year, White compiled a cumulative 3.42 GPA during his three years at Besant Hill.

With Big West premiere players such as Bryson and Green sealing their legacy in a blue and gold uniform, Santa Barbara will have to anchor itself with a new core of scorers this upcoming year.

Surely Vincent and junior Eric Childress will be fundamental assets to the team's offense; however, the two Conference Honorable Mentions now have some help with a collection of new wing players seeking to make an impact.

Christian Terrell, Max Heidegger, Mickey Mitchell and Clifton Powell Jr. are all incoming talents capable of stretching the floor and attacking the basket.

Terrell and Powell, both 6-foot-4-inch combo wings, add to the long list of versatile two-guards under Coach Williams. Named one of the elite players in the area by the *Sacramento Bee*, Terrell finished his four-year tenure at Sacramento High with a total of 1,279 points. The All-Metro conference player can be a threat on the perimeter, averaging a 35 percent shooting percentage from behind the arc.

Powell, a fifth-year senior out of Woodland Hills, CA has also grown in his scoring ability and lengthy frame as a result of an extra year at 22ft Prep School Academy in South Carolina. A bouncy guard with a knack for knocking down the three, both Powell and Terrell could stand as crucial second-string pieces that fill the void for key bench players T.J. Taylor and Dajuan Smith.

In addition to these shooting guards are floor

generals Heidegger and Ohio State transfer Mitchell. Heidegger, a 6-foot point guard from just down the road at Oaks Christian, fits in a somewhat smaller category of Division I players, yet his ability to drive, kick and finish at the rim makes him an ideal player under Williams' guard-oriented system.

Though transfer regulations will force the 6-foot-7-inch Mitchell to redshirt this upcoming season, the combo forward could possibly have a substantial role in the future with three full years of eligibility remaining at UCSB.

With pure skill meeting a hungry squad unsatisfied with last year's Big West Semifinal loss, Williams and his crew might have more of a rewarding season than expected heading into early November.



STEPHEN MANGA / DAILY NEXUS

Despite the loss of six seniors, UCSB has gained five recruits and one transfer.

Gauchos Add Six Recruits, Earn No. 24 Class

Sean White
Sports Editor

After recording program lows in overall and Big West wins with a 7-20, 3-13 eighth-place finish last season, it can be assured that the UCSB women's volleyball program is determined to redeem itself in the 2016 season.

Currently in her fourth year as head coach, Nicole Lantagne Welch will look to recapture the winning chemistry that amazed many in her debut season with the school in 2013, when she helped lead the Gauchos to their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2010.

Awarded with the 24th-best recruiting class in the nation by *Prepvolleyball.com*, a primary focus of UCSB's search for players was to replenish its offensive attack after losing former Gaucho outside hitter Ali Barbeau, along with opposites Jaylen Villanueva and Britton Taylor, who amassed 611 of the team's 1,214 kills last season.

Expressing the earliest interest by signing Letters of Intent in December, Chloe Allen, Megan Rice, Rowan Ennis and Charlie Robinson are four of the six Gauchos who are hoping to make an immediate impact this upcoming season.

Searching for a replacement to fill the void of Barbeau at the outside hitter position, Allen and Rice will both compete for playing time in the offense's rotation.

A Santa Barbara native and local product of San Marcos High School, Allen led the Royals to four-straight Channel League titles. A four-year member of the varsity team, Allen also played for Santa Barbara Club Volleyball.

Boasting a .362 hitting percentage in her senior year, Rice presents a dual-threat skillset that can be productive both on the offensive and defensive sides of the net. Hailing from Redondo Union High School, she posted 32 kills and six blocks in a regional semifinals match this past postseason.

With a total of three middle blockers on its current 2016 spring roster, much intrigue has been directed towards the additions of Ennis and Robinson, who both play the position as well.

Preparing to make the trek from Virginia to Santa Barbara, Ennis attended First Colonial High School, where she put together an illustrious career with a program-record 1,340 kills.

One of the nation's top 150 players in the nation on Prepvolleyball's "Senior Aces" list, Robinson will enter UCSB next season after time spent with one of California's best programs at Marymount High School of Palisades, Calif. Prior to the start of her senior season earlier this year, Robinson was ranked 16th amongst current players in the state in total kills.

Helping ensure plays and rotations go as planned will be the additions of libero Maxine Burke and Wisconsin transfer setter Hannah Juley.

Hoping to complement the play of sophomore

liberos aboard their team.

Coming out of JSerra Catholic High School, Burke was a Trinity League Second-Team selection in her senior season.

The only player of this year's recruiting class to participate on UCSB's spring team as other recruits wait to graduate, Juley will not have to redshirt in her first year with the Gauchos after redshirting her freshman year with the Badgers.

Averaging 11.4 assists and 2.6 digs per match her senior year of high school, she helped Lyons Township High School earn a West Suburban Silver Championship. From LaGrange, Ill., Juley was an AVCA First-Team All-American in 2015 along with other accolades as she finished with 1,590 assists and 523 digs in her high school career.

Assisting Coach Lantagne-Welch prepare this year's team will be Assistant Coach Chad Gatzlaff who spent the last three seasons at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Along with Petrachi, another Big West All-Conference selection will be looking to have another productive year in senior middle blocker Phoebe Grunt. For the second time in her career, Grunt was named a Big West Honorable Mention after ranking third in the conference in hitting percentage with a .335 average.

Thus far, UCSB has played in three matches this spring. Beginning with its alumni match on April 9, Santa Barbara has faced Loyola Marymount and UCLA over the past two months.

Although the preseason predictions of the Big West Media Poll are not always accurate in where teams will end up by the end of the season, last year's third-place expectation may have been too much for the Gauchos, who declined after a 4-1 start to the season before enduring an 11-match losing streak.

UCSB's 2016 regular season schedule has yet to be revealed.



LORENZO BASILIO / DAILY NEXUS

After having a program-best No. 18 recruiting class last season, the Gauchos remained in the top 30 at No. 24.

libero Emilia Petrachi, a member of the Big West All-Freshman Team, Burke will be added to another impacted position as the Gauchos currently have three

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Shwayze Buzzes at Surfrider Show

Max Pasion-Gonzales
Reporter

The performances at Anisq'Oyo Park are usually host to some nice relaxing bands that reflect the laid-back spirit of Isla Vista. Saturday's musical festivities were of a similar nature, until rapper Shwayze took the stage and livened up the place.

This past Saturday, the Surfrider Foundation chapter of Isla Vista held their annual Concert for the Coast. The event featured booths with information about beach care and raffle prizes with proceeds going to Gaviota Coast preservation, and, of course, a free concert with Shwayze as the headliner. Audience size fluctuated throughout, but relaxing Gauchos filled Anisq'Oyo for the whole day, and the event functioned as a nice escape from the upcoming stress of finals.

Before Shwayze's grand entrance, some alternative reggae bands warmed up the crowd. Cali Conscious, Rebel Shakedown, Layovr and West Swell, which consisted of some UCSB alumni and current students, were among the opening acts. These local talents created a sense of community among the park with their original anthems of Santa Barbara life. Their free-spirited beach vibes mixed perfectly with the shining sun and had the audience in high spirits. There were some



Courtesy of Rae Ann Varona

familiar tunes in the air as well, as Layovr provided a nice Bob Marley medley and a cover of MGMT's "Electric Feel," and West Swell covered "Valerie" by Amy Winehouse and performed a mashup of Drake hits.

The typical widespread seated crowd of the park was quickly moved up to their feet around the stage as soon as Shwayze was set to make his appearance. His DJ came out first and offered the crowd their first chance to get "Shwaysted" with some EDM before the man of the hour officially performed. Although his opening track, a Bob Marley EDM remix,

came off as slightly tasteless, the following hard-hitting drops effectively conditioned the crowd for the fun night to come.

Shwayze finally hit the stage at around 6 p.m. and the crowd reacted with appropriate energy (to say the least). He was accompanied on stage by the aforementioned DJ, as well as his hype-man/five-year-old son, Hendrix. Hendrix mainly just played around the stage as his dad performed, and occasionally was picked up to help mouth some of the lyrics. Although Shwayze

made it a point to take hits from the various joints burning in the crowd as well as to continually remind them to "light up," he often comically covered his mouth and watched his language when his son was listening.

The young rapper's set list consisted of tracks spanning throughout his career, including songs from his self-titled debut album as well as his most recent work "King of the Summer." One of the most energy-inducing performances of the night included his 2014 hit, "Love is Overrated," which the audience continually screamed along to. The throwback

feel was clearly alive and well as Shwayze jumped around the intimate stage.

The whole crowd was alive with familiar reminiscence as the summer partier performed the first hits of his career, "Buzzin'" and "Corona and Lime." The park knew a surprisingly large amount of the lyrics as the rhymes rung out into the air. Needless to say, because these two songs are essentially the staples of Shwayze's career, they provided the most rewarding moments of the night. Although jumping and dancing saturated the entirety of the set, the most enjoyment came from his two biggest throwbacks.

In complete transparency, it doesn't take a music analyst to know that Shwayze doesn't exactly compare to the other acts that have come to UCSB this year, especially when the show took place a week after the extremely anticipated Extravaganza. However, this event was a raging success for multiple reasons. Firstly, Shwayze can actually put on a hell of a show with a remarkable amount of personality and likeability. Secondly, it was a very heartwarming gathering of hundreds of Gauchos in the name of summer relaxation and quality music. Lastly and certainly not least, the community came together for a good cause — the preservation and protection of local beaches — and raised some good money. Love him or hate him, Shwayze's here to have a good time, and the crowd was always down to join in.

KCSB Pays Bowie Tribute

Allie Graydon
Reporter

From his presence onstage and on the screen, his memorable lyrics to his impressive vocals, David Bowie influenced multiple decades of music and pop culture with his unique personas, skillful songwriting and overall glam factor. His performances and songs are still iconic today, and new waves of fans continue to admire his music with each generation.

On Thursday night, KCSB presented "Starman Under the Stars," a tribute to Bowie's legacy and the wide range of his talents. KCSB advisor and DJ Ted Coe explained, "KCSB has been doing the Sound and Vision series which has incorporated a week of special programming over the airwaves commemorating the life and work of David Bowie."

Part of the series was a double feature film screening on the lawn of the lagoon to celebrate two films starring the late performer. The first film, met with shouts of excitement, was "Labyrinth."

With its fairytale story infused with unnerving, gritty imagery, "Labyrinth" is a unique and stylized film that plays with the mysteriousness of fantasy. The film is dripping with '80s cheesiness from the songs sung by puppets to the teased craziness that is Bowie's hair. It's these elements, however, that have made "Labyrinth" an '80s icon, and no element of the film proves that more than David Bowie himself.

Bowie's role as the Goblin King perfectly melds the dramatics of his stage performances with the mysterious magic of the fantasy world. Bowie's

first appearance in the film clearly announces his presence as he stands sinisterly in a doorway, arms and dark flowing cape outstretched as thunder cracks behind him. A dusting of sparkles emitting from his direction adds the finishing touch of rock 'n' roll magic. Bowie commands each scene he is in with a smooth, confident tone, a calculating gaze and an occasional mysterious smirk that intimidates and beguiles.

Bowie's music throughout the film creates an otherworldly tone while still maintaining his signature style of rock. "Magic Dance" is catchy and upbeat with bursts of synthesizer and memorable lyrics about the magic and mystical. Bowie's quick dance moves and taunting attitude showcase delightfully evil antics. "Within You" conveys a much more threatening tone, demonstrating the range of Bowie's character and his own musical style. The beginning of the song is jarring and ominous, with sharp drum beats and guitar to match the sudden, terrifying appearance of the Goblin King and his quick, determined pace.

The screen isn't the only place Bowie's talent shines. His performance in film is only matched by his presence on stage. The next film, "Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars," provides a look at Bowie's eclectic performance style and music. The concert film highlights Bowie's last performance as his Ziggy Stardust stage persona.

Bowie's vocal talent is clear in every song. The quick tempo of "Moonage Daydream" is accented by Bowie's whispery low tones and clear high notes. Members of the audience are shown excitedly singing along as he holds out high notes



ARTHUR NGUYEN / DAILY NEXUS

and speaks toward them during the breaks in his songs. At the end of "Ziggy Stardust," he pauses dramatically in front of the microphone in silence before belting out the last note of the song in a strong voice that commands attention.

The iconic performances in this film show the unique way Bowie blended theatrics with music. At the beginning of "Time," he appears with his

arms outstretched with long, elegant white sleeves as two people suddenly rip his robe off of him to reveal a skin-tight, elaborately patterned bodysuit complete with a bright blue feather boa. In each song, he engages directly with the audience, pointing toward them dramatically and singing to various people.

For the full story, see dailynexus.com.

Grads Present Theses at AD&A

Gabriel Lazo
Staff Writer

If you venture into the Art, Design & Architecture Museum on campus before Sunday the 29, you will find an array of paintings, sculptures and multi-media fixtures that fall decidedly in the category of abstract. Beginning on May 14, six Master of Fine Arts graduate students at UCSB — Emily Baker, Vanesa Gingold, Morgan McAllister, Tom Pazderka, George Sanders and Shannon Willis — debuted their theses in an exhibition at the AD&A museum, which held a reception on Friday May 20. You can go and see the exhibits Wednesday through Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. (8 p.m. on Thursday). If you're worried about "not getting" any of it don't worry, there's a lot of variety and plenty of the art is just plain cool to look at.

The installations each entail several separate pieces, usually around five to seven per artist. They run the gamut with regard to subject and medium. Pazderka focuses chiefly on wood sculptures, found objects and charcoal drawings on tar paper. Pazderka's exhibit revolves around famous (and infamous) individuals who spent time living in cabins in isolation. His subjects, each given a charcoal portrait in his piece "Freedom Club" range from the violent to the visionary. In "The Freedom Club Cabinet of Ted and Henry," terrorist Ted Kaczynski (aka the Unabomber) shares a wooden fixture with transcendentalist author Henry David Thoreau. The piece, and the whole installation, suggests that madness and genius are linked. When asked about the message of his piece, Pazderka explained that he shied away from messages.

"As far as a message goes, to me it seems like this distillation of an idea that is way more complex" Pazderka said. "That's in a way how propaganda works — you take something that is way more complex, and you just keep distilling and keep distilling and then there's this basic idea which then turns into ideology."

Yet, ideology is ever present in the artwork. Books



CHRISTINA DEMARZO / DAILY NEXUS

like *The Origins of Totalitarianism* and *Radovan Karadžić: The Architect of the Bosnian Genocide* litter the wooden frames and cabinets of the fabricated cabin fragments Pazderka uses. And the artist's aversion to propaganda becomes ironic considering one of the Freedom Club members is Leni Riefenstahl, the infamous Nazi propagandist director (even more so given that her most noted work is *Triumph of the Will*, regarded as a masterpiece of both propaganda and art).

Sanders' exhibit features mainly sculptures, composed mostly of a few skeletal, architectural frames. There's a clear emphasis on the line quality of the structures and the workmanship behind the materials. The constructions are made mostly of wood and rope, and demonstrate a contrast between the utility of these materials and the pure, non-functional aestheticism of the final art pieces. Sanders comes from a painting background, and several paintings accompany the sculptures. These images also depict the geometric grid-lines that comprise the bulk of Sanders' exhibit.

On the other end of the spectrum from this exten-

sive sculpture-work is McAllister. McAllister has several paintings on the back wall of the gallery in addition to a few wall-mounted, three-dimensional pieces. The paintings encompass large swaths of wall space; dubbed "Eleutheromania," they are fairly conventional abstract images, boasting mainly hues and splotches of white, pink and red.

Sharing the largest and most open museum space with McAllister and Sanders is Gingold. Gingold's exhibit includes again mostly sculpture-work. Her surrealist-inspired pieces draw heavily on both the human body and insectoid structures. The acrylic, pigment and wood of the pieces "Private Viewing" and "Egg Case" all resemble bone and skin, or even possibly exoskeleton. A large centerpiece evokes a cocoon. Much of the material for this installation is abaca paper; the process of readying the abaca paper involves wetting it, beating it repeatedly and allowing it to dry and crack. The more severe the beating, the stronger and more translucent the material becomes. While Gingold's pieces are abstract, they remain accessible. In some sense they're delightful — all in shades of light pink and resembling mobiles you might put above a crib — in another way they manifest body horror straight out of David Cronenberg's films, even evocative of Lovecraftian images.

Diverging from the fixed pieces of her peers, Willis' installation contains mainly video feed, played on either flat-screen TV's or projected onto the wall. The bulk of her exhibit takes place in a dark room in a piece called "Falling in Love While Drowning." The installation focuses more on mood than it does physical aesthetics. The video screens project images of a distressed Willis along with a young girl playing. The feeds imply some

sort of tragedy, and largely suggest symbolism of time and progression.

The final exhibit (although likely the first in sight upon entering the museum) entails both a sculptural and a performative element. Baker's work is a tribute to movement and the human form. The centerpiece of the exhibit are the paint streaks on the wall that she left when she climbed up a gym rope covered in paint. The prints that her body left appear like large-lettered calligraphy in dark pigment in "The Ascent." Surrounding the gym rope in the middle of the room are hip and knee replacements that Baker cast in bronze herself. Also prominent in the room is "Spinal Shift" a large, warped, yellow lattice-work made of latex, steel and bronze. Baker spoke to the *Daily Nexus* about the nature of risk in the performance (both physical and ego-wise).

"As a competitive gymnast you're constantly showing and trying to be better, and to be better you have to be vulnerable, you have to allow criticism, which you have to do in art as well," Baker said. "There's a lot of similarities in the gym that there is in the metal shop. You feel confident but you also might seriously injure yourself."

She continues to perform (although, sadly, not the painted rope-climb) by hoisting herself upside-down on the pull-up bar in an impressive feat of athleticism in the piece "Quiet Practice." She goes every day of the installation at 3:30 PM. If you go, she'll converse with you — there's no artificial "performance" style of non-interaction.

The overall verdict of the six theses is that while not every piece of every exhibit is amazing, many of them certainly are. Using many different forms and methods to cohere into unifying themes and symbols and images also creates a unique and immersive art-viewing experience. If you're by the University Center, or on campus at all for the last few days of the exhibition, you would be wise to experience some amazing artistic talent and drop by the museum.

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Fireside Foods For Your Memorial Day Camping Trip

Samantha Salazar
Reporter

With this weekend comes Memorial Day, and that means three-day weekend! So take advantage of the last long weekend of the school year and gather a group of friends and go camping. Before you take off, though, let me give you some advice. It's easy to think of the essential list when it comes to camping: tents, flashlights and sleeping bags ... but what about food? Unless you're a super organized and prepared camper, it's easy to forget what kind of food you need to take on your outdoor adventure. Here are some easy snacks and foods that will save you some space and make a successful camping trip.

#1 Hot Dogs

Hot dogs are one of the traditional, and my favorite, things to roast over a campfire. Sure, you can make it over a stove, but the minute you put it on a stick and place it over the fire, you start to see it turn dark and crispy. The hot dogs have that lingering wood flavor from the fire that makes you want to eat more and more. The best thing about hot dogs, though, is that they're inexpensive and come in at least a pack of eight so you can share with everyone.

#2 Protein/Granola bars

It isn't a fully successful camping trip unless you go on a hike or two. On the downside, you'll be away from your campsite and any real meal you've prepared. Because it's never fun to carry more than you want, protein/granola bars are good on-the-go snacks. They're lightweight and will fill you up when you find yourself away from your site. The best part is that there are streams of different flavors and a variety to choose from so you won't be stuck with the same bland flavor.

#3 Meat and/or Vegetables

Unlike hot dogs, meat can be rather expensive, but it can also last you your entire trip. When my family goes camping, we take a variety of meat, chicken and vegetables to cook. It feels like it never runs out, and if you aren't feeling like having a certain type, there is always something different. Marinating beforehand is a good way to save time as you'll just have to place the meat on the grill whenever you're ready. It's good to freeze your meat before the actual trip so that by the time you've arrived to your destination, it's thawed. To save space you can put your marinated meat in large Ziploc bags and place it in your cooler.

#4 Fruit

Fresh or dried fruit are excellent snacks to take on a camping trip. It's better to take fresh, non-perishable fruits rather than those that don't last longer than a day or two. Fruit with protective shells — pineapples,

watermelons, oranges — are more likely to last longer than those without. Dried fruit also doesn't spoil and is really hard to crush. Like granola bars, dried fruit come in a large variety and are easy to carry.

#5 Beans

A can of beans is an easy, cheap meal in itself. With different varieties, you aren't going to get tired of beans as fast as you'd think. Filled with protein, beans will fill you up and you'll be ready to go off on another adventure. All you need is a pan and a fire to make these cold beans a delicious meal, or if you really want to be adventurous, open the can, place it over the fire and wait for them to heat up. Be sure to wait until the beans cool down before eating them.

#6 Drink Mixes

Gallons of drinks take up a lot of space in the car and are quite heavy. Taking a variety of drink mixes eases up the load. You won't taste the difference and it'll be cheaper than buying soda or juices people won't drink. Assuming you're already taking a sufficient amount of water, all you need to do is grab a packet of mix — or a spoon if you get the containers — add it to your water and drink away. A good thing about these dry mixes is that whatever isn't used during the trip can be saved and used later.

#7 Powdered or Evaporated Milk

There's not much to this other than conventional milk spoils easily. These are tasty, sweet substitutes that you can put in your coffee, cereal, oatmeal and the like.

#8 Trail Mix

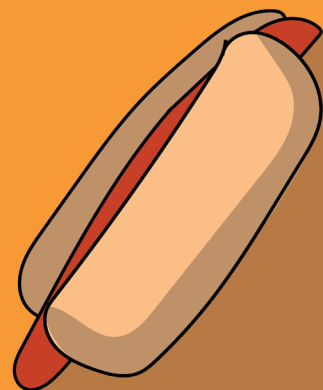
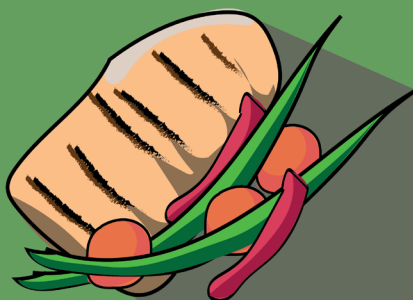
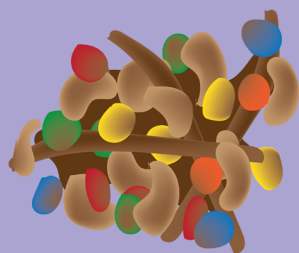
Filled with nuts, raisins, chocolate and coconut shavings, trail mix has something everyone will love. You can either buy the prepackaged ones at the store or you can make your own, which means you can control what you put in it. If you're not a fan of a regular trail mix ingredients you can leave it out or substitute it for something you enjoy.

#9 Salsa/Guacamole

Salsa and guacamole will take any ordinary sit-down and turn it upside down. These are both easy to make and are a yummy snack or delicious side to your meal. All you have to do is prepare beforehand, keep it in a container, and place it in a cooler so all you have to do is crack open the container when you get to your site.

#10 Marshmallows

Is it really a camping trip without marshmallows? Whether you're eating them on their own or with graham crackers and chocolate, marshmallows roasting over an open campfire is the tradition of all traditions.



SCIENCE & TECH

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Environmental Conference Cuts Emission-Heavy Air Travel, Fosters Communication

Andrea Adams
Reporter

In his opening statement to the Environmental Humanities Initiative (EHI) Conference, Ken Hiltner, environmental humanities professor and director of EHI, made a call to action. "Academic conferences, as we know them, need to come to an end — now."

Hiltner was referring to the carbon footprint of most academic conferences, where participants travel great distances to convene and drastically increase carbon emissions, mostly due to air travel.

The virtual conference, titled "Climate Change: Views from the Humanities," features over 50 speakers contributing pre-recorded talks about diverse topics such as ecopsychology, art and poetry, fossil fuels and climate justice.

The conference materials, including all the talks and the Q&A content, will remain open access and publicly available, but the Q&A portion was only open for contributions from May 3 through 24.

Corrie Ellis, Ph.D. student in sociology, contributed a talk in the fossil fuels panel. She said that in addition to reducing carbon emissions, the online format would increase "shareability" — allowing her to share her talk with family and fellow grad students.

"Another advantage is that it makes it accessible globally ... whereas [there are] scholars in the global south who can't afford to come to conferences in the global north — you have greater geographic diversity of people that are able to participate in this," Ellis said.

The conference's accessibility is also linked to its sustainability. Hosting speakers from eight countries, its online format is estimated to have prevented over 300,000 miles of air travel and 100,000 pounds of carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere.

Part of what makes the online conference work is its Q&A section, where participants can engage in discussions with contributing speakers. The conference website is open access, but users are required to register to participate in the question and answer portion. Additionally, participants must be a current student or faculty member of a university or similar institution.

According to Hiltner, this increases transparency and accountability for contributors in an online environment filled with skeptics of climate change.

While the conference is happening online, there is a three week time limit put in place. According to Emily Williams, researcher in the Climate Hazards Group of the Geography Department and a conference speaker, the three-week time limit is intended to help keep a conference feel to the event. It maintains the notion it is convening and that communication is happening.

Another advantage of having the Q&A open for a three-week period online is that people can write more and take the time to think their comments through, allowing people to work together through problems in a way that has not been done before.

Is anything lost in not having face-to-face contact with other participants? Hiltner pointed out that in polls, Millennials who have grown up with online culture care about their online relationships just as much as those that are face-to-face.

"I do think that you can interact that way in a meaningful way. But I have to say that even if you couldn't — even if that were a big shortcoming, the fact is, environmentally, traveling to conferences is a disaster," he said.

In his opening remarks, Hiltner pointed out the role of the humanities and social sciences in climate change discourse, and the conference's facilitation of transdisciplinary problem solving.

"It's an example of humanities and sciences working together and doing what neither can do independently without the other," Hiltner said.

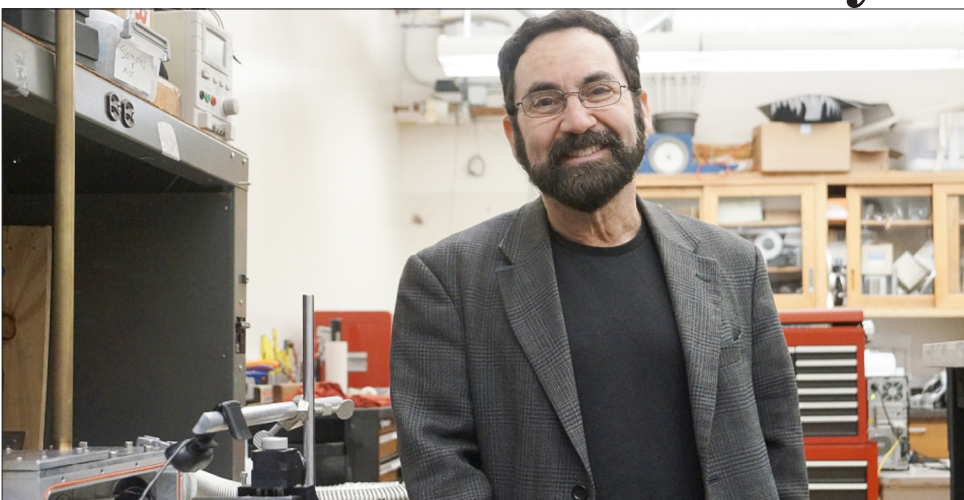
Williams said that focusing on climate change from a humanities perspective rather than sciences perspective rang true with her as a participant in the conference. "This idea kept coming back to me that climate change isn't a scientific problem anymore — it's a political problem, it's a cultural problem, it's a communications problem."



Courtesy of ehc.english.ucsb.edu

Beginning at UCSB, the Environmental Humanities Initiative is composed of members across the arts and humanities whose main goal is to focus on pressing environmental issues.

Is There Anybody Out There?



Courtesy of Sonia Fernandez

According to physics professor Philip Lubin, we now possess the technology in order to set up a visible signal that could eventually be seen from across the entire universe.

Karan Maitra
Reporter

Famed astronomer Carl Sagan once said "The universe is a pretty big place. If it's just us, seems like an awful waste of space." UCSB physics professor Philip Lubin shares the same sentiment. There are estimated to be more than 100 bil-

lion stars in our galaxy alone, and our search strategy so far has been "woefully inadequate," according to Lubin.

"With a telescope of diameter 10 cm and survey time of three years, we should be able to find with a 100 percent certainty, any signal in our galaxy," Lubin said.

Our knowledge of life on planets is of the

order of 10-20, and this number can be greatly expanded with remote sensing. Assuming there are life forms out there with similar or more advanced technological levels, we should be able to detect their presence with fairly basic equipment.

As the leader of the Experimental Cosmology Group, Lubin said the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI) is increasingly possible and accurate with the tools available today. The search is by no means a small feat, but scientists are observing it at a higher frequency than they once did.

One thing we are not doing, however, is broadcasting our own signal, even though we are capable of doing so. "I believe we should be transmitting our information to the universe, it's foolish not to," Lubin said. "We have been trained as children to fear the dark. We fear the unknown."

Since the advent of radio communications and television, we have technically been broadcasting our location. However, since these communications only came about 50-60 years ago, our 'signal' has only been broadcast 50-60 light years away, which is not far in a universe that is 13.8 billion light years across.

In a paper published by Lubin, he explains that extraterrestrial life can be observed to the order of 10^{12} and possibly even 10^{20} systems. UCSB is discussing a measurement strategy with La

Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network (LCOGT) to use their station at Sedgwick Ranch for this search.

"We have evolved very rapidly technologically in the last 50 years," Lubin said. In his research, Lubin assumes that if a hypothetical intelligent species exists, they have a level of technology compared to that we have already achieved.

One of the enabling technologies of SETI is the recent dramatic progress in solid state lasers and laser amplifiers that can be combined together to form larger lasers to increase our own visibility. Using many smaller systems together to form large arrays allows for free space beam combining with no upper limit to power.

"We have never been in such a technological state ... and hence it is logical to explore its ramifications in many areas, SETI being one of them," Lubin said. "All such remote sensing searches require us to make assumptions that may have no basis in reality ... but it is all we have to go on and hence it should be pursued consistent with reasonable levels of effort."

The search for intelligent life outside earth has always been a high-risk, high reward notion and still is. A detection would no doubt forever change humanity, but for the better or worse our fear of the unknown, as Lubin puts it, holds us back from reaching out ourselves.



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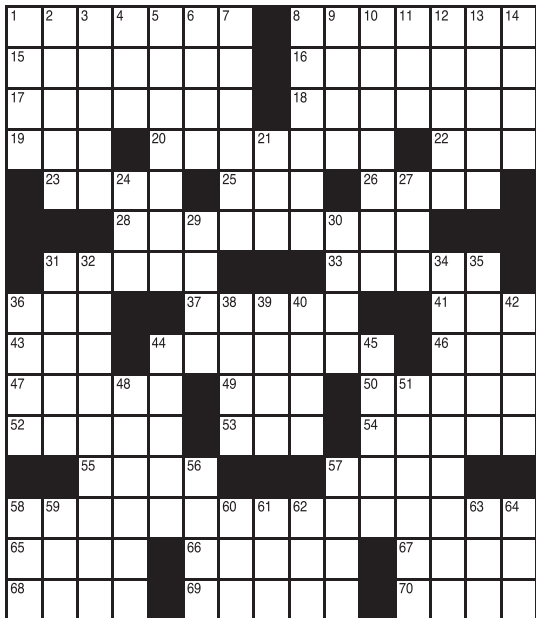
- 1 Gallery exhibitors
- 8 NFL great "Boomer"
- 15 Dada pioneer
- 16 Heavenly
- 17 "Hamlet" woman at whose grave Gertrude says "Sweets to the sweet"
- 18 Flowing locks
- 19 Rain-___ Pops: gum-filled candy
- 20 "Twinkle, twinkle, little star"
- 22 LAPD rank
- 23 Polite country assent
- 25 Language suffix
- 26 "Divine Secrets of the ___ Sisterhood"
- 28 "How I wonder what you are"
- 31 First of 12 popes
- 33 Mark or markka replacements
- 36 "Up above the ..."
- 37 Rock bottom
- 41 "... world so high"
- 43 Carrier with a hub at DEN
- 44 "Like a diamond in the sky"
- 46 Brewed drink
- 47 Very little, in recipes
- 49 Put the kibosh on
- 50 Agenda listings
- 52 "Divine Comedy" poet
- 53 Cagey
- 54 "Gay" capital of song
- 55 Forest foragers
- 57 Finger of smoke
- 58 Ditty sharing a melody with "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"
- 65 New Year's Eve popper
- 66 Gumption
- 67 Fencing sword
- 68 Untidy situation
- 69 Throw money around
- 70 Atty.-to-be's exam
- 2 Email option
- 3 California/Nevada resort lake
- 4 Suffix with elephant or serpent
- 5 Deli display
- 6 Chicago paper, familiarly
- 7 See 12-Down
- 8 Hold in high regard
- 9 Poke around the Web
- 10 Pleading remark
- 11 Racing Unsters
- 12 With 7-Down, "Coal Miner's Daughter" star
- 13 Horseshoe-shaped letter
- 14 Place for a jay
- 21 ISP option
- 24 Moo ___ pork
- 27 Busy mo. for a CPA
- 29 Hex
- 30 Many a Pi Day celebrant
- 31 Big name in high fashion
- 32 1980s four-peat Stanley Cup champs
- 34 Frozen fruit-juice treats
- 35 "I was wrong. So what?"
- 36 Campus hangout
- 38 Yeses at sea
- 39 Pioneer Boone, folksily
- 40 200-lap race, briefly
- 42 Place for posies
- 44 Ferris ___
- 45 "Shh!"
- 48 Chophouse fare
- 51 Loafer adornment
- 56 Tach measures: Abbr.
- 57 Invasive plant
- 58 Channel for old films
- 59 57-Down killer
- 60 Short flight
- 61 Lumberjack's tool
- 62 Composting receptacle
- 63 PBS supporter
- 64 Understand

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

A	L	P	H	A	P	O	O	H	A	L	S	O			
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xwordeditor@aol.com

05/20/14



By Jeff Chen
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Level: **1** 2 3 4

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SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

5/20/14

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3	6	1	2	5	8	7	4	9

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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DAILY HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Favor rational logic over emotions today. Postpone a financial discussion. Talk about practicalities and action. Move group activities forward steadily, and keep the others on course. Clarify instructions. Delegate tasks, and talk about the dream fulfilled. Imagine what it could be like.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Dream up a way to improve earnings. It's a good time to ask for money... express your passion. Start with your inner circle, and then move out. You're in the glamour spotlight, and others are impressed. The competition's fierce. Play full out.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Team projects go well, and dreams are within reach. Organized data and planning provide structure, which comes in useful as your workload increases. Focus on your objective, one step at a time. Money changes hands. Practice your game, increasing strength and endurance.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Change takes place just as you imagined. Try not to get flustered. Money for a lovely household item is available. Listen to a partner without judgment. Allow extra time to resolve any misunderstandings. Peace and quiet go down especially nice today. A sunset walk soothes.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Imagine a dream come true, especially with a home project. Research your objective. Friends can be persuaded to help out... provide delicious treats and other enticements. Apply their expert tricks. Clean up messes as they happen. Double-check instructions before compromising... measure twice before cutting.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Travel beckons, but take care. No need to rush things. Calm a partner's anxiety. Don't spend before the check clears. Reach out to your groups. An imaginative work strategy gets results. Brainstorm and plan itineraries and logistics. Express what a dream might look like.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Today could get profitable or expensive (or both). Don't touch savings. Try a different approach. Believe in someone who believes in you. Fall in love with a dreamer. Get captivated by a fascinating conversation. Order what you need delivered, and write down what gets created.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Discover something new about yourself today. Record any dream you remember. Indulge fantasies and speculation. Imagine yourself in different roles than what's predictable. You can instigate a change for the better. Achieve domestic objectives through bureaucracy. Untangle a miscommunication. Finish up old business.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 6 -- Check for changes and study the situation before setting team goals. Copy the itinerary to everyone involved. Monitor and watch to improve efficiency and maximize your advantage. Investigate new technology. Sign documents. Teach your philosophy through humor. Be willing to laugh at yourself.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 6 -- Talk doesn't go far today. Benefits are more spiritual than material. Enjoy parties for a good cause. Get involved in a community project. Resist temptation to run away. Bring your partner on board. Friends support your efforts. Refine your pitch. Sexy sells.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 6 -- Consider a new opportunity. There may be a test involved. Keep your eye on the ball. Practice makes perfect. Avoid impulsive spending, or a conflict of interests. Make plans for castles in the sky. If emotions get triggered, let them flow. Angels guide your actions.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Study, research and do the homework. Check each story from multiple views and catalog differences of opinion. Don't argue with a wise suggestion. Visualize the desired result. Make plans, itineraries and reservations. Hunt for the best deal, and avoid scams. You can find what you need.

OPINION

OPINION@DAILYNEXUS.COM

THE TRANSIENT PROPERTY OF FRIENDSHIPS

I grew up in the prototypical suburban sprawl of Southern California's San Fernando Valley. It's densely filled with humans – like, millions of humans. Yet not one of them on my street was my age growing up. Some of my friends in other parts of the Valley (sorry Central and Silicon Valleys, San Fernando Valley is *the* Valley) caught luckier breaks and fraternized with their neighbors, but in the end I think we all pretty much suffered the same fate.

The transition to college differed strongly from the no-less-subtle change of schools I faced on four other occasions. Three graduations and a switch of elementary schools taught me that your friends are the people you see every (week)day, and while you can see someone you like from time to time and your interactions with them feel like you haven't missed a beat, you aren't creating memories with them at the same rate, so they can't really be considered friends in the same way. These infrequent friends are certainly not acquaintances; you know them too well or like them too much. Yet, I hesitate to call them friends without some sort of prefix; thinking about some of these infrequent friends evokes feelings such that I know they still occupy emotional territory, but that space is more a scrapbook than a scrapbooking club.

From preschool to two different elementary schools to middle school and high school, I lost friends at every transition. I think a great many people have, maybe all the people who lived in areas like mine. If someone didn't live just down your block, you probably didn't see them because they lived miles away, so school was the place I knew I'd regularly see people my own age and home was where I interacted with my family and TV.

Somewhere around sixth grade I got a MySpace account. I had a pruned Top 8 and thought this social networking thing would grow my bonds with my classmates (former and contemporary) without bound. Surely, we would all be BFFs; that's why we wrote it in each other's elementary school yearbooks. However, we were already failing on our yearbook promises: Those of us who went to different middle schools spoke dramatically less, even with MySpace and our propensities to lie about our ages on the internet. The one social network just wasn't enough. We could talk and express our teenage angst with each other just fine, but we were not building experiences. Sharing a meme pales in comparison to the organic emergence of an inside joke.

When Facebook came along for the masses to use, I had entered high school and shed a fair number of my middle school friends. Ironically, it was not a friend who got me on to Facebook, but rather a stranger who thought I was a friend. He invited me to try Facebook and upon adding me, asked why I was starting shit with one of his friends. I realized I didn't know who this person was and promptly unfriended him, leaving me alone on the digital platform because Mark Zuckerberg isn't as friendly as Tom.

Between MySpace and Facebook, Facebook definitely facilitates interpersonal interaction better, and it knows it's what's going to keep it afloat, so Facebook throws money at making the best messaging app. However, in the end, it won't be the thing that makes relationships. While everyone you are connected with on the platform is your "friend," Facebook knows deep down that you care about some people more than others or only want to hear from certain people, and their algorithms do the work of filtering out Facebook friends you aren't actually close with.

Sharing is important while making memories is not. After all, Facebook has a share button, not a "let's make a memory" one. You are worth your attention, so you would be worthless to Facebook if your attention was really on other people where it has to be, to be in the moment. Facebook is the publish/subscribe model of friendship, a model of passive emotional commitment, the highlight reels of our lives without the opportunity to make a highlight on the platform. It's voyeuristic friendship at its utmost. This is not to say that Facebook is bad or wrong; just that it doesn't keep the party going like Mark Zuckerberg wanted in "The Social Network." It's free because you are the product, not because the guys running the party are so cool.

What Facebook gives us is an excuse to not do the real maintenance of a friendship. A friendship is a process as much as a connection; a Facebook friendship is quite literally a set of nodes and edges, and the maintenance of the friendship through posting is scrapbooking. While we're all scrapbooking together on Facebook, it's more like a digital scrapbooking convention based on meta-experience, where we

congratulate each other on pretty scrapbooks but generally don't get past the small talk.

So, when I Facebook-stalk a friend from middle school, I try to think about who that person is now and if I can really glean that information from the posts and comments they make. I can't – not to a very large degree, anyway. I can see they like some Democrat running for office or they got a job doing something I never knew they dreamed of doing, and I kind of feel caught up on their life in the way you feel caught up on a TV show when you jump in after three seasons and get a two-minute recap at the beginning of the first episode. I don't send them a message because I'm afraid all I would be able to say is, "Hi, how are you, who are you?"

Snapchat does better in allowing you to keep up with your friends. Also a pub/sub social network, it differs from Facebook in that you are getting the now, not the then. A snap is a fresh piece of someone's life, with all the beauty and mundaneness that comes along with it. It's not a moment on the highlight reel but a moment of humanity that says, "You can't be here all the time with me, but you don't have to miss out on the little moments." Facebook is about the big moments; it literally has "Life Events" you can add to your wall. Snapchat's still just sharing, but it is on the cusp of participatory, a fancy UX consolation prize to truly shared experience. The face filters are neat, though, and the ability to alter reality in the pictures creates a really dynamic kind of communication that can't be replicated in real life.

Gaming with people online is a whole other ball game. I think it's one of the only places online that offers an arena for a real friendship to emerge and be maintained. The process of gaming has the elements of cooperation and competition that stimulate human interaction and facilitate the organic experiences that make a friendship real. However, social gaming has limitations, and while I do not believe someone must see their friend for them to be a friend, a lack of in-person experiences tailors the friendship in a certain way. While gaming people may find that they have a lot in common, without the relationship diverging from the sphere of social gaming, it is not generalizable to other experiences and is thus a narrow kind of friendship based only on a very certain kind of experience. These niche friendships are like members of a scrapbooking club who only ever see each other when actively scrapbooking together.

When I go back and Facebook stalk a friend from elementary or middle school, I'm not the same person who looks at that profile picture, nor is the person I'm looking at. We cannot possibly be the same, which isn't to say that we couldn't still be friends. The friendship would just have to be revamped or change in some way. Playing catch-up with a friend after a couple years is difficult and just not the same process as actively being friends. It's showing each other a scrapbook instead of creating the scraps that go into the book. It's seeing a snapshot of someone's brain out of the context of years of their lives.

In high school, around the time I got a Facebook, I started frequenting 4chan, the notorious imageboard. A somewhat active member of several boards, I tended to keep my power level to myself in real life and simply enjoyed the online community in the kind of perverse and sick way it's intended to be enjoyed. It was a safe way to laugh at someone else's expense and the "at their expense" had already happened through no fault of my own, so I felt relieved of the obligation to be guilty. Anyway, the site was a community in a very real way, with community discussions and activities sometimes bleeding onto other sites. What fascinated me about 4chan and what has helped it survive is really the fact that it is a community. The people there are experiencing together, changing their brains together and creating the scraps that go into the greatest scrapbook of them all: internet archives. Yet, in this community of active and strange users, the layer of anonymity prevents friendship from emerging in a place that could deeply use it. Users of the site are forced onto other less anonymous platforms like Skype to develop friendships. Friendship needs some sort of persistence of identity on both sides — a way to pick your friend out of the group — and that just cannot exist on a platform of silhouettes.



TARUSH MOHANTI / DAILY NEXUS

Toward the end of high school, I defected to Reddit. I found my way to a few subreddits with interests aligned with mine, but I never found a friend in the community. To me, it seemed that the semi-anonymity of Reddit enabled power users (Reddit celebrities) to dominate conversations at the expense of the little guys, without catalyzing friendships. Reddit doesn't offer experience either though. The experiences on these sites are ultimately individual; only your brain changes as a reaction to the stimulation from the site, without anyone else around. Reddit offers discussions, not events. The events that do happen on Reddit are more often than not confined to a subreddit or two, eventually blowing over with everyone moving on because it probably didn't directly affect them anyway.

During my freshman year of college, I bought fewer video games than any time in my life, since I no longer had an allowance big enough to buy them. I increasingly spent my time with people, getting involved in school and learning. My living situation changed dramatically: I went from a house of four to a house of nearly 40, with the mean age dropping significantly. Pendola House in Manzanita Village was its own dynamic community where the members made experiences with each other: a driving force in keeping the community together.

Then sophomore year came and we all pretty much moved out. Many of us moved in together in a housing complex at the end of Estero, which served as a kind of frat house for CCS students (and some non-CCS; we don't discriminate). The community changed, but the experience-driven aspect did not. Us continuing residents kept the process of friendship going while more and more friends went their own ways.

Now in my fourth year in a new home, it pains me to think I might have already lost more friends than I've made in college. I'm not sure if it's my fault as much as the natural way of shedding of friends every few years, something my whole life has taught me is normal. Seeing the acceptances to graduate schools across the country on Facebook, I'm immensely proud of what my friends have achieved, profoundly grateful that these people took any time at all to call me their friend. I'm sad in a distant, quiet, looming way about the realization that I probably will not see many of these people many more times in my life. I am past the point of no return where most of my contemporary friends from college will inevitably turn into the pages of a scrapbook, our friendship and experiences reduced to nodes and edges on Facebook's graph, living simultaneously in physical spaces and physical data centers, but only ever in those points of time from whence they came.

Benji Lampel wonders if the cycle of making and losing friends will continue our entire lives.