

A LOOK INSIDE

As newly elected students prepare to take office following the Spring Quarter 2019 A.S. elections, the Nexus has compiled profiles of our current elected executive officials to reflect on their past year in office. Looking back on their campaign platforms, we asked our elected officials to tell us about their successes and shortfalls throughout their terms in office. The term in reviews can be found on pages 3-5.

FEAST OF THE SEVEN KINGDOMS

Tiffany Velasquez
Winnie Lam
On The Menu Co-Editors

After waiting years for winter to come, it's sad to see the "Game of Thrones" series finally drawing to an end. In order to cope with the fact that we're going to be seeing the last episode this Sunday, we've curated a list of "Game of Thrones" themed food that tastes so good it'll keep your mind off the fact that we won't be seeing our favorite characters ever again. These foods are easy to make and they're perfect for a "Game of Thrones" viewing party where we can cry and laugh with the Starks, Targaryens and Lannisters one last time.

Dragon Deviled Eggs

It's amazing how much Daenerys and her dragons have been through since they first hatched at the end of Season 1. It was heartbreaking to watch Viserion fight for the Night King and Rhaegal fall into the ocean at the hands of Euron Greyjoy, so it's easier to think back to the simpler times when they were just beautiful dragon eggs.

In order to make these dragon deviled eggs, you'll need four eggs, blue food coloring, 1/4 cup of mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon of mustard, 2 strips of bacon and paprika. Boil the eggs for 9 minutes and put them in an ice bath to cool down. Then, gently crack the egg shells but don't peel them. Place each egg in a Ziploc bag and put 2 drops of food coloring on the egg before gently rolling it around in the bag until the

entire shell is covered with the food coloring. Set the eggs aside for 30 minutes. While you're waiting, cook your bacon and cut them into small pieces in a separate bowl. Rinse off your eggs, peel them and cut them in half vertically. Scoop out the egg yolks and add them into the bowl with the bacon and then add the mayonnaise and mustard. Mix all the ingredients together for the deviled eggs filling. Put a generous amount of filling into each egg and top with paprika.

Brienne of Tarts

As one of the strongest yet underrated fighters in Westeros, Brienne of Tarth definitely deserved a dessert dedicated to her. To make these fruit tarts, you'll need 6 premade mini graham cracker crusts, 2 vanilla Jello-O pudding snack cups, 1/2 cup of whipped topping and any fruits of your choice. This dessert is extremely simple as all you need to do is empty 2 pudding cups into a large bowl and gently fold in the whipped topping. Then, fill each crust with the filling and top with your favorite fruits. This is sure to be a crowd-pleaser since the tartness of the fruit goes well with the sweet flavor of the filling!

Sansa's Lemon Cakes

Sansa Stark's journey throughout the series is probably one of my favorite instances of character development. She's one of the strongest female figures in the show, and who can forget her favorite dessert, lemon cakes? It's too time consuming to recreate the lemon cakes with eight seasons' worth of plot on your mind, so I just followed a box recipe for a lemon pound cake and paired it with some strawberries. The cake's citrus aroma and sweet taste was delightful. It's a shame that



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Sansa couldn't have these all the time, as I can't imagine how the Starks could grow lemons in Winterfell.

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THE BEST WINNER OF GAME OF THRONES WOULD BE NO ONE

Sarah Garrett
Co-Copy Chief

If your obsession with HBO's award-winning series "Game of Thrones" comes anywhere close to my own, then you've probably spent the last few weeks (or months) reading up on fan theories, scrutinizing details in episodes for clues, predicting character deaths and, arguably most importantly, trying to figure out who will actually end up on the Iron Throne.

Yet the more I think about it, the more I can't shake the feeling that the sweetest ending to the show would leave no one on the throne.

Whether this means destroying the throne itself and rebuilding from nothing (which, let's be honest, is basically where we're at right now anyways thanks to Daenerys) or dividing powers among the Seven Kingdoms, I can't say. But contrary to what Cersei Lannister told us in Season 1 – "when you play the game of thrones, you win or you die" – I think the message of the show tells us something completely different. When you play the game of thrones, you lose. Always.

Now, it seems unlikely that a show all about the struggle for the throne would leave it vacant, or destroyed, or some variation thereof in the end. But it would be the best ending. "Game of Thrones" has, since the beginning, been a show about power struggles, greed, conquest and corruption. It has shown us (usually in painful and gory detail) the horrors that result from these tendencies, often at the expense of the life of a beloved character – Ned Stark, Rob Stark, you get the point already.

While "Game of Thrones" has never shied away from horror and tragedy, it has had a tendency to somehow, even in the darkest episodes, lead us in the direction of positivity and overall faith in humankind.

Let's talk a bit about one of my personal favorite characters, our Mother of Dragons. I was frustrated by her decision to burn down King's Landing in Sunday night's episode, which, if you ask me, was really just poor character development on the part of the writers and merely served as a tool for necessary plot progression. But anyways, let's take it back to our Khaleesi and Breaker of Chains, who promised to defend the innocent and make the world a better place.

We saw Daenerys's strength and courage from Season 1 and on. We watched her intervene when Dothraki soldiers attempted to rape innocent women during a battle. We watched her liberate the entire Unsullied army and tell them if they wanted to fight for her that they would do it as free men. We watched her gain support from people from vastly different cultures who believed in her ability to be a fair and just ruler.

I had always hoped, up until recently, that Daenerys would end up on the Iron Throne. But despite her promising qualities and capabilities, her desire to take back the throne and rule the Seven Kingdoms makes her dangerous. It perpetuates the cycle of war, violence, greed and oppression. Rather than being the "best" candidate for the throne, I realized she was really just a lesser of many evils. Evils fueled by so-called destiny or bloodline or other harmful attributes. She could have been a great ruler, but her insistence that it was her right to rule, to take back the Iron Throne, made her unfit for the job since day one.

And so, our dear Khaleesi, by playing the game of thrones, you lost. You lost before

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THE DOWNFALL OF GAME OF THRONES

Tamari Dzotsenidze
Managing Editor

I was always adamant about not watching "Game of Thrones." My friends have constantly harassed me about it since high school, but I never had any interest until finally my mom and I binge-watched it through the summer. I was obsessed; the show had everything you could want – dragons, zombies, romance, action and drama.

The final season makes me wish I had stuck to my anti-"Game of Thrones" convictions. While previous seasons have spent episodes on character and plot development, this season has cast aside previous writing themes in order to hastily close out the show.

The most egregious example of this is Season 8, Episode 3: "The Long Night." Despite the New York Times praising it as "a masterpiece" that "exceeded expectations," I and everyone I have talked to about it were left sorely disappointed. The phrase "winter is coming" became iconic within the show; it was used in "Thrones" advertising and suggested that time was running out before the ultimate showdown between the living and the dead. We spent the entirety of the show waiting for this moment, and it painfully missed the mark.

In the first episode of the third season, Jon Snow announces that he would rather fight on the side of the living when he joins the ranks of the wildlings in trying to recruit them to venture south of the Wall to fight against the White Walkers. After that moment, Jon spends the rest of the show trying to get others to understand that the game of thrones is trivial to the real threat, the White Walkers.

Writers D. B. Weiss and David Benioff threw all of that in the garbage with "The Long Night," as the battle spanned only one episode and was over before dawn. Beyond having to hold my computer screen six inches from my face to see anything with the horrible lighting, the lack of a real fight between dragons, significant character deaths and poor battle tactics made this a terribly disappointing episode.

That's not to say there weren't good moments; the scene of Dothraki fires going out while the rest of the army waited in silence was chilling, but the writers cannot rely on battle footage and cinematography alone.

For this season, it feels like the writers were trying to emulate the shock value of the Red Wedding, which has been widely praised for its gruesome twist, while ignoring the extensive development and foreshadowing that contributed to the success of the episode.

As a brief recap, Robb Stark first starts bonding with Talisa Maegyr in Season 2, Episode 6, and he is warned by Catelyn Stark not to forget his commitment to the Freys. He is then warned again in Season 3, Episode 5 not to alienate the Karstarks, which he ignores, losing half of his army and forcing him to go to the Freys for assistance.

The Red Wedding was the culmination of 13 episodes of Robb's poor decision-making, resulting in his and Catelyn's death. In contrast, Daenerys Targaryen had a maximum of one episode to show her increasing lust for power and fear of Jon taking over before she decides to burn King's Landing to the ground. This is especially shocking considering her seasons-long crusade against slavery and her horror in Season 4, Episode 4 when Drogon kills a young child,

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Feast

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Theon's Pigs in a Blanket

It wouldn't be a proper viewing party without a nod to Theon, who died as both a Greyjoy and a Stark after a brutally dark journey. While he did make up for his past mistakes by helping Sansa to flee from Ramsay and dying at the hands of the Night King to defend Bran, I had to have at least a little fun with giving a nod to the series' most

sadistic villain. Fans will not soon forget Ramsay Bolton's murderous ways or his physical and psychological torture of Theon. Even so, you can't make it through eight seasons of "Game of Thrones" without attempting to make light of the constant violence and bloodshed.

In order to make this homage to Ramsay's castration and later mocking of Theon – who can forget how this bastard made him think the sausage he was eating was a more familiar body part? – you'll need sausage links, crescent rolls and cheddar cheese. Cook the sausage links on medium-high heat according to the instructions on the package, making sure to turn often. Once cooled, separate the crescent dough into triangles and wrap it around the sausage link with a bit of cheddar cheese added in. Bake for 12-15 minutes in a 375° oven or until golden brown. Let cool before enjoying, and make eye contact with your guests while eating if you really want to mess with them.

Wildfire Jell-O Shots

Wildfire has played an important role since before the events of the series unfolded.

Though intending to destroy the entirety of King's Landing during Robert's Rebellion, the Mad King's plot was stopped before it was carried out and resulted in the events that named Jaime the Kingslayer. With the series ending and everything going up in literal flames during last week's episode, we recreated this flammable liquid with another equally dangerous one – vodka!

Follow the directions on the Jell-O box, boiling one cup of water and adding it to a large mixing bowl with the Jell-O powder. Stir the mixture together until the Jell-O has completely dissolved before adding ½ cup of cold water and ½ cup of vodka to the bowl. Stir everything until fully mixed and pour into plastic shot glasses, filling the cups about three-fourths of the way. Chill the Jell-O shots for about 3 hours or until set. If you really want to be destructive, make a drinking game out of the final episode and down a shot every time the writers destroy another character's series-long arc.



TIFFANY VELAZQUEZ / DAILY NEXUS



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Winner

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you even started.

Maybe all of this is making you think that Jon Snow is perfect for the Iron Throne. Jon has said time and time again that he doesn't want to rule. He never has. But I would be disappointed with him on the throne as well. The push for Jon to take the throne among characters only began after they discovered that he's a Targaryen. I really don't think the message of this show is that we should pick our rulers based on bloodline. I think Jon – or sorry, Aegon Targaryen, "true heir to the Iron Throne" – becoming king would be a pretty lame ending.

But what about the other characters? Sansa Stark, Arya and even Sam Tarly are all characters who have never ruled or tried to rule, yet have shown immense leadership, humility, strength and compassion. Maybe one of these characters would be best to lead the Seven Kingdoms. But the Seven Kingdoms can no longer be led in the same capacity that they have been for centuries. Accepting their place on the Iron Throne, even if they ended up making a great ruler, would send a message to the rest of Westeros that the violence and corruption we watched take place for years was permissible. That's what it took to get them to the place to rule.

The Iron Throne, and all that it stands for, needs to be destroyed. It's time for the game to end.

Downfall

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leading her to chain away her dragons.

While we get a taste of her bloodthirst in Season 7, Episode 7 when she burns the Tarlys for refusing to bend the knee, this is still not enough development to justify her burning the innocent peasants of King's Landing alive despite their surrender. This is no longer tactical, but rather personal. It's a twist for the sake of a twist, with no backing.

The quality of characters and dialogue has also dramatically declined. Within the game of thrones, themes of explicit and implicit power are often discussed, with Cersei Lannister valuing fear and physical force, and Varys and Littlefinger choosing to play with information in the shadows.

In the first episode of Season 2, Varys tells Tyrion Lannister, "Power resides where men believe it resides. It's a trick. A shadow on the wall. And a very small man can cast a very large shadow." He is eloquent, poised and always seems one step ahead of the rest of the characters. In Season 8, however, this eloquence is absent, with gems like "cocks are important, I'm afraid."

Many other characters have been similarly butchered, with Jaime Lannister saying he doesn't care about innocents, despite killing the Mad King to protect innocent people. Also, Bran Stark's character has access to all of human history and can warg into other people or animals, but instead he spends his time talking about wheelchair design, while Cersei, one of the most power-hungry and notorious villains within the show has had almost zero lines, spending most of her screen time sipping wine.

All of this would be somewhat forgivable if there wasn't only one

episode left. In an interview with

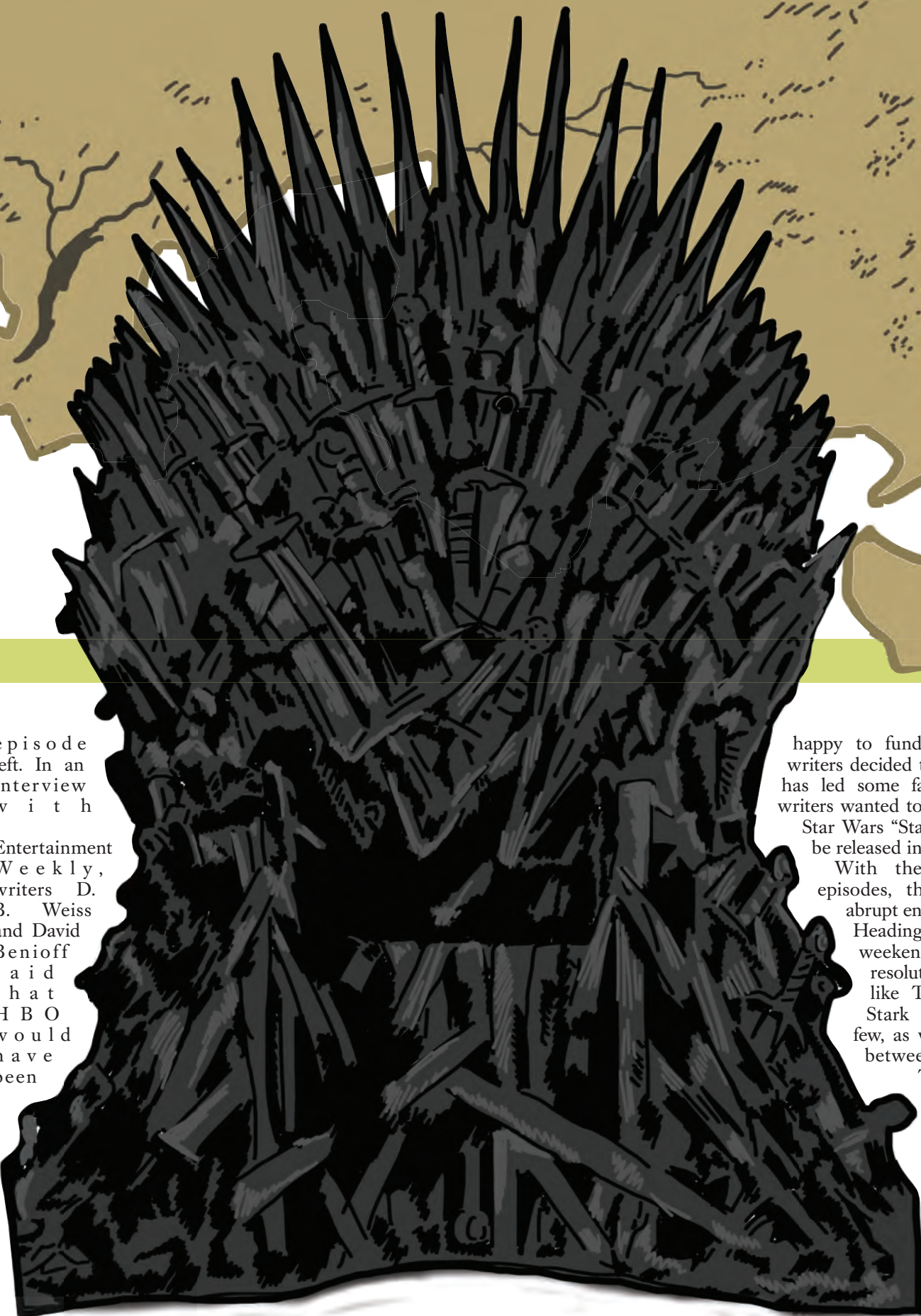
Entertainment Weekly, writers D. B. Weiss and David Benioff said that HBO would have been

happy to fund more episodes, but the writers decided that was unnecessary. This has led some fans to speculate that the writers wanted to start working on the next Star Wars "Star Wars" movie, which will be released in 2022.

With the opportunity for more episodes, the rushed storylines and abrupt ending becomes unforgivable. Heading into the show finale this weekend, we are waiting on a resolution for beloved characters like Tyrion, Arya Stark, Sansa Stark and Drogon to name a few, as well as the power struggle between Jon and Daenerys.

The writers also need to give some conclusion regarding the future of the Seven Kingdoms with King's Landing razed.

That's a lot for one episode, and I'm skeptical that the writers can pull off a good ending to a disastrous season.



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Associated Students

TERM IN REVIEW

Term in Review: A.S. President Brooke Kopel

Evelyn Spence
County News Editor

The Nexus has compiled profiles of our current elected officials to reflect on their past year in office. Looking back on their campaign platforms, we asked our elected officials to tell us about their successes and shortfalls throughout their terms in office.

Associated Students (A.S.) President Brooke Kopel faced the challenge of leading one of the more divisive UC Santa Barbara student governments in recent memory – but despite having a Senate that began the year in a partisan protest, and an A.S. administration that was lacking an executive, Kopel said she has “developed a love for this university” that she “never thought was possible.”

“[I] expected it to be just as time-consuming as it was,” Kopel, a fourth-year political science major, said in an interview with the Nexus.

“There’s so much you want to do and you fear of letting people down, and that was the one thing I didn’t want to do was let people down... [but] at the end of the day, [I am] another 22-year-old student on this campus.”

As with any presidency, she admitted there have been “bumps along the road” during this past year.

Kopel ran on an extensive platform – campaigning against UC tuition hikes, creating a natural disaster relief fund, raising awareness of the resources available for sexual assault survivors, reinstating free night and weekend parking and committing the university to 100% renewable energy – and while her goals are commendable, she ultimately only worked toward a little more than half the platforms points she promised.

But her advocacy for all students, combined with her work on other projects on campus and help with the vacant External Vice President for Statewide Affairs (EVPSA) office, saw her fulfill lofty goals.

Platforms & Projects:

As referenced above, Kopel ran on five main platform points for her campaign during the Spring Quarter 2018 elections.

Of those, she made strides towards three of them – preventing tuition hikes, creating a natural disaster relief fund and raising awareness of the resources available for survivors of sexual assault – in addition to working on securing the bike shop a permanent space on campus and creating a continuing projects coordinator position within her office.

“I’ve made it such a huge priority of mine to do my best and check off at least something in each of those platforms... I only have a year to do these things and I do what I think is best,” she said.

Kopel also noted one of the more difficult hurdles she faced was dealing with how the presidential office was perceived. Going in, she believed “people just knew what this office does... but in reality, I found out that besides going to Senate meetings and talking to various orgs, they had no idea what this office was.”

She said her “biggest success” was kickstarting a plan to get the bike shop a permanent location on campus, a task she has been working on throughout the school year. Approximately \$3 million is budgeted for the project so far, she said, noting that the bike shop is something that the majority of campus utilizes.

Because the project is still in its early stages – Kopel presented the shop’s plans at Wednesday night’s Senate meeting – it will ultimately be up to President-elect Alison Sir to see the project through its entirety.

In regards to the tuition hike, Kopel said she was “blessed” that the UC Regents listened to the students on lobby trips in that they decided not to raise in-state tuition for the 2018-2019 school year.

She noted that she herself has gone on two different lobby trips over the past year, one to DC and another to the student lobby conference in Sacramento, lobbying for Pell Grant and Cal Grant expansion.

Kopel also praised the work the EVPSA office has done without an actual EVPSA, highlighting its efforts with Coffee and Calls and on the several lobby trips throughout the year.

She referenced the latest out-of-state resident tuition hike that was on the UC Regents’s table, noting that her office, in conjunction with the EVPSA office, “mobilized to get people out [there and] make it definitely aware that [the tuition hike] was happening.”

She also met with UC President Janet Napolitano once a quarter, along with all of the other UC undergraduate student presidents, and said she was proud that during every single meeting, they “addressed tuition hikes and basic needs and college affordability.”

“We’ve talked about that every single time and made it aware to the [UC] president that the council of presidents won’t stand for anything less than mak-

ing college more and more affordable.”

In regards to the natural disaster relief fund, Kopel said she found it difficult to “navigate the administration” and what routes to take when looking for sources of money.

She explained that during this past year, she rediscovered an A.S. Excellence Fund that had been created by 2013-2014 A.S. President Jonathan Abboud during his time as president. The fund, made up entirely by alumni donations, was meant to be used for “bettering the academic experience of students.”

The vague description means the fund can be put toward a large variety of uses, Kopel said.

Currently, the fund has approximately \$2,000 in it and has not yet been used. Kopel is currently working on getting more money into the fund so it can help students facing financial crisis from natural disasters in the future.

“I’m really hoping that by the end of the quarter, we’ll be able to reach that \$10,000 mark at the fund, and that at that point it will become an endowment and can start generating its funds,” she said. “Even if I don’t reach that \$10,000 goal [by the end of the quarter]... Alison will be able to pick it up really easily next year.”

In regards to helping sexual assault survivors, Kopel referenced her work with Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA), stating that she did “a lot of work with them” in Fall Quarter 2018 by helping with the asks they put

together.

Aside from tangible projects, Kopel said she believed her role throughout the past year on this campus was to be visible, to help connect marginalized communities and those advocating on campus “with the people that they really need to get their efforts seen [by].”

“When it comes to supporting communities and specifically the survivor community, there’s already so much work that’s going on that I don’t want to co-op or take credit for or change [what they’re doing] because they’re so strong.”

Kopel said that as the first woman president in four years – with James Villarreal in 2015-2016, Austin Hechler in 2016-2017 and Hieu Le in 2017-2018 – she felt it was a “responsibility of mine” to do whatever she could to “be supportive and [be] there for survivors and for women.”

She noted that she was proud of helping set up the Hate and Bias On Campus town hall.

She further denounced Betsy DeVos’s proposed Title IX changes, stating there has to be “ample protections in place for survivors on UC campuses.”

One of Kopel’s other platform points, one she referenced during her candidate forum, was “uniting the campus.” In that, Kopel said “uniting the campus,” for her, means “standing up for people who are unseen by this campus or underrepresented, or never heard enough.”

“I’ve written letters for, spoke up for, gone to meeting with, spoken on a system wide level to the [UC] president [for underrepresented communities],” she said.

“[I’ve gone] out to strikes, whether it be for AFSCME or the Pan Asian Network, using my platform to uplift those voices that aren’t heard enough is a way to show as many people on campus as possible that these communities are in need, that these communities need support more than they’re getting.”

Nonpartisanship:



PEYTON STOTELMYRE / DAILY NEXUS

She praised the 69th Senate’s success in terms of the bills and resolutions passed; according to Kopel, this year’s Senate put out a “record number” of resolutions and bills, particularly in putting out resolutions that support “various communities” on campus.

“I think Senate has definitely made it one of their priorities to make sure that they’re standing up for these students... I think there’s a few shining stars in Senate that have made work their priorities, but there’s a lot of others that kind of have been hidden under the brush.”

But she noted the contentious situation that this year’s Senate brought: “Not only does it feel kind of tense and the air is really thick in there, but you can visually see a divide. You can tell who’s been elected by Campus United and you can tell who’s been elected from the Isla Vista Party.”

Kopel attributed that fault and toxicity to both parties.

“Partisanship and toxicity and harmful words and attacks get in the way of work we’re supposed to be doing.”

Kopel was also tasked during her presidency with filling four vacant Judicial Council seats – an unprecedented situation in recent UCSB student government history, and one that caused “uproar” within the Senate as Kopel presented her chosen appointments.

“I was heavily affiliated with Campus United [at the time] and the Senate was split [on Judicial Council appointments], 50-50,” Kopel said, referencing the Judicial Council cases on the table at the

time regarding her former party.

“I think at first [the process] was hostile, but I think I did a very good job in being level-headed and open-minded and very open to their suggestions.”

Kopel also noted that this past election season was more “hostile” than her year’s election had been, stating it was “really disheartening for me,” referencing, in her words, the “anti-Black” and “transphobic” comments made toward former A.S. presidential candidate Zion Solomon on a UCSB Reddit thread.

“I know elections get really tense. I’ve been through two of them myself and I know people want to win, they want to help this campus, they want to represent students, but that should never come at the expense of someone else’s safety... It’s one thing to critique a platform and it’s another thing to hate on someone’s identity.”

In reference to the “hostile” nature of elections, Kopel said she has “mixed feelings” about the presence of political parties on campus. While she believes the parties provide platforms for people who “might not have the means otherwise to run for positions,” ultimately, “the negatives outweigh the positives.”

“Our campus is just a little microcosm of what our federal system looks like – even though, by no means, is CU or IVP Democrat or Republican – just having that split from having two parties lends itself to toxicity,” she said.

“It lends itself to a divide that might not necessarily have to be there if everyone had to run independent or if there was some sort of system where there had to be more than two parties involved.” She also touched lightly on her departure from Campus United during Fall Quarter 2018, stating that while she did as much as she could to communicate that departure with the student body, it was ultimately hard to address her departure because parties “aren’t really supposed to be present throughout the course of the year,” as stated in A.S. Legal Code.

What Comes Next? Kopel will be

attend-

ing law school at the University of Southern California after she graduates with UCSB’s class of 2019. She hopes to become an immigration lawyer.

She said her time in the Office of the Student Advocate (OSA), working as a caseworker during her second year at UCSB, was where she “found [her] voice for advocacy.”

“I was able, as a caseworker, to see the impact I was able to have just on a small scale, but also on such a big scale on individual’s lives... my passion for advocacy has only grown since then.”

But it was the presidential office in particular that “showed me that advocacy doesn’t necessarily mean having some huge movement accomplished. For me to be a successful advocate it doesn’t mean that I step into the game and get all the demands put through,” emphasizing that, to her, advocacy means “being visible and knowing that people are there for you.”

In regards to her successor, Sir, Kopel said she hoped to make Sir’s transition into office easier that her own: “The transition was really scary for me. I felt really alone at first... a big priority of mine this year was to try and bridge the gap of transitions that we face every year.”

But aside from the transition, Kopel’s advice for Sir is: “You have the utmost privilege of serving in this office, of meeting administration and cultivating relations with people you had no idea existed, communities you had no idea existed. Take advantage of literally every email that comes your way, every opportunity that comes your way, get to know this campus in and out.”

“Treat every day like it’s your first, because it’s never too late to start something new.”

Term in Review: EVPLA Jeike Meijer

Max Abrams
Asst. News Editor

The Nexus has compiled profiles of our current elected officials to reflect on their past year in office. Looking back on their campaign platforms, we asked our elected officials to tell us about their successes and shortfalls throughout their terms in office.

After rounding off almost a year's worth of time in office as External Vice President for Local Affairs (EVPLA), Jeike Meijer reflected on the numerous events, outreach programs and projects that she and her office undertook in the past ten months.

Meijer was quick to note only so much can be done in one year. Often times, Meijer said she found it hard to check every box while also trying to "pass the baton" to the next person taking office.

Meijer noted two specific platforms she ran on last year – establishing an emergency housing grant and expanding parking in I.V. – which both progressed throughout her term but ultimately failed to completely flesh out.

After working with the Isla Vista Tenants Union (IVTU), Meijer constructed an outline for how an emergency housing grant would work but was not able to make it a reality. In the case of expanded parking, something that "basically every EVPLA has run on," Meijer and her office were unable to resolve the problem – even after speaking with Santa Barbara County Third District Supervisor Joan Hartmann, who told her there was little that could be done.

"So when I talked to Joan Hartmann about [parking], she was basically saying the answer from county is that there's no solution," Meijer said.

Fortunately, other projects saw more success. Meijer's term was highlighted by a common theme of community outreach and safety, evident by substantial progress in both areas through multiple projects.

In terms of addressing sexual assault, Meijer participated in spearheading new sexual assault and survivor policies as well as bystander intervention trainings.

During Fall Quarter 2018, Meijer began working with Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA) to help create a foundation for future events and projects throughout the year. Meijer worked with Associated Students (A.S.) On Campus Senator Zion Solomon and SASA President Emily Montalvo-Telford to provide funding and support for the SASA Survivor Healing events and bystander intervention trainings.

Bystander intervention trainings, which later

made their way to the A.S. Senate table as a resolution, was created to assist newly-appointed Interpersonal Violence Investigator Koveva Avila by educating students on "how to report a sexual assault, what the reporting process is, what it looks like and what your rights are," according to Meijer.

Meijer collaborated with law enforcement in other instances as well, such as working to develop a new police collaborative board, a previous campaign platform. By doing so, the collaborative board, which held its first meeting on May 13, will hopefully function to maintain open and "direct communication" between students and law enforcement, according to Meijer.

Meijer also hosted separate "eating events" with law enforcement during the year to continue fostering a better relationship between students and police. Meijer says the events – "Coffee with a Cop" and "Pizza with Police" – helped to provide students with information regarding road closures and parking restrictions during special events such as Deltopia.

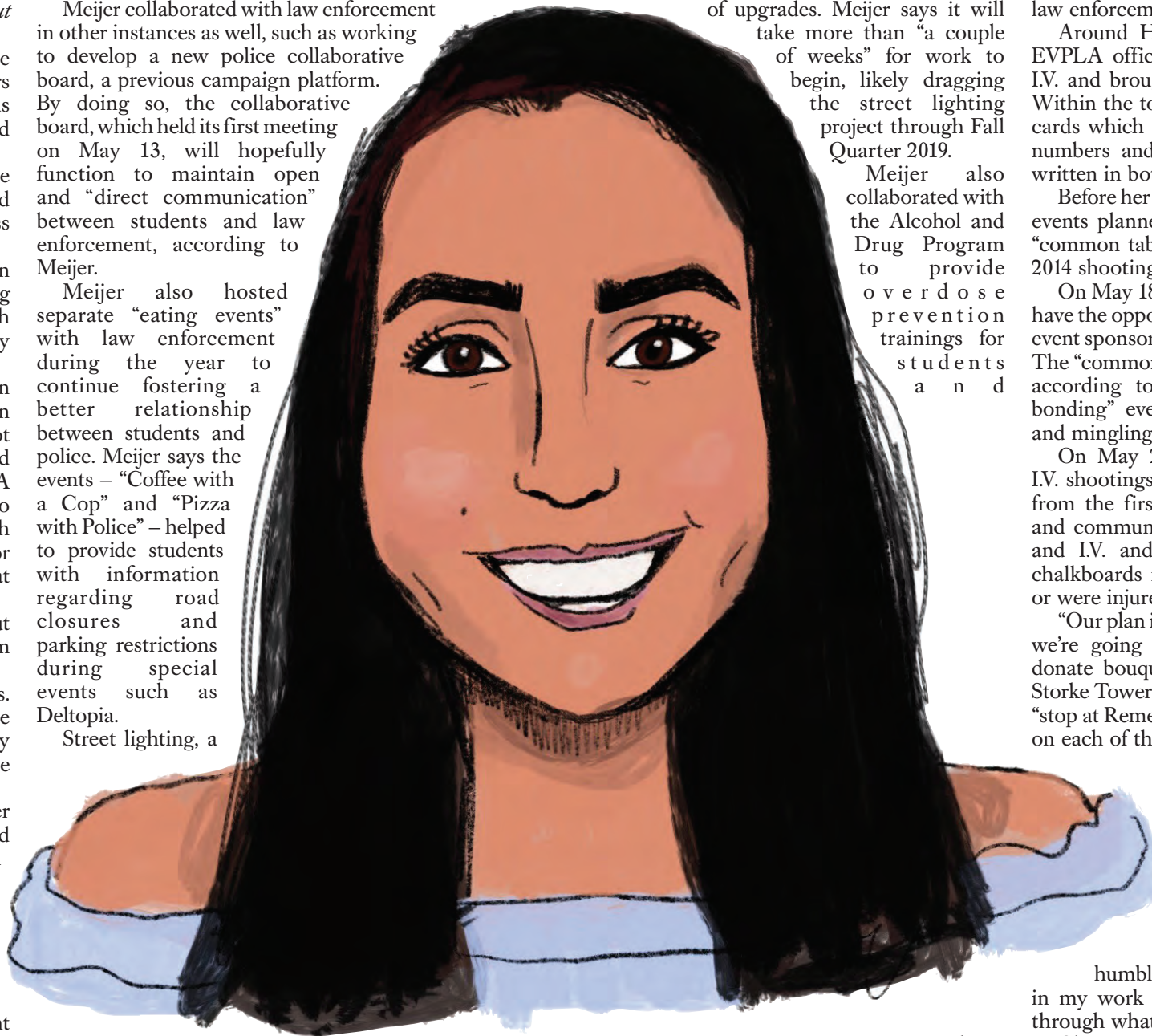
Street lighting, a

hot-button topic in I.V., saw significant progress through Meijer and her offices' combined efforts with the Isla Vista Community Services

District (I.V. CSD) and Lobby Corps.

After compiling data collected from a group walk through I.V. Fall Quarter 2018, the I.V. CSD and EVPLA office released a street lighting report which underscored areas where new lights are required and which current lights are in need of upgrades. Meijer says it will take more than "a couple of weeks" for work to begin, likely dragging the street lighting project through Fall Quarter 2019.

Meijer also collaborated with the Alcohol and Drug Program to provide overdose prevention trainings for students and



the event took place at a similar time to Deltopia, Meijer said it was actually planned months in advance, at the beginning of Winter Quarter 2019.

Furthermore, Meijer is currently working to equip UCSB's Community Service Officers with naloxone, as the drug is currently limited to local law enforcement.

Around Halloween of Fall Quarter 2018, "the EVPLA office and IVTU went to every house in I.V. and brought everyone a tote bag," Meijer said. Within the tote bag, community members received cards which noted road closures, important phone numbers and relevant resources. The cards were written in both Spanish and English.

Before her term ends, Meijer said she has two final events planned as EVPLA: a Beloved Community "common table" and a five-year anniversary of the 2014 shootings.

On May 18, Meijer said community members will have the opportunity to gather at People's Park for an event sponsored by the Beloved Community Project. The "common table" is similar to a small conference, according to Meijer. She said the "community-bonding" event is strictly about "breaking bread" and mingling with fellow community members.

On May 23, the fifth anniversary of the 2014 I.V. shootings, Meijer hopes to bring back elements from the first anniversary in 2015, when students and community members walked through campus and I.V. and wrote messages on eight different chalkboards in honor of those who lost their lives or were injured.

"Our plan is to get those chalkboards duplicated... we're going to have flowers and ask entities to donate bouquets," Meijer said. After walking past Storke Tower and down Pardall Road, attendees will "stop at Remembrance Garden and leave the flowers on each of the six benches."

As a liaison between the university and the surrounding community, Meijer's involvement with various organizations and initiatives reflect just how many doors she and her office have their feet in – a vital component of the position of EVPLA.

"I tried my hardest but it was very humbling ... hopefully my passion shows in my work and people can tell I was passionate through what I did," Meijer said.

Christian Ornelas, a third-year environmental studies major currently serving as an off campus senator, will succeed Meijer for the 2019-2020 school year.

Term in Review: Internal Vice President Steven Ho

Katherine Swartz
Asst. News Editor

The Nexus has compiled profiles of our current elected officials to reflect on their past year in office. Looking back on their campaign platforms, we asked our elected officials to tell us about their successes and shortfalls throughout their terms in office.

Soon to be former Associated Students Internal Vice President Steven Ho's term was defined by strict party lines in the Senate and his ability, and inability at times, to keep a divided room in order.

"I know the senators when they came into term, it was in a rocky period for A.S., it was the whole divestment thing, quorum losing, walking out of the meeting situation. The Senate definitely walked into their terms with the same energy my Senate [that] I served on as a senator had, so it was really hard to foster collaboration after that," Ho said.

"I'm not going to say it's entirely my fault, but definitely throughout the year [I tried] to get senators to work with each other and just be more composed and civilized."

Ho was elected to the position of Associated Students (A.S.) Internal Vice President (IVP) during the Spring Quarter 2018 Elections after running with the Isla Vista Party.

Ho was later removed from the Isla Vista Party in December 2018, along with former External Vice President for Statewide Affairs-elect Mayela Morales.

"Since they announced my removal, I asked why this wasn't communicated to me earlier, and they said it was internal miscommunication within the Isla Vista Party," Ho said.

"I think definitely how senators viewed me definitely changed, because some of them thought 'Oh, he's an independent exec. now, maybe I'll think of his actions more rationally.' Which is really weird because I feel like I was making the same decisions Fall Quarter as I was winter and spring, but like people just saw me differently even though it was the same thing, which is really interesting about tying a party to a person and how you think about them."

Ho's behavior during his time as IVP, alongside the behavior of senators on the 69th Senate, was critiqued by the *Nexus* in an editorial published in Fall Quarter 2018. The *Daily Nexus* Editorial Board wrote that Ho "fails to show professionalism" during Senate meetings, seemingly forgetting that "representing our student body is a privilege, one that they have been given by the students."

While Ho has maintained a more professional decorum at more serious Senate meetings, such as last month's divestment meeting, in some ways, he has continued to act unprofessionally throughout his term.

Ho has been involved with A.S. for all three

of his years at UC Santa Barbara, beginning as a fellow in the External Vice President for Local Affairs (EVPLA) office during the 2016-2017 school year before being elected as an on-campus senator for the 2017-2018 year.

Two main platforms Ho emphasized during his term were expanding the A.S. Fellowship and making A.S. more visible to undergraduate students.

"I think I was able to fulfill both, [but] not to the extent that I really hoped to do so," Ho said.

Ho cited deputy chief of staff resignations in both A.S. President Brooke Kopel's office and his own, beginning the year in a scramble.

"Because of academic reasons, the deputy chief of staff I had the vision with had to resign before the actual year started. So I had to try really quickly to hire a new one ... so basically our hopes for it were not

intermingling with the new people that were appointed," Ho said.

Ho said he took a more "proactive" role in attending meetings for various advisory boards that he said the IVP does not usually attend, including the UCEN Governance Board, A.S.

Finance and Business Committee, Elections Committee and Student Fee Advisory Committee.

According to A.S. Legal Code, the IVP is required to attend meetings for the above listed committees, as well as the Calendar Committee, A.S. Commission on Public Safety, Transportation Alternatives Board, Parking Ratepayers Board and Tech and Media Services Committee, which Ho said he did not attend.

Ho said he was "never contacted by the Calendar Committee," "[didn't] think [A.S. Commission on Public Safety] even had a chair this year," didn't know if Transportation Alternatives Board and Parking Ratepayers Board even existed and said the Tech and Media Services committee was "not existent this year."

Other responsibilities of the IVP, according to A.S. Legal Code, include ensuring honoraria is given to senators on time, ensuring a

parliamentarian is hired for Senate proceedings and planning senator trainings during Fall Quarter.

While honoraria was issued on time during Fall Quarter 2018, the Honoraria

Committee had problems meeting quorum, resulting in a late dispersal of honoraria during Winter Quarter 2019.

After the A.S. Parliamentarian, Morales, resigned earlier this year, Ho could not find a replacement after multiple attempts.

Ho did plan required trainings for senators on

topics including anti-Semitism and sexual violence, but A.S. Legal Code states these trainings must be completed by week six of Fall Quarter 2018; Ho delayed them to the first week of Winter Quarter 2019, citing attendance issues.

"I'm not going to invite an external organization to come talk to less than half the Senate. I didn't want to waste their time, I didn't want to waste our time. So the first week of winter quarter seemed the most practical, because we got higher attendance when that happened," Ho said.

Through his work with certain committees, Ho worked alongside Finance and Business Chair Zion Solomon to extend more funding to various Boards, Commissions, and Units (BCUs).

According to Ho, he and Solomon did an "excellent job" at reaching out to campus organizations to get funding through A.S.

"I think that's why we ran out of money so quickly in the year; it was really hard when you have to turn down some groups that wanted funding."

"Traditionally A.S. runs out of money week five, week six of Spring Quarter, this year it was around week three, week four that we ran out of money," Ho said.

"Other than allocating more money towards our OSU fund, and encouraging groups to go to BCUs for their funding sources [or] adjusting the A.S. Budget or maybe proposing a lock-in on top of what we already have for Finance and Business, there's no other thing we can do."

Another goal Ho campaigned on as IVP was to make all Senate resolutions, bills, agendas and BCU minutes accessible on the A.S. website, but failed to do so due to an "outdated system." "The thing about editing the website, it's super difficult because we run on an outdated system at Associated Students," Ho said.

"A lot of communication disparity happened within that and I just never got that finished."

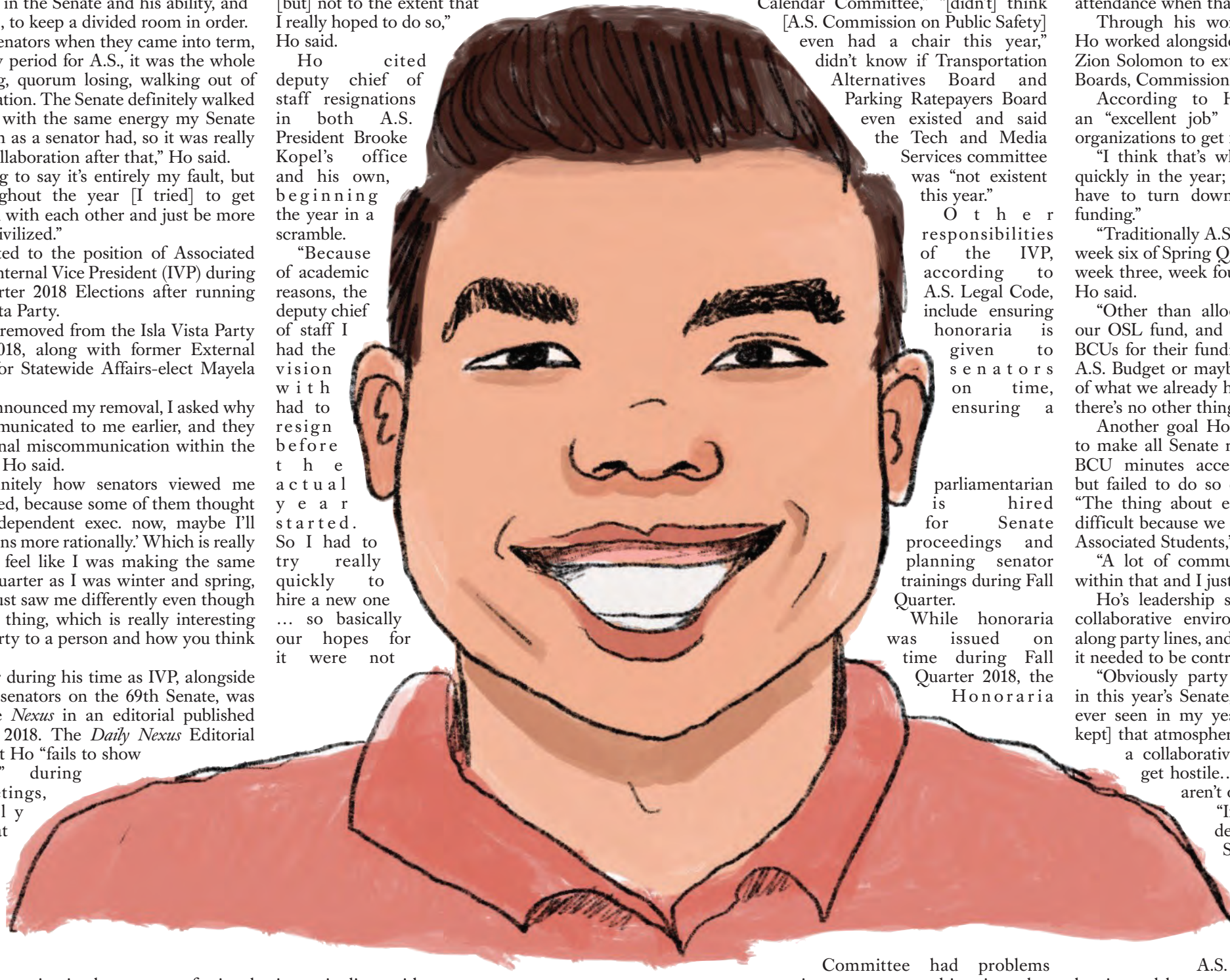
Ho's leadership style centered on fostering a collaborative environment for senators divided along party lines, and "[controlling] the room when it needed to be controlled."

"Obviously party politics played a huge role in this year's Senate, even a bigger role than I've ever seen in my years in A.S.," Ho said. "So [I kept] that atmosphere loose when I need to foster a collaborative environment, but if it did get hostile... [I would make] sure people aren't out of order."

"If you met those senators, they definitely do not like each other. So making sure that if there's a chance they can collaborate with one another, and be loose and be friends, I have taken it this year."

Ho did not run for any A.S. position for the 2019-20 year, but instead hopes to "get more involved with my own communities I identify with."

Alli Adam, a third-year political science major currently serving as a Letters and Science senator, will succeed Ho for the 2019-20 school year.



Term in Review: S.A.G. Grecia Martinez

Sofia Mejias-Pascoe
Asst. News Editor

After being elected in Spring Quarter 2018, Student Advocate General Grecia Martinez overhauled many aspects of the Office of the Student Advocate and made a lasting effect on the function and foundation of the office, despite a lack of transparency at times in her term.

Martinez said she walked into an “almost invisible” office when she began her term, as she believes her predecessor Jack Tannenbaum did little to expand the outreach of the office and make it available to students unaware of its services. She said the physical space within Associated Students (A.S.) Main in the Multi-Cultural Center was in poor condition and lacked the supplies needed to do casework effectively.

“Coming in and realizing all of these things ... the person who assumes this position has to really care about students and want to do it,” Martinez said in an interview with the *Nexus*.

Instead of immediately beginning the projects she planned for her term, Martinez said she first “had to take a huge step back” and “really pick apart the foundations” in order to improve the general functioning of the office.

“When I settled into the position in the summer, that’s when I realized that this office needed to be number one, the foundation needed to be fixed.”

One fundamental part of this was rewriting A.S. Legal Code for the Office of the Student Advocate (OSA) in order to better reflect the needs of students. Martinez said she changed the former divisions of casework within the office from Academic, Housing, Code of Conduct and Public Interest to consolidate some categories and create new divisions, which are now Grievances, Conduct and Academic and Financial Aid.

Martinez said this new organization of divisions fostered a more streamlined approach to casehandling, in addition to making the process more intuitive for students.

Rewriting Legal Code also included taking out the polling analyst project that was added the year before by Tannenbaum. Martinez said that the project’s execution did not reflect the initial vision or the needs of the student body.

“In terms of the execution and the survey questions and everything, there wasn’t really anything there,” Martinez said. “Those questions that they had spent the whole year working on, I didn’t see how they would it would directly benefit this office.”

During her term, Martinez also began a project to create a database of past cases that were previously filed physically. Now, the office files all cases online, and the next S.A.G. will be able to use that database to observe patterns in the data of the cases.

Martinez also helped to create a new logo for the OSA, which she said would help with outreach and better reflect the services of the office. She also noted that her office was more active on social media compared to her predecessor’s office.

Despite this, Martinez did not have updated

office hours for Spring Quarter 2019 available on the website, which she said was due to ongoing construction of the website. Office hours for Spring Quarter were also not readily available on the S.A.G.’s Facebook page.

Martinez collaborated with other UC campuses’ OSAs throughout the year to inform some of her projects for her term as well.

Vista. The idea was something Robin Unander, the attorney for A.S., introduced to Martinez, and now something that Martinez hopes to pass on to the new S.A.G.-elect, Andrew Nguyen.

The move aims to provide a more secure and confidential place for students to air their grievances, cases or concerns with OSA staff. Martinez’s case workers began holding office hours in the Pardall Center beginning in Spring Quarter 2019. The case workers from OSA literally worked alongside Undocumented Student Services and other legal services to create a more centralized space for students.

Martinez said this quarter has focused on the logistics of moving the office, but she hopes that the OSA will be operating its services from the Pardall Center and the current space in

A.S. Main will be used for administrative tasks.

Martinez said a goal of hers for this year was to advocate for historically underrepresented and silenced students on campus. One way she addressed this was through her hiring decisions within the office. Martinez said she intentionally hired staff that came from different communities, clubs and cultural groups in order to better reach those people.

In turn, Martinez said the staff in OSA created a more welcoming place for students.

“The people who I hired in the office are definitely a lot more understanding of the students who come in and they know how to talk to them

better.”

Martinez said her own background, as well as her work in various roles on campus, including as an A.S. senator in the 2017-2018 school year, helped her better understand students alongside her caseworkers.

“We just know what it feels like to need help and not know where to go,” Martinez said. “Because of our background and experiences, I feel like a lot of people are more willing to go to great lengths to make sure that student is helped, that a student gets what they need.”

Martinez said this aspect of her office is an improvement over Tannenbaum’s, citing that her office was more efficient in completing casework. Martinez said her office completed around 60 cases over the course of the year, but she noted that a lot of helping students involved giving guidance, talking things over and resolving problems that didn’t necessitate an officially documented case.

Martinez initiated significant projects during her term and followed through with a handful of the platform promises she made during her campaign. She had hoped to collaborate more with other groups on campus to specifically address student needs, but she said the conditions of the office that she inherited required more attention.

But Martinez at times failed to be completely transparent with the student body. Martinez withdrew from classes during Fall Quarter 2018, but never came forward about withdrawing until after the *Nexus* reported the incident in Winter Quarter 2019. Concerns about Martinez’s eligibility for the position erupted soon after, but ultimately, A.S. Legal Code proved inconclusive on whether or not an A.S. executive could serve while not enrolled in classes.

Martinez said her decision to withdraw was a hard one to make and that she withdrew on the final day of the quarter — something Martinez said proves she was still a student and able to serve her constituents.

“It’s not like I took a break from the quarter. It’s not like I was completely absent,” Martinez said. “I was still very much involved in everything and doing everything I had to do.”

Now, at the end of her term, Martinez wants to pass on her remaining projects to her successor and some advice, as well.

“Have people who work in your office who care about students and that are represented in different communities.”

Martinez echoes some of her previous goals for her term in her advice to Nguyen, but also encourages Nguyen to embrace that some of the best work is the work that sets up others to be successful as well.

“I feel like our whole office has done a lot of work to make sure that this office is successful in the long run and so I would just encourage Nguyen to kind of do the same.”

Above all, Martinez said the next S.A.G. needs to be dedicated.

“Just make sure that you really care about the work that you’re doing.”



I.V. CSD Calls on UCPD To Hold Community Meeting Following Recent Allegations

Evelyn Spence
County News Editor
Sofia Mejias-Pascoe
Asst. News Editor

Community members, groups and leaders attended the Isla Vista Community Services District meeting on Tuesday in higher-than-usual numbers to discuss concerns and plans of action regarding recent allegations against the UC Santa Barbara Police Department.

Throughout the past several months, four police officers have filed three court cases against several members of the UC Police Department (UCPD), alleging several instances of misconduct within the department including racism, favoritism and conspiracy.

The first case, *Mark Signa v. UC Regents*, was filed by Lieutenant Signa in November 2018; the second, *Michael and Tiffany Little v. UC Regents*, was filed by the Littles on March 19, 2019; the third case, *John Doe v. UCPD*, was filed by Ryan Smith, referred to as John Doe in court documents, on March 27, 2019.

The allegations were first reported on by the *Nexus* in early May. Following public and board discussion, the I.V. Community Services District (I.V. CSD) directors voted unanimously to send a letter to the UCPD, stating the district “supports a comprehensive independent investigation into these allegations.”

The letter further calls for UCPD to hold “a community meeting in order to hear from the public and community members who have been hurt by many of the disturbing allegations.”

Tuesday night’s discussion primarily centered on transparency regarding the allegations, with Board President Spencer Brandt stating he was “disgusted” when he read about the allegations.

“This is an incredibly important issue that is very pertinent to us,” Brandt said, referring to the district’s partnerships and relationships with the UCPD Community Service Officers (CSOs) and the UCPD Interpersonal Violence Coordinator position.

“It is incredibly important for the public to know how their police department is operating... When allegations like this are made from law enforcement officers against their law enforcement agency and against each other, you just damage the trust that students and residents have for law enforcement. It damages the trust that everyone has with all law enforcement.”

I.V. CSD Director Ethan Bertrand said he was “struck” by UCPD’s response to reports of the allegations, which he said “was their interim chief saying that ‘We must move past this as a community.’” Bertrand said UCPD first needs to address the concerns of the community before it can move on.

“I agree that we must move past this as a community, but I also believe that we can make that statement after there’s been an investigation and after they’ve engaged with the community,”

Bertrand said.

Leaders from sexual assault violence and harassment advocacy groups Standing Together Against Sexual Assault (STESA) and UCSB’s Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA) also presented statements at the meeting which reflected their concerns and disappointment in the department.

Elsa Granados, executive director for STESA, spoke as a representative for the sexual assault advocacy group, stating that she fully supports the I.V. CSD’s letter.

“If the allegations are true, I feel saddened and disappointed,” Granados said.

Granados also made a point to acknowledge the work she believes UCPD has done well, while also calling out those who — “if the allegations are true” — were quiet about the misconduct in the department.

“Sexual violence thrives on that silence... and I know UCPD has been working very hard to make inroads to ending sexual assault, so that cover-up, those allegations, we cannot tolerate.”

Granados added that UCPD needs to “work with our entire community to hold those involved accountable.”

Three members from SASA — Emily Montalvo-Telford, Alya Ruiz and Sreya Subramanyan — read aloud statements regarding the allegations.

While the majority of those who spoke were from the community, only one police officer, I.V. Foot Patrol station commander Juan Camarena of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office (SBSO), spoke during the meeting.

Camarena assured the community that he “keeps his people accountable” and that police officers are there to serve the community.

“I just want to assure you that we’re here for you, that even though you feel that we have broken that trust, I want you guys to reach out to us. We are still here for you and anything that we could do to rebuild that trust, please let us know.”

During the closing discussion, I.V. CSD Director Robert Geis stressed the implications of the allegations for the department if proven true.

“The department cannot be silent on this. If it’s really happening in their department, then they have a really big issue to solve and really a tough process to go through to solve that issue.”



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Two Local Businessmen Propose Loop Renovations, Face Community Resistance at CSD

Sanya Kamidi
 Asst. News Editor

The Isla Vista Community Services District heard a proposal Tuesday by two local businessmen interested in redeveloping the Loop, the U-shaped parcel of land nestled between Embarcadero Del Norte and Embarcadero Del Mar in Isla Vista.

BigSpeak CEO Jonathan Wygant and Anacapa Development owner Terry Huggins are interested in redeveloping the area to increase the amount of affordable housing in I.V. as well as to create more startup/incubator spaces.

Wygant, whose family owns Embarcadero Hall and has a financial agreement with UC Santa Barbara, said he and his siblings felt that the building could be better utilized than as just a lecture hall.

Wygant and Huggins were both familiar with the Isla Vista Master Plan, "a planning document for the Isla Vista area which sets forth community goals and policies to guide the future growth of Isla Vista," and felt there was an opportunity to further develop the community, starting with the Loop.

After surveying the area, the two said they wanted to create "something that could serve the community at a higher level."

The proposed renovations involve turning the Embarcadero Hall lot into an apartment building. The two would then renovate the strip of restaurants on Embarcadero Del Mar - Naan Stop, Dumpling King, Deja Vu and Rosarito - to a multi-story building with a lecture hall, restaurants, co-working offices and startup/incubator offices.

The building where the Isla Vista Community Services District (I.V. CSD) currently holds its meetings, 970 Embarcadero Del Mar, would become another multi-use building, housing a new I.V. Community Center and the I.V. CSD offices on the

bottom floor and apartments on the upper floors.

The final building that Wygant and Huggins want to renovate is the current I.V. Community Center building, which is already under renovation by the I.V. CSD. Wygant and Huggins would relocate the I.V. Neighborhood Clinic to the first floor of this building, and then fill the rest of the bottom floor with restaurants. The upper floors would be more startup/incubator offices.

"We think that with everything that's going on, particularly in the hard sciences out of UCSB, it could be a great place to start a business in collaboration with one of the departments or several of the departments over at UCSB," Huggins said. "And there really isn't anything like that in Isla Vista right now. But we'd like to provide it."

Huggins added that the new spaces would incentivize recently graduated students to stay in I.V. because of the businesses as well, although Board Director Jay Freeman questioned whether the two had actually done research on the demand for tech companies in I.V.

The two envision all of the buildings to be four stories tall, but said none of them would exceed 45 feet in height.

In between the three buildings located on the Embarcadero Del Mar side of the Loop, Huggins envisions a considerable amount of patio space, where students can "sit outside and have a cup of coffee."

While Huggins and Wygant do not currently own the strip of restaurants on Embarcadero Del Mar, Huggins said he was "working on something." Since the proposal is still in very early stages, Huggins said he didn't want to take action on possibly purchasing other buildings in the Loop just yet.

"We're not trying to replace the established

places that people like to go in Isla Vista to eat or drink. We just want to redevelop this in a way that adds to the community rather than takes away from other people's businesses," Huggins added.

The two also believe that retail around this area would be "really revitalize[d]" by the renovations.

While Huggins and Wygant stressed the community benefits of the renovations, the proposal met backlash from the packed room, with several long-term residents and community members expressing concern about the potential loss of public spaces.

"Someone's gotta say something you guys," Pegeen Soutar, vice chairperson of the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District and a resident of I.V. for 35 years, said, kicking off public comment.

"I spent some time with both these gentlemen and I've tried to go into things with an open mind and my concern is always for the community, but I have concerns about even this variation of the plan," Soutar said.

"We have a community center finally; after many, many years, it's going to be open in August. We've been waiting 40 years for this and I think it's going to be beautiful...I think it's going to be what we need and it's a great start for us. If somewhere in the future we decide we need more space, when we've proven that we've burst out of the doors of that one, then I think that's something that we as a community can discuss," she added.

"So, I'm not, right now, seeing a benefit to the community to put things on hold or to change things that already exist right now."

Soutar also pointed out the lack of parking allocation in the plan or any research on the environmental impact of having more people frequenting the Loop. Soutar said she respected the two for reaching out and asking the community for

feedback, but said "at this point, I'm so excited for what we have already."

Isla Vista Food Co-Op General Manager Melissa Cohen echoed Soutar's comments, pointing out that having that many UCSB students on that side of the Loop would cause a slew of traffic problems for cars, bikers and pedestrians.

Another community member stood up, pointed at the proposal sketch and dryly said, "Welcome to Los Angeles, eventually."

Once public comment was over, the I.V. CSD returned to its discussion and questioning. All the board members expressed concern with I.V. losing the public spaces that it very recently created for the community.

CSD Director Father Jon-Stephen Hedges said he was uncomfortable with the idea of people coming in from the outside and changing the landscape of I.V.

"All of this is a process of questions, and questions are important. But there is also a visceral reaction that I'm sure some of us in this room have which is somehow beyond those questions," Hedges said.

"At least three of us remaining on the board sit here because... one of our taglines was 'nothing for us without us.'"

"Visioning is something best done by those who will live out that vision rather than those who have good ideas from the outside. That's not to say that good ideas can't come from outside," Hedges said. "But I'm not ready for this, I'm really not."

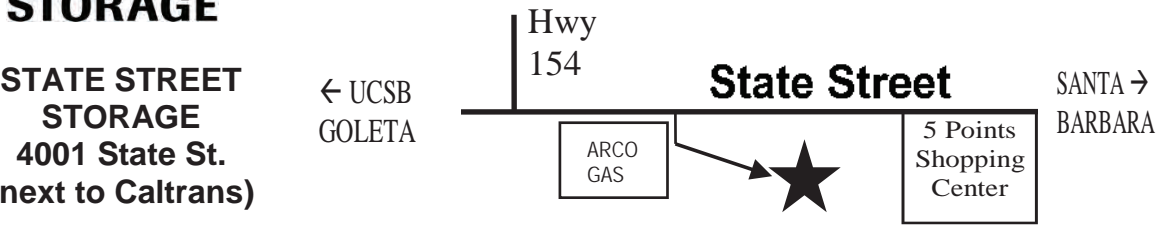
Huggins and Wygant plan to take all the feedback they received into consideration before deciding how they want to proceed. They both anticipate being present at future I.V. CSD meetings and will continue speaking with community members about how to make their proposed renovations more community-friendly.



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I.V. CSD Budget Sees About \$200,000 Increase in Funding for Next Fiscal Year

Katherine Swartz
Asst. News Editor

The Isla Vista Community Services District released its preliminary budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year on Monday, showing a \$207,584 increase in funding.

The total amount of funding the Isla Vista Community Services District (I.V. CSD) expects to receive in the 2019-2020 fiscal year is \$1,105,921, compared to \$898,337 in 2018-2019.

Funding for the district comes from four places: the User Utility Tax (UUT), revenue from community programs, intergovernmental revenue and residual fund balance from the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

UUT is an 8% tax on electricity, gas, garbage disposal, sewage and water services on I.V. homes and is the district's main source of funding, totaling over 70% of the coming year's budget at \$851,000.

UUT funding has greatly increased compared to the 2018-2019 year. Original estimations of tax revenue were \$777,000, but according to estimated actuals – what was actually raised this fiscal year – the district will only receive \$691,003 this year.

The tax, also known as Measure R, was affirmed by voters June 2018, and a delay in its implementation led to fewer total funds than original estimations.

Given the greater amount of funding for the 2019-2020 year, I.V. CSD also plans to increase spending dramatically compared to the current fiscal year.

Last year, the I.V. CSD proposed spending \$830,000 and is actually projected to spend \$481,813.70 by the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Projected spending for the 2019-2020 fiscal year totals \$1,105,900.

The funds will primarily be split between operations and community programs, with additional funding going toward safety, public works/graffiti abatement, housing and parking.

The district held a public forum on April 16 for

community members to speak about the budget, which Board Member Ethan Bertrand said played into the decision-making process about money allocation.

"I'd like to thank the many community members who participated in the budget process for providing valuable feedback about how we can best serve the community," Bertrand said in a message to the *Nexus*.

"This year's budget continues to invest in public safety services, youth and family services, beautification and infrastructure improvements, rental housing mediation, and more," Bertrand said in the message.

"This budget provides funding for the operation of the Isla Vista Community Center, which is expected to open in the next 6 months. The budget also fully funds the District's sexual assault/interpersonal violence investigation and prevention program, the Isla Vista Safety Station program, graffiti abatement [and] services for community members experiencing homelessness."

More will be spent on salaries and employee benefits this year as well. \$215,800 is allocated for employees, compared to \$186,800 this past fiscal year. Only \$67,384.95 of that money was actually spent.

The majority of the community programs budget is in professional and special services and contractual services, which both allotted for similar funds compared to the current fiscal year.

As the 2018-2019 fiscal year for I.V. CSD comes to a close in June, there remains \$416,523.10 left unspent from the year alone.

According to General Manager Jonathan Abboud, all unspent funds from the year will go toward building CSD reserves.

This includes short- and long-term cash reserves for regular operations, a capital maintenance fund to support community center equipment and repairs, a self-insurance fund and a capital outlay fund for future large scale public infrastructure.

According to Abboud, I.V. CSD will be releasing a letter explaining the budget early next week.



Weekly Events in Isla Vista

Pawsitively Perfect

Had a ruff week? Partied too hard on Friday night? Not a problem. Let your dog take over! This Saturday, the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District is hosting a "Bark Party" at the Sueno Bark Park. Stop by anytime from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., where you'll have the opportunity to take part in a variety of contests, such as best dog owner-pet look alike and musical chairs, dog addition. This free event is sponsored by pet-friendly outlets C.A.R.E4Paws, PetSmart, Santa Barbara Humane Society and Goleta Airport Animal Hospital. All dogs are welcome, humans are optional.

Get Your Zen On

Looking to get into yoga but expensive class prices don't work? Trying not to break the bank or your back? Eco Vista Community will be hosting their first ever yoga class in Pelican Park this Saturday at 10:30 a.m. If you're a fitness fiend or even a yoga novice, come out and stretch your body while simultaneously growing your community connections! Don't forget to bring a mat, or a blanket if you don't have one. Yogis beware: actual seeds may be involved!

When In Doubt, Stretch It Out

Exhausted from the stresses of school? Destress with Yoga Isla Vista's weekly candlelight flow class. Pop by their studio above Silvergreens for an escape from the stresses of everyday life and end your weekend strong. Set yourself up to finish the quarter in a stress-free and peaceful state of being. If you feel like engaging both your body and your mind, drop by the class this Sunday night from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

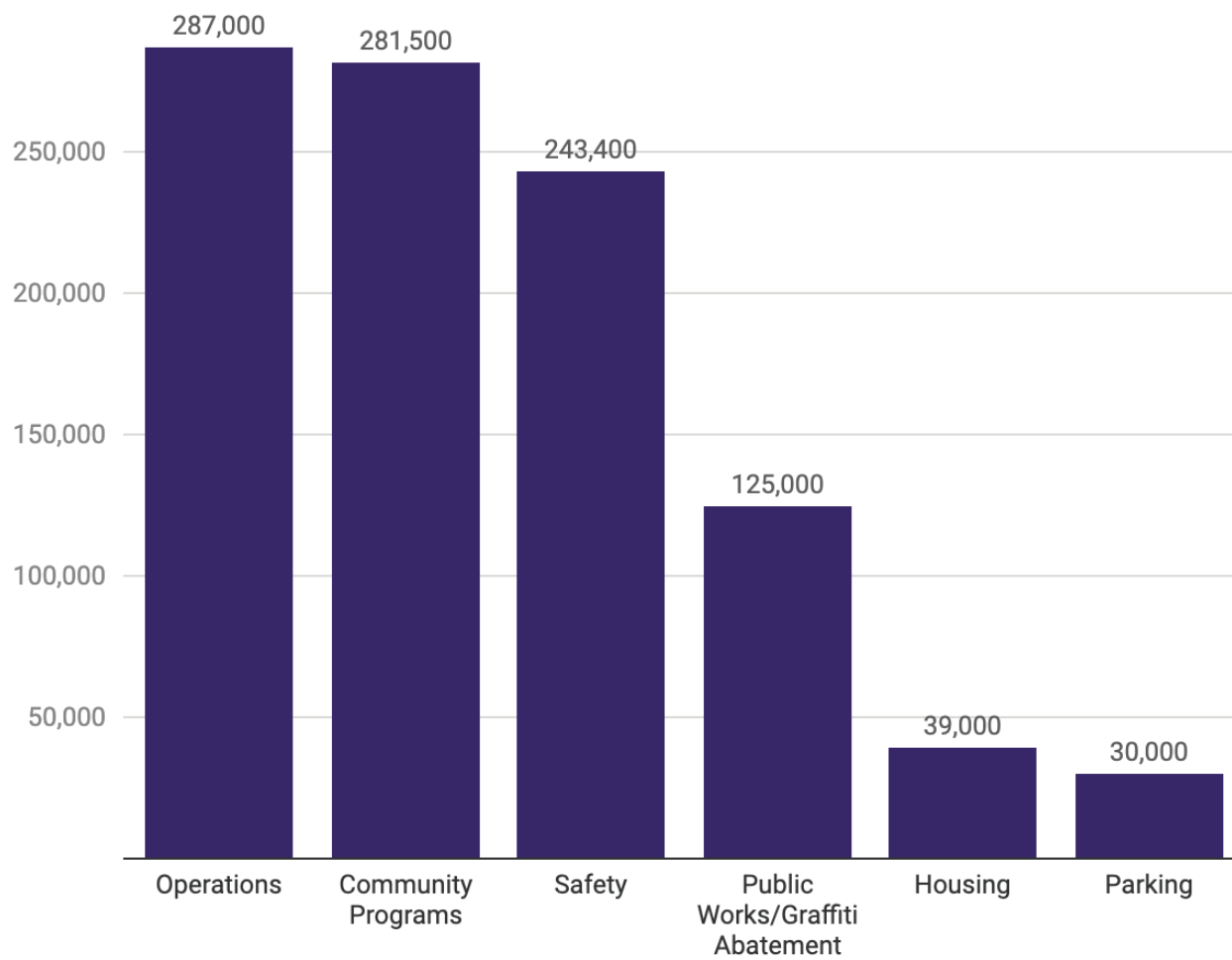
Toga Party!

Isla Vista's favorite (and only) annual toga party is back and better than ever! This Saturday, the best of I.V.'s local music scene will be playing a twelve-hour concert (yes you read that right)! The trek out to the edge of town is certainly worth it to dance to some head-banging tunes. Grab your bedsheets and fashion yourself a makeshift toga and get ready to jam out to Careless Cub, The Mallards, Delta Dagger, Odd Army and tons of other talented local bands. Located at 850 Camino Lindo, come make the most of your Saturday and forget about real clothes. Togas are cooler.

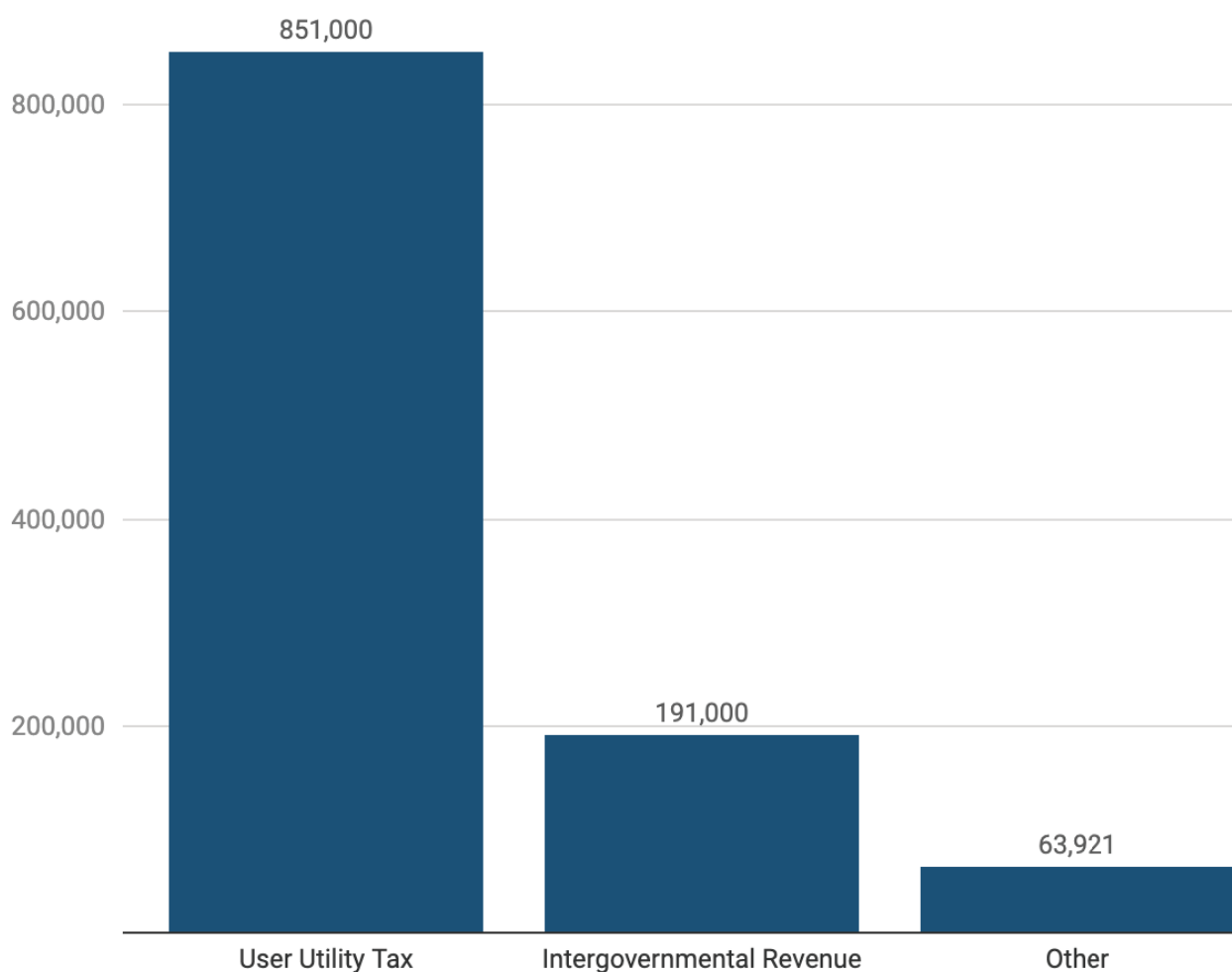
Sick Epic Party Concert

When you have the chance to see a concert for the same price of a Yerba Mate, you simply cannot pass it up. Help support the brothers of Sigma Eta Pi this Friday and rock the night away with an entire night of homegrown tunes. The Framers, Hoodwinker Sunfish, Buildclub, Closeout and ADL will be playing throughout the night, with exact set times available on Facebook. Tickets are \$4 presale and \$6 at the door. Be careful about your neck and ears – or whichever gives out first – you might not get them back after this awesomely-long night of music!

IVCSD Proposed Expenses by Program, 2019-2020



IVCSD Proposed Revenue by Source, 2019-2020



HAYLEY TICE / DAILY NEXUS

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BEST of GRAD ISSUE



Armchair QB



Grab your popcorn folks ... part two of the Odell Beckham Jr. and Josh Norman showdown is set to happen this Sunday. Well, that is if Norman is willing to cover a No. 1 wide receiver for all four quarters of a game.

SPORTS

L.A. Lakers

The Los Angeles Lakers will hold their training camp at UCSB beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 27 through Oct. 2. For more details visit dailynexus.com

No. 6 UCSB Travels to Hawai'i This Weekend



ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS

Jorge Mercado
Editor in Chief

Up two games in conference with six contests to play, the No. 6 UCSB baseball team is in prime position to claim its first Big West title since 1986.

"It would be incredible to be the team that wins. At this point, it is definitely more of a goal than a dream. In the beginning of the year we took everything one game at a time and when you look up after 48 games and you won 41 of them it is pretty incredible," junior right-handed pitcher Chris Lincoln said.

As a whole, Santa Barbara is impressive. The Gauchos own a 41-7 overall record which translates to a .854 winning percentage, which is the best in the entire nation. Additionally, UCSB is 15-3 in Big West games which puts them two in front of Cal Poly, who is 13-5.

Santa Barbara will take on Cal Poly in the final week of action, but before looking ahead, the team will take on Hawai'i who is in the middle of the pack in conference play. The Rainbow Warriors are currently 20-24 overall and just 8-10 in league play. They are tied for fourth in the standings.

Like most of the season, UCSB is on fire right now. Winners of 10 straight, the Gauchos have outscored their opponents 90-39 in those contests. Additionally, following a sweep of LBSU this past weekend, UCSB set a new program record for most consecutive home victories which is now at two after a midweek win over Pepperdine.

Granted, the Gauchos will not be at home when they take on Hawai'i this week, but they have not been so bad on the road either. Currently, UCSB boasts 15-6 record away from Caesar Uyesaka. In fact, Santa Barbara also has a better hitting percentage and on-base percentage in road contests.

In 21 road games this season, UCSB is slashing .305/.397/.500.

Also, the Gauchos are on fire in the month of May. Through eight games this month, UCSB is batting an incredible .312 at the dish. Moreover, the Gauchos hold a slugging percentage of .634.

A big part of the reason for Santa Barbara's success is outfielder Armani Smith. The junior is currently working a 13-game hitting streak and in seven of those contests, Smith has had multiple-hit outings.

Against Long Beach State, Smith went 6-13 with two extra-base hits. Overall, Smith is batting .328 and has 41 RBIs and 11 home runs.

Another hot bat is sophomore second baseman Andrew Martinez, who was recently named the Big West Field Player of the Week after leading the Gauchos to a 4-0 week, including a sweep over Long Beach State over the weekend.

Against LBSU, Martinez hit .538 (7-for-13) with two home runs, five RBIs and four runs scored as the Gauchos outscored their opponents 35-10 during the week. Three of his seven hits went for extra bases, including his sixth and seventh home runs of the year as he recorded a 1.077 slugging percentage during the week. He also walked three times to notch a .625 [on-base percentage.

In the pen, Lincoln is still a reliable closer. The junior right-handed pitcher is one save away from breaking the UCSB single-season save record. Lincoln also has an incredible 36 strikeouts on just 30.1 innings pitched.

"I just go out there and try to get a save every time. I never think of my personal stats, I just want to win the game for my teammates. I just want those final three outs," Lincoln said.

"Checks has worked with me a lot on how to get guys out and fortunately my stuff has gotten a lot better, so I get more strikeouts. I mean, they are fun."

Hawai'i as a whole is not an impressive bunch. The Rainbow Warriors are just 14-15 at home but they do have three players hitting above .300 on the year. *Continue reading on dailynexus.com.*

The Greatest Shooter in the Game: An Ode to Steph Curry

Omar Hernandez
Sports Editor

Chef Curry. The Baby-Faced Assassin. The Human Torch.

The Golden State Warriors point guard Stephen Curry has earned a bunch of nicknames throughout his storied career. Already a two-time (and once unanimous) MVP, three-time champion and "greatest shooter ever" by the age of 31, Curry's career is almost perfect. He's currently playing against his younger brother in the Western Conference Finals and is the son of former NBA player Dell Curry and former Virginia Tech Volleyball player Sonya Curry; to the casual observer it must look like he was destined for greatness. If you've followed him closely throughout the years, however, you would know that that wasn't always the case.

I certainly didn't think I was watching an all-time great player when I first really started following the Warriors my freshman year of high school. Up to that point, my knowledge of the Dubs mostly revolved around my older family members's memories of the Run TMC era, being snuck into Oakland bars as a kid to watch the 2007 We Believe Team and being oddly drawn to shooting guard Keenna Azubuike because of his awesome name. I certainly remember feeling furious that Monta Ellis didn't get an All-Star bid, and venting with my stepfather when we traded him for Andrew Bogut. Still, other than my friends and I (regrettably) nicknaming Curry "Noodle Legs" because of his ankle injuries, none of the early memories of my Warriors fandom really involved him.

That all changed in the 2012-13 NBA playoffs.

The Warriors were a plucky six-seed that year led by second-year coach Mark Jackson and Steph Curry, who had garnered national attention earlier in the season when he scored 54 points against the Knicks at Madison Square Garden. Most Warriors fans at that point had conceded that trading Ellis was the right way to go, but I personally still wasn't sure how far Curry could take us. Little did I know that this would be the debut of one

of the most dominant postseason players the game has ever seen.

Steph was on fire in the first round against the Nuggets, torching the Denver defense for two 30-point performances sandwiched around a 29-point game, and leading the Warriors to their first playoff series victory in six years. When he then turned around and dropped 44 points in the first game of the Western Conference Semifinals on the Spurs, the whole league was put on notice and people started to understand that this guard who had been hampered by injuries could really ball.

He elevated himself from a good shooter to a great player, and after losing to the Clippers in an emotionally charged first-round series in 2014, the stage was set for him to truly take his game to the next level.

And that's exactly what he did.

Curry did more than just change public perception during his first MVP season in 2015; he actually shifted the landscape of the entire NBA. While old heads like Charles Barkley dismissed the eventual champion Warriors as a "jump-shooting team," while an East Coast-biased media elevated teams like the Hawks or Cavs over the Dubs, while Houston fans and their team obnoxiously campaigned for James Harden to win the Most Valuable Player award – Steph and the Warriors just kept on winning.

They eventually faced off against the "Grit 'n Grind" Memphis Grizzlies in the second round of the 2015 playoffs, and as Curry sunk shots from the opposing free-throw line, it was almost as if we could see the passing of the torch right in front of our eyes. The Warriors's ball movement, quick and smart defense and shot-making ability simply brushed off the outdated bully ball style of the Grizzlies, and it was all catalyzed by number 30.

Steph would end up leading the Warriors to a championship, following up with the greatest offensive season in history in which he averaged 30.1 points on 50/45/90 shooting and won a unanimous MVP. Being hampered by injuries and losing in seven games to the Cavs would also bring over Kevin Durant to create the best duo to ever step on a basketball court.

Two championships later, this is where we stand. Curry already has the resume of the second-best point guard of all time. He is the leader of the statistically greatest starting lineup in NBA history, ranks ninth in points per game in the playoffs and is blowing away three-point shooting records with ease. When Kevin Durant went down with an injury this year, it was Curry with 33 points in the second half of game six to bury the "rival" Houston Rockets and advance to the Western Conference Finals.

The only inconsistent part of Curry's game now seems to be the criticism levied against him and his team.

At first, the Warriors were unfair because they got Kevin Durant. Then the Warriors needed Kevin Durant in order to win the championship. At first, Curry isn't "clutch" because he doesn't have a finals MVP. Then when he does carry the team, he's a "frontrunner" or "showboat". At first, the Warriors were a soft jump-shooting team that lucked into a finals. Then they became an illegal-screening, dirty powerhouse that bullied lesser squads into oblivion.

While media talking-heads try to get their narratives together before another Warriors championship victory, Curry just continues to add to his legacy.

He is the most selfless superstar the game has seen, embodies a leader in the truest sense of the word and belongs on the Mount Rushmore of NBA players.

He is not just part of the greatest offense in the league, but is himself the greatest offense in the league. His gravity and the way he stretches out opposing defenses is something that has never been seen before.

When his career is done, when the Warriors are back to being a middle-of-the-pack team playing in an overpriced San Francisco stadium, when their championship hopes are nothing but a memory, he will be talked about in the same way we talk about legends like Magic Johnson and Larry Bird.

We should be grateful that we get to see him in his prime now.



Athlete Q & A: Track and Field Star Hope Bender



LEONARD PAULASA / DAILY NEXUS

Senior Hope Bender has dominated the Big West for two consecutive years. She holds the conference record in the long jump (6.29m) and 400-meter hurdle (56.64).

Leonard Paulasa
Staff Writer

In the midst of preparing for regionals and the NCAA championships, Hope Bender took some time out of her day to provide us insight into her life and her plans for the future.

Bender is a bonafide superstar in the sport of track and field, breaking and owning countless school records that rival those of Barbara Nwaba, a former UCSB student and current Olympian.

Two weeks ago Bender competed in the Big West Multi Championships and retained her crown as the heptathlon champion, winning the title back-to-back. She continued her dominance last weekend during the Conference Championships and proceeded to place a new record in the long jump with a whopping distance of 6.29 meters, to go alongside her mind-boggling 400-meter hurdle time of 56.64 seconds that destroyed both the school record and conference record. Bender's performance was unlike any other, and her continued excellence in the sport earned her a second consecutive Big West Women's Athlete of the Meet honor.

LP: Hi Hope! On behalf of the Nexus, thank you again for granting us an interview. Do you mind telling the readers your full name, age, year and major?

HB: Not a problem! My name is Hope Bender, I'm a 22-year-old senior at UCSB and I'm a biology major.

LP: How did you decide to do track, and how long have you been involved in the sport?

HP: I started track my freshman year of high school, but I started taking it seriously my junior year so it's been about six years. My mom did track, which was the reason as to why I started. In high school, I started out in the 200-meter and 400-meter sprints, but focused more on the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles my senior year.

LP: Did it feel like it came naturally to you?

HB: Events like the hurdles, running events and shot put came pretty naturally, but the jumps – especially the high jump – and the javelin I'm still trying to get the hang of.

LP: Why the heptathlon?

HB: I chose it because I wanted to do a bit of everything. I didn't want to focus on just one event, because I thought that might get old after a little while. I had a club coach that encouraged me to look into the heptathlon, and he taught me how to do hurdles and the other events.

LP: How different is it to train for the heptathlon?

HB: The amount of time it takes is the biggest difference. We spend more hours on the track because we have so many different things to focus on. We only have so much time with each of the events. We can't spend hours on a single event, so we have to spread our time out evenly.

LP: Given that you only started participating in the heptathlon your freshman year at UCSB, how does it feel to become a back-to-back champion?

HB: It's pretty cool! My first two years were definitely my

big learning years, and just learning how to get comfortable, grow and getting a good foundation in the events. The past two years have been fun and not have to focus on just getting a mark on an event, but getting to challenge each event – making sure I'm competitive and getting good results across the board. Being back-to-back champ has been a ton of fun, and it means more that I got to finish out at home and that the last conference meet was here.

LP: So ... congratulations on being a back-to-back champ, and also congratulations on breaking even more school records this past weekend. With that in mind, what record do you want to break next and why?

HB: Thank you! The next one I want is the heptathlon school record. It's currently held by Barbara Nwaba. She went to the Olympics in 2016 and finished second in the NCAA championships her senior year. She's incredible and has been a friend and a mentor to me, so I'm looking forward to giving it one more shot in the NCAAs.

LP: How intense has training and nutrition gotten now that you're prepping for nationals?

HB: Everything is about being strong and fast, and more about peaking. We're making sure my eating and nutrition is dialed in. Practices are shorter, but more intense. Everything is about making sure we're mentally, emotionally and physically ready for Austin.

LP: What are your goals for the year, and what results would you be happy with?

HB: I brought up the heptathlon school record, and I want to achieve 6,000 points in it. It's kind of a barrier that separates good from great. I would hate to put a number or place on what I'd be happy with, but just going out and not having a bad event, being consistent across the board and maybe getting a couple individual event PRs to boost my scores to where I want to be.

LP: As a senior, this would be your final year as a student-athlete. Where would you want to go after your graduation?

HB: Just looking forward one year, I want to compete in the 2020 Olympic trials next June, so I'm planning to give track at least one more year and give it a good run. I'll never be able to do it again, so I might as well. After that, I'd love to get my MBA and work on the business side of the biotech industry.

LP: Any final words, messages or shoutouts to our readers?

HB: Shoutout to Coach Horn, Coach Marlow and Coach Schmitt. Shoutout to my teammates. I was so impressed by every single one of them and how they carried themselves during the races. Everyone did better than expected. As a final message, the biggest thing I learned from track and field is that there's always going to be good times and hard times, but it's important to have people who believe in you even when you don't. That support pushed me to be who I am today.

LP: Thank you again for the interview, and good luck in nationals!

Youthful Gauchos Finish Eighth in Big West Conference

Jake Ciccone
Staff Writer

The 2019 campaign for the UCSB Gauchos softball team was laden with struggles and growing pains as the young team navigated their way through a difficult season. However, the Gauchos will only lose three players to graduation after this year, and the others will return next season after learning from their experiences and improving on the field.

With a 10-42 overall record and a 4-17 conference record, UCSB rounded out the bottom of the Big West, finishing just a game shy of No. 7 Cal Poly in the standings.

The season started off strong for the Gauchos, as they emerged victorious in three of their first four games, scoring double-digit runs in two of them. It was after this point that things took a downhill slide as they went on to lose 11 of their next 12 games, and over this stretch they only managed to plate three runs in a game once. This trend of a lack of run support from the offense continued throughout non-conference play as the Gauchos sported a record of 6-25 through their first 31 contests.

Heading into conference play there was some cautious optimism that going head-to-head with their Big West foes might jumpstart

the Gauchos and get them rolling again. However, the struggle continued for Santa Barbara as they only managed to grab one win in their first nine Big West matchups. Again, it was the offense that sputtered, as their only win during that time came in the form of a 3-1 win against UC Davis.

The Gauchos were nipping at their first series win, but they ultimately let it slip away in heartbreaking fashion against a very good Long Beach State team. After taking the first game of the three-game set, Santa Barbara dropped the next game before letting the series finale slip through their fingers as they surrendered four runs in the bottom of the seventh before ultimately losing the game by a single run.

That loss proved tough to recover from as Santa Barbara suffered back-to-back sweeps at the hands of Cal State Northridge and UC Riverside before they bounced back for the highlight of their season, a series win on the road in SLO against Cal Poly. The Gauchos pulled out all the stops in order to record their first series win of the year in their rival's backyard, winning the series-clinching game 9-1 in five innings due to the eight-run mercy rule.

UCSB was led by their undeniable star Sammy Fabian, as the super-sophomore rode her .404 season average and nine stolen bases to an All-Big West First Team selection, the second All-Conference

selection of her young career.

Catcher Teah Thies also took home All-Freshman honors for her work behind the plate and team-leading 17 RBIs.

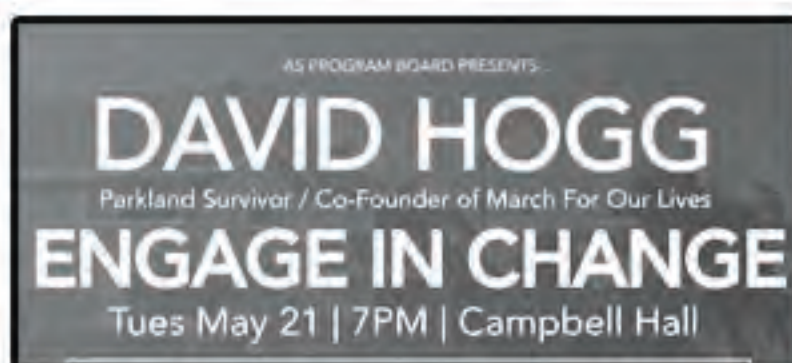
The Gauchos also got significant contributions from junior Devan Sperry, possibly the most consistent UCSB hitter on the season who finished with an outstanding batting average of .308.

Senior Melanie Menor also proved to be a major contributor for the Gauchos, one who got better as the season went along. Menor's breakout was one of the best stories of the season as she was only batting .116 through 31 non-conference games before she hit her stride in conference play and batted .328 against Big West opponents.

The UCSB pitching staff was anchored by junior Felisha Noriega, who led the team with 125.2 innings pitched, a 3.62 ERA and 81 strikeouts.

While the record might not jump off the page, the UCSB softball team has many reasons to be encouraged heading into next season. Some new emerging players coupled with the already-established players easing into their roles as upperclassmen is a recipe for improvement, and the hope is that this season is just a necessary bridge to cross before this team is able to consistently compete with the best of the best.

AS Program Board Presents...





































ARTSWEEK

Inside the Mind of Jordan Mitchell

Max Abrams
Asst. News Editor

If you haven't heard him on Spotify, watched his music videos on YouTube or seen him spinning decks in Isla Vista – you should. Jordan Mitchell is a master of his craft.

The local artist, a fourth-year music major at UC Santa Barbara, recently debuted his newest album, *Don't Touch My Danimals*, earlier this year. Mitchell was quick to address the uniqueness of his album's title, tracing it back to his obsession of a childhood snack from the past.

"*Don't Touch My Danimals* is something that's really important to me. It's who I am. It's something that's part of my childhood. It is me. I don't want people to touch my childhood," he said. Mitchell added that his inspiration stemmed from a renewed appreciation of the children's yogurt, a name now shared among his newest album and his favorite snack.

But Mitchell revealed that there's more to it than just the name.

I learned that in his *Danimals* prime, Mitchell did not like to share his yogurt as a kid, instead opting to keep it for himself. After departing from his prior band, *Inside Shade*, Mitchell applied this same mentality to his newest pursuit – this time on a much bigger level. Almost all the vocal and musical elements for *Don't Touch My Danimals* were crafted by Mitchell himself, an element of production he learned to embrace after deciding to embark on his project alone.

"I felt like I was putting in more effort than everybody else [in the band] and I said 'fuck that.' I can just do things by myself. When people were pushing me to be my own artist, it kind of revamped me to where I was ... So I learned from this group who I am and I'm going to go [do this] by myself," he explained.

As we talked through the project's five-month timeline, Mitchell elaborated on his unorthodox and experimental nature when producing the album.

I quickly became familiar with the fact that Mitchell is picky, a desirable trait in music. In "Sancho," for example, Mitchell produced the track three separate times: once as a trap beat, once as a Mariachi beat and once as a "trap-Mariachi" beat. To produce the song "Tokyocitypop," Mitchell had to sift through two years' worth of his own archives to find what he was looking for.

"I was going through old beats. I was making new beats. I was experimenting with beats. I was experimenting extremely with sound ... I want [this album] to represent exactly how I'm processing this. I treat this album like a film. I'm the director, but I'm also the writer," he said.

When asked about his favorite memory with the album, Mitchell knew right away: the time he produced the third portion of "Tokyocitypop," a track inspired by his feelings of hopeless romanticism. It didn't come easily, though. After fabricating "four versions" of the track based off "15 different samples," his thirst for the proper soundtrack was finally quenched.

Music aside, Mitchell also worked to produce content that wasn't limited to speakers. After \$500, a trip to Studio City, a rented mansion and a camera crew, the music video for "Sancho" was born. "Bird" followed suit as well, in which Mitchell revealed there was "a whole lot of planning" and "a lot of different scenes."

But everything aforementioned is about the finished products – what about everything that led to them?

For starters, the Stockton-bred artist recommends "just fucking do it." Mitchell advised if you're interested in dipping a toe into the music world – jump in. Immersion is the fastest way to learn.

"Nine times out of 10 you're gonna suck when you start. It's okay to be bad as shit. You develop," he said.

Replication, according to Mitchell, is a tool for progressing in music that comes not too far after taking the initial plunge. Before "you can be yourself" in music, Mitchell explained that it's easiest to mimic similar styles of other musicians first, then taper down and try to produce music unique to yourself. Once that's all down, Mitchell explained, then you can commit to making your own music.

But it's much easier said than done.

Beginning when he was 11 years old, the now 21-year-old Mitchell has spent the last 10 years blowing air into trumpets and strumming guitars and, most recently, bass. This time period paralleled his zeal for a variety of music genres such as rock and metal. As for hip-hop, he was interested in that, too, but surprisingly "not that much."

Along with his affinity for Weezer and System of a Down, Mitchell also has an ear for mariachi-style music, elements of which can be heard throughout *Don't Touch My Danimals*. When chronicling his timeline of favorite genres, Mitchell somewhat alluded to a third facet of learning music: Take pride in what you make.

As a musician, Mitchell placed a heavy

emphasis on preserving his artistic vision. After returning to his hometown of Stockton, for example, Mitchell caught the ears of other people in the recording studio who heard him play the beat for his song "Neotokyo." He was immediately flooded with requests to be featured on his song – all of which he declined. But why?

"I'm very psyched about features and I don't want to feature you on this song," Mitchell told those who asked. Mitchell explained to me that when he has an idea, he sticks to it. He also told me it's not nice to invite yourself onto somebody else's soundtrack – it's rude.

When producing music, Mitchell pays careful attention to his craft, treating "voices as instruments" on top of the already-present soundtrack. Mitchell's explanation of his production game showed me just how much effort it takes to create quality soundtracks, a facet of the music industry he finds with not enough light shed on it.

"We're getting into this time when we're finally starting to recognize producers. You had Zaytoven, Lex Luger, TOKiMonsta, Flying Lotus – all these producers who just weren't recognized" – and now, finally, they are.

For trap music specifically, Mitchell believes the beat is "meant to shine," while other styles, such as boom-bap, are meant to complement the lyrics. Regardless, if it wasn't for a quality soundtrack to support the lyrics of many popular songs, Mitchell has a hunch that "rappers wouldn't be shit without a beat."

To produce a beat, however, inspiration always helps. Mitchell finds his inspiration by treating each composition as a "very open diary." In doing so, Mitchell's music doubles as both a soundtrack and narration of some part of his life.

"I've never rocked by shit I've never done. That's a very big rule. Even in my most hood-rat songs, I used to do all that. That's the whole point," he said. "I have Tinder love. I swiped right, she swiped left – that shit hurt! These are funny things, and, you know, how do I talk about this?" he said.

With two full albums and nearly ten singles on Spotify alone, it's clear that Mitchell has many stories to tell – a few of which have garnered noticeable amounts of attention on the popular music-streaming app.

With recognition comes fame, but Mitchell doesn't want it. When asked if he has any desire to be famous in the future, Mitchell said, "It's cool ... but I don't give a fuck about being famous." If it happens, it happens. But he says he likes his privacy.

Mitchell also hopes to one day make outrageously expensive music production software more accessible to help students have an easier time mastering it and alleviate the pain of shelling wads of cash to acquire even the most essential tools.

His reason? Education.

What Mitchell really cares about is

“

I'm not gonna sit here and ask for money ... At the end of the day, I just want to teach.

JORDAN MITCHELL



Courtesy of Jordan Mitchell

teaching. When he's not behind a DJ set or an instrument, he's behind a desk, teaching students how to transform their ideas into tangible compositions. After teaching a music production class through the College of Creative Studies last winter quarter, Mitchell will be attending the University of Southern California next fall to earn a master's degree in music education.

"Kids that I taught music composition and hip-hop to – I want them to become famous. I want to sit down and be like, 'They did that. And I'm proud of them,'" he said. "I'm not gonna sit here and ask for money. I just know that I did my job as an educator and happened to rap and produce my own stuff. At the end of the day, I just want to teach."



Courtesy of Jordan Mitchell

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NEXUSTENTIALISM

It's Satire, Stupid.

Senior Reminisces on Marks He Has Left on UCSB

Nexustentialism Staff

ISLA VISTA – Graduating senior Bob Lee-Fluids seductively laid upon his hand-me-down couch in his Del Playa home, contemplating the last four years of his college experience. He looked lovingly upon the blue Frost Four Loko barf stain on the couch and began to contemplate the marks he'd made at UCSB. He looked at several other stains on said couch, proudly beaming at the parts of himself he would be leaving behind.

Reminiscing to his fraternity little about his many crazy nights, he pointed to each stain, remembering the meaningful story behind it. "This stain right here I made with Hot Jessica... this could have been my son, had I not pulled out," Lee-Fluids sighed while gazing into the distance. "Oh..." replied his little, Matthew, shifting away from the crusted patch of suede.

As part of the fraternity's tradition of sharing their history orally, Matthew noted each of the stains left by his lineage. Enthralled by its rich history, he ran his hands over a rather textured part of the sofa, asking, "Is this Braille?" It was not Braille, but in fact years of caked-on vomit in one specific spot.

"This is our yak corner," Lee-Fluids said, pointing to a cushion slathered in curdled vomit. "Everyone in our fam has yakked there at one point or another... and someday you will too."

Lee-Fluids suddenly fell silent, reflecting more upon his last four years. Coming in as a bio major with hopes of someday being the scientist to cure cancer, Lee-Fluids is finishing as a comm major and will have to settle with his hometown marketing internship. Upon this reflection, he realized that his greatest lasting impacts on the UCSB campus were going to be the fluids he left on this couch. The bonds of his fraternity brothers were strong, but not nearly as strong as the bonds between each cushion.

As he gazed upon the disgusting but well-loved couch with his little, he made his final mark on the UCSB community. A single tear rolled down his face and onto the couch, briefly rehydrating a splotch of week-old marinara sauce before finally staining the couch with one final mark of love for his college experience.

Mark E. Stain is a graduating senior who wants you to create your own stains on this campus!



OLLIE TABOOGER / DAILY NEXUS



OLLIE TABOOGER / DAILY NEXUS

Goth Girl Sues Sorority for Making Doc Martens Popular Again

Ebony Dark'ness Dementia Raven Way
Reporter

It seems Kappa Kappa Gumbo has gotten itself into another legal fiasco, this time for enraging the goth community. The culprit? Doc Martens.

"This is literally cultural appropriation," weeped the victim, who would like to keep her full name anonymous but said we could call her xXMidnightPrincessx.

The vicious legal battle stems from a fight that allegedly took place Sunday morning at Cajé.

"I was going to Cajé with my friend, _Dark_Angelx, to get coffee – black and bitter like my soul, obviously – and then I see these little blonde girls in their little Krappa Krappa whatever t-shirts," xXMidnightPrincessx recounts. "But on their feet? Doc Martens. On my feet? Doc Martens. I was mortified. I mean, I already live in eternal pain, but this just brought my anguish to the next level. Like, the only other time I've been this mad was when the Hot Topic at my

mall closed."

_Dark_Angelx shared in this similar feeling of rage, saying, "I was literally bullied for wearing combat boots in middle school. The fact that they think it's okay to wear them now is so unfair."

It was suggested that maybe _Dark_Angelx was bullied in middle school not because she wore Doc Martens but because she hissed at people and carried around a speaker that blasted Evanescence's "Wake Me Up" during passing period. _Dark_Angelx refused to comment further.

After witnessing such a disturbing scene at Cajé, xXMidnightPrincessx immediately took to the courts, citing assault and copyright infringement. It is unclear whether there is actually any legal basis for this court case, but the odds are stacked against the goths.

Ebony Dark'ness Dementia Raven Way wore Doc Martens before they were cool.

Coughing in Lecture Hall Recreates Beethoven's Fifth

Ima Noyed
Reporter

In a miraculous turn of events last week, midterms on UCSB campus became mysteriously musical.

Surely every student who has had the misfortune of slogging through the college cold and flu season (which is literally just the entirety of weeks two through ten) has heard the melodic tones of violent coughing and hacking echoed around a lecture hall.

This unceasing cacophony is what was expected of the 900-person Psych 1 midterm in Campbell Hall last week. But, to her surprise and fascination, Professor Lynne Fluenza recounted the moment when all of her students suddenly began to cough in a synchronized score, resulting in a spot-on performance of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

"I've never seen anything like it," Fluenza said. "They were all so perfectly in tune. It nearly brought tears to my eyes."

Students left the lecture hall with bright red faces and horribly scratchy throats but were greeted by the entire music department applauding vigorously. A new "Musical Coughing" major is under consideration by the College of

Creative Studies.

The young man who was the first in the class to clear his throat, Fletcher Flemm, was gracious enough to speak to our on-scene reporter.

"Cough cough cough wheeze," commented Flemm. "Cough hack cough, wheeeze."

Another symphonic coughing incident is not expected for another 30 years, but the impossibility of having an actual quiet lecture hall during a test makes it an inevitable event.

Speculations about the next performance include selections from Bach, Tchaikovsky or even the hit Broadway musical "Hamilton." UCSB is working on an accompanying light show to be set in Campbell Hall for this anticipated special occasion.

UPDATE: Further investigation into this miracle revealed that those infected had gone to Student Health for treatment, where instead of antibiotics or competent medical care, they received magic beans that caused the involuntary coughing.

Ima Noyed doesn't blame the sick students of UCSB at all for coughing so fucking much but is still really irritated by it.



MAX MYSZKOWSKI / DAILY NEXUS

100% Of UCSB Long-Distance Relationships Would Rapidly Implode if Couple Ever Hung Out In Person, Study Finds

Daniel Carroll
Reporter

A school-wide study conducted by UCSB's Department of Communication revealed that 100% of long-distance relationships based out of UCSB would rapidly implode if the couple ever spent extensive time together in person. The study found that students in long-distance relationships were quite happy with their freedom in spending all their time with friends and dressing and acting how they please at all times.

"We discovered that literally every single participant in a long-distance relationship treasures the fact that, aside from a FaceTime here or there, they never actually have to sacrifice any time for their relationship," said lead researcher Sarah Springer, who added that the ability to gain weight and drink all day contributed to the success of long distance.

The study also listed several other factors keeping long-distance relationships together. According to the results, the occasional

exchanging of an "I love you" and "I miss you" over the phone provides a satisfactory level of emotional fulfillment needed for a college student.

Furthermore, the study showed that UCSB students in long-distance relationships grew in popularity amongst their peers as sexual targets due to their apparent unavailability. While this increase in attention led to some promiscuous activity, most study subjects merely relished at the idea of increasingly being seen as desirable sexual figures.

"Some Gauchos doing long-distance simply want the ability to play video games all day or shop with their friends, while others just enjoy the benefits of their 'hard-to-get' status," Springer said. "Our study shows, however, that all of this would come to a grinding halt if these couples ever reunited in person, resulting in an all-out implosion of the relationship 100% of the time."

Daniel Carroll is currently in a long-distance relationship with an absolutely real Canadian girl.



EMMA DEMOREST / DAILY NEXUS

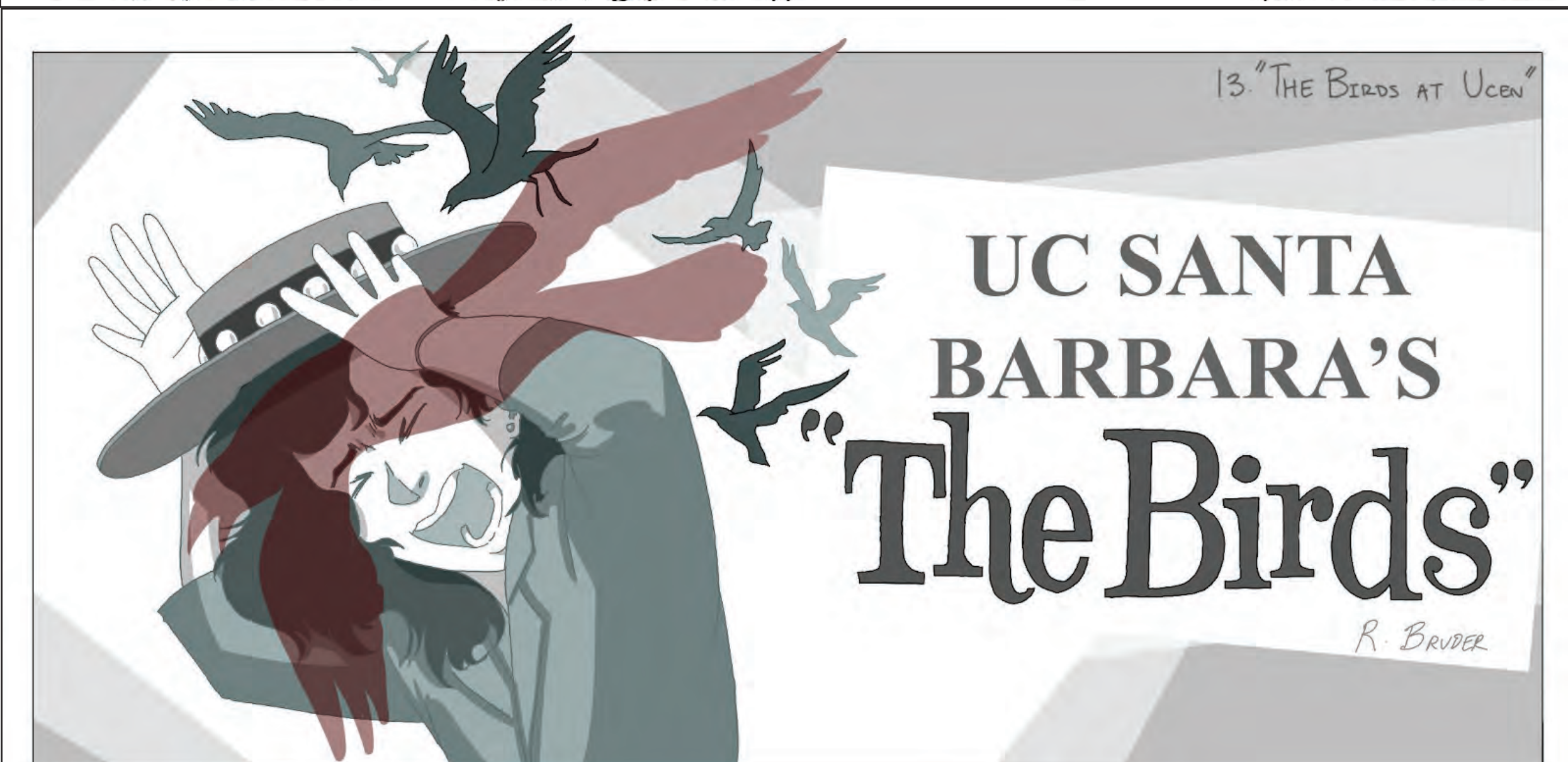
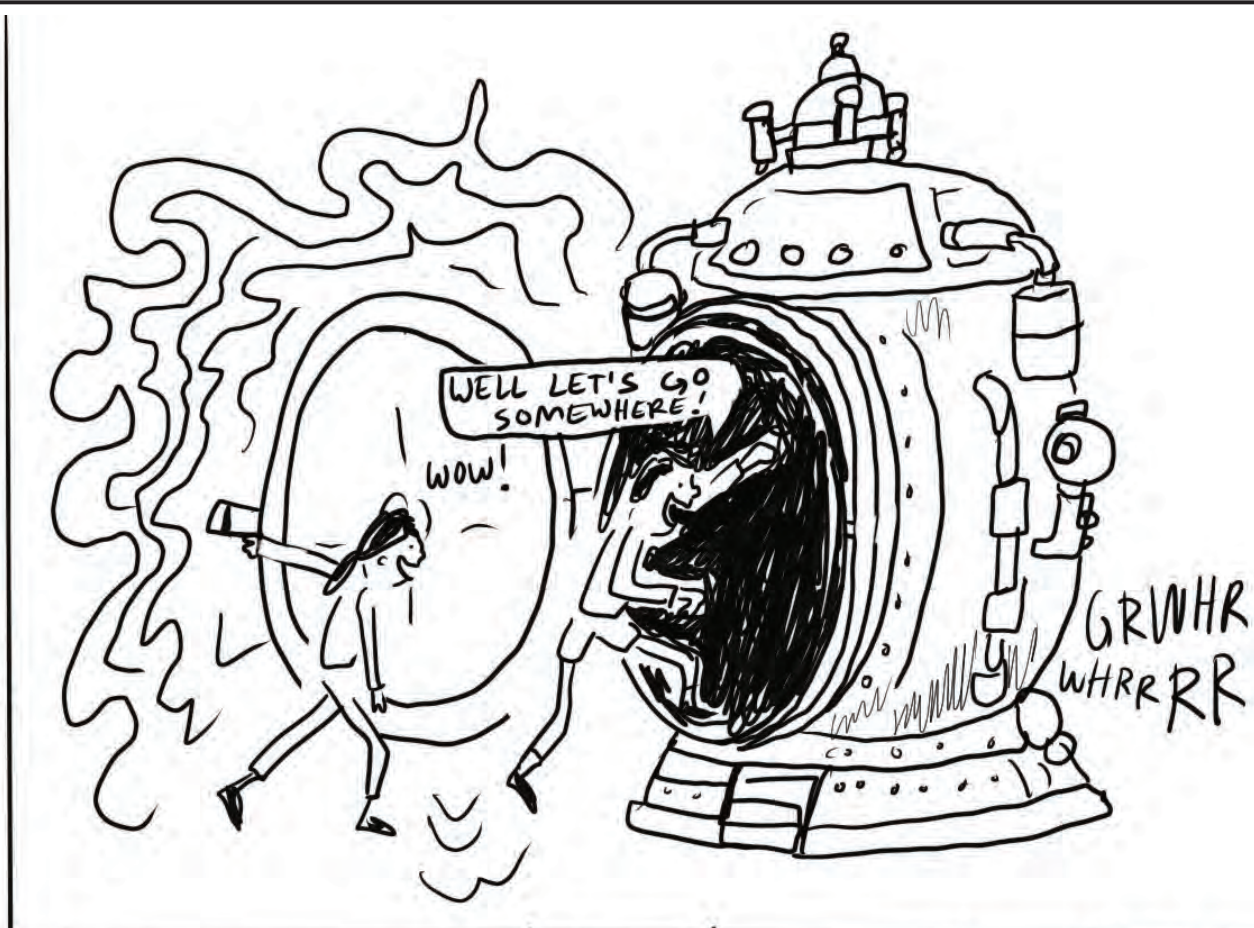
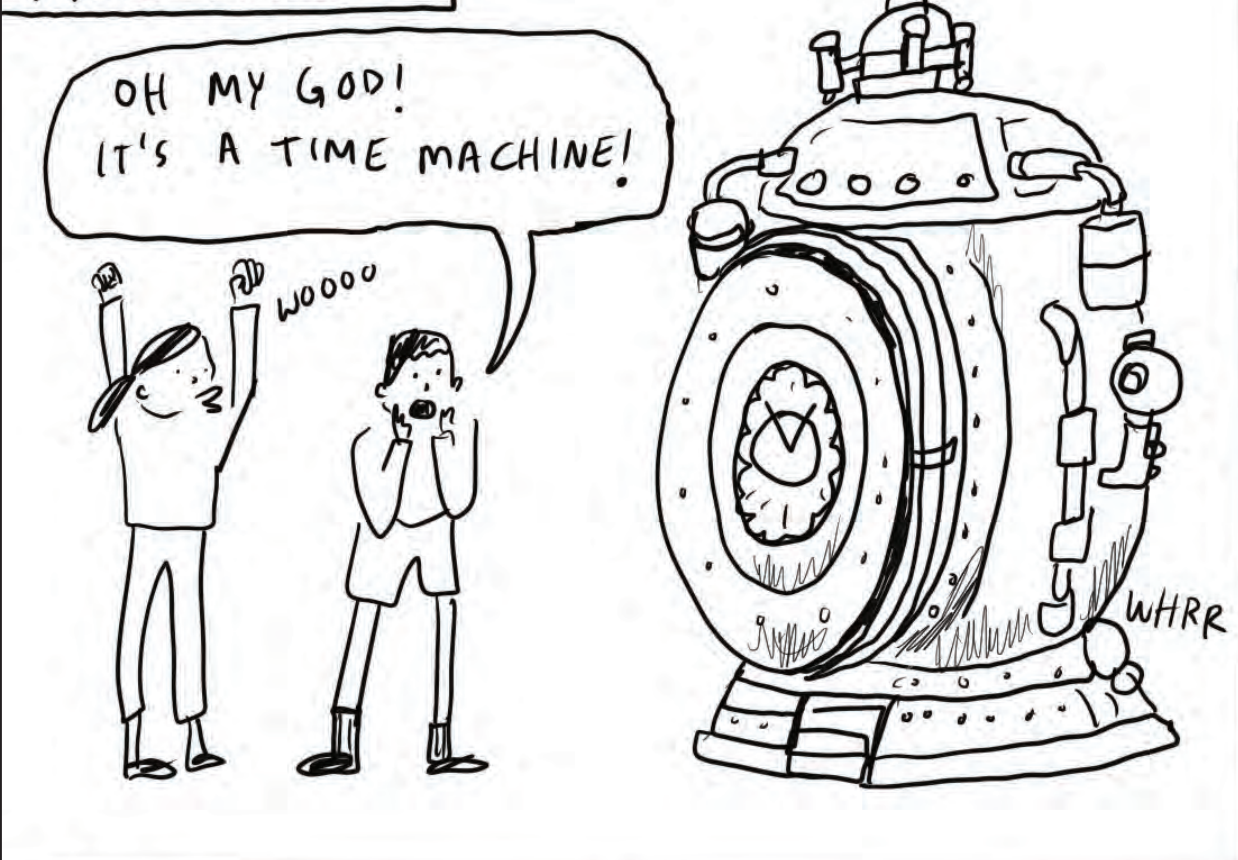
DAILY NEXUS ART & COMICS

LAST RITES

BY KATE



TIME TRAVEL



ON THE MENU

Cozy Local Coffee Shops to Cram In



RINAH ANATALIO / DAILY NEXUS

Rinah Anatolio
Staff Writer

Since midterm season never ends in the quarter system, repeatedly going to the same study spot each week can get boring. Luckily, Santa Barbara and Goleta are home to various aesthetic coffee shops to study in. All of these places offer Wi-Fi and have an assortment of small snacks to enjoy while grinding through a paper or study guide.

OLD TOWN COFFEE

Old Town Coffee is located in Old Town Goleta, right on Hollister Avenue. This spot is perfect for studying because it is moderately quiet and has multiple outlets available to charge your devices. Their coffee is great, and they offer vegan and dairy-free milk substitutions. Many of their snacks come from other local businesses in the Santa Barbara area, such as empanadas from Buena Onda and sweet pastries from D'Angelo's. Furthermore, their space is nicely decorated with a rustic vibe. Even if you don't find yourself studying at Old Town, they have a beautiful outside space with games like cornhole and ping-pong.

HOOK AND PRESS DONUTS

Hook and Press is a relatively new spot located on State Street. They offer beautiful gourmet donuts that are freshly made each morning. Hook and Press sells the most aesthetic donuts in Santa Barbara. If you love posting your food on your Instagram story, then this place is for you! Their donut flavors can vary depending on the season and holidays. Although this is a donut shop, they also serve coffee from Dune

Coffee Roaster's and an assortment of juices from Juice Ranch. Hook and Press offers free Wi-Fi for their customers as well. This shop shares a space with other food vendors, which can make the space a bit louder than most other study spaces but is nevertheless a great spot to study. Their social media is constantly updated with flavor announcements and deals, so keep an eye out for that!

BREAKFAST CULTURE CLUB

Breakfast Culture Club is a trendy coffee shop located in downtown Santa Barbara. They offer Handlebar Coffee Roasters' coffee along with teas and kombucha on tap. They also have an assortment of delicious gourmet toasts and pastries. Breakfast Culture Club has free Wi-Fi as well as many tables and outlets for studying. Although they play music, it is calming and the noise level is still moderate. They offer vegan and dairy-free milk substitutions in addition to gluten-free bread. I highly recommend the Cinnamon Sugar Toast because it tastes like a giant piece of Cinnamon Toast Crunch. This place is often filled with students, so it is best to go early in the morning in order to get a good spot!

HANDLEBAR COFFEE ROASTERS

Handlebar Coffee Roasters is a local coffee shop with two locations in Santa Barbara and a very hipster atmosphere in-house. They source their coffee beans from Central and South America as well as Africa and roast them in house, which makes their coffee unique. Handlebar offers a variety of pastries from other local businesses in Santa Barbara. There is free Wi-Fi and plenty of tables at both locations, but both lack a sufficient number of power outlets, so it's best to have your devices charged beforehand. The noise level in Handlebar is moderate, but it is often very busy. The workers at Handlebar are all very sweet, and I personally think they make the best latte art!

Let's Taco 'Bout Trader Joe's Pollo Asado Tacos

Winnie Lam
On The Menu Co-Editor

This week at Trader Joe's I decided to try the marinated Pollo Asado, which translates to "flame-roasted chicken." In the package, you get several pieces of thinly sliced chicken breast with an authentic Mexican blend of seasoning. The meat is meant for easy grilling, so I decided to make street tacos with it. I also bought some corn tortillas, a red onion, cilantro, mini avocados, a lemon and a Mexican blend of shredded cheese.

The tacos were super easy to make, as all you have to do is cook each piece of chicken on medium high heat for 4-5 minutes on each side and your entire kitchen will be filled with the savory aroma of chicken tacos.

I had about four slices of chicken in my package, so I decided to save two pieces for the next day. I let the rest of my slices of cooked chicken cool down on a cutting board and then cut them into small, bite-sized pieces.

Then I minced half of the red onion and cilantro to pair with the chicken meat. I sliced the lemon for fresh lemon juice to squeeze on the top of the tacos and I thinly sliced the avocado as well to add some more texture to the tacos. I warmed up the corn tortillas on low heat and assembled my tacos with the meat, vegetables and avocado before topping it off with some cheese.

This dinner was delicious, and it was plentiful enough to satisfy myself and two of my housemates, not to mention I only used half of the meat in the package. The meat was well-seasoned and flavorful, but since I cooked the meat on a pan instead of a grill, it didn't have that smoky flavor that street tacos usually have.

I'd definitely recommend trying out this meal for lunch or dinner because the only real cooking you have to do is with the chicken. You don't even have to season it because Trader Joe's has already done all the work for you!

After this experience, I'm interested in trying out the different varieties of marinated meats that Trader Joe's offers, like the Korean-inspired Bool Kogi and the Flat Iron Beef Chuck Steak.



WINNIE LAM / DAILY NEXUS

SCIENCE & TECH

Recapping Undergraduate Research Week



ANDREA VERDUGO / DAILY NEXUS

During the event-filled Undergraduate Research Week, students showcased their research projects at either the Math, Life and Physical Sciences or the Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts colloquiums. They also had the chance to participate in the Undergraduate Research Slam.

Sunidhi Sridhar
Staff Writer

Every year, the UC system is inundated with hundreds of thousands of applications from prospective freshman and transfer students. In addition to the stellar academic programs and career prospects after graduation, students cite one aspect in particular as a major draw: research. Here at UC Santa Barbara, research plays an intrinsic role at the undergraduate level; over 56% of UCSB undergraduates are involved in research.

Undergraduate Research Week, which took place from May 6 to May 10, was a culmination of students' hard work and dedication to their research projects over several quarters. Over the course of two days, students showcased their findings at one of two colloquiums – Math, Life and Physical Sciences, or Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts – to their fellow peers and faculty members. These undergraduate researchers were also eligible to apply to be a part of this year's Undergraduate Research Slam.

This annual event invites students to present their findings in three-minute speeches, resembling an elevator pitch, to a panel of judges. 50 students took part in the preliminary round, from which the top 15

participants advanced to the final round. The top three finalists receive research grants worth up to \$2,500.

This year, the final round took place on May 9 at the Old Little Theater.

One finalist, Kat Sitnikova, a fourth-year environmental studies major, presented her research on composting around Isla Vista.

"Most people in Isla Vista don't have a choice but to put their food in the trash, which eventually goes to the landfill. When food gets piled in the trash, it loses access to oxygen. When it biodegrades in anaerobic conditions, it produces landfill gases such as carbon dioxide and methane."

Sitnikova acknowledged that while composting does require significant time and effort, she wants to educate people on its importance for the wellbeing of the planet. She highly endorses Isla Vista Compost Collective, a student-run organization that gives students compost buckets, shows them what is and is not compostable and picks up the food waste weekly.

"I surveyed 180 students living in Isla Vista and I found that while only 11% of them compost, more than half showed interest in receiving a compost bin," Sitnikova explained. "I want to understand the factors that encourage participation but also the factors that make students

hesitant to participate. I surveyed 46 participants in order to understand the weaknesses and strengths of the program. I'm hoping that this research will be useful in determining how to create campaigns that will encourage people to participate and also make it easy for them to do so."

Fellow finalist Alexander Landry, fourth-year psychological & brain sciences major, conducted a social science survey in which he looked at the psychological impact of the 2016 presidential election on Americans.

"Those who were stressed by the results felt that the world had become more unfair, and they were less optimistic about the future. We also found that those who experienced stress during the election had lasting stress symptoms on a scale designed to measure PTSD."

Landry's findings inspired a different question: How did Americans cope with the stress? He found that people tended to frame their experiences in one of two contrasting ways. One of the participants in Landry's study stated, "I felt optimistic about this country, but then the election happened. I was disgusted, depressed and shocked."

Another participant admitted that while seeing Trump get elected was difficult, "good people are trying to come together and fight against all his hate and vitriol." People who viewed the results of the election with the mindset of the latter participant tended to report a higher overall wellbeing and no lasting stress symptoms related to the election.

Fourth-year linguistics major Anusha Anand explored the social significance of media portrayal of minorities, specifically the portrayal of the Indian accent. She noted that Apu from "The Simpsons" is often called to mind when people think of Indian stereotypes, but most viewers do not know that the character is voiced by white actor Hank Azaria.

"Growing up Indian American, when I think of the Indian accent in a humorous context, my mind goes here," Anand observed as she played a video of YouTube star Superwoman imitating her parents.

"Through a series of focus groups, I asked some questions to Indian American teens in the Bay Area. I asked them what they thought of Superwoman's reenactment of the Indian accent, and the responses were overwhelmingly positive. One of the participants even demonstrated how she imitates her own parents. Both Superwoman and the teenagers in the focus groups were joined by their shared experiences of growing up Indian American with Indian parents. So the question we need to be asking is, 'Why do we imitate the Indian accent?'"

Anand admits that the line between empowering portrayals and offensive portrayals of minorities in the media will never be entirely clear because no singular person can speak on behalf of an entire community. However, the responses she received through her focus groups allowed for her to reflect on her question in a different way.

"I did find for certain that with Indian Americans, the question of who can do the Indian accent is a lot less based on restriction by appearance but on the celebration of a unique shared experience."

With every discovery, a new question emerges in its place, and the importance of innovative research cannot be overstated. In addition to being an excellent enhancement to any resume, it teaches students how to defend a statement with viable data and strong conclusions and how to translate their findings in a way that can be understood by the public. Boasting six Nobel Laureates and 12 National Research Centers, UC Santa Barbara is making remarkable contributions to

UCSB Researchers Discover Potentially Druggable Pathway Involved in Neurodegenerative Diseases

Jacqueline Wen
Science Editor

Abnormal aggregates of the tau protein are pathological characteristics of numerous neurodegenerative diseases, including Huntington's and Alzheimer's. Tau mutations often lead to frontotemporal dementia.

Researchers at UCSB have discovered a potentially druggable pathway that may help in treating these neurodegenerative disorders, or tauopathies. Their findings appear in *Science Translational Medicine* journal.

"A new pathway exists that can potentially be targeted for drug delivery that can improve the lives of patients of these neurodegenerative diseases in a relatively short amount of time. And that's particularly encouraging given the observations that the drug was very efficacious in reducing the pathology in mice [with frontotemporal dementia]," Israel Hernandez, a postdoctoral researcher in UCSB's Neuroscience Research Institute and the paper's lead author, said.

The RASD2 gene encodes the signaling protein Rhes – part of the Ras superfamily – and mediates this regulatory pathway. While not much is known about this gene, it is implicated in Huntington's disease. Rhes plays a role in various signaling pathways and in the development of Huntington's.

Through the process of farnesylation, a chemical compound – a farnesyl group – anchors itself to Rhes. Another closely related process called prenylation facilitates the protein's attachment to the inner layer of the cellular membrane, where it functions, Hernandez described.

"That is believed to be understood as an important mechanism by which it can actually control tau aggregates and their toxicity in cells," he said.

Hernandez and his colleagues realized that if they could arrest farnesylation, they might be able to prevent Rhes from being toxic to the cell. Hence, using a farnesyltransferase inhibitor "made sense."

Using the drug lonafarnib, a farnesyltransferase inhibitor, the researchers could target Rhes to reduce its levels.

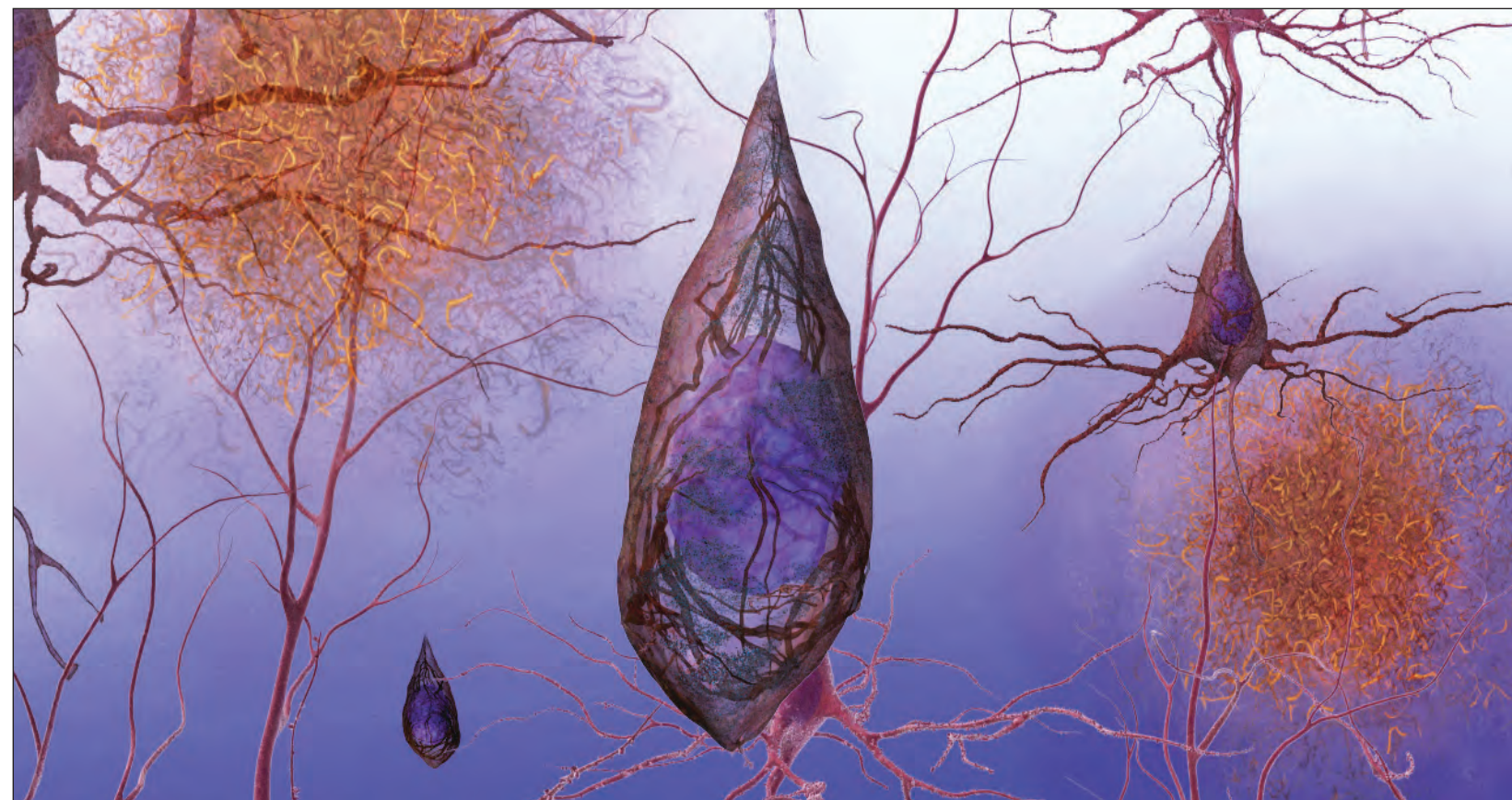
In testing lonafarnib in mice models with frontotemporal dementia, the researchers saw significant reductions in behavioral abnormalities and neural atrophy.

As the mice models age, their pathology further develops. They concurrently exhibit worsening behavioral deficits, including poor nest shredding and obsessive running around in circles by the beginning of 10 weeks.

At 20 weeks, treated mice produced well-built nests and displayed less erratic behavior. They also showed less reduction in brain size and in microglia counts than their untreated counterparts. The researchers concluded that lonafarnib did not seem to reverse existing pathology but appears to act as a preventative measure.

"When we further analyzed the pathology in the brain, we observed a major reduction in the amount of tau tangles in the brains of these mice, which implies that the behavioral improvement was a consequence of the reduction of the extent of the pathology in the mice," Hernandez said.

Originally developed with the intent to disrupt the signaling involved in cancerous cell proliferation, lonafarnib was unsuccessful



Courtesy of National Science Foundation

Using the drug lonafarnib, UCSB researchers found a novel pathway that may potentially be druggable and may help to treat neurodegenerative diseases, such as Huntington's or Alzheimer's. Tauopathies are characterized by the accumulation of tau protein, which forms neurofibrillary tangles.

in fighting cancer. However, because it has already undergone extensive clinical experience, the drug may be fast-tracked for pre-clinical human trials after repurposing it to treat tauopathies.

"Right now these neurodegenerative diseases are basically non-treatable. All the clinical approaches are done in a palliative manner. You're maybe trying to make their life better, but you're not really trying to cure them. And that's something that we think must be addressed as energetically as possible," Hernandez said.

Lonafarnib works through a potentially druggable pathway, meaning "you can develop drugs that will be able to direct to Rhes in a manner that can be disease-modifying, as opposed to a target that is more difficult to modify its activity," Hernandez explained. "In this case, as an example, by using a prenyl activity inhibitor we [can] reduce the activity of Rhes and its levels. Therefore it's a target that's easy to develop drugs for."

While the drug's mechanism of action is still yet to be fully uncovered, Hernandez and his team found that it increased autophagy, the regulated mechanism to degrade and recycle cellular components. Lonafarnib also increased lysosomal proteolysis, the breakdown of proteins – notably in this case, aberrant tau – by lysosomal enzymes.

The discovery of this biochemical pathway partaking in tau degradation helps to further uncover how such pathways interact together and are regulated by prenylation.

Another impactful discovery is that there appears to be a feedback loop in regard to how Rhes recognizes tau and modifies its levels, Hernandez noted.

"The presence of the tau mutation is actually regulating the levels of Rhes present in the cell. That's very, very interesting because it suggests a regulatory loop in how Rhes reacts to the presence of mutation. Reducing these levels [of Rhes] would reduce its potential cytotoxic effects," he said.

Hernandez hopes to next uncover the mechanism by which prenylation regulates lysosomal proteolysis, including the processes of exocytosis and endocytosis.

"All of those are biochemical examples that are intimately related, but which prenylation was not known to be an important regulator until now. And our team discovering which are the proteins and which are the important targets in those molecular pathways will uncover further potential therapeutic targets and uncover very, very exciting biology in the tau field."

THIS WEEK'S UP AND COMING

Tuesday 21 May **David Hogg: Engage in Change**
Campbell Hall | 7 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEENVOGUE

Thrust into the world of activism by the largest school shooting in American history, Parkland survivor David Hogg has become one of the most compelling voices of his generation. His call to "get over politics and get something done" challenges Americans to stand up, speak out and work to elect morally just leaders, regardless of party affiliation. Passionate in his advocacy to end gun violence, David's mission of increasing voter participation, civic engagement and activism embraces a range of issues.

Wednesday 22 May **Say Her Name: The Life and Death of Sandra Bland**
MCC Theater | 6 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KANOPY

This documentary explores the death of Sandra Bland, a politically active 28-year-old African American who, after being arrested for a traffic violation in a small Texas town, was found hanging in her jail cell three days later. Dashcam footage revealing her arrest went viral, leading to national protests. The film team followed the two-year case beginning shortly after Bland's death, exploring the questions of what really happened to her and what we may learn from her tragedy.

Saturday 18 May **WORDSTOCK**
Rockfire Grill Parking Lot | 1 p.m.



WORD Magazine's annual arts festival is back! Come and enjoy art, music, tie-dyeing and more!

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS PRESENTS:

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD



I.V. Theater
7 & 10 p.m.

\$4 Friday 17 May & Monday 20 May

IMPROVABILITY

Embarcadero Hall | 8 p.m.

Friday 17 May **\$3**

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"They were all out of dairy alternatives, and I was pissed."
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Single copies are free; additional copies cost \$1.
Printed at the Santa Barbara News-Press printing facility, in Goleta.

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

		6						
	7		1		6	2		
			4				3	7
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3	2		4	9				8
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			9	5				

SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE 8/22/11

6	5	2	4	9	3	1	7	8
8	3	7	1	5	6	9	4	2
9	4	1	2	7	8	5	6	3
7	6	4	3	8	1	2	5	9
1	8	5	6	2	9	7	3	4
2	9	3	5	4	7	8	1	6
3	7	6	9	1	2	4	8	5
5	2	8	7	3	4	6	9	1
4	1	9	8	6	5	3	2	7

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

SPECIAL NOTICES

Isla Vista Community Services District 2019-2020 Budget Notice
The General Manager of the Isla Vista Community Services District, County of Santa Barbara, State of California has prepared a Preliminary Budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-20, copies of which will be available online at www.islavistacsdsd.ca.gov and at 970 Embarcadero Del Mar, Isla Vista, California, 93117, for inspection by interested residents on May 13, 2019. The Board of Directors has set 6:00 p.m., May 28, 2019 at the Isla Vista Community Services District Community Room, 970 Embarcadero del Mar, Isla Vista, California, 93117, for the Board of Directors to meet for the purpose of approving a fiscal year 2019-2020 final budget. Any resident may appear at the above specific time and be heard regarding the increase, decrease, or omission of any item of the budget or for the inclusion of additional items. Email generalmanager@islavistacsdsd.com

ACROSS
1 Yoda trained several of them
6 Titled ladies
11 "To each ___ own"
14 "Gladiator" locale
15 It can follow land and precede goat
16 Bankbook abbr.
17 14th/15th-century period of papal uncertainty
19 Nittany Lions' sch.
20 Ills in tales
21 Tokyo, in days of yore
22 Aqua Velva rival
23 Elaborate solo passage
27 Largest penguin
29 She married a musician in Gibraltar in 1969
30 Hound over a debt
32 Make into law
33 Tourist shop offering
37 Divers' destinations
38 Fruity ice cream dessert
40 Big name in polling
42 Defeated incumbent
45 Muslim prince
46 Bilingual subj.
47 Long for another chance at
48 Melts, say
50 Scamp's doings
54 Socials with cucumber sandwiches
55 Widespread PD alert
57 Prez on a fiver
58 ___ Dhabi
59 When collegians descend on Cancún
64 Buddy
65 Fictional Swiss miss
66 Plumed heron
67 East, in Essen
68 Politician
69 Trips around the sun

DOWN
1 Beemer cousin
2 Throw wildly, say
3 Report card bummer
4 Slack-jawed
5 Quashed
6 Mil. bravery medal
7 Jogging aftermath
8 Lass
9 English town worth its salt?
10 Half a school yr.
11 Osteoporosis concern
12 Available for purchase
13 Scottish royal family
18 "So I ___ to myself ..."
22 Epic featuring the Trojan Horse
23 Funny Bill's nickname
24 It begins with enero
25 Tennis server's setback
26 Tennis server's edge
28 Socialite Mesta
31 1,550-mile continental range
34 Lot attendants
35 Toughen by exposure
36 Catch a few z's
37 Typist's efficiency no.
39 Vaccine pioneer
40 Feared "Hogan's Heroes" group
41 Tiny lab subjects
43 Scoundrel
44 Teacher's answer sheet
46 Energetic wit
49 Buns are seen above them
51 Pester
52 Monastic headquarters
53 Cusp
56 ___ one's time: wait
59 That woman
60 Grafton's "___ for Noose"
61 Clinton ___
62 Fizzy prefix
63 Gold fineness meas.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

M	A	J	O	R	A	F	A	R	H	A	V	E
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Y	E	N	C	A	L	L	M	E	M	A	D	A
			M	A	U	D	E		M	A	I	
R	O	C	K	E	D	B	A	B	Y	R	U	T
E	L	C	I	D	R	O	M	E	O	N	E	O
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I	I	I	B	O	T	O	X	G	R	O	P	E
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xwordeditor@aol.com 05/14/13

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OPINION

I Survived the UCen Bird and Lived to Tell the Tale



Ally McCulloch
Opinion Writer

pooped on way more than I'd like to admit. Impressively, when I was in sixth grade, I was pooped on by a bird three Thursdays in a row. Only last quarter, minutes before I walked into my English final, I was yet again the target of a bird's defecation and have been many times since. It might be witchcraft or incredibly terrible (good?) luck – I don't know.

Before this new terrifying experience with birds, I previously walked around the campus in a state of bliss, a seasoned veteran of dodging bikes



TINNA LAM / DAILY NEXUS

and skateboarders. But I was never afraid of the danger that could come from above. I now basically sprint past the UCen in fear or take a different route altogether. Unbeknownst to me, the UCen bird is not a new phenomenon. Last year, the bird took just as many victims, and it is back for more. The UCSB Facebook meme page is full of hilarious yet concerning posts from May 2018 which have been brought back to life this



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May. April showers bring birds going apeshit on your head, apparently.

A few days after the "attack," I saw the bird target yet another UCSB student. This time, the bird was more persistent. It did not back down quite as easily as it did for me. The two began a back-and-forth kind of dance, the man shooting it away followed by the bird retreating and then diving right back in.

Curious as to why this continues to happen, I started Googling why birds land on people's heads. Apparently, birds become very protective of their young in the spring, and they do this to scare predators away from their nests. It is an effective scare tactic, but it is unlikely that they will actually hurt you. The nest of this bird – or birds – is most likely on top of the UCen. It takes people walking under it as a threat, and to protect its nest, it makes a beeline for what it perceives as danger. It is really just a protective parent, guarding its young.

There is now a sign outside of the UCen that reads "CAUTION: AGGRESSIVE BIRDS IN AREA." The warning is nice, I guess, but it means we are left to fend for ourselves. My dad suggests that I wear a hat to class everyday, but I have chosen to avoid the danger zone at all costs and take the long route. What initially increased my already prevalent hatred for birds has lessened now that I understand its motive, but I am still not taking any chances.

Take it from this UCen bird survivor: Be careful out there, Gauchos.

Ally McCulloch has decided to make peace with her supernatural connection to birds.

Argument in the Office: Is Barefooting Acceptable?

Did y'all celebrate Earth Day? Had fun coloring flower pots and standing in line for vegan ice cream amidst a dazzling bunch of barefoot hippies? Earthing (walking barefoot everywhere at all times for a closer spiritual and physical connection to Mother Earth) is one of those trends that provokes either love or hatred. One might go as far as to say that nothing has incited as much Gaucho trash talk since the debate about the correct pronunciation of our favourite cafe. ("Is it 'ca-chay' or nah...?" "It's 'cache,' dude!" Ever considered "cage?")

Apart from the arguably subjective life-changing spiritual experience of getting back in touch with nature and one's body and mind, there are health benefits to earthing as well. Everyone says bare feet are more prone to infections, but no one thinks about the detrimental health effects of shoes (unstable ankles and joints, blisters and deformed feet). Researchers are now saying that earthing may be just as good for your body as it is for your spirit. Yet, for most of our generation, shoes seem to be first and foremost about style rather than comfort, let alone orthopedic concerns.

So, even if it's healthy, are there any educational or recreational benefits? This is not at all about what y'all are thinking: kinky sexual fetishes. At least not for all of us earthers. Instead, it is a search for universal human happiness. Ask yourselves: Have you recently spent a shoeless afternoon in the park with your loved ones? Have you ever driven a stick shift barefoot? Ever cracked open a cold one with your toes? Alright, alright, maybe not all of that, Mrs. Grundy. But at the end of the day we can agree that the best thing about shoes is taking them off once you get home. I was told it's almost like the getting-rid-of-your-bra sensation: Freedom, comfort and protection by and through your bare body.

It's not only about liberation, though. Earthing is about the awareness of human waste, cigarette butts and broken beer bottles on the street. At the same time, we are all equal (or equally gross) without shoes as opposed to the luxury, high prices and social pressure associated with them. In many cases, there might be a pinch of arrogance involved with feeling alternative and good about yourself because no one else does it. But just imagine a world where we'd all do it. Without any artificial feet protection, we would naturally care more about hygiene and pollution and less about looks or material beauty because our health would be dependent on a clean environment.

As a study abroad student, my attitude towards dress, and particularly footwear, in I.V. is similar to performing at drunken Wednesday karaoke nights at Rockfire. There's room for experimentation, openness and risk because in the end, no one cares. And this is not just due to favorable geographical conditions of beaches, fields and forests. It is because of UCSB's liberal student body, the fact that there are surfboard racks in front of residence halls and people wearing flip-flops to class. With no snow and little rain, there is no better place to bathe in the alleged acceptance of earthing.

Earthing haters usually base their arguments around comfort, hygiene and looks. Granted, the library is a sacred

space of learning and reflection for some of our fellow humans. But then, how is earthing different from unpacking your smelly Subway meatball marinara sub in the eighth floor quiet rooms? Once your interpretation of personal freedom infringes on someone else's, asking politely for permission is in order, whether it's fast food or your extremities.

And seriously, how are bare feet really that different from bare hands? Are we having a glove debate too? I doubt it. This hints at the importance of social constructivism regarding the norms and shared societal expectations of "civilized" behaviour. This is not to demand all-out nudity but to provide some impetus to think about the boundaries we have created. Essentially, we give behaviour and style meaning through our everyday discourse and the persistence of unquestioned traditional taboos. Let's just forget about the whole shoe madness for a second and take off our fussy socks, both physically and mentally.

Simon Ahrens encourages students and staff to think beyond socially-constructed boundaries and choose nature over materialism.

PRO: Simon Ahrens



CHRISTINE KIM / DAILY NEXUS

my soles and the green plush of my carpet. The simplicity of these pleasures must be the source of inspiration for earthing. My sympathies end there.

Simon argues that I have caved to the "norms and shared societal expectations of 'civilized' behaviour." He has basically called me, and all of us who wear shoes, sheeple. While I am supportive of Simon's angry nihilism and general call to arms for anarchy, let us lead the revolution shod. There's a reason we cyberbully flat-earthers, climate change deniers and anti-vaxxers: for the good of the herd and for the safety of future generations, we must uphold truths that serve to propel progress. Shoes protect us from tetanus, I.V.'s balmy 42-degree weather and street vomit from last Thursday. They act as a buffer between the outside world and the inside, marking clear boundaries between where public spaces end and personal ones begin. The eschewing (eshoeing? Ha!) of these thresholds is a privilege exploited by the barefoot of Isla Vista. Most of the responses to my post on our Free & For Sale Facebook page seeking earthers were written by, you guessed it, white students. Remember: "No Shoes, No Service" does not apply equally to all who roam shoeless.

Earthing's health claims, based on the alleged power of electrons from the ground to counteract the body's free radicals (to treat anything from depression to cancer), cling to studies like this one from 2012, co-authored by Stephen Sinatra, a co-author of "Earthing: The Most Important Health Discovery Ever!" by Clinton Ober, Sinatra and Martin Zucker. Despite the study's complete ignorance of "correlation does not equal causation," earthing is now a small empire, with a vast offering of official Earthing® products targeted towards its cult of believers. Yours for the hot deal of only \$69.99, the Earthing Wearables Kit comes with, unbelievably, socks. For your feet. To wear.

The claim that earthing is "the most important health discovery ever" isn't doing wonders for its reputation either. To prove their proclaimed faith to revert to a Paleolithic age, I invite earthers to renounce all modern medicine: the smallpox vaccine, the MRI, even their eyeglasses. If they can't read the slides, maybe they'll stop attending my lectures. Maybe then the calloused, punctured, reeking, selfish symbol of American liberty will finally stop encroaching on my minimal expectations of personal freedoms.

Also, I would never get into your car if you insisted on driving stick shift barefoot. Fin.

Katherine Chen hopes earthers are enjoying the floors of public restrooms.

CON: Katherine Chen

My opponent Mr. Ahrens has given not only his opinion but has also slipped in gentle words of insidious guidance towards this Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile practice. Simon hails from Göttingen, Germany by way of England. His year of exchange in the U.S. gives him, in his own words, "room for experimentation, openness and risk because in the end, no one cares."

I care, Simon. Hobbesian ideals of human freedom locked so seamlessly into our revolutionary founding texts lure millions of hopeless romantics like Simon to see this country as a land of exploration. I am tired of white men frolicking through Isla Vista barefoot like the world is their backyard: it began with Columbus, with Lewis and Clark, with Neil Armstrong. The set of soil-crust toenails perched next to my ear in Pollock Theater is new wave Manifest Destiny. But these "earthers" do not explore uncharted waters or unknown lands. They are not lunar heroes of the Cold War. They are only the disciples of a false gospel, victims to their own disgusting faith. Much ink has been spilt lauding the joys of being barefoot. On a hot day in mid-July, I can imagine plunging my feet into the beachy banks of a quiet lake, my toes wiggling through the baked surface to reach the wet sand underneath. On an endless stretch of grass, I see myself prying off both shoes and socks, lying down and letting scratchy sprouts envelop me, head to toe. In the tenderness of my own home, I will sit, criss-cross applesauce, nothing between

HOROSCOPES

The Signs as "Situationships"

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

The person in your section you routinely share long, passionate, soul-searching eye contact with but have yet to talk to.

TAURUS

APRIL 20 - MAY 20

The person you meet on a night out and have a life-changing conversation with but never acknowledge each other in the daylight.

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUNE 20

That hot popular kid from high school who you hope will realize at your five year reunion that you have been The One all along.

CANCER

JUNE 21 - JULY 22

The srat person who invites you to all their date parties but with whom you've never hooked up.

LEO

JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

The kid you drunkenly hooked up with freshman year and have avoided ever since.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

The person you got extra freaky with that one time and never fails to hit you up.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

The hottie you've been DMing who likes your last message so you don't know whether you've been left on read or nah.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

The classmate you've been crushing on for months who nuts in four seconds when you finally get together.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

The fellow raver who you grind on during Extravaganza but you never see their face.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

The T.A. that you match with on tinder... maybe if you chat them back they'll give you an A in the class...?

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

The hot neighbor who lives in the apartment below you and asks you to turn down the music occasionally so you play loud music to get them to come over.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

The coworker who keeps offering to drive you home...even though you have your own car.