

Jorge Mercado  
Outgoing Editor in Chief

With 45 wins and its first Big West title since 1986, the UCSB baseball team is one of the hottest teams heading into the NCAA Tournament this weekend. The team will be taking on Fresno State in the first round of the double-elimination Regionals.

## UCSB Set for Stanford Regional

2016 was the last time Santa Barbara made it to the NCAA Tournament. That year, UCSB went to its first-ever College World Series. This is the fourth NCAA Tournament appearance in seven years for the Gauchos (2013, 2015, 2016, 2019), the most in any seven-year stretch in program history, and the 12th appearance of all-time. Santa Barbara's 45-9 mark this season was not enough to host a

regional, but still enough to clinch a No. 2 seed in the Stanford Regional. Their opponent, the third-seeded Bulldogs, finished the season 38-14-1 overall.

Other opponents the Gauchos could face this weekend include the hosting team, No. 11 Stanford, who earned a 41-11 overall mark and fourth-seeded Sacramento State who concluded the year 39-23 overall.

Despite being a hot squad, UCSB is still coming off a tough series loss against Cal Poly. The Gauchos won the final game of the three-contest set to clinch the Big West title, but the two losses are probably what cost them a chance to host the regional.

Regardless, UCSB is now looking ahead to its first opponent, Fresno State, a team it is pretty familiar with. The two teams met last season with each taking a win in its respective home game. The Gauchos and the Bulldogs have also met twice in postseason play with both victories going to Fresno State.

Overall, UCSB leads the all-time series against Fresno State, 38-30.

The Bulldogs will come into this contest hot, winning seven straight and nine of their final 10 games of the season which included a win in the Mountain West Championship Game.

Fresno State is led by a powerful pitching staff which includes the Mountain West's Pitcher of the year, Ryan Jensen. The junior righty led the NCAA in wins with 11 and had an outstanding 2.82 ERA with 99 strikeouts. He will be starting on Friday.

The other dangerous Bulldog pitcher is junior Davis Moore. The righty tossed 83 innings on the year earning 83 strikeouts and a 4.12 ERA.

Both pitchers helped pace a team ERA of 3.72 and helped the team give up just an average of 4.2 runs per game.

That staff will be tested, however, going up against the Gauchos' offense. UCSB led the Big West in batting average, on base percentage, slugging percentage, runs scored, hits, doubles, triples, home runs and stolen bases.

Santa Barbara's offense is led by junior catcher Eric Yang who was most recently named the Field Big West Player of the Year.

Yang slashed an outstanding .383/.492/.567 and recorded 25 multiple-hit games this season. The catcher finished fourth on the team with 45 RBI's and fifth on the team with seven home runs.

Yang was one of a program-record 13 UCSB players to earn 13 All-Big West selections.

Head Coach Andrew Checketts earned his first career Big West Coach of the Year after a successful campaign while right-handed pitcher Rodney Boone clinched Freshman Pitcher of the Year honors.

Other notable winners include junior outfielders Tommy Jew and Armani Smith, who earned All-Big West First Team honors. Jew was second on the team in home runs with 11 while Smith batted .325 on the year after successfully getting a hit in 17 of his last 19 ball games.

Overall, UCSB has proven a lot this season but the truth is this team has some high expectations. The 2016 College World Series team was a bit of a surprise but this Gaucho team really feels like a squad capable of winning the big one.

The last time any UCSB program won a national title was in 2006. The baseball team's quest to become the next begins this weekend.

UCSB faces off against Fresno State at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 31 at Sunken Diamond located at Stanford University. The game can be streamed on ESPN3.com.



JORGE MERCADO / DAILY NEXUS



ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS

## Ollie Tabooger and The Never-Ender Senior Sender Bender

**Nexustentialism: It's Satire, Stupid.**

Ariana Marmolejo  
Outgoing Nexustentialism Editor

DEL PLAYA DRIVE – Late one fateful night on Week 9 of Spring Quarter, resident senior and party connoisseur Ollie Tabooger was hit with a fleeting epiphany. Reflecting on his last four years of party-hopping and drunken, moonlit strolls down Del Playa, Tabooger realized that both his college career and his party connoisseur career were approaching their ends even faster than the cliffs below him were eroding away. He knew what he had to do while he still had the time – he had to find the perfect party.

Standing in the middle of a 65-block soirée and feeling needlessly alone, Tabooger decided he would stop at nothing in order to find this mythic rager. With a second wind comparable to that of a Fall Quarter freshman immediately before blacking out, Tabooger slapped a Franzia wine bag and set out with nothing but the end of the 68-block to stop him.

"Is it really that hard to create a party atmosphere perfectly tailored to my unique preferences?" the disgruntled senior lamented. After crashing a string of 65-block parties playing deep house music so unpleasant that even the underclassmen sorority girls couldn't hang, Tabooger took a deep pull from a Vitali handle and pushed forth. "Untz untz untz untz untz," Tabooger was quoted saying as he slipped into the night.

Lacking any sort of self-awareness, he forged on through the blocks of Del Playa, fighting to get past overly aggressive bouncers only to be disappointed by the parties he was not invited to. For what seemed like hours, the drunken senior meandered on and on, in and out of dirty houses and broken balconies to no avail.

"This party is just like the last – wait, I've seen that bouncer before..." the weary senior noticed. He kept on, but realized that somehow this was his third time walking down the 65-block. Disoriented and parched (for shots only), Tabooger made his way to one final party – a party he had somehow been to before. "Where am I?" he questioned aloud.

"Who do you know here?" a gentle voice inquired. Knowing no one, Tabooger was ready to turn back around in defeat, but something stopped him. He looked up to face the bouncer and found the bluest eyes he had ever seen – "Olé Gaucho? Is that you?"

"Who do you know here?" the bouncer asked him again. Confused, exhausted and rapidly sobering, Tabooger turned to leave when suddenly, he heard his favorite song begin to play from inside. He peered through the doorway and noticed all of his best friends together in one place. He turned to ask Olé what was going on, but the mysterious bouncer was nowhere to be found, seemingly having

vanished into thin air.

Turning to enter the party, Ollie Tabooger found that he was in fact entering a party at his very own home.

"Sometimes, son, you don't need to go searching for the perfect party. It's in you all along," Olé Gaucho's voice whispered through the wind. Confused but nonetheless wiser, Tabooger entered the party and downed one last shot as the night finally faded into the perfect senior-sender-bender.

"Olé Gaucho, you sly rascal,"

Tabooger whispered back to the wind, grateful for the alcohol, but even more grateful for the friends Olé Gaucho brought him these last four years.

Ariana Marmolejo is the outgoing Nexustentialism editor and is grateful for the friends the Nexus brought her these last four years. :)

## Fear of Bad Evils Leads TA To Mutter Tentative F- Word

Maddie Smith  
Staff Writer

me,"  
Hard

explained. "I mean, I smoke kush, inhale the devil's lettuce, submit to Mary... haha."

Ultimately, Hard's attempt to better his evaluations failed. When asked how they were planning on reviewing Hard, half of the class stated that his cursing skills would lead them to rate him highly. Unfortunately, the other half felt his endeavor was lame and decided to rank him lower than before.

Maddie Smith likes her TA less now that he said "fuck."

As we near the end of Spring Quarter, evaluations are imminent.

TAs around campus are reporting a creeping feeling that their future as graduate students could be ruined by a few asshole undergrads. In order to remedy this feeling, one TA attempted to connect more with his students by uttering a tentative f-word.

Triye Hard, a TA for a Psychology 1 class, was reportedly boring his students more than usual this past Thursday. When the 16th student slumped down in their seat and started the familiar act of swiping, Hard had to make a last-ditch effort.

"Guys... I know this is kind of boring," Hard stated. "HAHA, who am I kidding? It is so fucking boring."

The use of the f-word caused instant, yet mixed, reactions. Some students immediately began texting furiously, eager to finally have something semi-interesting to say in their group chat that might elicit a response. Several front-row students, also known as kissasses, were seen nodding and muttering in approval.

"I think it really humanizes him, y'know," said one front row gal after the incident. "To see a TA use words that us kids use – wow, really makes me respect him more."

Another group of students, who had become desensitized to the word, just rolled their eyes at Hard's feeble attempt to be cool and adjusted their Thrasher tees.

Lastly, a very select few failed to hear Hard's cursing due to a lack of consciousness. They were later reported to regret not having heard him utter the word.

"I was really just trying to get in their shoes and have them see the real



MAX MYSZKOWSKI / DAILY NEXUS

A  
LOOK  
INSIDE

SPORTS  
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NBA Final  
Preview +  
Baseball  
Features



All the  
British Rap  
You Need  
To Know  
ARTSWEEK  
page 10



ON THE MENU  
page 10  
Guilt Free  
Chocolate

Weather Report  
Mostly Cloudy  
High 68°F | Low 47°F  
Temperatures hitting low 60s this weekend  
Surf Report  
Fair  
Steep swells all day



# THIS WEEK'S UP AND COMING

**Saturday June 1** **Mania ft. Boombox Cartel**  
**June**  
**Storke Plaza | 8 p.m.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF UCSB EVENTS

Blurring the lines between electronic and hip-hop with latin influences, internationally-recognized producer act Boombox Cartel has risen the ranks as an unparalleled force in the world of dance music. In 2017, Americo started touring the project globally, securing sold out shows and prime festival slots at Lollapalooza, Coachella, Electric Daisy Carnival, Ultra and more.

**Thursday May 30** **Open Mic and with Sy Stokes**  
**Biko Garage, Isla Vista | 7:30 p.m.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The MCC hosts a quarterly open mic for anyone to artistically express themselves using all creative outlets including spoken word, poetry, music and dance. The MCC welcomes Sy Stokes, who has travelled the nation performing his spoken word poetry that touches on various topics including social justice, student activism, race and racism, education, love, family and mental health, to act as this quarter's MC. Sy is currently a second year Ph.D. student in the Urban Education Policy program at USC's Rossier School of Education.

**Thursday May 30** **Crystal Voyager**  
**Pollock Theater | 7 p.m.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRAIN DAMAGE

David Elfick's cult classic *Crystal Voyager* (1973) is a love letter to surf in the Santa Barbara Channel and a portrait of George Greenough, one of the sport's great innovators. Written and narrated by Greenough and filmed at the height of surfing's transition era, the film chronicles the construction of a sailboat capable of reaching the uncrowded breaks of the Channel Islands. *Crystal Voyager* transcends the travelogue, as it sets out to capture the embodied experience and ecological intimacy that make the sport so captivating.

**MAGIC LANTERN FILMS PRESENTS:** **Friday, May 31 & Monday, June 3**

**ASH IS THE PUREST WHITE** **US**  
**7 & 10 p.m.** **\$4**  
**I.V. Theater**

**IMPROVATHON**  
**24 hours of laughter!**  
**Embarcadero Hall | 8 p.m.**  
**Friday May 31** **\$3**

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**SUDOKU**  
 THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

**SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE** 8/24/11

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

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

**ACROSS**

- Big head
- Fancy dance
- Bad hair day feature
- Hauler's unit
- Beatnik's dough
- French name meaning "born again"
- Day off from sch.
- Where Cal Ripken's consecutive game record was set
- Brief mea culpa
- Candidate list
- Repair quote: Abbr.
- Color named for a bird
- Showy lily
- "Godmother of Punk" Smith
- Back in time
- Bitter
- Ray or Flay
- "Calm down!"
- Ristorante menu word
- Pitch add-on
- Khan: Rita Hayworth's husband
- Peaceful scene
- Newspaper section
- Taxing period, usually
- Scary snake
- Copy room supplies
- Plucked strings, in Padua
- Immature 20-something, say
- Vampire's alter ego
- Sap
- Actress Dickinson
- Profitable rock
- Sweet, or, read another way, a hint to five long puzzle answers
- Hyphenated IDs
- Cadillac luxury sedan
- "EastEnders" aier
- Sheikdom in a jazz standard
- WWII Air Force general Curtis
- Minestrone server
- Grill on a stove
- Blues-rockers Chris
- Brief words?
- Heart of a London puzzle?
- Joie de vivre
- Wooded valley
- Lon of Cambodia
- NYC's Hammar skjöld Plaza
- Guffaw
- "My best soldiers": MacArthur
- Loge
- Knows the difference between
- Not reliable
- Beneficial berry
- Picnic discard
- Peaked
- Turn blue, perhaps
- Physicist's particle
- Chewed-over material
- Soapstone, mostly
- Place for stragglers
- Rte. for many a red-eye
- Handwoven rug
- Vile
- Former member of the Irish band Clannad
- Old Dodge compacts
- What dispensaries dispense
- Sean who played a hobbit
- Has status
- ELO relative?
- Paretsky who writes V.I. Warshawski detective novels
- Think ahead
- Trunk cover
- Blokes

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

J	E	W	E	L	A	F	E	W	P	A	A	R		
O	R	A	L	S	V	I	V	A	L	O	D	E		
T	A	X	I	D	R	I	V	E	R	A	R	M		
S	T	Y	E	U	A	E	A	N	T	I	C			
				A	N	N	O	Y	E	D	O	A	T	H
N	U	B	I	L	E		O	D	O	N				
A	R	O	L	L	B	L	U	E	R	W	E	B		
B	A	C	K	W	O	O	D	S	N	A	T	I	V	E
S	L	A	R	U	S	S	E	B	U	R	E	N		
			L	O	S	S	A	L	B	E	R	T		
E	Q	U	I	N	E	A	N	K	L	E				
G	U	L	A	G	A	O	L	A	S	H	E			
R	O	N	I	B	U	D	D	Y	O	F	T	O	M	
E	T	A	S	A	V	I	A	C	R	A	N	E		
T	H	E	E	H	A	R	K	T	O	N	E	R		

xwordeditor@aol.com 05/16/13

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**WEATHER**

The Weatherhuman's ex-boyfriend decided to stick hiz nose where it doesn't belong and ze is NOT happy about it. He decided he wanted to "address some things about our relationship" that ended TWO YEARZ AGO.

**Tomorrow's Forecast:** Blocking hiz number and buying a vibrator.

**DOWN**

- Personal creed
- Reliable
- Like many magazines, nowadays

By Jeffrey Wechsler  
 (c)2013 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 05/16/13



# Korean Fried Chicken Restaurant Set to Open in I.V. in Coming Months

Max Abrams  
Asst. News Editor

After Sophie Xu, a recent UC Santa Barbara alumna who graduated in March 2019, purchased Sweet Alley from longtime friend and owner Peter Sun, she had no idea what to do with all the extra frozen yogurt.

So she gave it away for free.

On May 15, the Sweet Alley franchise in Isla Vista opened its doors for the last time, celebrated by a large line eager to get a final taste of the store's nine-year legacy. With the doors now closed, Xu has begun preparing to transition the store into Vons Chicken, a San Jose-based franchise that serves over 10 different renditions of authentic Korean fried chicken. The store will be one of seven Vons franchises in the state and the only one in southern California.

For customers who are looking to avoid the grease, Xu said she will be expanding Vons' menu to include oven-cooked chicken as well.

Xu said she originally had no intention to buy Sweet Alley, as she already owns and manages Goleta restaurants Uniboil and Phresh Teas. But with the help of perfect timing and a movie that changed her mind, Xu decided to open her wallet.

"I saw a Korean movie about policemen who watch drug dealers from a fried chicken place across the street. The fried chicken place was about to close down, so they bought the place to watch the drug dealers," Xu said.

Three days later, Xu offered to purchase Sweet Alley from Sun on a whim, who had been struggling to find a new owner for months.

"I saw [Sun's] advertisement, and then the next day, I asked him if [Sweet Alley] is still on the market. He said, 'Yes.' And then the next day, I gave him the deposit."

With renovations set to begin next month, Xu wants to welcome customers with a completely new interior. On top of selling the frozen yogurt equipment, she plans to tear down old walls and refurbish the entire store; she is also flirting with obtaining a light liquor license.

"The internal wall will be knocked down and moved further back, and I'll add a small countertop so this whole area can be a sitting area," she said, pointing to the concrete slab where customers used to walk up to get their frozen yogurt.

TVs and dessert are also on Xu's short list of amenities to include at her Vons, on top of the boba she plans to bring daily from Phresh Teas, a restaurant of hers dedicated to serving a variety of different tea creations.

Because of the unit's small footprint, Xu estimates she will need roughly half the amount of employees she has staffed at her other restaurants. Instead of hiring former Sweet Alley employees, Xu said she will be "pick[ing] from Uniboil staff" and offering them a spot at the new store. Xu expects Vons will be managed by the wife of the current Uniboil head chef.

To ensure authenticity, Xu said Vons flies trainees directly from South Korea to host trainings for employees whenever a new store opens – a fran-

chise policy.

Unlike Uniboil, which follows a more traditional restaurant style, Xu plans to make Vons more expedient so customers can just "grab and go." If a customer simply wants to buy food and leave, Xu estimates they can be on their way in as little as 10 minutes. If customers would like to stay and eat, however, they'll have plenty of time to choose when to come in.

"Right now, I'm thinking Monday through Thursday, we'll do 3 o'clock to 11 o'clock and 3 o'clock to two in the morning Friday through Sunday," Xu said.

If fried chicken isn't enough to fill customers' stomachs, Xu said desserts will be available as well. "We'll be selling boba cake – a milk tea cake with boba on it – and also coconut jellios, which is made of coconut juice and real coconut with jello inside. We'll also be selling Hong-Kong style desserts and street food," she said.

To further impress palates, Xu said she is working with a local chef who is skilled in making authentic "Chinese street snacks." She said the chef currently works from home and only delivers food from his house. If everything goes according to plan, Xu said, those street snacks may soon be on Vons' menu.

Xu also plans on developing a "really strong delivery system." Not only will this allow Vons to serve food beyond its own walls, but it will also help the store remain competitive, as most restaurants in I.V. offer some form of delivery service.

Although she has a lot of work ahead of her in the coming months, Xu said she is looking forward to the day she can flip the "closed" sign outside the store, which will be sometime in the beginning of Fall Quarter 2019.

Once complete, Xu said Vons will be the sole restaurant in I.V. where customers can sink their teeth into Korean-fried "flats" and "drums" – the industry-standard cuts of chicken that are commonly fried into delicacies.

"There's no good fried chicken around here. We only have KFC – not even a Popeyes or Wingstop. We don't have anything. That's why I think this will be a really good idea for a chicken place," Xu said.



Sweet Alley, purchased by UCSB alum Sophie Xu, closed its doors on May 15 to make way for a new Korean chicken restaurant.

IDA KAZERANI / DAILY NEXUS

# Fifth Officer Files Case Against UCPD, Alleging Retaliation and Misconduct

Sofia Mejias-Pascoe  
Asst. News Editor

A fifth officer filed a lawsuit against the UC Santa Barbara Police Department on May 17, marking a total of four suits filed against the department since November 2018.

The plaintiff in the most recent case, Jonathan Lee Reyes v. University of California Regents, is UC Santa Barbara UC Police Department officer Jonathan Lee Reyes. In the suit, Reyes alleges he was retaliated against for reporting misconduct in the department relating to the retention and promotion of an unqualified police trainee.

The suit alleges that Reyes' whistleblowing led UCPD Lieutenant David Millard and UCPD Sergeant Gregory Smorodinsky to block Reyes from receiving a promotion to higher positions and that the two gave Reyes an unfair poor performance review.

According to an individual within UCPD who asked that their name not be used, Millard is currently at a training course at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy; the individual provided photographic evidence to the Nexus that Millard was there and not on the UC Santa Barbara campus as of May 9.

UCSB spokeswoman Andrea Estrada was unable to comment on whether or not Millard was at the FBI academy, but could confirm that he is still an active member of the UCPD.

The suit alleges that UCPD "retaliated against other employees based on the same protected class [as Reyes]." The suit also alleges that UCPD failed to "discipline other employees outside [Reyes'] own protected class as severely" for the same actions.

Reyes' lawsuit is the latest of four lawsuits filed against the department since late last year, all of which allege that the plaintiffs were retaliated against for blowing the whistle on misconduct in the department.

The other three suits – John Doe v. UC Regents, filed in March 2019, Michael Little and Tiffany Little v. UC Regents, filed in March 2019 and Mark Signa v. UC Regents, filed in November 2018 – are currently active cases.

Millard, Smorodinsky and the UC Regents are defendants in Reyes v. UC Regents; Millard and Smorodinsky are also defendants in Littles v. UC Regents.

In Reyes v. UC Regents, the complaint alleges that Millard repeatedly promoted a trainee officer from lower positions despite opposition from Reyes and others in the department who were concerned about the trainee's performance. Reyes alleges he brought concerns forward to Millard multiple times, including when the trainee was first assigned to Reyes and later when Millard announced the trainee had completed Field Training Officer (FTO) training.

The case alleges that Millard's approval to promote the unqualified trainee created "a threat to the safety of the public and the University" and violated California Penal Code 832, which states that "a peace officer shall satisfactorily complete an introductory training course."

The allegations in court documents begin in June 2017, when Reyes was assigned as an FTO with

the trainee. Court documents say that after Millard announced in an email that the trainee will advance to the next phase, Reyes, along with several other officers, objected the promotion, pointing to "multiple evaluations by FTO's [which] indicated that the trainee was failing," court documents allege.

Despite an FTO's recommendation for the trainee's termination and the trainee's failure to pass a program from the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards Training (P.O.S.T.) – the body responsible for creating law enforcement training requirements – Lieutenant Millard "successfully released [the trainee] from FTO training," court documents allege.

Reyes then allegedly emailed the region coordinator for P.O.S.T. to relay his concerns about the failing trainee. Millard later met with Reyes and accused him of "not following an order" to promote the trainee, court documents allege.

In August 2017, Reyes was denied a promotion to corporal, despite being "better qualified for the position than other candidates selected for the position," court documents state.

Then, in September 2017, Reyes applied for a position as a sergeant but was again denied the promotion in March 2018.

Reyes alleges that he did not receive these positions, despite his qualifications, due to retaliation from Millard regarding the trainee.

The suit also alleges that Reyes' poor performance review from 2018 was another result of the department's retaliation, this time from Smorodinsky "under the direction of [Millard]."

Court documents state "the review was very critical" and omitted "various positive things throughout the year." Reyes submitted a grievance to the department "which detailed each point in his review that he felt was inaccurate or unwarranted," and his review was later overturned in response.

The allegations in the suit involve a handful of other officers as well, including former Police Chief Dustin Olson, former Assistant Chief Cathy Farley, Sergeant Gregory Pierce and Sergeant Rory Sheehey, who are named in the other cases as well. However, none of the aforementioned officers are being sued in Reyes' case.

Three of the four cases filed since November 2018, including Reyes v. UC Regents, are represented by the same law firm, Richie Litigation, based in Los Angeles. Antonio Castillo, a lawyer handling the cases from Richie Litigation, said in an email that the three cases "are exposing long-term systemic systems of bullying and the suppression of the advancement of minority police officers."

Ryan Smith, the plaintiff in John Doe v. UC Regents, is the only officer of the five who worked with a different attorney, Peter Horton, to file his claim.

The lawsuits brought forward by Reyes, Signa and the Littles are steps toward addressing the department's alleged misconduct, according to Castillo.

"That these brave officers have come forward and inspired many more to do so means that we finally have an opportunity to make real progress in changing how the UCSB Police Department operates," Castillo said.

# New Senate Bill Would Require UC To Pay Workers On Time

Evelyn Spence  
Lead News Editor

A California bill that would require the University of California to pay its workers on time – and aims to address the issues caused by the UC's new faulty payroll system – passed unanimously through the California State Senate and into the Assembly on May 23.

UCPath, a payroll system meant to streamline the way payroll functions, was implemented on UCSB and other UC campuses throughout the course of 2018.

The program's website promises "Efficient, accurate payroll" – but since UC Path's implementation, students across the UC have complained about delayed, missed or wrong pay, causing tension between the administration and students at the UC's perceived inaction in fixing UCPath issues.

"For most employers, not paying workers on time is a form of wage theft – but the University of California is currently exempt from the state's strict wage theft laws," a press release sent out by United Auto Workers Union (UAW) on Friday stated. UAW held a rally in March 2019 to protest the implementation of UCPath.

UAW President Kavitha Iyengar said in the press release that the union is "encouraged" and "looking forward" to seeing the bill move onto the Assembly.

"Because there is no penalty for this, UC chose to use its own workers as an interest-free bank as they worked out the system's glitches. Without accountability measures in place, we have no doubt that UC will continue to take advantage of workers who have no legal recourse," Iyengar said in the press release.

In February 2019, the UC Office of the President took its first steps towards addressing the issue of missed payments, offering varying amounts of money to approximately 750 workers who had been affected by UC Path.

Senate Bill 698, co-authored by Senator Connie Leyva and Senator Scott Wiener, takes a step beyond the offered compensation and would

make it a requirement for the UC system to pay its workers on time.

California law requires that employees be paid twice a month on designated "regular pay days"; workers classified as executive, administrative or professional employees can be paid once a month.

If passed through the California State Assembly and signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom, the bill would require that university employees who are paid on a monthly basis be paid "no later than 5 days after the close of the monthly payroll period."

Furthermore, the bill would require the university to create payroll regulations for employees who are paid on a "more frequent basis."

Violation current California payment law results in a misdemeanor. If the UC doesn't pay workers "on time and on a regular payday," employees can file a claim in state court or with the Labor Commissioner.

Currently, UC Path serves UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, UC Merced, UC Riverside, UCOP and UCSB. UC Regents plan to implement UCPath at the rest of the UC campuses over the next several years, according to the bill.



The United Auto Workers Union held a rally in March 2019 to protest the implementation of UC Path.

Courtesy of UAW Photographer David Sañosa

*As the year ends, we will miss those UCSB students who passed away during the last year.*

*In Memory Of*

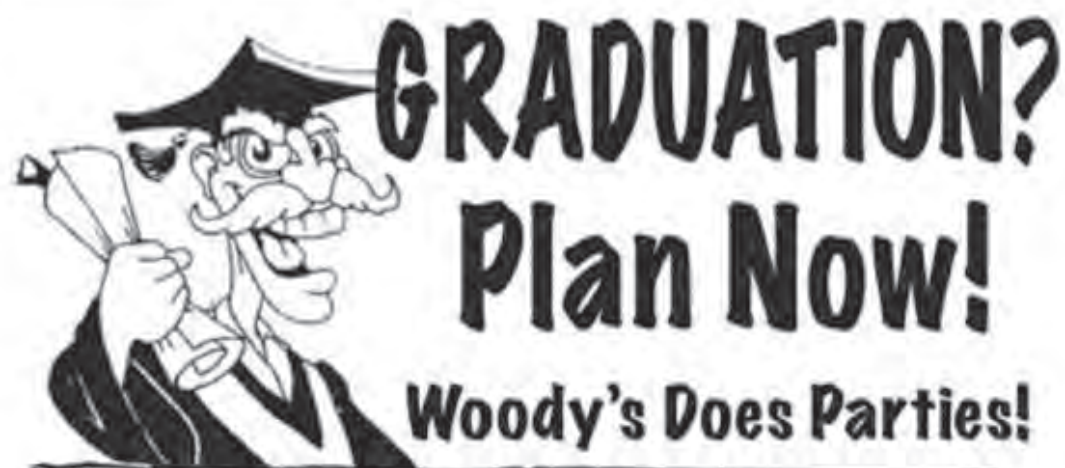
**Alessandro Esquivel**  
1998-2018

**Garrett Rae Lindemood**  
1998-2018

**Shengyu "Jin" Jin**  
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**Theodore James "TJ" Russell**  
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# Veterans Resource Center Inches Toward “One-Stop Shop” Model

Sanya Kamidi  
Max Abrams  
Asst. News Editors

The UC Santa Barbara Veterans Resource Center, founded by and for student veterans on campus, is inching toward the “one-stop shop” model that student veterans advocated for five years ago in a set of demands to the chancellor.

The center will be relocating to a space adjacent to its current spot in the Associated Students Annex in Fall Quarter 2019, which almost doubles the current square footage available for student veterans. The new space is 981 square feet and has two offices and a bathroom.

The center currently has approximately 550 square feet and is composed of one small room and an office. But this current space is not large enough to accommodate to students in need of private meeting spaces, according to Coby Dillard, veterans and military services coordinator.

Dillard said an ideal “one-stop shop” resource center would have an academic advisor, a counselor and a certifying official who can double as a financial aid representative and provide any other resources that an incoming veteran student would need, all in one place.

Right now, Dillard said, when a student comes to the center, he can “help to a degree,” but at the end of the day, he often has to direct them to multiple different places.

“Research says that if you have individuals who can come into a single location and get all their assistance, over the long-term, they perform better academically,” Dillard added.

The new location takes a step toward a “one-stop shop” with larger square footage and dedicated meeting rooms, which Dillard can use to set up office hours for various advisors to drop in.

But Dillard isn't the first one who has tried to turn the center into a “one-stop shop.”

In 2014, two student veterans presented a list of grievances and demands for change to Chancellor Henry T. Yang.

First on the list of demands was a “space that can continuously accommodate quiet study, lounge, peer to peer tutoring, mental health and VA counseling. ... These rooms will not be decentralized and will share a similar location or structure.” But Dillard described this demand as only partially fulfilled.

In 2014, the center occupied a 10-by-10 foot space in building 477, across the courtyard from the current office.

At the time of the demands, roughly 400 members of the entire student body were military-related, which includes veterans, military dependents, reserve duty students and more. Dillard said that number has now increased to over 520.

While the one-stop shop model is years in the making, the center's high staff turnover made it difficult for any real progress to be made, according to Dillard.

Dillard is the fourth person since 2012 to run the

program. The first two coordinators stepped down to go back to school, and the third served as an interim coordinator until Dillard was hired in July 2018.

Staff turnover is also the reason why so many of the unspoken agreements that the center has with other departments on campus are not formal policies, Dillard said.

“Institutionally, a lot of our policies exist, but they're not formalized anywhere,” Dillard said. “I know all the veterans get priority registration... And then the question in here is ‘Is there a formal written policy?’”

“A lot of my relationships with other offices across campus are based on understandings that have worked, not necessarily formal policy.”

When Dillard came to UCSB, his goal for his first year was “just stabilizing the place.” From there, Dillard said he moved on to assessing which areas of the center were in need of the most attention, and how he could best go about fixing them next year.

In September 2018, U.S. News & World Report ranked UCSB as the number four public school in the nation for veterans and 10th nationwide – but Dillard finds that “rankings like that don't necessarily reflect what the student experience is because that particular ranking did not ask any questions about the student experience.”

Instead, Dillard finds that the Military Times's survey, “Best for Vets” is a better metric as it accounts for “services and student experience.” Next year, Dillard plans to have veteran students at UCSB complete the survey so the university can be ranked on the Military Times survey.

Dillard's ideas for the center stem from years of experience of working with veterans, most recently in Virginia Beach, Va. Dillard said that coming to UCSB and working as a coordinator was the next progression for his career.

“After doing this for seven, eight years, this is kind of the next progression for me career-wise,” he said.

“The next natural step is to run a program and if you're going to run a program, [UCSB's program] wouldn't be bad to start with [because it is] one that is in need of some sort of strengthening.”

For his first Memorial Day at UCSB, Dillard wanted to not only honor former and current service members, but also make the holiday more visible to the school.

Last week, the Veterans and Military Services program installed a “flag garden” made up of 2,000 flags planted in the open green space between the Annex and Storke Lawn.

“I think everyone either appreciated it being there, or once they were told why it was there, then they appreciated it being there,” he said.

Events like this are one way for Dillard and the program to increase visibility and awareness of veteran students on campus.

Although Dillard has several aspirations for the center in the next few years, the most significant one is emphasizing the importance of developing the Veterans and Military Services program.

“No one actually has been here long enough to take it from a resource center to a program.”

Dillard hopes to be the one to change this.



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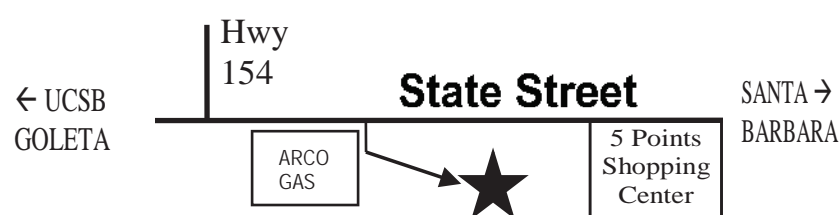
The current space in the Associated Students Annex is approximately 550 sq. ft. The new space is projected to be 981 sq. ft. and has two offices and a bathroom.

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# UC Regents Approve New \$97 Million Classroom Building to Alleviate Over-Enrollment

Katherine Swartz  
Asst. News Editor

The UC Regents approved a plan for the construction of a new classroom building at UC Santa Barbara, which will be located between Davidson Library and the Psychology building, expected to be open by Spring Quarter 2023.

The project will cost over \$97 million and will increase UCSB's classroom capacity by 35%, according to the UC Finance and Capital Strategies Committee's proposal. The building will include five new lecture halls, three active learning classrooms and 20 discussion classrooms, totaling 2,000 new seats.

According to the proposal, the new project, currently called the Classroom Building, is the first purely instructional classroom building proposed at UCSB since the completion of Buchanan Hall in 1967. About 92% of the building's total space will be devoted to classrooms and lecture halls.

The Finance and Capital Strategies Committee is comprised of UC Regents as well as other advisory members, including Governor Gavin Newsom, UC President Janet Napolitano and chancellors from some of the UC campuses. They approved UCSB's new building – along with new building projects at the Riverside, Berkeley and San Diego campuses – on May 16 at the UC Regents meeting at UC San Francisco.

These new building projects are part of UC's Long Range Development Plan (LRDP); the plan was implemented by the Regents in 2010, with the purpose of "shap[ing] how the campus will develop to the year 2025, including changes in our academic programs and the development of additional campus housing for students, faculty, and staff," according to UCSB's Design, Facilities, and Safety Services.

In total, UCSB's new Classroom Building will cost \$97,133,000; 82% of funding is from state appropriations of \$79,787,000, while 18% is from campus funds, which are non-state, non-tuition reserves from grants, investments and sponsored contracts.

A portion of state appropriations will also come from state funding previously allocated for the Campbell Hall Replacement Building. Originally, the funding was allocated to tear down and replace Campbell Hall; however, concerns of the project's financial feasibility, combined

with immediate safety concerns, led UCSB to implement critical life-safety improvements and repairs in order to ensure safe, ongoing use of Campbell Hall, according to the proposal.

The proposal states the new building will also alleviate problems of over-enrollment which have contributed to lower four-year graduation rates. UCSB's registrar cited "lack of classrooms and inappropriately sized classrooms as the primary cause of ... increasing student waitlists that tend to affect the four-year graduation rate."

The new Classroom Building will accommodate more than "twice the capacity and many more rooms than the previous Campbell Hall plans," according to the proposal.

Other alternatives to the Classroom Building discussed in the proposal include leasing off-campus space or annexing existing academic and administrative building space, but these ideas were not deemed viable by the committee because all other existing facilities on campus are already fully occupied, and "logistical problems" prevented leasing buildings in Isla Vista for classroom use.

In addition to substantially increasing the amount of classroom space on campus, the Classroom Building will also incorporate more modern classroom designs.

Current classrooms are "exclusively traditional in format ... lack[ing] the flexibility, amenities, and technology needed to accommodate contemporary, project-based learning," according to the proposal.

Three active learning classrooms in the Classroom Building are designed for project-based teaching and group and student participation, with flexibility to arrange furniture and digital and visual technology for each class's specific needs.

Traditional discussion classrooms will include moveable furnishings and digital capability for project-based work, and lecture halls will be designed with rotating seats, allowing "turn-to-team" interaction.

The Classroom Building plan also requires the demolishing of Building 408, the current Ergonomics Lab, which will be relocated once construction begins.

The campus bike path runs through the future construction site for the Classroom Building; the plan includes relocation of the path and as well as a new bike parking lot with 1,500 spots.

If state funding is approved, building construction for the Classroom Building will move forward for spring 2023 completion.

### CLASSROOM BUILDING BY THE NUMBERS

# 28

NUMBER OF NEW CLASSROOMS TOTAL

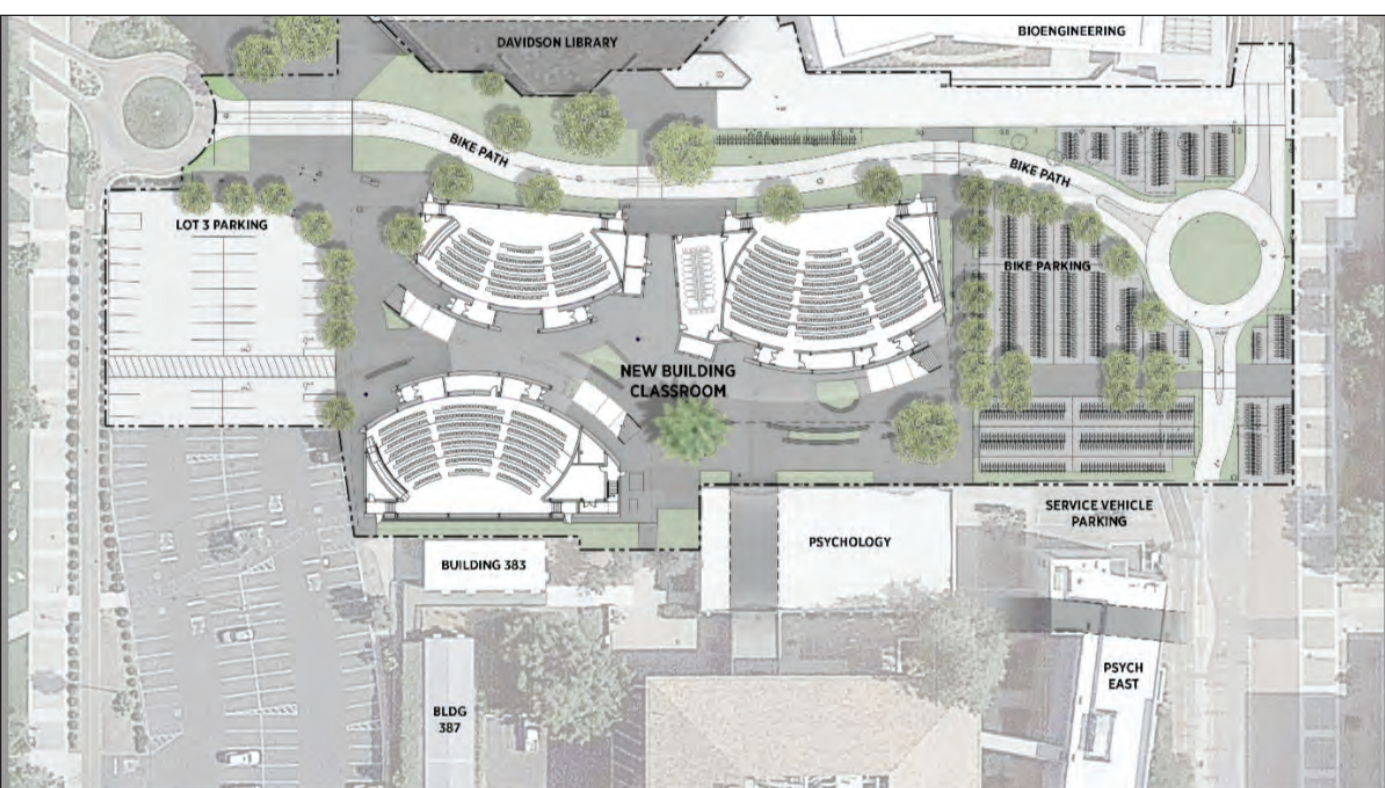
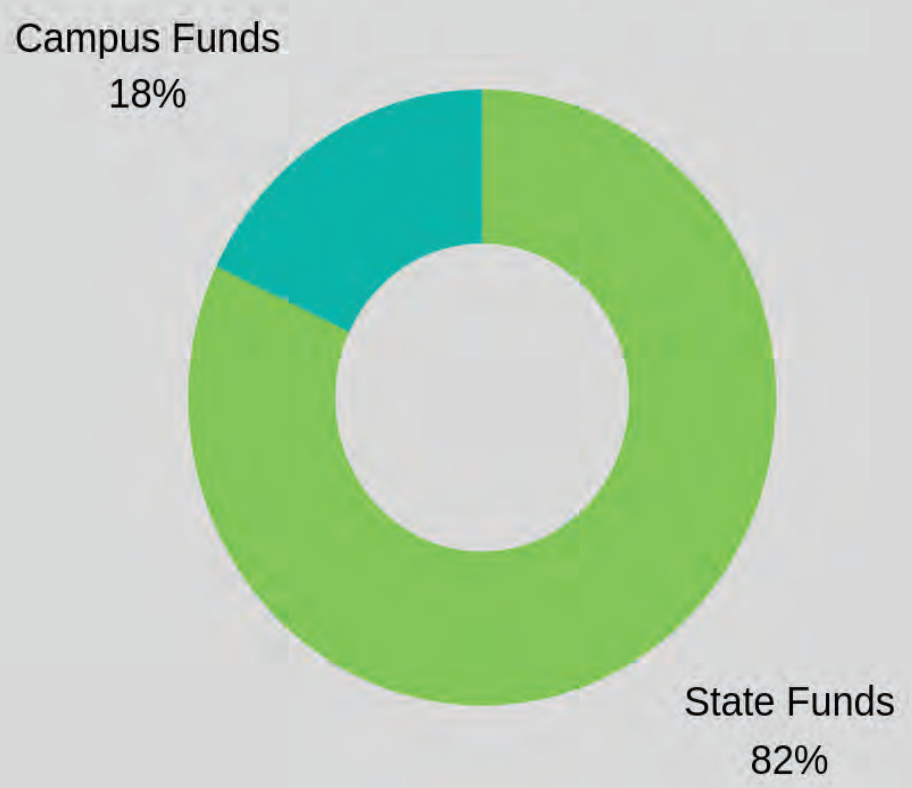
# 2,000

NUMBER OF TOTAL SEATS

# 35%

TOTAL INCREASE OF CURRENT CLASSROOM CAPACITY

### SOURCES OF FUNDING



Courtesy of UC Regents



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# SPORTS

## Big West Baseball Awards

Head Coach Andrew Checketts was named the Big West Coach of the Year, and Rodney Boone was named the Big West Freshman Pitcher of the Year.

## The Heart of a Champion: Key Figures Behind UCSB's Historic Season

After a subpar 2018 season, junior catcher Eric Yang has defied all expectations, leading the Gauchos with a .383 average



Courtesy of Estefani Zuniga

Junior catcher Eric Yang prepares to throw out a baserunner stealing second base. This year, Yang has a .995 fielding percentage, and has thrown out 34.5 % of opponents stealing.

Brandon Victor  
Assistant Sports Editor

Catcher Eric Yang had never struggled like this.

It was April 2018, and the then-sophomore had just gone hitless in his two at-bats against UC Irvine, with Head Coach Andrew Checketts pulling Yang in the bottom of the seventh. In total, Yang hit .222 during the Irvine series – a remarkably low number for someone who hit .432 in high school.

That would be the last series he started during the 2018 season. “I had never really had a rough patch like that before,” Yang said. “When I lost the job at the end of the season, it hurt, but it was good for me. It showed I can’t take anything for granted.”

In total, Yang finished the 2018 season with a .244 average and – more importantly – a chip on his shoulder heading into the offseason.

Yang’s belief in his own abilities never faltered; before this season, he stated that one of his goals was to be nominated for the Buster Posey award – given to the top catcher in college baseball. To an outsider, the thought of a recently-benched catcher becoming one of the top catchers in the nation would have seemed absurd.

But Yang worked at it, tinkering with his swing in the offseason. One day, senior and fellow catcher Thomas Rowan suggested that Yang use his legs more during his swing. Desperate to find anything that worked, Yang gave it a go.

The next day, Yang hit two home runs during the team’s scrimmage.

On top of messing with his mechanics, Yang also changed his approach at the plate, inspired in large part by new hitting coach Donegal Fergus.

“Our offensive style is a lot more aggressive this year than it was in the past,” Yang said. “In years past, the staff just wanted us to put the balls in play and not strike out. This year, they want us to hit it in the air and not get heated. They want us to hit it as hard as we can and not hit home runs.”

This change in approach has completely altered the way Yang hits the ball. Last year, Yang grounded out 33 times, with only 39 flyouts. This year, however, he has grounded out 35 times while flying out 62 times.

“A ground ball does nothing for me, because I’m not fast, so I

might as well have my misses in the air,” Yang said.

This significant uptick in fly balls also directly correlates to an increase in power for Yang. After not hitting a single home run last year, Yang has gone deep seven times this season while contributing 45 RBIs. Even when he isn’t going yard, Yang has an uncanny knack for finding the gap, with the backstop tied for the team lead with 16 doubles. Most impressively, Yang’s increase in power hasn’t coincided with a decrease in average, with the catcher hitting an eye-popping .383 out of the three-hole for the Gauchos.

Yang’s contributions to UCSB’s historic season go far beyond just his bat however. This year, Checketts has allowed Yang to start calling games behind the plate, and the junior has rewarded that trust by helping create one of the strongest pitching staffs in the country.

“I’m really close to all of the pitchers, and I even live with [Chris] Lincoln and [Jack] Dashwood, and I think we really bring that chemistry to the mound,” Yang said. “Because our pitching staff is so reliable, it allows me to focus more on hitting [instead of] babysitting the pitchers.”

Defensively, Yang has always been above average; this year the catcher sports a sparkling .995 fielding percentage, as well as an impressive 34.5 caught stealing percentage. Despite his numbers, Yang still believes he has room for improvement on the defensive end.

“I’ve always been able to throw, so that [caught stealing] number is honestly lower than I’d like it to be,” Yang said.

Of course, it is this drive to be the very best that makes Yang one of the best catchers in the entire country – something that his recent accolades reflect. Last week, Yang accomplished his pre-season goal when he was selected as a semifinalist for the Buster Posey award, alongside 13 other catchers.

Just yesterday, as if Yang’s season wasn’t already impressive enough, the veteran backstop was named the 2019 Big West Field Player of the Year, becoming the first Gaucho to win the award since Cameron Newell in 2015.

From getting benched halfway through the season to being named the best field player in the conference, perhaps no player in college baseball has improved as much as Yang.

Behind Yang’s resurgent bat, calming presence and consistent defense, UCSB looks poised to make a deep postseason run. And if Yang can keep up this pace, that run could end in a national title.

## Junior Tony Ortiz has played an integral role in the success of the baseball team as the undergraduate analytics manager

Brandon Victor  
Assistant Sports Editor

Freshman Rodney Boone pitched the game of his life on Saturday.

Toeing the rubber for the Gauchos in the most important game of the entire season – the game that would decide the conference – Boone made Cal Poly’s hitters look foolish all night long. In total, Boone threw eight and one-third innings of shutout baseball, along with a career-high 12 strikeouts. The key ingredient to Boone’s success on Saturday was his changeup, with Boone generating 18 swings and misses on his secondary pitch.

“Coach talked to me about throwing my change-up to look like a fastball and to keep my arm speed good on my off-speed,” Boone told KCSB’s Max Kelton after the game, when asked about the effectiveness of the pitch.

How did a freshman pitcher – one who merely clinched for average velocity – pitch the game that clinched the Gauchos their first conference title in 33 years? Part of the answer lies with a slim, self-described nerd by the name of Tony Ortiz.

Instead of enjoying the title with the team on Saturday, Ortiz was perched high up in the bleachers, recording every single pitch and swing during the game – just as he’s done all season.

Despite only being a third-year, Ortiz has flourished this year as the Undergraduate Analytics Manager for the UCSB baseball team. Since 2017 – when former Director of Analytics Evan Short took over the position – UCSB has become the most analytically driven baseball program on the West Coast. Short pushed the coaching staff to raise the money to ensure that Santa Barbara has state-of-the-art equipment, including tools like TrackMan and Rapsodo that major league teams use for their statistics.

This past year, however, Short received an offer to help build the Toronto Blue Jays’ analytics department – an offer too good to turn down. After two years of revolutionizing Santa Barbara’s analytics

usage, Short left for Major League Baseball, leaving a gaping hole for the baseball program to fill.

Enter Ortiz. When Ortiz first joined the baseball staff last year, he was a baseball operations intern, helping out with whatever he could around the office. But when Short knew he was leaving, he began to groom Ortiz to take over his role with the team.

“At first, I was only occasionally working with [Short], and it was more on the baseball side of things because I didn’t have the experience with statistics or programming,” Ortiz said. “Towards the end, however, I was writing reports to provide to the coaches so they had more information about what the players needed to work on during the season.”

With a team of four interns at his disposal, Ortiz’s main job is to be the liaison between the hard data and the coaching staff, turning the code written by his interns into easily interpretable and digestible bites for the coaches to understand.

“Sometimes my interns will come up with a report, and it will still be marked with the code they wrote,” Ortiz said. “I love seeing how they did it, but when it comes to giving it to the coaching staff, I tell them we need to get rid of all of that and just get to the point.”

Somehow, Ortiz manages to juggle his responsibilities as undergraduate analytics manager with being a full-time statistics student at UCSB.

In a typical day, Ortiz will go to the baseball office to upload and analyze videos, go to class and then head to the stadium to record statistics for the live bullpen sessions.

“The interns have been extremely helpful in my adjustment to this position,” Ortiz said. “It’s really nice to be able to rely on them for help, because it gives me more time to do the actual analysis.”

Despite his packed schedule, Ortiz thrives because of his unmitigated love for the sport of baseball.

Before I could even ask my first question prior to the game on Saturday, Ortiz unpacked

the Gauchos’ devastating loss on Friday to me, explaining how UCSB’s high-risk, high reward-style offense ultimately backfired. While he uses some data in his analysis, Ortiz makes it clear that

“If the coaching staff sees something with evidence, they are going to take it and run with it.”

Tony Ortiz

his love for baseball stretches beyond just a trendline or chart.

“I think all the time that if I could play, I would give up all the analytic stuff to play just because I love the game that much,” Ortiz said.

With his passion and his drive, Ortiz has seamlessly filled in for Short, supplying data and analysis to the coaching staff whenever he can. Perhaps most importantly, the coaching staff has directly utilized the analysis Ortiz and his team provide.

In a more traditional game like baseball, some pundits and coaches are apprehensive to turn the game over to hard data and numbers. But under the direction of Head Coach Andrew Checketts, UCSB has wholeheartedly embraced the data revolution in baseball.

“Coach Checketts and the coaching staff are very reasonable, and if they see something with evidence, they are going to take it and run with it,” Ortiz said. “The coaches have their own ideas of what the players should work on, and then they can use the analytics as support.”

## UCSB Wins 10th Commissioner’s Cup

Jorge Mercado  
Outgoing Editor in Chief

UC Santa Barbara added to its record of owning the most Commissioner’s Cups in Big West history after winning its tenth title for the 2018-19 school year, the league announced on Tuesday.

Only three current Big West schools have ever won the Commissioner’s Cup, with Long Beach State second to UCSB for most titles at eight.

The Big West Commissioner’s Cup began for the 1998-99 season and it is awarded to the institution with the highest average point total following the conclusion of all 18 conference sports. Not all schools sponsor all 18 sports.

For UCSB, this is the program’s first title since 2015-16 and just the third since the 2009-10 year. Santa Barbara was able to take home the Cup following an outstanding season in its spring sports. The Gauchos won both Big West titles in women’s and men’s tennis while also clinch-

ing the baseball title.

Additionally, UCSB also had top-three showings in women’s water polo and women’s track & field.

The final quarter was a strong finish to a pretty solid year that saw the program also claim top three finishes in men’s cross country, women’s soccer, men’s soccer and men’s basketball. Overall, Santa Barbara averaged 120.6 points over the 16 competitive sports sponsored by the campus. In determining a champion for the cup, round robin sports and conference championship sports are split into two.

For round robin sports, points are awarded based on the final standings of the regular season with the top team getting a 20-point bonus. Big West round robin sports include baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, women’s tennis and indoor volleyball.

For conference championship sports, points are awarded based on the finish at the tournament. These sports include cross country, golf, men’s tennis, track & field,

women’s beach volleyball and women’s water polo.

In the case of any ties in all sports, points are awarded by combining points and splitting them equally among the tied teams.

Finishing behind the Gauchos was defending champion Cal State Fullerton. The Titans won their first Commissioner’s Cup in program history last season after big first-place finishes in sports such as men’s basketball and baseball.

This year, CSUF averaged 118.6 points after the conclusion of its 14 sports. Titles in men’s golf, softball and women’s track and field in the spring nearly helped the Titans lap the Gauchos – but they still came up just short.

Rounding out the top three was UC Irvine who paced a 106.3 point average, thanks to winning the Big West title in men’s basketball while Long Beach State finished fourth and UC Davis finished fifth. Cal Poly was sixth, Hawai’i was seventh, CSUN was eighth and UC Riverside finished in last place.



JORGE MERCADO / DAILY NEXUS



# NBA Finals Preview 2019: The Golden Dynasty Vs. The New-Look Raptors

So what happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object? The *Daily Nexus* sports staff break down how the Golden State Warriors' revamped offense and Toronto Raptors' stifling defense shape up heading into this year's finals.

Kunal Mehta  
Staff Writer

To put it simply, the Golden State Warriors have been very unlucky when it comes to injuries during the playoffs. Both Kevin Durant, known as KD, and DeMarcus Cousins, known as Boogie, went down with a calf strain and a torn left quadriceps, respectively, while Andre Iguodala has been dealing with a calf injury as well.

When Durant in particular went down with his injury in game five of the second round of the playoffs, hope was at an all-time low amongst Golden State Warriors fans when it came to the prospect of winning their third-straight championship. Fast forward two weeks, the narrative has now shifted to "The Warriors don't need KD."

How have the Warriors been able to win without their big guns? There are a couple players that have kept them on the right track.

Stephen Curry. After KD's injury, Curry has averaged 36 points, seven assists and eight rebounds per game. More impressively, he is shooting 47% from the field, including 41% from behind the three-point line.

One of the reasons why Steph has been able to play at this high of a level is because he is constantly moving without the ball. As soon as he crosses half court, he swings the ball to one side and immediately goes to the other.

Once on the other side, he comes off of a couple screens, similar to how a running back follows his blockers. This has made it difficult for opposing teams to guard Curry, as their primary defender at the beginning of the play is never the one that is guarding him one-on-one toward the end of the shot clock. Usually, it is a power forward or center that is forced to switch onto him, giving Curry a

tremendous advantage.

The second player, who has had arguably the most impact on the team during this run, is Draymond Green. Green is averaging 15 points, eight assists and 11 rebounds in his last five games. More importantly, he has been the anchor on the defensive end of the floor, whether that be drawing charges or contesting shots.

Golden State is starting to revert back to their fast-paced style, which led to a 73-9 record in the regular season just two years ago, prior to the arrival of KD and Boogie. It is clear that their confidence is growing and that the older members are trying to prove that they can still win despite the injuries the team has suffered.

If Durant and Cousins do end up returning at some point in the NBA finals, it will be important for Head Coach Steve Kerr to continue to push this fast-paced offense.

This style of play allows players such as Klay Thompson to be not only more involved in the game plan, but also remain engaged throughout the game.

While it is a luxury to have isolation scorers such as KD, it should not change the strategy that has been working recently. The Warriors are harder to guard now because every player on the floor is either moving without the ball or setting screens for their teammates.

It will be interesting to watch whether the Warriors play a different style if their star players return in time during the finals.

That being said, Curry and Draymond will look to send a message to the league that their squad is more than capable of winning the finals regardless.

Jake Ciccone  
Staff Writer

The Toronto Raptors have fallen behind in each series they've played so far during these playoffs and have been forced to dig deep into their bag in order to successfully pull each one out (maybe the Orlando series wasn't that tough, but you get what I'm saying).

Whether they were tasked with disrupting Joel Embiid or Giannis Antetokounmpo, Nick Nurse's squad has adjusted well and relied on their defense to lead them to victory.

The Raptors are led offensively by the future Hall of Famer Kawhi Leonard, but at points throughout the playoffs some of their main scorers and playmakers have shown their inexperience (Pascal Siakam) or shown that they are Kyle Lowry (Kyle Lowry).

Marc Gasol is also no longer the dominant offensive presence that he once was, and guys like Danny Green and Fred VanVleet are not the kind of multifaceted threats that can consistently make a difference in the playoffs. It is in times like these that Nurse's squad must rely on their lengthy and disciplined defense to propel them to win.

The defensive dominance of the Raptors' playoff run can easily be characterized by their opponents' shooting percentages, as they have allowed the second lowest field goal percentage (41.7%) and the third-lowest three-point percentage (31.3%) out of all the playoff teams.

Interestingly however, they have allowed the fourth-highest percentage of three-point shots to be taken against them (40.5%). These stats put together show that Toronto is exceptional at forcing teams out of shots near the hoop

and making them take bad, highly contested shots from behind the arc. This is a strategy that worked wonders for them against Milwaukee, as their length bothered Antetokounmpo on his drives and forced him to kick the ball out to shooters at the three-point line, who were then forced to shoot under duress as the Raptors' length also allowed them to recover and contest those shots.

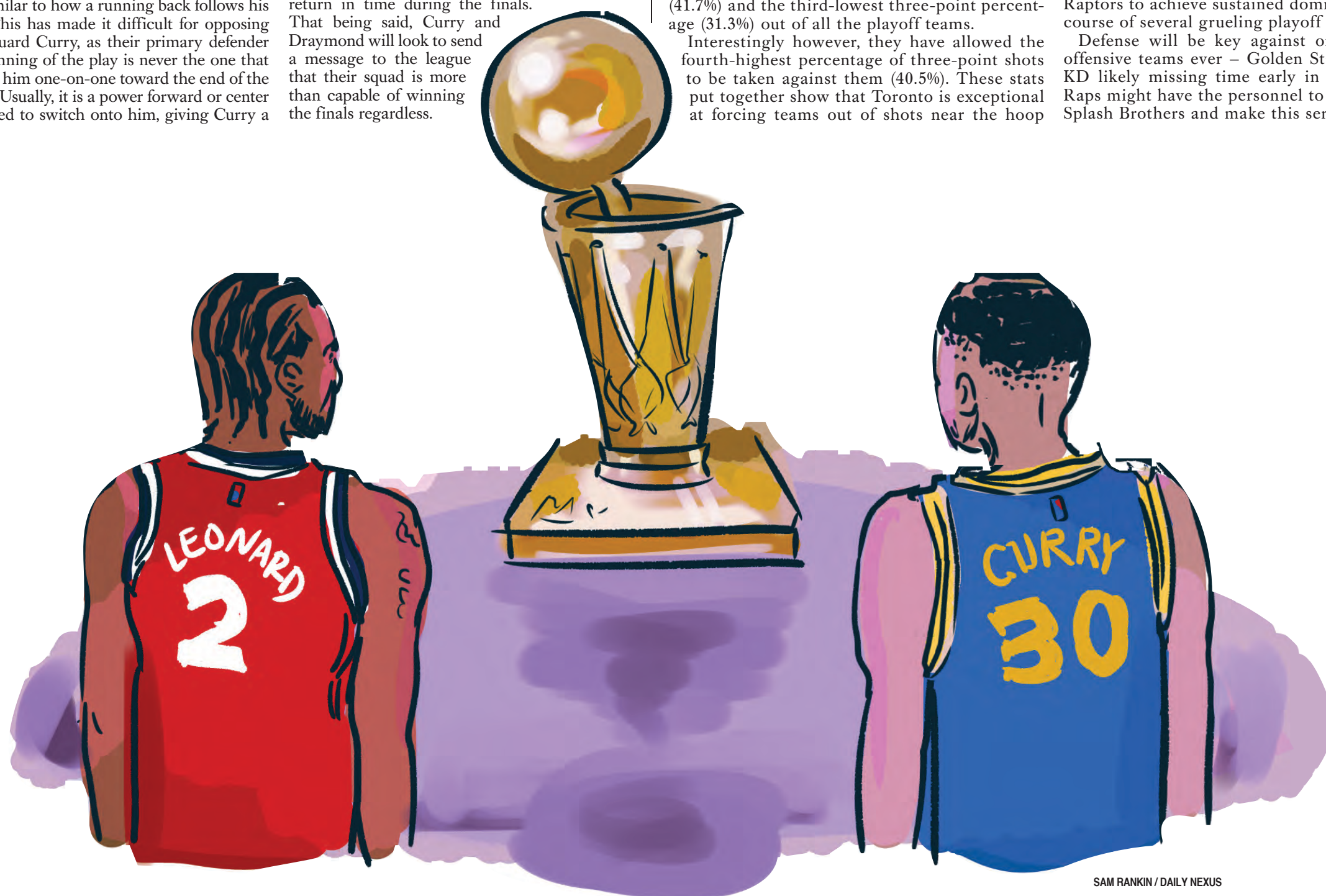
Toronto's exceptional defense has only improved in the playoffs, as their 102.8 defensive rating through 18 postseason games is sizeably better than their 107.1 regular season defensive rating.

This is most likely due to the fact that Nurse has cut down his rotation to only his most productive players, and also because Leonard is now playing every game, which he did not do throughout the regular season.

The Raptors have been known for having a strong bench with a deep rotation of quality players, but throughout this season and aided by the Marc Gasol trade, it has been the starting lineup that has set the tone on the defensive end.

In fact, the starting lineup of Leonard, Gasol, Green, Lowry and Pascal Siakam has a playoff defensive rating of 99.7 over 314 minutes played. This is the only five-man unit of the playoffs to have a defensive rating under 100 and have over 200 minutes played. Since this unit has been on the floor for over 300 minutes, it has allowed the Raptors to achieve sustained dominance over the course of several grueling playoff series.

Defense will be key against one of the best offensive teams ever – Golden State – and with KD likely missing time early in the series, the Raps might have the personnel to slow down the Splash Brothers and make this series interesting.



SAM RANKIN / DAILY NEXUS

Steph Curry has always been the most important player for the Warriors, and his impact since Kevin Durant has gone down has been immeasurable. Still, Curry will need plenty of help from his bench to overcome the depth of the Toronto Raptors.

Leonard Paulasa  
Sports Photo Editor

Game 1 of the NBA Finals premiers tonight and will feature the Golden State Warriors versus the Toronto Raptors.

The Raptors have home court advantage, and Kevin Durant will not be available for Game 1 and likely won't be available in Game 2.

With Durant gone, the Warriors are looking at two-time MVP Stephen Curry to lead them on their quest for the three-peat.

Both fans and media personalities questioned whether or not the Warriors would even make the Finals, believing that they had lost the series against the Houston Rockets the moment Durant went down with his injury.

Nevertheless, the Warriors relied on their star point guard who would drop 33 points, all in the second half of Game 6, to put away the Rockets and advance to the Conference Finals.

Yet, even after Curry's Game 6 performance, many doubted he could lead the Warriors past the scorching Portland Trailblazers who upset both the media favorite Oklahoma City Thunder and second seed Denver Nuggets.

NBA Hall of Famer and TNT Analyst Charles Barkley predicted that the Trailblazers would make the Finals, and even went as far to say "the Warriors have no chance of winning without Kevin Durant."

Curry's legacy has been in question since Durant joined the Warriors, which caused his scoring to take a minor drop.

As such, analysts and fans believed that Curry's time as the greatest point guard in the NBA has gone, having been surpassed by Kyrie Irving, Damian Lillard and Russell Westbrook, to name a few.

To silence his naysayers, Curry played monstrously in the Conference Finals, averaging 36.5 points per game along with 8.3 rebounds and 7.3 assists in a 4-0 series rout of the Blazers to reach the NBA Finals.

The Warriors will be in the Finals for the fifth straight time being only the second team to do so, since the Boston Celtics, led by Bill Russell, did back in the '60s.

Curry has played the previous four, but has never won an NBA Finals MVP. While Curry has mentioned that he prefers to win the championship over the award, it's precisely his lack of a Finals MVP that people question his legacy.

With Durant out for the first game and possibly the second (or longer), it's up to Steph Curry to once again carry the load and remind the rest of the NBA why he was the first to ever be awarded MVP unanimously.

This is Curry's opportunity to showcase his offensive arsenal and prove to the world that the Warriors are still his team.

Curry has a chance to once and for all shut up his critics and claim the award that's rightfully his.

Annika Pearson  
Staff Writer

Between Leonard, Lowry, Curry and Thompson, the NBA Finals has more than enough all-stars to keep an eye on this Thursday. Besides these players and the rest of the Raptors' and Warriors' starting lineups, however, is a bench full of players equally crucial to securing a championship ring.

Traditionally, the Toronto Raptors have been known for having a deep bench and relying heavily on rotations. But, as we know, this year is not like the rest for the Canadian franchise. As showcased in the Eastern Conference finals, Coach Nick Nurse has stuck to a steady eight-man rotation, which includes Fred VanVleet, Serge Ibaka and Norman Powell.

Most outstandingly, the trio's combined 48 points during Game Four against the Bucks attests to their newfound place in the Raptors' lineup. Powell and VanVleet make up the first- and second-highest marks in three-point shooters off the bench in the playoffs.

Since the birth of his second child prior to Game Four, VanVleet's performance has improved greatly. Coincidence or not, his average three-point percentage over Games 4, 5 and 6 of the Eastern Conference Finals stands at 85.9% – significantly higher than it's been all season – going 3-3, 7-9 and 4-5, respectively. His recent success may even open up a spot for him as starting point guard in the upcoming finals.

Serge Ibaka's defensive game has been consistent for the Raptors come postseason. With his steady inside coverage, mobility and acute eye for rebounds, the 6'10" center can be very useful going against a strong offensive team like the Warriors.

Norman Powell's minutes and shooting percentage

from the field have nearly doubled since the conference semifinals back in the beginning of the month. Powell will enter the NBA Finals this Thursday on a hot streak after marking a lofty 74 points during the Eastern Conference Finals – a tremendous improvement to the mere 21 points he tallied in the semifinals.

As for Golden State, their bench remains a bit more unpredictable.

After a calf injury took out Kevin Durant back against the Rockets, the Warriors have had to lean on their bench more than anticipated this postseason. Now giving more starting time to players like Kevon Looney, Coach Steve Kerr relies more heavily on bench rotations; consequently, Alfonzo McKinnie, Jonas Jerebko and Shaun Livingston have been spending more time on the court.

In the conference finals against Portland, McKinnie really stepped up his game. Though inconsistent throughout the majority of regular and postseason, McKinnie's shot has gradually become more reliable, scoring 12 points in Game 4 versus Portland – the most he's racked since nearly October.

The star of the Warriors second unit so far however has been center Kevon Looney.

Looney has been a stabilizing force on both sides of the ball, gobbling up rebounds and finishing at the rim like an elite big man. His matchup with Marc Gasol will be pivotal, and if he continues to play with the intensity he had last year the Warriors will be in good position to win.

It may be, though, that ultimately the Raptors have the edge when it comes to their bench. Equipped with three key players who have demonstrated their ability to compete and change games at the very least threatens the defending champs.





# NEXUSTENTIALISM

It's Satire, Stupid.



## Ortega Chef Regains Sense of Taste After 20 Long Years

A. Wiessass  
Staff Writer

In an email from UCSB Housing, Dining & Auxiliary Enterprises, it was announced that the head chef and meal planner for Ortega Dining Commons has regained his sense of taste after 20 years of being bereft of it.

Chef Taye Stless lost the function of his taste buds in 1999 as a symptom of a rare foodborne illness which he is rumored to have contracted by eating food he prepared himself. He has been cooking without being able to taste his food since then. His culinary musings during this period of tastelessness developed into what many Gauchos know as Ortega's signature taste, which has been described as "squishy" and "occasionally pretty good."

"I would like to thank the University for standing by me in these trying times," Stless said. "Although this has been a drastic shift in my life, I promise that I will keep the flavors that these students have grown accustomed to, while maybe trying out some salt here and there."

Some Gauchos have commended his bravery in

the face of a condition that probably should've ended his career.

"I just think it's incredibly brave that despite his complete inability to monitor the quality of food he was providing, Stless never stopped pushing out a definitionally edible product to the masses," second-year Mallory Comida said.

When asked why UCSB Housing, Dining & Auxiliary Enterprises didn't reassign Stless to a less taste-centric position, a representative told the Nexus that despite his lack of flavor perception, Ortega has had the lowest number of cases of food poisoning year after year under Stless' direction.

"When people questioned my ability to continue cooking, I always told them that Beethoven wrote his greatest symphonies after he went deaf so I planned to do the same," Stless said.

Students who are regularly subjected to the food that Stless and his team produce are cautiously optimistic that the food might improve from the level slop to something more akin to mush.

A. Wiessass is more of a Carillo man himself.

## How to be Indie: As Told By a True Indie Gaucho

Avocado Feminist  
Reporter

As an indie person at UCSB, I feel it's so important to highlight the lifestyle and life choices of an Indie in the UCSB community, as we are so often marginalized by the many frat, srat and basic white (I am also white) people on campus. In this community it is more important than ever to project your indie-ness to show naysayers you do actually exist and you also shaved your head like that on purpose.

As for me, my overgrown armpit hair is actually meant to provoke conversations on hyper-femininity, and my long leg hair is like that because all my friends are doing it. If I didn't have my septum piercing how are people supposed to know that I bring my own mason jar to Cajé?

My closet? Yes, it's full of only thrifted men's t-shirts that I wear ironically. Why do you ask? Yes I did apply to small liberal arts colleges on the East Coast, and no, I didn't get into any of them because they didn't recognize my absence in senior year classes as "good grades."

As an indie person at UCSB it's also deeply important to instill a strong, wildly unsettling Instagram presence so that people know you're actually - truly - this way. This is why my profile picture is a pixelated photo of one of the Rugrat babies (idk which one, I never saw the show). Some of my favorite pictures to post to fully convey the strength of my indie are blurry photobooth pics of me pouting like a sad squishy baby with those blue birds above my head, zoomed-in pictures of a finger cut

I got after opening a La Croix and many slides of candid photos I took at a party that are good because I took them on film. Which makes me a creative. It's also important to caption everything with a very intimate inside joke that only you will understand.

In terms of clothing, I exclusively shop at the I.V. trading post to get what I need, which usually culminates in a multi layered, multi-patterned outfit that I like because it challenges gender norms. By challenging gender norms I mean people look at me and think, "It's too hot for that girl to wear five turtlenecks."

The 68 block is the real Isla Vista, and all my friends live on the cool streets (Trigo, Sabado, Sueno, in case you didn't know). My apartment has six or more people, but we're not sure and we've never counted! We only go to band parties and we LOVE Rolling Rock - no, I don't think it tastes bad. I smoke a lot of 'good' weed or none at all because it makes me CRAZY and I won't tell anyone how. Ketamine is fine, though; it numbs me to the brutal force my skinny body has to endure in all the mosh pits I get into.

As I wrap up my piece, I just want to do a quick shout out for my upcoming documentary, "Girlhood," about college-aged women finding free expression than I am producing and editing myself. It includes interviews of all of my friends, filmed with a video camera from 2001 that I bought for \$500 in a thrift shop in Silverlake. Also, my Dad owns Nissan.

Avocado Feminist harvests her own nut milk, just so you know.

### DAILY NEXUS ART & COMICS



#### 14. Home Stretch

R. Bruder





# ARTSWEEK



WILLIAM EMMONS / DAILY NEXUS

## In Review: 'Flamagra' by Flying Lotus

Brandon Victor  
Asst. Sports Editor

Five years after the critically-acclaimed album *You're Dead!* – which spawned crossover hit “Never Catch Me” and features a young and hungry Kendrick Lamar – Flying Lotus (FlyLo) returns once again with one of the most ambitious albums in recent memory.

*Flamagra*, Lotus' sixth studio album, is a loose concept project centered around the idea of fire, with the album cover depicting what appears to be hill-like factory in flames in space. Somehow, Lotus creates music that perfectly encapsulates this abstract image.

The album kicks off with “Heroes”, an epic, fast-tempoed opener that feels both airy and frantic. This theme continues throughout the first half of the album with most songs sounding like a score to a movie placed in outer space.

Take the sixth track on the album for example, “Burning Down the House”, which features legendary P-Funk singer and songwriter George Clinton. Lotus matches spacey synths with a swaggering bassline reminiscent of early Dr. Dre, creating the perfect atmosphere for Clinton to eerily croon, “I know something that they don't know.”

Speaking of basslines, Lotus once again leaned on the work of longtime friend and collaborator Thundercat to craft about 90% of the bass on the record and, per usual, the duo clearly displayed their trademarked chemistry.

In 2019, a time when artists have seemingly abandoned attempts at long albums, the 27-song, 67-minute project appears almost overwhelming to listen to.

While *Flamagra* is perhaps intentionally disorienting, the pacing of the album suffers at points. After the aforementioned song “Burning Down the House,” the album lulls because of four consecutive tracks that fail to advance the mood or theme of the album in any significant way.

However, the album comes roaring to life again with the eleventh track “Yellow Belly,” featuring breakout rapper Tierra Whack. Over an incredibly minimalist beat, Whack's feature is downright hilarious. At one point Whack raps, “He's got titties in his face” in

four completely different voices. It may sound unorthodox, but Whack's raw charisma is what carries this track.

Immediately after this sonic detour, Denzel Curry spits a verse that proves he is an up-and-coming talent in rap on “Black Balloons Reprise.” Despite FlyLo crafting a more orthodox beat for Curry, the haunting overtones of the composition once again foster a lingering sense of paranoia in the listener.

As the album approaches the end, Lotus swaps out this feeling of paranoia with a much sweeter, more nostalgic sound.

On “Debbie is Depressed,” Lotus somehow merges what sounds like a mid-2000s Clipse beat with a smooth vocal sample that states, “All the days just feel the same.” At its best, *Flamagra* creates haunting, yet touching moods that few artists dare try to encapsulate.

In another standout, “The Climb,” Thundercat adds his own high-pitched vocals to the track. Over a warm instrumental, Thundercat's voice sounds perfectly at home – a comforting presence in what is, more often than not, a disorienting album.

In large part, FlyLo centers this part of the album around the passing of his dear friend Mac Miller. In fact, the second to last track, “Thank U Malcolm,” is a heartfelt tribute to Miller, with swelling strings and an electric guitar riff that allows the listener to feel the impact that Miller had on FlyLo.

FlyLo has delivered one of the most unique and nuanced albums in recent memory, but it still suffers from a few shortcomings. The album can be slow at times toward the middle – perhaps Lotus might have benefited from cutting a few songs from the album.

In addition, while the album features some excellent guest performances, none rival the performance of Lamar on “Never Catch Me.” On lead single “More,” Anderson .Paak comes closest to hitting this high, thanks in large part to the booming beat Lotus laces for him. Unfortunately, .Paak's rapping has never been his strongest suit, and his cadence has once again left something to be desired on the track.

In spite of these flaws, *Flamagra*'s proven that Flying Lotus is a singular talent – one who can seemingly capture any mood in his music.



Courtesy of Tiny Mix Tapes

## A Brief Guide to British Rap

Neha Makkapati  
Staff Writer

Not to be that one person who won't shut up about how “studying abroad changed my life,” but the British rap scene finally grew on me after staying in London last Fall Quarter. Despite the initial peculiarity of a posh voice rapping about dark subjects with vernacular that clashed with my American ear, I have now subscribed to the British rap scene. The melodic Afrobeats, distinct tempos and hard-hitting elements that American rap doesn't quite touch makes British rap a distinct genre, but most Americans can't stand it. And yet rap from the U.S. is simply more popular across the globe.

Why do American hip hop lovers have such disregard toward British rap and grime?

First, some listeners genuinely don't register the accents that are paramount to U.K. rap, as people associate British accents as being proper and unfitting with the grit of contemporary hip hop. Simply put, people often find it difficult to adapt to differences and write the music off in an act of dismissiveness.

Secondly, people think the jargon and context is unrelatable because it's from a different country with different slang and living circumstances. However, by paying just slightly more attention than usual, it's easy and interesting to piece together the lyrics while learning more about the culture and life in the United Kingdom using an American fan's perspective on rap music.

Innovation is a revered quality in hip hop. Mainstream American artists such as Kanye West are constantly pushing to change their music and create new genres, sounds and production within hip hop. Yet many Americans typically take a pessimistic approach to accepting innovative music from a different country.

More recently, British rap has become more prevalent across the U.S. with the help of American

artists. Whether it be P. Diddy, who dropped a remix with grime-godfather Skepta, Drake featuring UK rapper Giggs in his project *More Life* or ASAP Rocky's strong friendship with Skepta and production of the minor hit “Praise the Lord,” many American rap powerhouses are slowly starting to bridge the gap between U.S. and U.K. rap.

Generally speaking, in American rap, regional states have particular linguistic and stylistic differences, making Atlanta rappers and New York rappers distinct and unique from each other. Rap is inherently cultural and has branched into many separate directions, so it's hard not to appreciate its differences within the country. Similarly, rap from the United Kingdom contrasts regionally in order to piece together neighborhoods of the U.K.

For all my hip hop lovers who are ready to give British rap a chance, here are some of the best right now:

**Skepta**  
As a veteran of grime, Skepta is greatly influential to the British rap community and even American rap in his rise from underground to chart-topping singles across the pond. He has numerous features with acclaimed American artists such as P. Diddy, ASAP Rocky and Pharrell and has received love and attention from industry titans Kanye West and Drake.

**Stormzy**  
A multi-award winning rapper, Stormzy has made huge moves forward for the U.K. rap scene. His album *Gang Signs & Prayer* was the U.K.'s first grime album to reach No. 1 on official charts. Stormzy is also one of the few rappers to talk about his Christian faith and explore it in his music, receiving acclaim from many for it.

**Giggs**  
Giggs has helped build the foundations of U.K. rap with his

subtly well-timed rhymes about the tribulations of urban life in South London. His style makes him distinct, as his production is rather audacious without much thought about precision or arrangement.

**Dave**  
Boasting a very different style from the previous artists on this list, Dave's projects focus more on clarity and smoothness in a cathartic form of music. He showcases his lyrical mastery through raps about societal injustices, opening up about his racial identity and his own personal struggles through measured rhymes.

**Little Simz**  
Little Simz is an up-and-coming British rapper paving the way in the industry. The artist is a woman in the historically and currently male-dominated field while also combining R&B, jazz, soul and hip hop all into her music, paired with her lyrically ingenious rap and impressive flow.

**J Hus**  
J Hus combines his Gambian heritage with U.K. style rap to create a dancehall grime with the Afrobeats that have been increasingly popular in British rap and not extensively explored in American hip hop.

**Octavian**  
With a very different style from the other rappers, Octavian includes a cacophony of melodic moments in his music; some songs are calm and somber while others harbor a distinctive dance hall sound with incredible flow in his lyrics combined with the music.

So whether it be the differences in regional slang or the more up-tempo dance-type beats of British rap compared to the trap 808s that American rappers favor, the U.S. and the U.K. boast two distinct homes to hip hop that can both be appreciated – whether they're together or apart.

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# ON THE MENU

## Fair Trade America: Guilt-Free Chocolate



MICHELLE WAN / DAILY NEXUS

Michelle Wan  
Reporter

When it comes to buying chocolate, most people look for the big brands, such as Hershey's, Godiva and Ghirardelli. However, purchasing from these companies supports unsafe and unhealthy working environments that enforce illegal labor tactics. Many people do not know that behind all these big chocolate brands are children working in dangerous environments. Fortunately, there is a better way to satisfy your chocolate cravings without feeling guilty: Buy fair trade chocolates!

### What is fair trade?

Fair trade is a movement of farmers, workers, businesses and consumers working to create justice in our global supply chain. This movement gives small farmers, workers and fishermen a voice in the workplace and community. It also ensures that they are earning enough money to invest in their lives and their work. In addition to helping the farmers, workers and fishermen, fair trade focuses on environmentally friendly farming practices by prohibiting especially harmful chemicals and taking measures to maintain the beauty of this planet.

### What does this have to do with chocolates?

Many people are unaware that, due to climate change, cocoa trees are facing danger. Unfortunately, due to high demand for chocolate, large companies look the other way and continue to harvest cocoa trees using

unsustainable practices. Fair trade companies ensure that their products have been sustainably harvested and the trees have been grown without the use of harsh fertilizers and pesticides. Besides environmentally friendly farming, fair trade companies also focus on safe and healthy working environments. According to a study published by Tulane University in 2010, over 1.8 million children work on cocoa farms in Ghana and the Ivory Coast. Usually, these children are foregoing an education to work in these harsh, life-threatening environments. Fair trade companies make sure that cocoa farms are sustainable and that they prohibit child labor.

### Where can I buy fair trade chocolates?

Although big companies like Nestlé and Hershey's are working toward reducing child labor and improving cocoa communities in West Africa, this process will likely take a long time; therefore, it is better to start buying fair trade. You can access a list of fair trade chocolate brands that are available for purchase in local stores on [www.fairtradeamerica.org](http://www.fairtradeamerica.org). Luckily, as Gauchos, we do not need to go far to find fair trade chocolates. The Isla Vista Food Cooperative supplies several fair trade chocolate brands with a variety of flavors. So, the next time you want to purchase some chocolate, consider the negative effects that may result from your purchase, head down to a local store and look for the Fair Trade Certified seal to enjoy some guilt-free chocolates.

Although this article focuses on fair trade chocolate, fair trade practices extend to other products, such as clothes and home goods. For more information on the fair trade movement and other products, feel free to visit the Fair Trade Certified website and FairTrade America website.

## State Street's Goa Taco: What a Great Place To Go

Shelby Guy  
Staff Writer

State Street is home to many wild and unique dining options, from Brats to ramen and more. Few know, however, that there exists a taco place with an unconventional twist sitting right under their noses.

Goa Taco, located at 718 State St., is a gourmet taco restaurant founded by Duvaldi Marneweck, a South African native and Australian-trained chef. Since it opened in 2017, this storefront has stayed strong, thanks in no small part to their delicious food, comfortable interior and welcoming staff. The crown jewel of Goa Taco, however, has to be their paratha taco.

The signature of Goa Taco, the paratha is a deep-fried, flaky Indian flatbread that acts as the taco shell. These buttery food parcels are filled with a wide variety of unconventional taco ingredients, from slow roasted pork belly to paneer cheese to five-spice confit duck.

This reporter decided to head out to see if this paratha taco was truly worth the trip. Upon arrival, I discovered that the taco may indeed live up to the hype; customers at every single table had a golden brown, flaky paratha shell – so I decided to try one for myself.

I ordered a chicken chorizo taco with a brussels sprout slaw and fontina cheese in, of course, a paratha shell. The entire order came out to about \$9.24, a bit pricey, but I was willing to see if it was worth it and I have to say, it may just be.

The chorizo was cooked perfectly, with a peppery bite at first, then a savory meatiness that ended with the heat of the chorizo sitting on the lips afterwards. The slaw was mixed with the cheese, which had melted to a perfectly creamy consistency. The slaw cooled the mouth so that the peppery chorizo did not overpower the dish. Finally came the paratha, which truly was a buttery folded piece of heaven if ever one existed. It was perfectly crisp on the outside and soft and bready on the inside, allowing it to soak up the excess meat juice from the chorizo.

All in all, Goa Taco is an amazing place to eat if you are ready to spend a bit more money for the paratha since it is on the pricey side. Although its portions were not enough for an incredibly filling meal, Goa Taco is nevertheless a great place if you are in the mood for a snack and willing to splurge a little.



SHELBY GUY / DAILY NEXUS



# SCIENCE & TECH

## Marine Species More Vulnerable to Global Warming Than Terrestrial Species

Jacqueline Wen  
Science Editor

A new study published in the journal *Nature* reveals that marine species may be more susceptible to global warming effects – specifically increases in temperatures – than land creatures.

The international group of researchers, including Douglas McCauley from UC Santa Barbara, was interested in figuring out which parts of life on the planet would be most challenged by climate change. They performed a two-way comparison of species on land and species in the ocean to look at their vulnerability to warming temperatures. Specifically, they compared the sensitivity of ectotherms, or cold-blooded organisms, in the two major realms.

“All organisms, whether you’re warm-blooded or cold-blooded, have this range of temperatures that you can tolerate before your body starts to shut down and experience serious physiological stress – a lower bound and an upper bound. And so with warming, we’re mostly concerned about the upper bound because these temperatures are getting hotter and hotter,” McCauley, an associate professor in UCSB’s Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology and its Marine Science Institute, said.

The main takeaway of the study is that ectotherms in the ocean are more likely to be vulnerable to thermal stress, he stated.

The scientists compiled the upper thermal limits for 406 total ectothermic species – 88 marine and 318 terrestrial – and assessed their position relative to the temperature threshold before they would begin to experience heat shock or heat stroke.

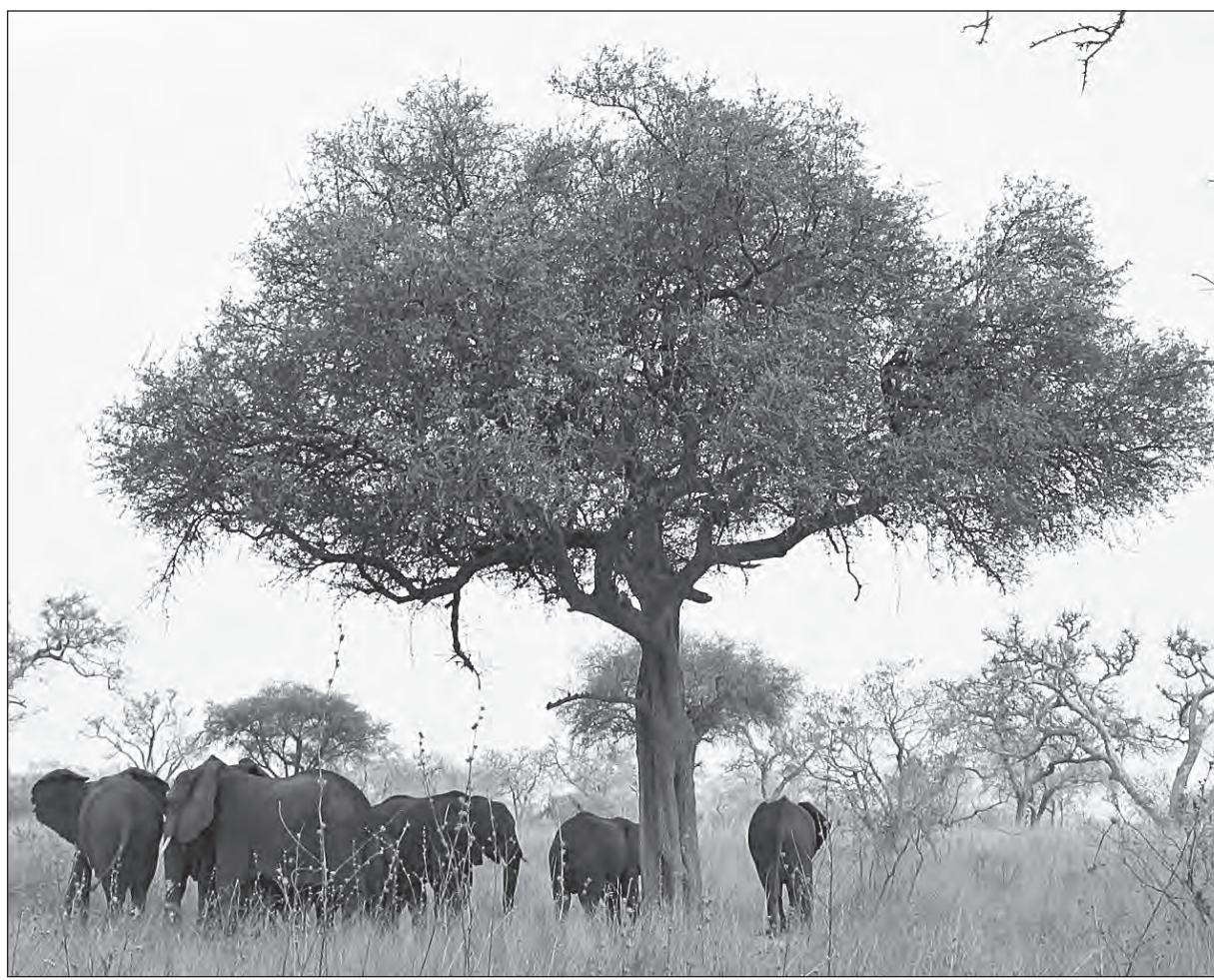
“It turned out that in the ocean, marine animals were sitting much closer to that maximum, much closer to this ceiling where they would overheat and get into a real physiological stressful situation than terrestrial animals were, on average – which means that there is then less buffering for them to get to these overheating points in the ocean,” McCauley said.

In addition, McCauley and his colleagues found that local species extinctions in the ocean occurred at twice the rate than those on land.

“We think that much of those local species extinctions in the ocean is being driven by marine animals that are right up against that ceiling or have crossed that ceiling, so either local species have gone extinct or have to, like a climate refugee, get out of there and go somewhere else,” he said.

Generally, land species are advantaged to cope with global warming because of microhabitat thermal refuges found within the natural variability on land, such as a burrow or shade under a tree, in which they can hide and cool off. In the ocean, ectotherms may face greater stress because of the fewer thermal refuges available there than on land.

If a thermometer were placed in 12 different locations outside with different exposures to light and shade, it would record a range of different ambient air temperatures, McCauley said, whereas almost no variation in temperature would be found underwater if a thermometer were placed in 12 different loca-



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Terrestrial animals, such as these elephants, are advantaged with more thermal refuges on land, including the shade from a tree. Fewer thermal refuges underwater may be one reason why marine species are more vulnerable to warming temperatures than terrestrial ones.

tions in the ocean.

“It’s like one big water bath. Just like in a swimming pool or in a bath, it’s pretty much the same temperature once the water gets mixed everywhere that you experience throughout,” McCauley said. “If you hide under a hole in the ocean, water is pretty much the same temperature that it is outside because the temperature that you experience in the environment is controlled by the water temperature.”

Marine organisms may also have heightened vulnerability and sensitivity to thermal stress because they experience less thermal variability on average than do land creatures. During the transition from winter to summer or even across the duration of a day, a temperature logger tracks noticeably greater changes on land than in water.

“It’s possible, and I think there is promise for causality here, in that all that variation you see on land challenges organisms that live on land to expand this [thermal] window because they experience that range and those fluctuations in temperature across a day, across a year,”

McCauley said. “Day to day, year to year, they have to figure out a way to physiologically deal with all that variability in temperature.”

Marine species haven’t needed to worry about

temperature fluctuations as much, leaving them more disadvantaged to deal with the rapidly rising ocean temperatures.

“In the ocean, because there’s less of that flux, we challenge them to come up with physiological solutions when historically there hasn’t been a lot of changes in temperature. The oceans have been more static. That could give them less practice, if you will, with how to deal with temperature extremes in hotter directions, so they don’t know how to cope with it because they have no history with it.”

McCauley notes his team’s findings do not necessarily indicate that terrestrial animals are much better off than marine ones.

“We’re not saying that all attention should be paid to the oceans right now and we’re not saying that life on land is going to be okay. We saw a whole lot of stress for life on land and life in the oceans, but we see this elevated stress and these accelerated local species extinctions in the oceans,” he said.

As for how to aid these vulnerable marine species, McCauley urges taking measures to help grow their populations, such as limiting fishing activity or creating protected areas. Larger populations have more genetic variability, which increases the probability of biologically inventing a solution for global warming.

“Climate change management is a bit like a triage exercise: The first thing you want to do – and the first thing that should be taken away from this – is that if there is so much more vulnerability in places as important as the ocean, we probably need to redouble our efforts to figure out how to take this vulnerability away, how to deal with global warming.”

While acknowledging that these are big challenges, McCauley says that having this understanding that these species are living precariously close to the upper bounds of their thermal thresholds, especially if they are profitable seafood species important for food, may “inspire global leaders that are already thinking of meeting these commitments to the Paris Agreement [which aims to have the global temperature rise for this century remain below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial era levels] and ... give them more incentive and more motivation to stick with those commitments.”

Beyond looking to mitigate the effects of global warming, the study’s results could help marine scientists like McCauley in trying to find solutions to relieve some of the stress marine animals face.

Species like salmon or tuna encounter many stressors that are more immediate, including overfishing or a lack of protected areas or plastic pollution, in addition to the ongoing thermal stressor.

“In some ways we can think of these cases – like a cod – like individuals that are admitted to a hospital where you have some chronic stress like cancer that is going to kill them, but then there are a lot of things like flu that is really making them sick here and now. If you can deal with some of the things that are making them sick in the here and now, maybe that gives them more energy and more capability to be resilient to deal with this longer-term stress,” McCauley said.

“Knowing that the ocean life is more vulnerable helps us take away from the stressors that we can actually manage tomorrow or today, but [it also helps us] not forget we have to deal with the cancer, we have to deal with the global warming. That’s really important to do that, and to do that quickly because of this hypervulnerability that we see.”

McCauley is next focusing on the finding about local species extinctions being twice as high in the ocean and to better quantify what loss of these species means to humans.

“It’s sort of obvious that if you lose a species in the ocean, you lose biodiversity and there may be other consequences, but it’s not as intuitively as clear what that means for the economics and health of people that depend on these species,” he said.

With his collaborators, McCauley is working to understand the implications of loss of species for populations who depend on those species, particularly in terms of food and nutrition.

“We’re trying to understand how important are those species to human nutrition so that when we see a species go missing in the ocean, we know exactly what that means for human health, which maybe gets people more motivated to care about some of those numbers and for us to know what those numbers of local species extinction loss would mean.”

## African Social Spiders Demonstrate How Group Dynamics Influence Success of Individual Colonies

Sean Crommelin  
Staff Writer

In Southern Africa, as one walks through sparse woodland, they may come across white sheets – reminiscent of translucent tablecloths – set atop brambles or foliage and left to dangle. Spiders here have evolved to bunch together in colonies, building these intricate webs which they use to ensnare unsuspecting prey together as a collective.

Jonathan Pruitt, a UCSB associate professor with the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Marine Biology, has spent the better part of eight years studying African social spiders (*Stegodyphus dumicola*) in Namibia and the Drakensberg, and his latest work with them has shed light on the various ways in which the success of a colony can be affected by its behavioral tendencies.

“Most recently I did research regarding what traits enable the success of societies and whether or not that the optimal strategy of a society might change based on what the other societies around you are doing,” Pruitt said.

African social spiders are the perfect test subjects because the researchers could establish experimental colonies in a site which would then reliably stick to the location where it was placed.

“What social spiders do in the wild is they basically create a multifemale colony that they use to intercept prey, like a shared trap together in their web. They basically are filter feeders and they wait for prey to come by,” Pruitt said.

“Social spiders are a special case where basically, all these little spiders are trapped on a ship – their colony – and if the ship goes down, they’re screwed.”

Pruitt and his team created experimental groups of colonies which they compared with one another. On a given tree in the field, they would place together five colonies composed of 10 spiders, each of which had different temperaments and levels of aggression.

“In some of those patches I had colonies that were all aggressive, all docile, and then I had varying ratios of docile to aggressive groups. I monitored their performance. How much food did they get? How many offspring did they produce? Et cetera, et cetera, for the next five months in the wild,” Pruitt said.

The researchers defined aggressive and docile

behavior according to levels of activity which individuals exhibited within a colony and then the activity of the colony as a whole.

“Aggressive societies produce massive filters to skim prey out of the sky, and they’re very responsive to prey when it hits the web. Docile societies produce relatively small filters and aren’t as responsive to prey, such that when prey hits the web only one or two spiders will come out, versus an aggressive society, where when prey intercepts the web maybe 20 individuals will come out,” Pruitt said.

The presence of two dispositions begs the question, which one leads to greater success? According to Pruitt’s findings, the answer depends.

“I created a generalized linear model to answer how does the performance of a society change depending on whether it’s aggressive or docile, and does that relationship change based on who’s around it, so [that includes] the frequency of an aggressive colony strategy in that neighborhood,” Pruitt said.

The study, published in the journal *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, found that the success of a given community was contingent on the behavioral tendencies of the surrounding communities, coupled with the availability of resources. More abundant resources in the environment made for more successful aggressive colonies.

“If there are lots of resources that can be exploited, then it’s advantageous to be an aggressive society; you’re able to capture more food, you’re able to exploit lots of resources and you’re able to produce lots of offspring,” Pruitt said.

However, the density of aggressive societies in a given experimental group would affect the success of a group of colonies as a whole. Aggressive colonies performed best when they didn’t have to cohabit with other aggressive colonies.

“When aggressive societies become more abundant, they end up depleting those resources ... Under those circumstances aggressive societies can’t exploit resources and are burning all this energy basically waiting for resources which are never going to arrive.”

During these periods of scarcity, docile societies would end up winning out over ones who put in more effort to find resources – resources which no longer were present in the volumes which are necessary to support colonies with a high energy expenditure.



Courtesy of Jonathan Pruitt

Pruitt’s study looked at the performance of African social spider societies depending on their levels of aggressiveness or docility.

“At that point, it tends to be docile societies which can live off of less. So docile societies might not be so good at exploiting resources when they’re around, but they’re able to live off of basically nothing,” Pruitt said.

Pruitt now works at McMaster University in Canada but maintains a soft appointment at UCSB. Students working in his lab at McMaster are conducting research with other animals, including

wasps, acorn ants and – tentatively – damselfish.

“It’s still ongoing, and we’re looking to see whether or not this is an anomaly of one particular study. We want to see if the findings are robust, but in principle, it stands to reason that what your society should do, in terms of optimal strategy, will depend on what your rivals and neighbors are doing, with virtually any species,” Pruitt said.



# OPINION

## How Defensive Architecture Hurts I.V.'s Houseless Population



Andrea Dager  
Staff Writer

Steps covered in spikes, corners of buildings blocked up, benches armed with dividers and appendages, if not removed altogether. These things are easy to miss if you're a tourist, a student or anyone just casually passing through the city. For a large number of people, though, these seemingly minute architectural choices hinder their ability to live out their day-to-day lives – and send the message that certain individuals are not worthy of occupying particular spaces.

Dubbed “defensive” or “hostile” architecture, these design choices “exclude, harm or otherwise hinder the freedom of a human being” and often “aim to remove a certain section of a community from a public space,” as described by [hostile.design.org](#). Targeted demographics often include the houseless, the mentally ill, the “transient” or anyone seen as not fitting into the surrounding population.

This shameful practice has come to my attention many times since moving to Santa Barbara, and it is particularly blatant on State Street, where there is a high concentration of houseless people.

Throughout the Santa Barbara area I had already witnessed many of the usual methods used to make sitting or resting either uncomfortable or impossible, but here in I.V. the city department took these measures one step further. Last month, they removed a large stone bench



ALEX GARCIA / DAILY NEXUS

following reports that it was being “monopolized” by particular individuals. While this may or may not count as defensive architecture and was ostensibly removed for the well-being of the community, the insidiousness of this action is hard to ignore.

The decision to remove the bench draws attention to the allotment (and restriction) of public space, as well as the enforced invisibility of certain demographics. If a supposed “monopoly” of the bench prompted its removal, then who is the bench being monopolized by? Are only students or the socioeconomically advantaged permitted to take up space? When is an area simply being used consistently, and when is it being “monopolized?”

In other words: Who gets to take up public space and why?

Surely it is no coincidence that the same people who frequently sit there are older men and women who also occasionally ask for a spare dollar and often make use of curbs and outdoor public spaces in I.V.

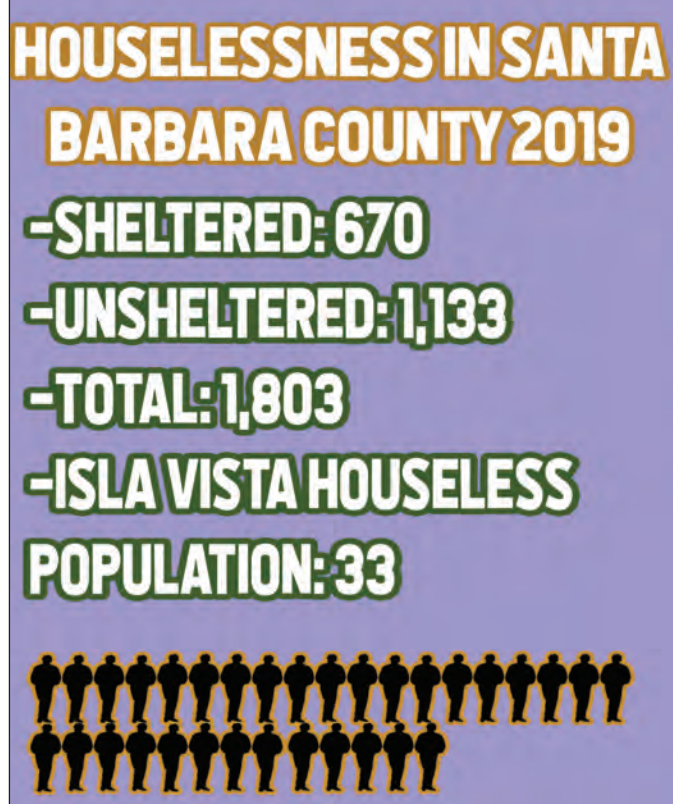
For years, the houseless population has comprised a substantial part of the Isla Vista community. A 2017 account from the Central Coast Collaborative on Homeless (C3H) found that I.V.'s houseless population consists of 26 locals. The Nexus reported that this figure matches the overall trend in recent years, indicating a decrease in houseless individuals living in I.V. It's important to keep in mind that multiple houseless people either doubted this figure, or refuted it altogether, claiming the number to be far too low. Regardless, it is clear to anyone living in Isla Vista that there is an established community of adults who are houseless or facing severe economic and housing insecurity. This is not surprising considering Isla Vista's staggering \$416,700 median property value coupled with a poverty rate of 65.5%. Regardless, it is these individuals who are targeted as well as most affected by actions such as the removal of communal seating areas.

It might be easy to dismiss the removal of the Flintstone bench as an exceptional decision, but its place in the larger pattern of depriving the houseless of basic dignities cannot be ignored. Actions such as the removal of the bench reflect the larger trend of dividing communities (most evidently by class) while simultaneously removing spaces for people who very well may need them the most.

It should be noted that the bench will not be totally gone: The *Daily Nexus* reported the I.V.RPD plans to “reconstruct [the bench] into two, probably three separate smaller benches.” Breaking down the communal seating into multiple smaller benches means that the seating areas will be smaller, therefore prohibiting people from sitting or resting for long periods of time. It is no surprise then that the people most negatively affected by defensive architecture in Isla Vista are those who are most socially and economically vulnerable.

Covering the ground with spikes or placing a divider on a bench doesn't improve the life circumstances of the people who use those spaces; it only deprives them of a space to exist. Cities have been and continue to be hard at work – not to provide more resources for these communities, but rather to transform socioeconomic barriers into physical ones. One might be tempted to dismiss the removal of the bench and other aspects of defensive architecture, as it is easy to dismiss things that don't affect ourselves personally. Still, this phenomenon reflects the disturbing notion that people don't want to help other people. People don't care if others have nowhere else to gather, sit, sleep or even use the bathroom. They just don't want to see them.

While the removal of the Flintstone bench is indicative of larger negative trends, this does not discount the good that has been done in recent years in the Santa Barbara



ALEX GARCIA / DAILY NEXUS

and Isla Vista communities. For example, cities such as Santa Barbara are allotting increased funds to aid the houseless population, although problems still arise with how this money is being allocated. Oftentimes, money is spent “dealing with” houselessness, instead of solving issues or helping houseless people. As reported by the Santa Barbara Independent, \$5 million are spent annually addressing the ‘practical’ repercussions of houselessness, as opposed to the \$1 million used to actually remedy the issue itself. This proportion should be flipped: Rather than spending vast amounts of money on after effects such as cleanup, camp sweep-outs and service calls, these resources and time should be aimed at more reparative efforts, like increasing available housing and support programs.

Although the city of Santa Barbara continuously prioritizes the ‘established’ community more than that of the houseless, Isla Vista has made hopeful steps in a more productive and more compassionate direction. A positive local development occurred in 2014 with the construction of Isla Vista houseless shelter, the Pescadero Lofts. Since opening, the lofts have remained at full capacity, and the number of people living on the streets of I.V. decreased 44% from the previous year.

Although hostile urban design is something I noticed in the past, it took seeing the Flintstone bench demolished and carried off for me to sit down and write this article. I hope those who are, like me, privileged enough to ignore these realities take a step back and notice the ways the public landscape influences real lives. I urge cities to take the more compassionate, humane approach and to stop prioritizing the needs of the city over the needs of the person. As the general public we may not have control over the way our cities are planned, covered and designed. At the same time, we can refute with our own voices the insidious tactics of defensive architecture, increased policing or even the simple removal of a bench and demand that public spaces remain public.

*Andrea Dager wants cities to do better.*

## Don't Let First-Year FOMO Bring You Down

Paige Holloway  
Staff Writer

The upcoming weekend is said to be the best of the entire quarter, and all your friends have already talked about what time they'll be leaving, what they'll be wearing and where they'll be going. There's only one issue: You can't go.

Instead, you spend the weekend constantly scrolling through Snapchat and Instagram for updates on everything your friends are doing. Your feed is flooded with pictures and videos of everyone having the best time ever – that is, the best time without you. These are the all too familiar feelings of FOMO, short for “fear of missing out,” a cycle that many college students find themselves stuck in.

There will always be certain events or moments that we have to miss out on. Whether it's the result of being swamped with schoolwork, going out of town, coming down with a fever or maybe just not being in the mood to tag along, FOMO makes skipping a social situation all the more miserable. Along with the alleged blows to one's social life, the constant worrying associated with FOMO can be harmful to one's self-perception.

When adjusting to college life, one of the most common culprits of FOMO is party culture. Partying can sometimes be presented as the best possible way to make friends and get out of your shell quickly. Everyone longs for the sense of security that comes from having a group of friends once they get to college. For this reason, FOMO can easily sway someone who was initially on the fence about going out if they are under the impression that everyone else may be going. No one wants to be the one person who chose to stay at home and missed the opportunity to meet new people. Whether or not drinking is a part of your college experience, there is undeniably an expectation that you will “go out” if you want to improve your social life.

Personally, I can admit that I don't always see the appeal in drowning myself in alcohol or dragging myself out of my sweats into something form-fitting. Nevertheless, I can definitely look back on this school year and remember nights when I forced myself to go out because I was afraid of appearing lame and losing potential friends. It can be hard not to get wrapped up in the fact that social life in college seems intertwined with party culture. It's easy to fall into the habit of associating social activity with how much you go out.

Instances of FOMO that may be even more detrimental to self-esteem involve casual hang-outs with friends. Knowing

that you won't be able to go when your friends ask you to get lunch or coffee always comes with self-deprecating concerns. It can be easy to believe that whatever interaction you're missing out on will be significant. I used to be anxious to leave town for a weekend out of fear that I would return to find myself out of the loop with my circle of friends.

FOMO causes us to believe that in our absence others will become closer and we will be forgotten about. In returning to your friends after missing a small event, it can be hard not to feel like you're on the outs. Even an inside joke that you aren't involved in or a reference to something you missed can make you feel like missing one instance



ALEX GARCIA / DAILY NEXUS

changes everything in your friendships. Isolating feelings like these not only make you worry incessantly, but they also strike a blow to your confidence in social situations going forward.

As frustrating as the FOMO effect may be, this year I have come to realize that these feelings of self-doubt and anxiety are almost always misleading. That one party you missed was most likely not nearly as fun as social media made it look and probably resembled any other night you have experienced in the past. You may have missed a few minor occurrences here and there, but the night most likely followed your typical format consisting of a poorly lit party

packed with sweaty college kids and ear-shattering music. On the other hand, if your friends are truly your friends, then missing an opportunity to hang out in order to hibernate in the library or go home to see your family will not change your relationships. Trust me, if it does, then they were never real friends to begin with.

The only effective method I have found to combat the unhealthy impact of FOMO on self-esteem is to know your personal values and trust the people you surround yourself with. It is important to define your personal priorities and come to accept that it is OK if they override your social lives at times. In reality, college comes with

four solid years to make memories and enjoy one's social life. Although missing little moments here and there may seem catastrophic in the moment, there are always more opportunities down the road. I suggest taking the time to take care of yourself, know when school needs to come first and commit to your pressing obligations, without putting so much stress on what will seemingly improve your social life. If the main drive behind every decision you make is the fear of missing out, you are only harming yourself in the long run.

*Paige Holloway addresses the constant anxieties associated with FOMO in college life.*

# HOROSCOPES

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

You will get stuck in the library elevator with the TA from that physics class you failed.

TAURUS

APRIL 20 - MAY 20

During Dead Week, the UCen bird will poop on your hand, prompting you to avoid Jamba Juice for the rest of the quarter.

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUNE 20

You will miss golden hour by precisely one minute while attempting to take grad photos.

CANCER

JUNE 21 - JULY 22

The sexual tension between you and your TA will fizzle out when you catch them at Cajé ordering a non-nut milk latte.

LEO

JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

The summer sun is coming, so your days of shining the brightest are setting. Savor them while they last.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

During move-out, you will find the shirt you've been missing since Fall Quarter in your roommate's closet.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

Stop wasting time stressing over which classes to sign up for. You'll fail them either way.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

You will go wild. You will get an MIP.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

If you see your TA downtown on a Thursday night, you should definitely *not* fight the urge to dap him up and let him know that you're absolutely hammered right now.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

The recession is coming, but you're the only one who knows. Protect your pennies. They'll be worth millions soon.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

You'll resist buying a sheet cake at Costco ... but you won't be happy about it.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

It's never too late to get your life back on track — except in your case, since the pass/no pass deadline has already passed.