‘Lament’ Artwork To Stay in Library Until 2017

The art installation, which is made up of over 2,000 book covers, was created by Nancy Gifford and originally housed at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Kiana Triana
Reporter

The new art installation titled “Lament” is the first artwork to be featured in the UCSB Library for a year from January 2016 until January 2017, composed of over 2,000 book covers to serve as a tribute to the declining use of physical books.

“Lament” is a 10-by-32 foot art installation located on the first floor of the new addition to the UCSB Library. The art piece was formally presented at the library grand opening ceremony and was complemented by a song composed by Christina McCarthy, UCSB’s professor of modern dance, and a dance choreographed by Heena Yoon, a UCSB graduate student.

Rebecca Metzger, assistant university librarian for outreach and academic collaboration, said when she first observed Nancy Gifford’s “Lament” at the Museum of Contemporary Art in downtown Santa Barbara, she thought it would be “perfect” to display in the newly opened library for the year.

“Usually we actually don’t keep our artwork up for a whole year, but with ‘Lament’ we really wanted to sort of have it be this signature piece that was there for our entire grand opening year,” Metzger said.

Metzger said the space “Lament” currently occupies will be transformed into other art installations from various artists after this year.

“‘Lament’ is perfect for this space because it references books, and we are surrounded by books,” Metzger said. “It’s also perfect for us to have a piece as a signature piece that lasts a whole year. We’re calling that space the Mountain Gallery, and we’re open to receiving exhibition proposals from students, from faculty, from curators, from artists who want to show their work in that space,” Metzger said.

Nancy Gifford, “Lament” artist, said she enjoyed the dance and music piece performed at the library grand opening ceremony to complement her work.

“When a piece of art inspires other forms of art,” Gifford said. “They performed the whole thing in front of the piece at the opening, and that was really beautiful.”

Anastasia McCammon, a third-year dance and art history major, said she performed at the ceremony and enjoyed how the dance was different from others she has participated in because it incorporated speaking and improvisation.

“We were all enthralled,” McCammon said. “We seriously spent most of the rehearsal just deciphering and remarking at the tiny little details, amusing placements and hidden messages of the collage of books, pages, images and words.”

Esteemed Professor Teaches Popular Seminar

Josh Ortiz
Senior Staff Writer

Mathematics 266HH: Analytic Number Theory is likely one of the most overcrowded courses at UC Santa Barbara this quarter.

The graduate seminar meets in a small classroom in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building and is intended for a maximum of 25 students. Yet, even as the university heads into its third week of the Winter Quarter, there are not enough chairs in the room for all of the fascinated students.

While Analytic Number Theory may not be what attracts these students, the professor, Dr. Yitang Zhang, does.

“He’s probably, at this point, one of the most famous mathematicians in the world,” Jeffrey Stopple, UCSB mathematics professor, told the Nexus when Zhang was hired in September. “I think there might be only maybe two or three others alive that have his level of celebrity.”

Zhang gained fame amongst mathematicians in 2013 after submitting a proof to the Annals of Mathematics, establishing the first finite bound on gaps between twin prime numbers and thus solving the Twin Prime Conjecture, a 150-year-old math problem. At the time, he was working as a part-time calculus teacher at the University of New Hampshire and gained instant recognition, winning a MacArthur Award in 2014, and

Yitang Zhang
Cameron Carpenter is not your grandmother’s organist. A controversial figure in the music world, Carpenter bucks tradition with a varied and virtuosic repertoire that spans across genres, encompassing Wagner, J. S. Bach, pop music and international film scores. His rock star persona – reflected head to toe by his jet black mohawk, Swarovski crystal encrusted suit tails and bejeweled shoes – is second only to his stunning musicianship. Do not miss this enthralling young artist in his Santa Barbara debut as he dazzles audiences on the International Touring Organ, an elaborate instrument built to his own design that represents a seismic shift in the organ world, and Carpenter’s “unlikely quest to turn one of the world’s most niche instruments into a mainstream sensation” (The Verge).

**Visionary organ player Cameron Carpenter**

*Tue., Feb. 9, at 7:00 p.m. at The Granada Theatre*

Renowned for its tremendous athleticism and theatrical flair, the remarkable Japanese taiko drumming ensemble Yamato returns to Santa Barbara for a spectacular, high-energy performance of its new program, Bakyou: Legend of the Heartbeat. Inspired by the sound of the heartbeat in every one of us – continuous from birth to death, pulsing quiet and strong – Yamato weaves this beat into its story. Each beat from the taiko drums represents who we are. It is a life’s history of sweat and tears and the endless memories recorded in the sound of every heartbeat, all on display “in a show of unbridled enthusiasm, much humor and great musical variety” (The Scotsman).

**Yamato, The Drummers of Japan in two performances, Sun. Jan. 31 at UCSB Campbell Hall**

Renowned choreographer Lin Hwai-min, “the most important choreographer in Asia” (Berliner Morgenpost), created the visually stunning Rice in reverence of the land that has nurtured “Asia’s leading contemporary dance theatre” (The Times, U.K.).

**Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan performing Rice, a multimedia work of human drama and the story of a revered land**

*Tue., Feb. 2, at 8:00 p.m. at The Granada Theatre*

**Itzhak Perlman, violin Emanuel Ax, piano**

Thu., Jan 21

*7:00 PM*

*The Granada Theatre*

Undeniably one of the most beloved violinists in the world, Itzhak Perlman enjoys superstar status rarely afforded a classical musician. Recognized for his charm and humanity as well as his talent, he is a Kennedy Center Honoree treasured by audiences who respond not only to his remarkable artistry, but also to his irreplaceable joy for making music.

**Salman Khan Education Reimagined**

Sun, Jan 24

*3:00 PM*

*The Granada Theatre*

A nonprofit educational organization with the mission of providing free, high-quality education to “anyone, anywhere” in the world, Khan Academy was founded by Salman Khan, a former hedge fund analyst with degrees from MIT and Harvard. Khan is also the author of The One World School House, which explores the potential impact of the web as a teaching tool.

**THE WEATHER**

**The Weatherhuman is now sick for the fourth week in a row. A simple cough has morphed into a cold/cough I-am-made-of-mucus combo and ze is so over it. To make matters worse, the cough syrup ze was prescribed did not have any codeine in it so ze cannot even use it as sleep.**

**Tomorrow’s Forecast:** *The Weatherhuman downs alcohol in hopes of killing all the germs.*
The UC Board of Regents discussed 2015 figures for both freshman and transfer undergraduate applications, focusing specifically on the implications of this increase for the University's goal of admitting 5,000 more California residents for the 2016-17 academic year.

UC undergraduate applications increased for the 12th consecutive year in 2015 by over 6.4 percent. Freshman applications from Chicano/Latino students rose 7.5 percent, applications from African-American students rose 5.1 percent and each campus saw some level of increase, with UC Merced seeing the highest level of growth. The total number of students that applied to UC in 2015 for fall 2016 start is approximately 260,000.

UC Executive Vice President and Provost Aimée Dorr said last year’s increase in applications is “good news,” because it will help UC reach its goal of enrolling 5,000 more in-state students.

“The total number of freshman and transfer application that UC receives is the first step toward fulfilling the University’s goal of increased enrollment of California residents,” Dorr said. “Without sufficient demand on the part of the applicants who would be ‘16-17 transfers, the 5,000 goal would be impossible to meet.”

UC Vice President Judy Sakaki said the interest indicated by 2015 application numbers is “extraordinary.”

“Keep in mind that each of these 200,000 applicants apply to, on average, four campuses. That’s over 700,000 separate applications,” Sakaki said.

Regarding transfer applications, Stephen Handel, UC associate vice president for undergraduate admissions, said transfer students enrolled in UC come from a disproportionately low number of community colleges. According to Handel, UC broadened its range last year, but there is still a high concentration of enrollees from certain community colleges.

“It’s not anywhere near what the President wants,” Handel said. “A good half of our community college enrollees came from about 20 community colleges around the state.”

Regent John Pérez said he was skeptical about the relationship between overall application numbers and the potential for meeting the University’s goal of enrolling 5,000 more in-state students, especially because UC saw a net decrease in in-state enrollment despite net increase in overall applications and enrollments last year.

“An increase in applications in and of itself does not speak to my concern on how we get the 5,000 growth in in-state students without digging down and looking at the pattern of what portion of the in-state applicants were first, UC-eligible, discounting the number appropriately and then figuring out what the base of UC-eligible was at each campus to see what to outside possibility of growth was,” Perez said.

Regent Bonnie Reiss expressed concern over the “minimal progress” UC has made in enrolling minority students, despite overall growth in enrollment.

“We passionately believe that there are many underrepresented minorities that could do well at UC if admitted,” Reiss said.

Regent Fred Ruiz said although UC campuses might be “bursting at the seams” following increased enrollment, the University should continue to seek ways to accommo-
EVPSA ‘Principles’ Draft Calls for Student Input

The Office of the A.S. External Vice President of Statewide Affairs is calling upon the student body to submit their definitions of hate speech by Jan. 30

Neil Yanga
Staff Reporter

The Office of the A.S. External Vice President of Statewide Affairs (EVPSA) is now asking for feedback from UCSB students on the content of UC Board of Regents’ first “Principles Against Intolerance,” which is currently being developed by a working group within the Board.

The Principles Against Intolerance is a statement first drafted by the working group July 2015 stating what it considers to be “intolerable” acts, including acts of discrimination and racism. The Office of the EVPSA asks students to share what they consider to be hate speech and to share their experiences with acts of hate via welisten@sa.ucsb.edu by Jan. 30.

Mohsin Mirza, EVPSA and fourth-year black studies and sociology double major, said the Principles Against Intolerance aim to address all types of hate students might face on campus.

Mohsin Mirza, EVPSA and fourth-year black studies and sociology double major, said the Principles Against Intolerance aim to address all types of hate students might face on campus.

“The goal of the statement against intolerance is to better understand the kind of challenges students are facing, not only in regards to anti-Semitism,” Mirza said, “but also in regards to anti-black, homophobia, racism and hate, which is unfortunately much more prevalent than people realize on the UC campuses.”

Mirza said he encourages students to submit feedback in order to “take advantage of that opportunity” to communicate their experiences to the Regents.

“I really want to encourage students who are affected by this issue and who are passionate about it to take the time to fill out their feelings and send it in to the email address provided, because it’s not often that the UC Regents takes this much student input in the crafting of policy,” Mirza said.

According to Aaron Jones, Graduate Student Association president, the Board will use feedback they receive to identify the main issues students face that should be addressed in the Principles Against Intolerance.

“[The Board] will use the information by looking at the issues and challenges to address in the statement,” Jones said. “How to phrase the statement in a way that respects freedom of speech but also...”

PRINCIPLES p.8

Students who wish to join the conversation about hate speech should submit their ideas to welisten@sa.ucsb.edu by Jan. 30 to be considered in the Principles.
Students, Senate Discuss Free Speech Issues

Supriya Yelimeli
University News Editor
Chris Perez
Reporters

The Associated Students (A.S.) Senate met Wednesday in the Flying A room to discuss the resignation of two senators, discuss internal matters and host public forum, which included several students calling for First Amendment reform at UCSB.

Jason Garshfield, fourth-year political science major, introduced the issue saying, “This right of free expression is under threat at UCSB.” Garshfield presented an article from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (F.I.R.E.) which gave UCSB a “red light” rating regarding freedom of speech and expression at the University. According to F.I.R.E., a red light university has at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech.

According to Garshfield, UCSB’s recent implementation of a “Bias Response Team” poses a threat to students by limiting speech which is labeled as offensive. Garshfield proposed drafting a resolution in support of free speech to respond to F.I.R.E.’s rating and improve student freedoms.

“Free speech is not a point of pride right now. It is a point of shame, and we should all be ashamed...” Garshfield responded to the point saying, “I’m a Jew, but it’s good to know that suddenly I’m a white supremacist.”

Brandon Morse, fourth-year political science major, said the election code of the student senate also contends with true freedom of speech. Morse described the current university policy as “a regulatory framework that violates the constitution.”

“The freedom to speak is clear, it’s not up to interpretation. With that being said, the definition of what’s racist is up to interpretation as well.” Morse said. “I’ve been told that as a straight, white male I can not experience racism, but that does not mean on an individual level, you cannot be disparaged.”

Morse urged the senate to consider Garshfield’s resolution.

“I may not agree with anything or everything that one of you says but I will certainly fight to the death to ensure you have the right to do so,” Morse said.

In response to Morse, Senator Akshaya Natarajan suggested the current university policy exists to aid marginalized groups who may be educationally restricted by microaggressions and offensive speech. UCSB alumna Derek Dimpfl said limiting speech is, in fact, extremely harmful to student growth and education.

“I fear that our culture has chosen to forget in whole, or in part, how fortunate we are to live in a country where we can choose to not be ashamed... and not worry about parking!”

For the full story, see dailynexus.com

Free speech is not a point of pride right now. It is a point of shame, and we should all be ashamed...

- Jason Garshfield

Picture yourself at the Villas next year.

Tropicanas is offering accommodations in our residence hall suites, 2 blocks from UCSB’s main campus. 2 Bedroom/1 bath suites have 5 twin XL beds* and 3 Bedroom/2 bath suites have 9 twin XL beds*; there is a shared living room, but no kitchen. Continental breakfast at our on-site dining hall is included, as are linen packets for each bed, free on-site parking, free WiFi, and use of our amenities (pool, rec room, and cardio room).

Reserve today at www.tropicanastudentliving.com/short-stays/graduation-lodging

Does Your Family Need Lodging for Graduation Weekend?

Stay in a Tropicana Gardens residence hall suite!

If we stay at Trop, we can walk to Graduation.

... and not worry about parking!

Come for a tour and get a FREE T-Shirt!
(805) 968-4319 • www.tropvillas.com

Address: 811 Camino Pescadero • Leasing Office: 6585 El Colegio Road, Goleta, California 93117

Tropicana Villas

Fully Furnished 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Apartments, with Kitchens
Lease By-the-Bed or By the Apartment
Rec Room with Pool Table, Ping Pong, and Big Screen TV
Discounted Meal Plans at Tropicana Gardens and Tropicana Del Norte Cafes

• Access to Nearby Trop Community Amenities: Study Lounges, Movie Theater, Cardio Room, Fitness Center, Hydro-Massage & Tanning Lounge
• On-Site Staff
• Heated Pool
• Easy to meet your neighbors at community events

© 2016 Tropicana Gardens
date more students while maintaining overall quality.

“This is going to create some problems for the faculty, it’s going to create some problems for the students, it’s going to stress our facilities,” Ruiz said. “But I look at this challenge as more of a beginning of a great opportunity, because we have a huge issue out there that we have not really addressed, and that is: How do we serve the number of high school students and transfer students that, in the very near future, are going to be looking for a higher education?”

Regent George Kieffer said UC should consider changing the percentage of students UC admits on a “policy-basis,” which would demand an increase in funding, rather than on an unofficial basis, which further distributes existing funds.

“To say we’re going to increase growth without a recognition of a policy change makes it so much easier to underfund that growth, and I think that’s what’s happening, and I think it is bad policy to sort of dribble this forward without recognizing what we’re doing,” Kieffer said. “I think it would be naive to think this is not something students are not recognizing themselves and therefore choosing to go to other institutions.”

Approval of PDSTs for Six Programs

The Board of Regents voted to approve two requests for increases in Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST), effective for the 2016-17 academic year.

First, the Board approved an eight percent increase for nursing graduate professional programs at UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA and UCSF. Second, the Board approved PDSTs for biomedical and translational science at UC Irvine and public policy at UC San Diego.

PDST is currently charged to students in 64 graduate professional degree programs across UC. Revenue from PDST stays within the professional program and is on top of non-resident supplemental tuition. Both items meet the Regents’ financial aid requirements by supplementing financial aid resources by an amount equivalent to one third of new PDST revenue. The UC Office of the president recommended approval of both items.

Dorr said the total cost of each program requesting PDST would remain below the average cost of similar public and private institutions. However, UC policy is that program costs should be at or below public comparators, and the total cost of nursing programs at the four campuses requesting PDST would exceed that.

“In the approval for nursing, there must also be an approval of the exception to policy,” Dorr said. Student Regent Avi Oved said he would vote against the proposed increase in PDST for nursing programs.

“We won’t be able to support this item, because I’m voting my conscience on this one,” Oved said. “I think last year we increased tuition for nursing programs by 20 percent, and I think that made sense because there were multiple years when we didn’t increase tuition.”

However, Dorr said the increased PDST would bring funding for the four campuses closer to what other graduate professional nursing programs receive.

“The reason that it is still over five percent this year is that, because of this history, they wound up with a very large gap that’s different from most of the other programs,” Dorr said. Regent Charlene Zettel said although she does not vote on the Committee on Finance, she is not in support of the increase.

“These are graduates that are doing the public good. These graduates help patients not only in our hospitals across UC but at hospitals around California,” Zettel said. “They are not compensated at the wages or salaries that are commensurate with the skills and importance. I wish there was some alternate way that we could minimize this increase.”

Board Chair Monica Lozano said although she supports this year’s proposed increase, she is concerned the four nursing programs will continue to request higher PDSTs.

“The action that we’re taking today, while I support it because I understand the need to be able to bring us up to market level, this actually puts us at a variance with the comparator group we identified in our policy,” Lozano said. “If, going forward, they come back to us with regular increases, that variance will continue to grow.”

Along with an increase in the overall number of applications to the University, UC also saw an increase in the number of minority applications from freshman applicants.

“It’s a powder day all day! #getsome
mountainairsports.com
Photo courtesy of Burton

EL NINO HAS ARRIVED
What does that mean for you?
It’s a powder day all day! #getsome

WINTER RENTALS
> Ski & Snowboard
> 2015 Demos
> Full Tune | Wax
> Shopwork

Mammoth
115” BASE

mountainairsports.com
Locally owned and operated for over 35 years
SANTA BARBARA | 14 State Street | 962-0049 | Mon - Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5
Michigan Governor Rick Snyder Apologizes for Flint Water Crisis
Residents of Flint, Michigan are experiencing high levels of lead in their water supply as a result of using water from the Flint River. Officials say that this cheaper option uses pipes that leak lead into the water. Governor Snyder said in a public statement that he is sorry he let down the residents of his city. The Environmental Protection Agency said hours before his statement that the city had not responded to the crisis quickly enough. President Obama met with the mayor of Flint and signed an emergency declaration that will give five million dollars in government assistance to respond to the issue.

International Spotlight

Twenty-two Dead in Attack on Bacha Khan University in Pakistan
Four Taliban militants stormed a university early Wednesday in northwestern Pakistan, killing students and teachers. Security forces managed to corner the attackers and kill them before they could detonate their suicide vests. Syed Hamid Hussain, a chemistry teacher, was praised for bravely fending off the attackers with his pistol until he was killed. The attack took place 20 miles from a school in Peshawar, where 150 others lost their lives to a similar attack in 2014. Since the attacks in Peshawar, teachers in the region are now permitted to carry weapons. Taliban attacks have been at their lowest frequency in a decade as a result of a crackdown on militants.

Austria Says It Will Accept Fewer Asylum Seekers This Year
Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann said the country will accept 37,500 applications per year for the next four years, down from its 90,000 acceptances in the last year. With the migrant crisis causing problems throughout Europe, Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, has called for a European Union summit on migration. Officials worry that this area will collapse if a migration solution isn’t implemented by March. Despite harsh winter weather, over 31,000 migrants have arrived in Europe this year.

Scientists May Have Found a Ninth Planet — Not Pluto
California Institute of Technology professors Dr. Michael E. Brown and Dr. Konstantin Batygin published a paper Wednesday in The Astronomical Journal that provided evidence for a potential planet located beyond Pluto. Pluto was declassified as a planet after it was discovered that it hadn’t cleared its orbit and, without a major gravitational force like other planets, was only a member of the Kuiper belt. Though Sedna, the potential ninth planet, hasn’t been directly observed, its gravitational force has been observed. Brown said the planet will likely be found within the next five years.

More Zika Virus Infections Lead To Concerns Over an Outbreak
Cases of the Zika Virus, a mosquito-borne virus that has been linked to birth defects, have been reported in Texas, Hawaii, Florida and Illinois. Although all of these cases have been related to international travel, there have been rising concerns that it may become a widespread epidemic. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has released a travel warning to many popular South American destinations for American tourists, including Mexico, Brazil and Panama. Since the virus is mosquito-borne, there is virtually no chance of contracting it if one is not bitten by a mosquito. There is no vaccine or treatment for the virus, although a British biotechnology firm is working on one.

The Dow Jones International Average Drops 500 Points Due to Declining Oil Prices
U.S. stock markets saw another sudden drop in oil prices on Wednesday, after a previous reduction in oil prices below $2 and crude oil prices dropping under $27 a barrel. This is a result of rampant sell-offs by investors. Energy companies have suffered the most, with BP’s index dropping nearly four percent and Exxon’s dropping nearly five percent Wednesday. Other international markets also suffered, with Japan’s Nikkei index down 20 percent since June and European benchmarks down three to four points. Experts say that oil production is starting to decline, which will result in oil price stabilization in the near future.

INJURED IN A BIKE OR AUTO ACCIDENT?

Contact Law Office of Anthony Kastenek
for a free consultation
805.962.3311
www.wklawsb.com
Anthony@WkLawSB.com
Saw a fun music-dance-theater piece, as {"primary_language":"en"}Heena Yoon’s music but as ‘Oh I audience throughout their future, not and now, and to be remembered by the dancers and live musicians right here present,” Yoon said. “To be presented to great books and music pieces past and of the musical piece she was working on.

“Fall in love” when she first saw the artwork and sees it as a visual embodiment of the musical piece she was working on. “I wanted the piece to be an homage to great books and music pieces past and present,” Yoon said. “To be presented to great books and music pieces past and of the musical piece she was working on.

I looked through [the comments book] a couple weeks ago and I was really moved by all the comments,” Gifford said. “I was very moved by all the things, even the comments that don’t matter, it’s still a dialogue that’s going on about books, which is what the whole point of it is.”

"I looked through [the comments book] a couple weeks ago and I was really moved by all the comments," Gifford said. "I was very moved by all the things, even the comments that don’t matter, it’s still a dialogue that’s going on about books, which is what the whole point of it is."

Gifford said she appreciates the unexpected positive responses to her work she received in person and in her comments book despite the work being a “requiem” for books.

"I looked through [the comments book] a couple weeks ago and I was really moved by all the comments," Gifford said. "I was very moved by all the things, even the comments that don’t matter, it’s still a dialogue that’s going on about books, which is what the whole point of it is."
Sluggish First Half Drowns Gauchos at Home

Michael Jorgenson
Sports Editor

Entering conference play two weeks ago, the UCSB men’s basketball team’s confidence was the highest it had been all season. The Gauchos were kicking off the new year having won four straight as they slowly clawed their way back to .500. After last night’s 77-67 loss to Long Beach State — the Gauchos’ second consecutive home defeat and third loss in their opening four Big West games — UCSB looks like a team in need of answers, as opposed to the cohesive unit it appeared to be less than three weeks ago.

“The problem defensively was we could just not put together stops,” Head Coach Bob Williams said. “The fact that we came out and were so lethargic that first half, it’s just too deep a hole when you can’t get stops.”

The Gauchos now stand at 7-10 overall and 1-4 in the Big West. The 49ers cemented their current third-place position at 9-11 overall, 3-2 Big West.

“It was a rough game for us. Quite frankly we just didn’t come ready to play,” senior guard Michael Bryson said. “It’s kind of frustrating. I don’t know how many times we have to take a loss for us to respond.”

In recent outings, UCSB has been at its worst late in the second half; especially in last Saturday’s 61-52 loss to UC Irvine when the it went scoreless for us to respond.”

The Gauchos now stand at 3-2 at home. The 49ers will head out to UC Irvine and face the Gauchos in their home opener. The Gauchos are coming off a 77-67 loss to Long Beach State last night, scoring 44 points in the second half, scoring 44 points and never reaching higher than 15 for the game, but every time momentum looked to be swinging toward UCSB, the Beach had an answer.

“In the first half we came out a little slow, sluggish, lethargic, just not really energized and ready to play,” senior forward John Green said. “In the second half we were starting to click a little bit but it’s tough to get out of a hole when a team is making shots.”

Long Beach guard Justin Bibbins was there to kill the Gauchos’ runs all night, going 5-5 on three-pointers for a game-high 25 points. The conference’s leading scorer finished with an efficient 10-16 shooting night, including 3-6 on threes, before fouling out late in the game.

After trailing for nearly the entire game, a late comeback gave the Gauchos hope that they could salvage a win despite a lethargic first half performance. Five straight points from Green cut the lead to 69-61 with 4:55 remaining. Just 92 seconds later, a left-handed lay-in by Bryson cut it to 71-65, bringing UCSB closer than it had been since the 81-2 mark of the first half.

From there, it was the 5’8” Bibbins who finished off Santa Barbara once and for all, scooping in a dagger layup with 2:11 remaining to give the 49ers a 10-point lead on their way to the 77-67 win.

Long Beach shot 50 percent for the night, taking advantage of poor UCSB defense by scoring relatively easy open shots off of down screens and dribble penetration. The Gauchos shot 42.1 percent as a team for the game, but were a much different team in the second half, scoring 64 points on the road. The redshirt senior middle blocker returned from injury last week after missing three games with an ankle injury, tallying five kills in the Gauchos win at UCSD and eight in the Irvine match, and was vocal about how he is recovering from missing time.

“I’ve come back with the urgency to play because I want to be on the court and I want to be a leader,” Hardy said. “I’m a fifth year senior, so I want to take advantage of all of my time out there.”

The leadership that Hardy brings to the team will be invaluable as the Gauchos continue their road trip on Friday against Cal Baptist, UCSB’s fourth-straight road game.

“Their place is another really tough place to play,” McLaughlin said. “They play in a really small gym and get it going with their crowd, so it’s a different challenge.”

Van Dyne Gym, home of the Lancers, seats just over 1,000 and is known for a r asious cheering section, but UCSB won’t be easily fazed. In its last trip to Cal Baptist, Santa Barbara handily won the match 3-0. UCSB also won its home match with the Lancers in straight sets.

A pair of wins this week would keep McLaughlin’s squad in prime position for an MPSF title challenge, keeping it on pace with Irvine and just a game back of the three-team tie for first — No. 1 UCLA, No. 2 Long Beach State and No. 12 CSUN.

The Gauchos will play in back-to-back road matches this week. UCSB will face UCSC at the Gaeden Center on tonight at 7 p.m. Following, it will play Cal Baptist on Friday, Jan. 22 in Van Dyne Gym at 7 p.m.
Brady-Manning: The Final Chapter

Jorge Mercado
Staff Writer

On Nov. 29, 2015, NFL fans were deprived of watching one of the greatest rivalries in all of sports—Tom Brady vs. Peyton Manning. Instead, fans were subjected to watching Brock Osweiler and Brady go head-to-head, a matchup that did not possess the same thrill as the shared history of two future hall of famers.

With Manning's injuries and deteriorating performance on the field, it seemed as though we would never get to see the rivalry again. However, fate had a different plan.

Thanks to the Broncos' dominating defense and the return of Patriot players from various injuries, both teams managed to win their respective divisions, with New England winning the AFC East and Denver winning the AFC West. As a result, this Sunday we will see Manning and Brady face-off for the 17th time in the Mile High Stadium, a place where it is never easy to win. Also, every time the two quarterbacks have met in the AFC championship—four times to be exact—the road quarterback has never won.

While the Broncos' receiving core was known and compared to great rivalries of the past such as Alli/Frazier, Celtics/Lakers etc. No matter the outcome, there is no way the 17th match of history between the two future hall of famers will be remembered for years to come. It has become known and compared to great rivalries of the past such as Alli/Frazier, Celtics/Lakers etc.

What more could an NFL fan ask for? We get to see two of the greatest quarterbacks in NFL history go at it with the highest of all stakes. There's so much history between them and the constant debate of who is better, the guy with more rings—Tom Brady—or the guy with the better numbers—Peyton Manning.

Mike Shanahan always said that this game should be the final run of an illustrious career for his counterpart. Manning is in his 18th season and is currently having the worst season of his career by far.

The Denver quarterback has thrown for 2,201 yards and nine touchdowns, both career lows, and his 17 interceptions are the most he has thrown since 2010. His total QBR is also a new career low by a bigger storyline: the fact that this could possibly be the last time we ever see these two play against one another.

While Tom Brady still looks like he can play another five years, it doesn't look like it will be the final run of an illustrious career for his counterpart. Manning is in his 18th season and is currently having the worst season of his career by far.

Manning looks as though he has not aged one bit. His history between the two future hall of famers. In the team’s divisional round matchup versus the Pittsburgh Steelers, the 39-year-old quarterback completed 21-37 pass attempts, threw for 222 passing yards and had no touchdowns or interceptions. It was just the second game this season in which Manning started and did not throw an interception.

While the Broncos' receiving core was accredited with seven drops in the game, it was evident that Manning did not pertain the same arm strength he once had that allowed him to take over games.

In fact, it seems as though Peyton has become the ultimate game manager. On their go-ahead touchdown drive in the fourth quarter, the Broncos threw the ball just three times in their thirteen-play drive. Moreover, Manning finished with only three pass plays that went for more than 15 yards on Sunday.

On the other side of the spectrum, Brady looks as though he has not aged one bit. His history with 129 goals.

Sinead Leon
Staff Writer

The No. 13 UCSB women's water polo team will start off its 2016 season hosting its annual UCSC Winter Invitational. After an overall record of 14-16 in 2015, the Gauchos were ranked No. 14 in the U.S. Water Polo pre-season poll for the second consecutive year, but managed to move up a spot in the standings.

Participating in the invitational are also 11 other top-25 nationally ranked schools, including five national powerhouses No. 2 UCLA and No. 4 Cal.

Last year was full of adjustments as Santa Barbara welcomed new head Coach Serela Merrill Moses as well as US Men’s National Water Polo team captain Tony Azevedo.

After a close 10-9 overtime win over Long Beach State and the Gauchos finished in fifth place at the Big West Conference Tournament last year. In 2016, UCSB will try to improve its 3-4 conference play record with the help of returning players like Mackenzie Brokaw, Murphy and young talent like freshman utility Sarah Kreiser.

Now a senior goalkeeper, Brokaw had an outstanding last year as she finished the season with 129 saves and a career-high of 13 goals against UC Irvine. Her 5.04 goals against average ranks first all-time, as it was a new Big West single-season record.

For Murphy, who scored 34 goals and had 24 assists in 30 games, she also received Honorable Mention-All American recognition by the ACWPC for the second time in three years. She currently ranks fifth in Gauchos history with 129 goals.

Along with its veteran players, it can be expected that UCSB will showcase its young talent throughout the season. Much attention will be provided to the performance of freshman utility Kreiser, who was named First Team All-CIF and earned her third consecutive First Team All-Sea View League award while at Trabuco Hills High School. Kreiser led her high school team with 100 goals and 101 steals her senior year, including a season-high 10 steals in two games. She was named Female Athlete of the Year by her former school, which was based on her athletic and academic achievements.

USC will host Cal to begin its season this Friday at 2:10 p.m. at Campus Pool. The Gauchos are set to face Cal Baptist and UCLA in a doubleheader on Saturday, facing the Lancers first at 12:30 p.m. then the Bruins at 6 p.m. at the Rec Cen. Santa Barbara will close out its weekend with two final matches versus No. 21 UC San Diego at 12:10 p.m. and No. 20 Wagner at 4:20 p.m.
The dancing continued and Echo called on members of the audience to participate in the Diva Games. The Diva Games consisted of people in the crowd jumping on stage and dancing to their hearts’ content. Once the music stopped, Echo picked the top three contestants and the audience who won that round of the games. This portion of the show was energizing and got the crowd involved and engaged. Everyone enjoyed cheering on their friends as they danced to Nicki Minaj and Willow Smith, and they were especially jealous of the prizes the dancers won.

The night went on and more performers, including Miss Thing and Azara Sapphire, captured the hearts of the crowd. These girls really knew what they were doing and impressed everyone. Some performance highlights include a sensual rendition of "Taylor the Latte Boy," performed by Willow Switch, and Beyoncé’s "Love On Top," performed by Vivian Storm. These numbers, along with all performances shown on Thursday night, we’re so uplifting, artistic and simply joyous.

I spoke with Michelle Mirkovic after the show, who stated that, “The experience was so much fun — the show and performers were really entertaining,” and I would have to agree. Being transported into a world where, to quote Echo, "Gender is whatever," is an amazing experience that allows everyone to be comfortable in their own skin. Drag offers everything, from fashion and makeup to art and choreography. Anyone can find themselves at a drag show, no matter what their passion is; it really has something for everybody. Even if you think drag may not be your thing, I would recommend going just for the experience or to support the wonderful Queer Student Union. Because if I learned anything from this experience, it was that drag is magical and good for the soul.

Drag gives people a place to have fun and be themselves; it’s an amazing opportunity to immerse yourself into fashion and art or to just go out, have a good time and some laughs. So thank you, drag, for doing what you do and being who you are — I’ll be back. And these queens will be back — Echo herself stated, “UCSB is always my favorite crowd.” And thank you to the QSU for putting on events like this.
Monterey Jazz Visits Campbell Hall

Allie Graydon
Staff Writer

The air was still and brimming with excited anticipation in Campbell Hall on Thursday night. A group of five men stood onstage with their silent instruments, illuminated by an outline of red light. Quietness and darkness permeated the theater. Then all at once the silence was shattered by a burst of vibrant music as the ensemble began to play, kicking off a night of jazz, fun and incredible talent.

The versatile performers were welcomed by UCSB Arts and Lectures as members of the Monterey Jazz Festival on tour. The festival itself has showcased renowned jazz musicians since 1958 and the tour continues to share the magic of jazz music and the talent of the ensemble members. At their Thursday performance, they delighted the audience with a variety of musical styles and moods, all instruments blending effortlessly together while still remaining distinct.

Gerald Clayton tied the ensemble together as the musical director and with his stunning and stylized piano. His steady, pounding chords provided a backbone for every song and solo, adding an extra punch to the rhythm. The centerpiece of his performance, however, was his masterfully fast finger work during his solos. His hands jumped from key to key with incredible dexterity, reaching the highest and lowest notes within seconds. His entire body moved with him across the piano as he played, creating sweeping and gliding sounds as he moved up or down the notes.

No jazz ensemble is complete without a captivating rhythm, and the MJF tour had Joe Sanders on bass and Gregory Hutchinson on drums to thank for that. Sanders shone during the opening and closing numbers with his fast plucking and rapid note changes. He plucked strings with ease, almost embracing his upright bass as it moved with him to the beat. Hutchinson’s pounding kick drum gave intense energy to every number, with plenty of the symbol flourishes characteristic of jazz music. Together, their collective beat created a full, rich sound that resonated deep within the chest and throughout the theater.

Nicholas Peyton’s trumpet took center stage with its bright sound and spontaneous note changes. During “Round Midnight,” Peyton began with low, whispery tones, creating a quiet atmosphere of mystery. Without warning, a long, high blow from the trumpet pierced through the mellow stillness, the clear tone filling the theater in dramatic contrast to the other, quieter instruments. Peyton enthralled the audience with his incredible, long, drawn-out notes that built to thrilling crescendos and his rapid riffs that added a fun personality to each number.

Ravi Coltrane’s alluringly smooth saxophone provides a perfect compliment and contrast to Peyton’s trumpet. Coltrane’s solos began with long, lingering notes, allowing the sound of the instrument to grow and create a mellow atmosphere. He followed long notes with short bursts of sound and unexpected combinations of low and high tones to create a jazzy, improvised sound. During the second number, his harmony with Peyton’s trumpet was clear and smooth, giving the number a relaxed feel.

With a rich, smooth voice and lightning fast guitar playing, Raul Midón had the audience roaring with applause after every number. During his solo songs, his ability to sing while playing the guitar and the bongos at the same time gave the illusion that there were three performers onstage rather than just one. At the beginning of “Sunshine, I Can Fly,” his vocals perfectly mimicked the sound of a trumpet while harmonizing effortlessly with his rapid guitar picking. The various elements of his performance worked together, his voice rising with his guitar and his lyrics settling into the rhythm he was creating on his own.

The Monterey Jazz Festival tour was a showcase of classic jazz styles and dedicated performers. Each member of the ensemble added a key element of sound to the overall atmosphere of each song. In their solos, however, they each demonstrated a unique improvisational style and various techniques to change the mood from mellow to thrilling. Jazz is a music that focuses on the coming together of individual talent in organized chaos, and nowhere was that melding of music so perfectly arranged than the MJF tour.
Tips To Keep Your New Year’s Resolution

Matt Garnica  
Staff Writer

Losing weight and living a healthier lifestyle are usually the most popular resolutions of the new year, but in many cases, people only hold on to them for a week or two; we have made it to that point in the year. While many things may get in the way of continuing the new year’s goals, there are ways in which you can still enjoy life in conjunction with sticking to your resolution. Supplementing certain foods and habits can help achieve healthy intentions while still satisfying cravings.

Brown Rice
Supplementing brown rice for white rice is an excellent way to enjoy a meal in a healthier way. Brown rice contains more fiber and can promote weight loss if eaten in place of white rice. Its nutty flavor and chewy consistency also gives brown rice a natural taste. While brown rice is a healthier option over white rice, it is still not a good idea to eat a mass amount of it, as its calories can add up quickly.

Water
Supplementing water for sodas, juices and alcoholic beverages can make a big impact in your diet. Sodas and juices contain an extremely large amount of excess sugar. Coca-Cola, for instance, contains 10.6 grams of sugar per 100 ml of liquid. This goes with juice, too, as excess sugar is put into “fruit juices” for taste. For those who participate in drinking alcohol, make sure to check what you are actually putting into your body. A shot of Kirkland brand vodka contains almost 70 calories with no nutritional value. Overall, water is what keeps your body hydrated, awake and can furthermore lead to weight loss.

Veggies, Veggies, Veggies
Vegetables are extremely important for maintaining a healthy diet. We’ve all grown up being told to eat our vegetables and stray away from being picky, and there is a reason for that. Vegetables tend to be low in caloric value and high in fiber. They are essential for vitamins and minerals and can reduce risk of disease and high blood pressure. With an incredible variety of vegetables, you are bound to enjoy eating veggies with different colors, textures and tastes. Leafy greens, roots and seeds are some categories from which you can enjoy your meal. Supplementing foods high in carbohydrates and fats with nutritious vegetables can help you achieve any resolution dealing with health and diet.

Stress
College can be tough, and we all have different ways to cope with stress. Some of these ways unfortunately hurt our bodies and goals of a healthy lifestyle. With midterms and finals coming before we know it, it is important to acknowledge how we individually cope with stress. Supplementing bad habits with healthier ones can help students stick to their resolutions and do better in school. Exercise, getting proper amount of sleep and consuming well balanced meals are all proven ways to reduce stress levels. UCSB also offers a tremendous amount of resources for helping students with stress. Eating right and getting proper exercise can help with stress and keeping resolutions.

Whether your resolution is to lose weight, stay healthy or get fit, it is important to do everything in moderation and be kind to your body. Cutting out excess and nutritionally lacking foods for healthy ones is just the first step to living a healthier and happier life.

On the Menu

Banana Bread Bites

Krystal Leong  
Reporter

New and Improved Banana Bread Bites
At the beginning of every new year, many people make the popular resolution to lead healthier lifestyles, starting with their diets. To help those of you making this resolution, here is a recipe that can help make it easier. It is a healthier take on a classically unhealthy recipe: banana bread. It alters and adds some different ingredients typical to banana bread to improve it in a healthy way. In place of regular flour, use wheat flour, use coconut oil in place of regular oil and add nuts. This change in typical ingredients will provide you with vital nutrients and fiber with the same delicious taste of regular banana bread. It won’t seem like such a chore to eat healthy with this recipe, so feel free to go bananas for this classic treat with a healthy twist.

Ingredients:
- Cooking spray
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed
- ½ cup agave syrup or maple syrup
- ¼ cup Greek yogurt
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup walnuts, chopped

Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. Lightly coat a doughnut pan with cooking spray. (If you don’t have a doughnut pan, you can use a muffin pan, bundt pan or any other regular baking pan.)
3. Whisk together flour, baking soda and salt.
4. In a separate bowl, whisk together coconut oil, bananas, syrup, yogurt, egg and vanilla.
5. Combine wet and dry mixtures and stir together.
6. Pour batter into pan and top with walnut pieces by lightly pressing them into the batter.
7. Bake for about 14 to 16 minutes or until golden brown. Enjoy.

Recipe courtesy of Greatist.com
Saved by the Bell

**Natalie Overton**

**Reporter**

Declines in mountain yellow-legged frog (Rana muscosa and Rana sierrae) populations were first recognized in the 1970s. Since then, according to National Park Service, the population size has decreased 92%, and 2013 they were listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Mountain yellow-legged frogs thrive in the lakes, rivers and streams of the Sierra Nevada.

Roland Knapp, biologist at UCSB's Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab, began studying mountain yellow-legged frogs in 1995 when the decline in population size had increased rapidly. Knapp referenced Joseph Grinnell, former professor at UC Berkeley, and one of those who noticed and studied the mountain yellow-legged frog decline far before its mainstream recognition.

"They're really the poster child for a number of decades now of the whole amphibian decline situation," Knapp said.

According to Knapp, a fungus named chytridiomycosis, or B.D. for short, has been taking its toll on these especially sensitive frogs. Chytrid fungus was discovered in 1998, though it's been around for much longer than that. Symptoms vary with the species, but the typical signs include reddening and excessive shedding of the skin. Some species, however, aren't bothered at all. Knapp referenced American bullfrogs, who live side-by-side with the mountain yellow-legged frogs, but who don't seem to have an issue with B.D. They contract it, but they aren't affected by it, unlike their more sensitive (and arguably much cuter) neighbors.

"We know that there are certain aquatic amphibians that live in habitats that seem relatively ideal for B.D. that don't in fact succumb to the disease. They just don't have the pre-adaptation to deal with this pathogen that other frogs might have," Roland said.

Carlos Haslam, a frog specialist at the Berkeley Vivarium, described how weather conditions may affect fungus populations, in turn affecting frog populations.

"The general notion is that, with the shifting weather patterns in the Sierras where we haven't had a snowpack in years, you're starting to see a grand shift in the overall environment. Not just in ground temperatures but also in soil humidity, so things like fungi which were dormant are now starting to come to the surface," Haslam said.

Haslam explained that while this population is indeed suffering, it's not solely because of the fungus.

"Yellow legs aren't any more susceptible than any other frogs, but their population is already in decline, so I think it's more documented," Haslam said.

Haslam emphasized the importance of non-native species like kingfishers, crows and red-eared slider turtles, which play a major role in the frog's decline. The continued release of these invasive species exaggerates the drop in numbers for these frogs.

"In traditional Chinese culture, there are certain New Year's rituals where you write a prayer or a wish on the back of a turtle and release it," Haslam said.

In areas where the population shows no signs of recovery, researchers working with the San Francisco, San Diego, Los Angeles and Oakland zoos are doing their best to cure the frogs by airlifting infected populations, bathing them in antifungal drugs. Once they are no longer infectious, fungus-ridden frogs are first cleared of the infection, having been treated. They refer to this as "head-starting" the animals. The treatment is expensive and time intensive, but in these places where we're really seeing a severe risk of losing these frog populations, it's no surprise that we're trying to do this," Haslam said.

On the bright side, amphibians are incredibly adaptable and once, according to National Park Service, the population size has decreased 92%, and 2013 they were listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Mountain yellow-legged frogs thrive in the lakes, rivers and streams of the Sierra Nevada.

"It's a multidisciplinary project that involves five institutions. We all are converging on a site in the Sargasso Sea," Carlson said. "Basically what we're trying to do is better understand the role that microbial organisms have on controlling the large scale of geochemical nutrient cycles, specifically carbon."

The new collaborative project is an extension of a previous project called the Microbial Observatory that was funded by the National Science Foundation. The anonymous funders have allowed the researchers to now increase and expand those initial efforts of study. The new project will find its home in the Sargasso Sea where the Bermuda Atlantic Time Series (B.A.T.S.) is currently stationed. The U.S.-run program is constantly collecting geography about the area, making it a huge advantage for Carlson and his team.

"That string of information now provides a rich context for interpretation of our data. We go there because of the supporting data and the background is worked out, we understand the system to some level and it allows us to do more focused experiments and place that in a larger context," Carlson said.

The researchers involved with the collaboration will be doing a variety of studies during the five-year funding timeline.

"There's a whole variety of scales of questions, from 'Who are the microbes and what are they doing?' to 'How do they plug into the larger picture of oceanography and environment? On the other hand, we're really focused on is the movement of carbon in the ocean and understanding how biology plays a role in the movement of that carbon," Carlson said.

As climate change takes center stage on a global scale, the study of this microbiology can help clue scientists into how the ocean plays a role.

"There is a large pool of dissolved organic carbon, which is about the same magnitude as the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere. So small changes in the production or consumption of that dissolved organic matter can affect the exchange of carbon between the atmosphere and the ocean, and microbes control that," Carlson said.

Microbes include a diverse array of microorganisms from algae to bacteria to fungi. They make up more than 98 percent of the ocean's biomass and are able to survive in a large variety of environments. In addition to playing an important role in carbon cycles, they are heavily involved with nitrogen, phosphorous and sulfur cycles. Other studies have found that the materials that some microbial groups can even affect reflectivity of marine clouds. Their overwhelming presence and vital role in various oceanic processes make them a key organism to study.

"The ocean plays a role as a sink. What we're trying to better understand is the role that microbes play in controlling that process," Carlson said.

In addition to providing the researchers with more opportunities to do that, the funding has also fostered an ideal program for collaboration.

"Bringing in expertise for a sustained period of time really allows us to focus on a whole variety of questions on different scales," Carlson said. "It provides us flexibility, opportunities and a very synergistic group that can really contribute to moving advances in microbial oceanography."
HELP WANTED

Entry Level Accountant
A leading CPA firm in downtown Santa Barbara is seeking a full-time entry level accountant on a CPA track with knowledge of QuickBooks. Accounting degree required, prior public accounting experience or internships a plus. Please submit cover letter and resume to kjensen@mcgowan.com

Tax Season Intern
Leading Santa Barbara CPA firm currently hiring intern(s) to provide support during upcoming tax season, approximately 20-25 hours per week. Must be an Accounting major on CPA track and a Junior or Senior. Please submit cover letter, resume, and winter class schedule to kjensen@mcgowan.com

DAILY HOROSCOPE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Discover something new about yourself today. Record any dream you remember. Indulge fantasies and speculations. Imagine yourself in different roles than what's predictable. You can instigate a change for the better. Achieve a new opportunity. There may be a test involved. Keep your eye on the ball. Practice makes perfect. Avoid a false start... measure twice before cutting.

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

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

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

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

As I sit in my bed wondering how I’m going to find the time to go to class, go to work, do homework, exercise, eat, maintain social interaction and let alone pee, I hear Queen’s “Under Pressure” play on a continuous loop in my mind. There it is. That familiar burden that every college student faces: pressure. It can be relentless and consuming, refusing to lighten up. When facing this pressure, you can either run from it or face it head on. While the first option seems the easiest, it is also the least rewarding and beneficial. When confronted with stress, we are forced to partake in self-reflection and evaluation. We find out what our limits are, and then push them.

If we do not have a healthy way to cope with stress, we begin to feel overwhelmed, and may turn to other unhealthy coping mechanisms that will harm much more than they will help. Rather than turning to negative distractions, training and taking control of one’s mind helps to eliminate the stress disrupting our everyday lives. This comes from the practice of meditation. To put it simply, meditation is an act of reflection that allows for someone to find stillness and higher consciousness. While the concept seems rather simple, the actual process can be slightly more complex. However, along with experience, there are techniques you can follow to assist you on your path to meditation.

First and foremost, it is important to analyze and identify what it is that you are feeling and what the source of that feeling is. If the feeling is anxiety, then you must reflect on what is happening in your life that is causing you to feel anxious. If the answer is overwhelming schoolwork and responsibility, then you can focus on calming yourself so that you may find ways to manage and organize this stress. After you have discovered what it is that has brought you to meditation, you should settle yourself and find your ideal setting. I have found that it is easiest to reach relaxation when surrounded by beauty. Lucky for us, we attend one of the most beautiful schools in the nation. On one side, you’ve got the mountains, providing a sense of majesty and stability. On the other side, you have the ocean. Pristine, mysterious and powerful, meditating by the ocean can be a surreal and magical experience. Or, if you prefer a sense of majesty and stability, you can follow to assist you in finding stillness and higher consciousness. While this exercise may feel redundant, it helps to quiet the mind in a less forced manner. As the breath becomes deeper and more intensified, you will notice that it is also less frequent, requiring less effort on your part. While breathing may appear to require little to no attention due to the fact that it is necessary for our survival, focusing on your breathing can help ease your mind into a more serene and relaxed state. As you unwind into a comfortable posture, observe your breath. Notice the pace, consistency and length of each inhale and each exhale. After you’ve spent some time on the actual flow of the air, switch your attention to your body. Notice the movement of your chest and abdomen as it rises and falls with each exchange. Feel the sensation as the air passes through your nostrils and settles into your being. While this exercise may feel redundant, it helps to quiet the mind in a less forced manner. As the breath becomes deeper and more intensified, you will notice that it is also less frequent, requiring less effort on your part.

Meditation provides relief in many different aspects of human life, but it can be especially helpful in times of stress. College is hard … there’s definitely no getting around that. However, it is also supposed to be some of the best years of our lives. While stress is just a part of the deal, meditation can help us to work through and manage that stress in order to have a more enjoyable and positive college experience.

Allie Lebos hopes reading this Opinion article allowed you to find your breath and unwind for a change.

Views expressed on the Opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Nexus or UCSB. Opinions are submitted primarily by students.