300 Dorms To Become Triples

In an effort to increase housing options for students, UCSB will be converting 300 dorm rooms into triples in fall 2016.

UCSB will create 300 more triple dormitories this fall by converting existing rooms in eight of its residence halls. Over 98 percent of current freshmen live in residence halls, and the university hopes to make more housing available for all students as part of an initiative authored by the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) in January.

This year, all continuing students were able to apply for residency in Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel and San Nicholas halls, which have traditionally housed freshmen students. The five residence halls, along with Manzanita Village and Santa Catalina Hall will be increasing the amount of triple rooms for the next academic year.

According to the UCSB residence hall contract for the upcoming academic year, Santa Catalina Hall will convert the highest number of rooms, beginning fall 2016 with 975 students living in triples. Santa Catalina Hall currently has 157 triple spaces, according to Mario Muñoz, associate director of Resident Placement & Assignment Services.

UCOP’s housing initiative aims to introduce 14,000 new beds across all UC campuses by 2020 and approximately 3,800 spaces have been created since January. “The UC has housed over 34,000 students in the past year,” Bergstrom said, “Given the size and scope of this initiative, there is no one-size-fits-all model.”

Nivi Lakshminarayanan, incoming first-year pre-psychology and brain sciences major, selected her first choices for housing as Santa Cruz and Anacapa Hall.

“I think it’ll definitely be different, since right now I just live in my own room at my house, I always imagined...”

UC Looks To Increase Athlete Graduation

The University of California Board of Regents will vote Thursday on Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom’s 14-point plan to increase student-athlete graduation rates across the University of California.

UC Santa Barbara attained a student-athlete graduation success rate of 82 percent in the 2014-2015 school year, according to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) website. The graduation success rate takes into account student-athletes who leave UCSB in good standing or graduate elsewhere.

UCSB already has many of the policies called for in Newsom’s proposal, which would require that athletes who sustain career-ending injuries be able to retain their scholarships until graduation.

The plan would also prevent coaches from having the authority to deny or admit student-athletes and limit practice time to no more than 20 hours a week. Additionally, administrations on UC campuses would have increased involvement in athletic departments and student-athletes would be required to meet with academic counselors regularly if the plan passes.

Bill Mahoney, UCSB associate athletics director of communications, said each team decides if student-athletes keep their scholarships after sustaining career-ending injuries. He said the UCSB athletics department does not currently mandate this decision for all teams.

The plan also said UCSB coaches have no say in admissions decisions for student-athletes. Freshman student-athletes are required to meet with academic counselors and each team requires its student-athletes to attend study halls on...
The Weatherhuman would like to define the verb "to gnar." For example, this weekend, the Weatherhuman will be gnarring at TogaPalooza.

Tomorrow's Forecast: The Weatherhuman will not be gnarring at Extravaganza, just enduring it in all its pathetic bandlessness.

Melodic, sweet and tough as nails, listening to Maria Del Pilar is like hearing the soundtrack of a quinoa-era for a riot girl. Hailed by CNN Español as "one of the most important voices in the Latin alternative music scene in the U.S.,” Maria Del Pilar is a sophisticated Chiliean-American solo artist who has garnered acclaim from aficionados as eclectic as her work. She was the one-time voice of America’s DIY/bilingual youth movement, and last year her song “Miss Funeral” was featured on NPR during Alt Latino’s “Undeniable Strength of a Great Song,” episode. Her single "IllegalEnEstilo,” was named by the OC Weekly as one of the decade's top ten songs about illegal immigration and was included on a list of notable immigration songs by PRI's The World.
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UCSB Alum To Host New Animal Planet Show

Maura Fox
Asst. News Editor

UCSB alum Forrest Galante is set to host a new show on Animal Planet to travel the world looking for proof of living animals that have recently been declared extinct.

The new show will follow Galante, 2009 biology graduate from the College of Creative Studies, as he uses “highly advanced, scientifically sound biological processes” to search for reportedly extinct animals. During the premiere, which will air at 9 p.m. on May 31, Galante will attempt to find the Tasmanian tiger that was hunted to death around 80 years ago.

“My goal is to challenge that determination of extinction,” Galante said. “My goal is to really challenge that and go to these places where these animals have been declared extinct... Then I could prove it wrong and could actually protect the very last of the species.” The Animal Planet host, who grew up in Southern Africa before moving to the U.S., said his childhood abroad helped him develop a “passion and desire for nature [that] really [came] from within.”

After gaining experience as a contestant on “Naked and Afraid,” where Galante scored the highest in the show’s history, he found that he could use his degree in biology and passion for wildlife to not only survive the show, but also create a career.

“Throughout that time, I was so busy having fun that I was actually out practicing biology,” Galante said. “Part of that was finding oysters to eat, catching lobster with spears and doing primitive survival, which I highly enjoy.” According to Galante, his excitement for wildlife stemmed from a genuine interest in how humans can interact with nature and animals to survive.

“That was through my passion of nature: not a passion of hunting and killing, but rather a passion of understanding animals and understanding botany and knowing how to locate those things to help me survive,” Galante said.

Galante said his time at the university allowed him to receive the education he needed in order to pursue biology as well as adventure.

“I’ve always been very adventurous,” Galante said. “But the thing that UCSB gave me over anything else... was the academic qualifications and abilities... to be in this position I’m currently in. Otherwise I would have just been some wild bushman.”

Oftentimes during his undergraduate experience, Galante said he felt a “bit lost” and unsure of how his degree would benefit him after graduation, a concern of many college students today. Galante hopes students understand that while achieving life goals might often feel tedious, getting an education will be a vital part of succeeding.

“I knew I loved wildlife and I knew I loved animals and I knew I loved biology... [and] there were times of stress and feeling [like] ‘Why the hell am I doing this?’” Galante said. “But... in the long run, you need that credential, you need that experience and you need that information if you’re going to pursue your dream.”

“Just realize you have to go through those steps... to be considered an expert in any field,” Galante said. “And if you want to pursue your dream, you have to become an expert.”

The thing that UCSB gave me over anything else... was the academic qualifications and abilities... to be in the position I’m currently in.

- Forrest Galante

Margaret T. Getman & William J. Villa Service to Students Awards

In honor of the former UCSB Dean of Student Residents, Margaret T. Getman, and the former Director of Admissions, William J. Villa, these annual awards recognize university staff, faculty, and departments that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the general growth and development of students and the quality of student life.

Please celebrate with the nominees and recipients, who will be honored with a reception on Wednesday, June 1, 9 a.m., at the Student Affairs Divisional Meeting in Corwin Pavilion.

Getman Award Nominees are:

Melissa Barthelemy
History Department

Brian Harwell
Theater & Dance

Maritza Mejia-Wilson
Orientation Programs

Mark Orlando
Exercise & Sports Studies

Laura Crownover
Chemical Engineering

Mary Jacob
Enrollment & Student Academic Support Services

Marcus McMullen
Recreation

Bruce Tiffney
College of Creative Studies

Robert Hamm
Graduate Division

Lily Maestas
Career Services

Mike Miller
Financial Aid & Scholarships

Carly Yartz
Music Department

Villa Award Nominees are:

Office of Undergraduate Education, College of Letters & Science
Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

The awards and reception are co-sponsored by Housing & Residential Services and the Division of Student Affairs.
‘Very Hard’ Water Poses Aesthetic, Economic Threat

Goleta’s water was rated “very hard” based on hardness standards set by the EPA

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Water hardness standards are a secondary standard with no upper limit set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Secondary standards are not enforced by the EPA but are provided as a guideline for water districts.

Environmental studies professor Helene Gardner said secondary standards are set for cosmetic purposes and include contaminants that make water look, taste or smell bad; however, the contaminants listed under secondary standards are not health risks.

"[Water hardness] is a natural phenomenon, but it’s not bad for health, it’s just bad for other things … It’s primarily an aesthetic and economic problem.

-Hugo Loaiciga

Goleta’s water is “very hard” due to large quantities of minerals found in the groundwater, according to the Water Quality Association’s water hardness standards. Water hardness standards are a secondary standard with no upper limit set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Secondary standards are not enforced by the EPA but are provided as a guideline for water districts.

Environmental studies professor Helene Gardner said secondary standards are set for cosmetic purposes and include contaminants that make water look, taste or smell bad; however, the contaminants listed under secondary standards are not health risks.

"[Water hardness] is a natural phenomenon, but it’s not bad for health, it’s just bad for other things,” Hugo Loaiciga, professor of geography and former water commissioner for the City of Santa Barbara, said. "It causes a lot of precipitates in plumbing systems. It’s primarily an aesthetic and economic problem.”

Dry skin and hair, chalky mineral deposits and scale build-up in pipes and faucets can result from hard water, according to the Water Quality Association. Often, more soap and detergents are needed to wash clothes in hard water, as the water has a tendency to stiffen clothing.

Water that contains 10.5 mineral grains per gallon is considered to be “very hard.” In the 2015 Goleta water quality report, Goleta’s surface water’s hardness averaged 19.7 grains per gallon, while the groundwater averaged 29.7 grains per gallon. According to the report, the water also contains ions such as bicarbonate, sulfate, chloride, manganese, iron, potassium and sodium.

Loaiciga attributes Goleta’s hard water to the local geology. "The types of rocks and minerals, when they are in contact with water — and some of those minerals include calcium and magnesium — they become part of the water and then eventually come to us,” Loaiciga said.

Loaiciga said most of the residential water in Goleta comes from the Santa Ynez river, notably Lake Cachuma, but Goleta uses “quite a bit of groundwater, and groundwater is quite hard.”

California’s drought is also contributing to Goleta’s hard water, according to Gardner. She said that the drought concentrates the sediment in Lake Cachuma because, as the water level goes down, the amount of sediment remains the same. Eventually, that highly concentrated water is brought to residential Goleta. “With the drought going on, you don’t expect great water,” Gardner said.

In her environmental chemistry class, Gardner asked her students to compare the water from their hometowns to the water in Isla Vista. She said that most of the students dislike the water in Isla Vista, responding notably to the bad taste caused by the hardness.

“The kids from Huntington Beach, they have great water; the kids from the Bay Area, they have great water,” Gardner said. “You don’t appreciate the water [from home] until it goes away.”

UC D.R.E.A.M. Loan Support Program Receives Extension

The UC’s support program will receive a three-year extension and an increase in funds.

University of California President Janet Napolitano announced Wednesday a three-year extension to the UC’s support program for undocumented students. With this extension, $8.4 million will be put toward the initiative for each of the next three years, totaling $25.5 million. This figure is an increase from the previous budget of $5 million per year for undocumented student support.

The $8.4 million will be divided among three programs that are all part of the University’s Undocumented Students Initiative, which Napolitano began within weeks of assuming the presidency in fall 2013, according to a press release from her office.

The bulk of the money — $5 million — will fund UC’s D.R.E.A.M. Loan Program, which makes student loans available to undocumented students, who are not eligible for federal financial aid.

The repaid loans fund organizations designed to aid undocumented students, such as UC Santa Barbara’s Undocumented Student Services and Dream Scholars.

The additional money will fund miscellaneous financial aid programs ($2.5 million a year), and UC legal services will receive the remaining $900,000 for the next three years.

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Thanks in part to the mild climate and unique habitats it offers, UCSB’s campus boasts around one-third of all bird species documented in the state of California.

Tom Turner, associate professor of ecology, evolution and marine biology at UCSB and an avid birder, recently pointed his telescope toward the ocean at Coal Oil Point and saw a “river of birds,” counting over 10,000 Pacific loons in 20 minutes.

The loons were migrating to Canada and Alaska to breed for the summer along the Pacific flyway, a migratory route that stretches from Alaska to Patagonia in South America. Migratory birds travel some or all of this distance twice a year, in search of either suitable breeding areas or more food and hospitable climates.

There are also many species of birds that live on UC Santa Barbara’s campus year-round due to the mild climate, such as mallards in the pool near Storke Tower, mockingbirds on the University Center lawn and American crows at the library.

“Given the habitats we have here, no other major university campus in North America has as many bird species as UCSB,” said Steve Rothstein, research professor of ecology, evolution and marine biology. “If people are going to go birdwatching in Santa Barbara County, they will go out of their way to go to Campus Lagoon and Devereaux Slough.”

Graduate student Devyn Orr teaches a vertebrate zoology laboratory, a class that takes students birdwatching throughout campus and Goleta. According to Orr, 495 of the 600 species of birds documented in California have been seen in Santa Barbara County, and 209 of them can be seen on campus.

“That’s a third of all species documented in the state!” Orr said in an email. “Considering how small our campus...
National News

Mohan Saxena
Staff Writer

North Carolina Sues Justice Department

North Carolina's Governor Pat McCrory and other state officials announced Monday they are suing the Justice Department in response to its demand that the state stop the implementation of House Bill 2 (HB 2), also called the "Bathroom Bill." HB 2 would require that people use the sex listed on their birth certificate to determine which bathroom to use. The Justice Department, citing the 1964 Civil Rights Act, said that HB 2 is a violation of civil rights and threatened litigation and the curtailing of federal funding to the state if the bill wasn't denounced. Proponents of the law say it is necessary to prevent molestation by people misusing civil rights protections to enter a bathroom that does not correspond to their biological sex. In response to this claim, Loretta Lynch, United States attorney general, said no instance of that sort of abuse has been found. cnn.com

Bison Named First National Mammal

President Obama signed a bipartisan bill Monday that made the bison the official national mammal. The animal will join the bald eagle as a national symbol and an icon of long-lasting preservation efforts in the U.S. that have kept the animal from being driven to extinction. However, the law does not change how people can interact with the animal. It is still legal for Native Americans to hunt, ranchers to ranch, zoos to keep and for anyone to eat bison. Bisons were almost driven to extinction in the early 1800s in an effort to drive away Native Americans, who used the animal as a primary food source. It became illegal to kill bison in 1894, and later, Theodore Roosevelt led an effort to rehabilitate them. washingtonpost.com

Planned Parenthood Shooter Found Incompetent

Robert L. Dear Jr., the shooter in the November Planned Parenthood shootings and self-proclaimed "warrior for the babies," was found to be incompetent Wednesday by Judge Gilbert A. Martinez and will be sent to a psychiatric facility for 90 days before another hearing. The ruling was made after Judge Martinez heard testimonies from two psychologists who evaluated Dear. He was found to have wide-ranging delusions that the government had been following and spying on him. nytimes.com

International Spotlight

Italy Approves Same-Sex Civil Unions

The Italian Parliament passed a law Wednesday allowing for same sex couples in Italy to engage in civil unions. Italy is one of the last Western nations to enact the measure, with the delay likely caused by the Roman Catholic Church's influence in the country's politics. Opponents of the law, including the Catholic Church, say they want to protect the traditional family. Proponents of LGBT rights say the law doesn't go far enough since it does not recognize same-sex marriages and does not allow one member of the civil union to legally adopt the biological child of their partner. The "stepchild adoption" provision was in the original law, but was dropped after opposition from center-moderate groups and the church. nytimes.com

Brazian 2016 Summer Olympics Will Go On as Planned Despite Zika Virus

The International Olympic Committee announced Wednesday that it will not move, delay or cancel the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio, Brazil despite urging from many officials, most notably Canadian health professor Amir Attaran. Attaran stated that the influx of visitors into the country for the games could result in a large number of avoidable malformed babies. In a published article in the Harvard Public Health Review, Attaran stated that the games could potentially cause a worldwide global health disaster. However, organizers of the games say they see no need to change their plans for the games. bcc.com

Germany Will Rescind Convictions for Homosexuality

Germany announced Wednesday that it would erase convictions from the records of those prosecuted under a Nazi-era anti-homosexuality law. The law, originally of Nazi origin, was in effect from 1949 and eased off in 1969, but wasn't fully removed until 1994. Only men were convicted since female homosexuality was not criminalized under the law. Since many of those prosecuted under the law went to prison and faced many injustices, German Justice Minister Heiko Maas says the government will put forward legislation that will outline compensation for those affected by it. nytimes.com
is — 1.6 square miles — relative to all 163,696 square miles of California, we host an astounding diversity of species.”

Orr said the bird species on campus include common species like mourning doves, western gulls, crows and mockingbirds, which tend to be comfortable living near people and live on campus all year.

The migrating species can be small and drab, while others are bright and exotic, like western tanagers and blue grosbeaks. Shorebirds like snowy plovers scurry around on the beaches, while birds of prey like ospreys, white-tailed eagles and 41 years and said past students have approached him at birdwatcher gatherings to tell him what a profound impact the course had on them. Rothstein said people are drawn to birdwatching because, like humans, birds sense the world primarily through vision and hearing.

“Unlike most mammals, we don’t have a good olfactory sense,” Rothstein said. “If we were like most mammals, we wouldn’t go birdwatching — we would go mammal sniffing.”

Amanda Orens, third-year zoology major who has taken Rothstein’s class, said she thinks students would benefit from noticing the birds on campus and would understand why their presence at UCSB is so unique.

“It’s when students stop seeing all of the birds on campus as just birds and see how each species is so different that the beauty of their specialization on certain habitats becomes that much more fascinating,” Orens said in an email.

a regular basis.

The athletics department abides by the NCAA rule limiting team practices to a maximum of 20 hours per week, according to Mahoney. Practices can exceed this limit, he said, only when school is not in session.

While he recognized that many UC campuses are currently implementing many of the proposed policies, Newsom said the UC system should “lead the nation in reform” with his 14-point plan.

“A lot of this is already being done, so it’s nice to codify it,” Newsom said.

Gabe Vincent, a guard on UCSB’s basketball team and recent sociology major, said he and other student-athletes struggle to balance school and sports despite many of these policies aimed at upholding athletes’ academic performance.

Vincent said he often worries that he will not graduate in four years, especially since he feels forced by his schedule to take only 12 or 13 units each quarter.

“[I]t’s definitely a worry,” Vincent said. “You’re expected to put the same amount of work and same amount of time into school, but there’s a big block of your day that’s just taken out.”

continued from p.1
Gauchos Take on Reigning Champion in No. 2 Stanford

Sinead Leon
Staff Writer

This year’s Big West Tournament was an unforgettable moment for the No. 7 UCSB women’s polo team.

For the first time in program history, the Gauchos claimed their first ever Big West Tournament title and NCAA Tournament bid.

With an overwhelming feeling of excitement and accomplishment, the team lifted the Big West trophy in front of its home crowd and left its footprint in the record books.

However, there was not much time for relaxing or celebrating. Winning the Big West Tournament was one of the goals that the Gauchos had set for themselves, but it did not mark the end to their journey.

Next on the list: winning it all.

As conference champions, UCSB automatically entered the NCAA Tournament, which will be hosted at UCLA this weekend.

The Gauchos are set to face the No. 2 Stanford Cardinals in the first round as announced in the NCAA Selection Show the following Monday after Santa Barbara’s title victory.

The Cardinals, who ended their regular season with a 21-5 overall record, were the runners-up this year in the MPSF Tournament.

Stanford lost to the top-ranked team in the nation, USC, after a dominating fourth quarter by the Trojans in which they put away five goals, making it difficult for the Cardinals to come back.

After clinching the victory against a powerhouse in Stanford, the Gauchos have shown resilience week after week, having endured just two losses since their loss to Stanford.

Undoubtedly, the greatest advantage that the Gauchos possess is their post-season experience.

Since the commencement of the NCAA Women’s Water Polo Championship back in 2001, Stanford is the only program to make an appearance every single year.

This year, the Cardinals are on the hunt for their fifth national title in the past six seasons and what could be the sixth in program history.

At Santa Barbara, the Gauchos currently reigns as the national champions for the past two consecutive years.

Santa Barbara on the other hand has never been to the “Big Dance” before, but will be guided by the past playing experience of Head Coach Serela Kay.

As a four-season starter at UCLA, Kay won a total of three national championships from 1996-2000.

The NCAA Tournament will take place at the UCLA Spieker Aquatics Center beginning Friday, May 13 through Sunday, May 15. UCSB is set to face Stanford at 1:45 p.m.

The winner of Friday’s match will advance to a Saturday semifinal against the victor of the tournament’s first game between UCLA and either UC San Diego or Whittier.

Those two will meet in one play-in, while the other will pit San Diego State against Wagner (29-9).

The Gauchos will face UCR tonight at 8 p.m. UCSB returns to action in the Thunderdome this Saturday, Feb. 20 versus UC Davis, which is set for a 7 p.m. tip-off time.

UCSB will enter with the momentum of its first Big West title in program history.

UCSB Hopes To Sting Yellow Jackets in First Round

Daniel Moebus-Bowles
Staff Writer

After capping off the dual match season by sweeping the entire Big West Conference and winning its second straight Big West Tournament title, the No. 44 UCSB men’s tennis team is not yet finished.

The Gauchos will be headed to their second-straight NCAA Tournament and are set to face No. 32 Georgia Tech this Friday in Los Angeles.

Third seeded Santa Barbara has been selected to the NCAA Regional that will be hosted by top seeded No. 10 USC.

The Trojans will face fourth seeded UNLV following the matchup between the Gauchos and the second seeded Yellow Jackets.

“USC is a great venue for us,” Head Coach Marty Davis said. “It is a short drive away, we are familiar playing there and they just made some great renovations.”

The Gauchos head into the tournament with a record of 17-6 overall, which is the best win total under Coach Davis.

The team is currently riding an eight-match winning streak dating back to late March.

Georgia Tech will head to Los Angeles with a record of 16-8 after dropping its quarterfinal matchup in the ACC Conference Tournament to No. 3 North Carolina. Playing in the Atlantic Coast Conference, Georgia Tech is accustomed to playing against the premier teams in the nation.

The Yellow Jackets are headed by this year’s ACC Player of the Year sophomore Christopher Eubanks, who is currently ranked as the No. 7 singles player in the nation.

Eubanks comes in with an incredible singles record of 32-6 overall and 19-2 in dual matches, only playing at the No. 1 position on the court.

The sophomore player will be joined by junior Carlos Benito, who plays at the No. 2 spot for the Yellow Jackets and holds a singles ranking of No. 133 in the country.

The two players also pair as a doubles team that is ranked as the No. 37 team in the nation.

In addition, Georgia Tech features the No. 38 duo in the country in the Kay brothers, senior Casey and sophomore Michael.

The Gauchos have been very strong all year in the all important doubles round boasting the No. 78 doubles team.

The nationally ranked pair consists of seniors Nathan Eshmade and Miles Seemann.

Complimenting the set of seniors is a strong freshmen duo in Nicolas Moreno de Alboran and Anders Holm.

The match with Georgia Tech will heavily rely on the doubles point with the singles round bound to be a split decision.

The Yellow Jackets have been dominant at the upper singles courts, whereas the Gauchos have been tremendous on the lower courts.

“We’re not intimidated by any team,” Davis said. “We are a better team this year and we are more than capable of reaching the Sweet 16.”

The match is set to start at 10 a.m. in Los Angeles at David X. Marks Tennis Stadium. Admission is free to all fans.
From Rec Runner to Record Holder

Duncan MacPhee
Staff Writer

At some point in their careers, many athletes face a crossroads where they must figure out whether they will stick with their beloved sport or give it up in pursuit of other interests.

This decision is never an easy one to make, and it can have huge implications for the athlete’s life and even, in rare instances, for the course of the history of the sport.

Such is the case in the story of UCSB economics grad student and star distance runner Victoria Tsolis — better known as Tori — who will be the first to tell you that her journey as a track athlete from freshman year of undergrad to now has “been a roller coaster.”

After coming close to giving up on competition altogether before the season of her junior year in 2014, Tsolis revitalized her track career in the blink of an eye and has now come back just two years later to rewrite the Gauchos’ record books in her favorite event, the 1500m. And she’s not done yet.

Tori came into the UCSB track program five years ago as the fastest recruit of her year with some very impressive credentials out of Presentation High School in San Jose.

She was MVP of her high school squad all four years, and she ran the most competitive time of her Gaucho class at the California state finals her senior year, placing 15th in the 800m with a time of 2:12.82.

When asked why she chose Santa Barbara, she immediately said “beach.” However, while the location of the school is undoubtedly a huge pull for recruits, for her this was just one reason among countless others of why she chose to be a Gaucho.

“It was just a switch, like I belonged here. Everyone seemed really hardworking, and [it seemed like] an everyone’s-there-for-each-other kind of thing,” Tsolis said.

“The day after my recruiting trip, I got home and I called [Head Coach] Pete Dolan and was like, ‘I want in.’

“The star runner earned a scholarship eventually with her performance at state finals, but she still accepted less for the opportunity to study and compete at her dream school.

“I could have gone to a different school and gotten a lot more money, but I just liked it here so much, and it’s paid off,” said Tsolis. “And I feel like I’m a pretty good recruiting investment if you ask me.”

There’s no doubt that Head Coach Pete Dolan would agree on that point now after all the success the two have enjoyed together. But this was not always so clear-cut.

Before Tori even started her first year of school at UCSB, she got off to a rocky start. She came in and got injured in just the first couple weeks of cross country training over the summer before freshman year, forcing her out of cross competition that season.

Then track season came around, and it didn’t go very well. She didn’t PR in the 800, and although she did have a PR in the 1500, she now knows that even that time was nowhere near her potential.

As if her underperformance wasn’t discouraging enough, right before the conference finals Tori suffered a back injury that prevented her from participating in the conference event and set her back for her sophomore year cross season as well.

Unfortunately, the injuries continued as she endured a stress fracture, forcing her out of competition for the entirety of the season.

“This was just a very low point in my running career here … I just didn’t even have to go to practice, and I was making all these new friends, and I wasn’t sure if I wanted to do it anymore,” Tsolis explained.

As Tori started to get healthy again that summer, Dolan was getting frustrated with how things seemed to be turning out.

“I’m thinking she’s just kind of becoming a rec runner. She can run [at this point], but she wasn’t really training, just running,” Dolan said.

Eventually what got Tori back on track, both literally and figuratively, was some much-needed prodding from a friend and teammate who just graduated last year.

“Her teammate Dani Moreno gets the credit,” said Dolan. “Dani Moreno still believed in her and said, ‘If you still want to do this, you’ve got to get after it.'”

Then, right before her junior year track season, Dolan told her with two weeks notice that she needed to do a two-mile time trial to stay on the team. To make things even more difficult, he gave her no target time to hit.

“I said, ‘You’ve just got to impress me, Tori. C’mon, you’ve got good credentials in high school. Just impress me.'

Tori trained as best she could, and with the help of Moreno pacing her at the start, she was able to run 11:06 to impress Dolan and keep her spot on the team.

“That was the point when I was like, ‘OK, I can’t give up,’ ” said Tsolis. “That was when I was like, ‘I’ll do this well, I’m going to stay on the team and keep running, and if I don’t then I’m going to be doing with my running career at UCSB.'”

Since the time trial, Tori has been able to stay relatively healthy for the rest of her career while consistently pushing herself in her training.

She began chipping away at her times as soon as she returned to the track her junior season, working hard to get back into it.

“I wasn’t expecting her to run that fast ‘cause it was her first real season back, (but) it got better and better and, most of the time, I was just shaking my head like, ‘Wow, that’s pretty good.'” Dolan said.

It all goes back to what Dolan said prior to the time trial: “Impress me.” Now, she impresses him all the time.

Tsolis made it to the first round of regionals that junior year. Then in her senior year in 2015, she was able to advance to the second race of the first round.

Nonetheless, Tsolis’s commitment has influenced one of the other two Toris on UCSB’s women’s team: junior decathlete Tori Usgaard, who says she has always looked up to the elder Tori for her mindset and work ethic.

“Every time you see her work out, she’s always pushing herself to be front of the pack. I think that’s the biggest thing: that she proves to everyone else that hard work pays off,” Usgaard said. “[She’s] proof that it takes time, but you have to be all in. That’s what she’s doing, and she has made the most of it.”

Tsolis is happy to focus this much time and energy on her training because of the sacrifices she has made.

“It’s kind of like you get out of it what you put into it, and I spend so many hours practicing. I’m on the bike, I’m on the elliptical, I’m in the pool,” Tsolis said. “All because I can’t run as much as I want to because I get injured easily. So I’m just doing weights and everything to stay healthy and injury-free, and it’s so rewarding now that everything has come together.”

Tori also points to the endless support and understanding of her lifestyle from her family and friends as a huge influence that pushes her and keeps her going. Her dad in particular has been trying to fly down from San Jose to watch all her races this year.

“I feel bad, but he’s like, ‘It makes me really happy to see you race!’” said Tsolis. “I think, ‘I only race for like four minutes!”’

Tori has had an incredible track career for someone who almost faded out of the sport altogether halfway through college.

It only makes it more impressive that she’s now training and competing at her highest level ever at the same time as going through an intensive master’s program in economics.

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Nonetheless, Tsolis’s commitment has influenced one of the other two Toris on UCSB’s women’s team: junior decathlete Tori Usgaard, who says she has always looked up to the elder Tori for her mindset and work ethic.

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Underbelly Makes Waves on Ripple

Max Pasion-Gonzales
Reporter

“Hi, I’m Underbelly, and you suck at producing. With our hand-held slave boxes demanding our constant attention, it can be hard focusing on what really matters: beating off.”

Those prophetic words of wisdom come from UCSB musician Underbelly’s informative YouTube channel, which sarcastically contains videos about making beats of their own. These blunt videos, however, are only a portion of what the young DJ has to offer the future of music. 1,436 SoundCloud followers and counting, and a new EP full of futuristic vibes, the Santa Barbara prodigy is set to take the electronic scene by storm in only a matter of time.

Timmy Linetsky, also known as Underbelly on SoundCloud and Bandcamp, is a UCSB film major from Palo Alto, California. He started producing rudimentary beats on an MPC 500 at age 14 after hearing DJ Shadow’s entirely sampled 1996 cult classic, Endtroducing… Since then he has switched to music via the piano at a very young age. “I started taking classical piano lessons when I was seven. I’ve been playing instruments for a while, and then I picked up the guitar when I was in middle school,” Underbelly shared in an exclusive interview with the Daily Nexus.

Infused with live elements of an electric guitar, piano keyboard and melodic house beats, Underbelly’s sound is immediately presumed to be influenced by the classic rock genre. “Even when I was younger, my older cousin Dustin was in this band called Thrice, which was a punk, hardcore-type band. I idolized him growing up and went to a lot of his gigs, and the producer reminded me of his early musical inspirations. The opening DJs, UCSB’s own Conner McEuen a.k.a. Conrad and East Coast native Chrome Sparks dropped low tempo bass sets, the band was using the ‘Run It’ and Simian Mobile Disco’s ‘I Got This Down.’ At promptly 10:20 p.m., the headliner opened his show with a very own remix of Ellie Goulding’s ‘Burn.’ As one of his early records, ‘Burn’ introduced Gryffin into the mainstream EDM fans after the version was chosen to be included in the song’s official remixes.

“It wasn’t until I got to college that I started to get into dance music and that was when I picked up Ableton [the music software], which was what I still produce in now,” Gryffin explained. “The songs that I remember thinking dance music; what made me fall in love with this was, have you heard that song, Guru Josh Project’s ‘Infinity’? It’s like a serious throw back song now, but I remember looking back listening to that, and being like, ‘what is this music, this is insane;’ it’s sort of what opened my eyes.”

With a series of original stemmed hits such as Banks’ ‘Beggin For Thread,’ Years’ ‘Desire’ and BØRNS ‘Electric Love,’ the Bay Area native accompanied each track with a live instrument of a guitar or keyboard for a fresh, unique sound. Most notably known for working with new artists like those mentioned above, Underbelly is a champion for rising talents. “Something about the up-and-comers, like supporting the music that is on the rise, it’s really exciting to work in that wheel house because it’s like fresh ideas and fresh inspiration — just like being in the mentality and mindset of those types of artists,” Gryffin said. “I’m really inspired by Bob Moses. I got to do a bunch of stuff with them at SXSW and Ultra, which was really cool.”

The highlight of the night was Gryffin's original production with singer Josef Salvat in the record titled, “Heading Home.” As the artist/producer’s first ever single, the track is an uplifting dance anthem that speaks of finding a guiding path in life amidst of the chaos and hardships. The thick and smooth collection, Ripple makes for great study music as well as an ambitious soundtrack for the DJ’s gradual rise.

A rare taste of what has to offer, Timmy commented on the work, stating “With Ripple, I hope to make a splash that reverberates far and wide in today’s music world while also testing the waters before releasing my debut album later this year. More than anything, I was just tired of keeping these songs to myself for so long and was itching to put them out there. I found three tracks that I thought flowed together in a cohesive way while also being distinct enough from one another to showcase the full range of my production style.” Although dripping with potential, this album only scratches the surface of what Underbelly has in store.

Along with an upcoming show at SOHO on May 26, Underbelly has plans for a full length debut album with Alpha Pup records as well as an R&B collaboration album, both of which are set to drop this year. Going into more detail about the R&B project, Timmy enthralled, “Seriously, this guy’s voice is as thick and sweet as molasses and matches my production perfectly.” Clearly, if his next endeavors resemble anything of his past work, UCSB and the rest of the world are in for a serious treat.

In the name of supporting local talent and, more importantly, in the name of quality art, we strongly urge all of you to check this guy out. The sound quality is there, the drive is apparent and he’s starting to make some big moves. Ripple is a seriously head-nodding EP, and it’s only the beginning. In an electronic music era that’s growing exponentially, fresh faces like this one are becoming the future of headed. So please do yourself and UCSB a favor and check out one of the coolest hidden gems on the internet.

We Sit Down, Turn Up with Gryffin

Bin Nguyen
Staff Writer

Straight off his sold out tour North America “Heading Home” tour, the multi-instrumentalist and music producer, Gryffin, made a special stop at UCSB. The fact that he got to perform on such a stage, the producer reminisced of his early musical inspirations.

The opening DJs, UCSB’s own Conner McEuen a.k.a. Conrad and East Coast native Chrome Sparks dropped low tempo bass sets, the band was using the ‘Run It’ and Simian Mobile Disco’s ‘I Got This Down.’ At promptly 10:20 p.m., the headliner opened his show with a very own remix of Ellie Goulding’s ‘Burn.’ As one of his early records, ‘Burn’ introduced Gryffin into the mainstream EDM fans after the version was chosen to be included in the song’s official remixes.

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Civil War Brings Wehrung Peace

Alex Wehrung
Staff Writer

After seeing two massive scale superhero movies in a row that turned out to be letdowns (“Age of Ultron” and the abomination from DC’s side of the aisle, “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice”), I hoped that the directors, the Russo brothers, would be the ones to bring back the sheer thrills of “The Avengers.” So … damn. Way to kick off Phase Three, guys.

What they did is nothing short of remarkable: They managed to make a film that, character-wise, is even larger in scale than “The Avengers,” and it works. There are more heroes, more motivations and more stories to tell than ever before, yet it never feels overstuffed or forced. “Civil War” puts Captain America (Chris Evans) and Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.) in opposite ideological seats and sets them against each other. Each man comes up with valid points to back up their arguments, giving them motivation and lending actual believability to why they are fighting each other. Too bad it ended when Iron Man found out he and Cap’s mothers have the same name (I apologize to those who have heard that joke already ad nauseam).

These two leading men predominantly take up the screen, but they also share it with oh-so-many welcome returns, the highlights being the wry Falcon (Anthony Mackie) and Ant-Man (Paul Rudd), who drops some dead-on one-liners on the members of Team Iron Man. Some character development is hinted at with Vision (Paul Bettany), ripe for growth in further sequels, Scarlett Witch also gets a really good mini-arc, but Elizabeth Olson apparently couldn’t decide between an American or Russian accent. When these guys all throw down, it’s absolutely glorious. It also speaks to the strength of the writing by showing that, despite their conflict, the Avengers don’t suddenly all hate each other. They’re still friends with different ideas, and you know what? That’s usually why friends fight. Bravo to screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely.

Also on the character front, some welcome fresh blood gets added to the mix. Chadwick Boseman’s Black Panther couldn’t have been brought into the fold better, even if he had debuted in his own solo origin film (which is coming in 2018). Developed, badass and quick-witted, he’s an awesome new addition to the lineup. Same for Tom Holland’s Spider-Man (whose solo arrives 2016). Unlike Maguire and Garfield, Holland actually feels like a high-schooler. That’s not just because the actor is younger; he has actual concerns and personality traits beholden to a teen. And he’s fun! Spider-Man is fun again! And funny too!

Boy, way to stick it to Sony. And to Joss Whedon, showing how not to overdo it on the quips.

Then there’s the villain, Zemo. Although I am still a little confused about how he managed to do what he did, in retrospect (five hours post screening, to be precise), I am particularly impressed with the character. Unlike previous Marvel big bads, he’s not a dark mirror of the protagonist or a warlord commanding vast armies. Defying expectations even for the characters, he’s just a normal, albeit clever man out for sweet revenge. Yet he is able to set the Avengers against each other and have them dance in the palm of his hand. Hope Loki’s taking notes.

As much as I would prefer not to do this, I have to directly compare “Civil War” to “Age of Ultron” here for a moment. A major reason why “Age of Ultron,” while not a complete failure, was a disappointment is the fact that it felt completely bereft of character development (stupid shoehorned romances aside). At no point was I convinced to give a shit about what was happening to the Avengers. I found myself much more invested in the personal conflicts of “Civil War,” which, besides still being a frenetic and fun action romp, tells a really good story about strained friendships. There’s actual heart here. So Russo? Markus? McFeely? Thank you. Don’t fuck up the “Infinity Wars.”
Many of you have heard the legends of I.V. Deli Mart, some of you brave souls may have even attempted to tackle these beasts. And now, for your reading pleasure, On The Menu takes on the challenge of consuming the infamous Fat Sandwiches that belong to the Pardall Road centerpiece. It may have been foolish, but somebody has got to do it! OK, probably no one ever needed this information but, goddammit, curiosity runs rampant on our staff, and we needed to know just how far our willpower and stomachs could stretch. Thus, we embarked on a grand adventure one early Saturday afternoon and tried to single-handedly eat an entire Fat Sandwich without the aid of drunchies or munchies. These are our stories in a stream-of-consciousness fashion:

**Fat Sam:**
I am not really sure what to make of this sandwich. The guy who sold it to me was so friendly. He even told me to come back when it was my turn for alumni weekend. How could he be so nice? Like, on what planet does cheesesteak, chicken tender, mozzarella, bacon, fried eggs, fries, ketchup and mayo make sense on a sandwich? I give up. I am not even halfway through and it hurts. It has lost all flavor. This is mush. I am not having this. OK, I am taking a nap. OK, now I am back. By the power of Beyonce’s Lemonade, I will finish this sandwich. Well, I am done now. Full of sodium and nothing to wash it down with. On to my next food event!

**Collin McLeod**
I was awfully never to eat any of I.V. Deli’s sandwiches under the influence.

**The Smoky Smoky:**
In my first look as the sandwich, I was in awe. I looked at the chicken fingers and the mozzarella sticks (my fav foods) and I instantly fell in love. It wasn’t until I took the first bite that I realized what I was truly getting myself into. THE SANDWICH WAS AMAZING. I surprisingly finished my first half within minutes and then, soon after, realized what I was doing and what laid ahead. This was a tough time (trying to convince myself to keep going), but I knew I needed to finish. I kept going; it was so tasty and I finished first out of everyone. I wasn’t even that full!

**Cort Sainte Marie**
I don’t want you to just eat the Fat Gaucho, she wants you to BE the Fat Gaucho.

**The Fat Gaucho:**
When I first looked at the sandwich, I was in awe. I looked at the chicken fingers and the mozzarella sticks (my fav foods) and I instantly fell in love. It wasn’t until I took the first bite that I realized what I was truly getting myself into. THE SANDWICH WAS AMAZING. I surprisingly finished my first half within minutes and then, soon after, realized what I was doing and what laid ahead. This was a tough time (trying to convince myself to keep going), but I knew I needed to finish. I kept going; it was so tasty and I finished first out of everyone. I wasn’t even that full!

**Tiffany Velazquez**
I have suffered death by marinara.

**The Fat Italian:**
The sandwich was very messy. Marinara sauce appears to be the primary flavor. Somewhere in all the chaos, I can taste the chicken tender in there. The awkward size makes it difficult to hold or even take a bite of. The bread is falling apart just like my hopes and dreams. Why did I do this to myself? I feel as though I am losing. Thank the mighty sandwich gods I wore leggings today. I’m trying and failing so hard just to finish half. Feeling weak; the sandwich has lost all flavor. In the battle of woman versus food, food won. Pretty sure I would have been sick if I ate more. I am horrified but awed. The sandwich demands respect. I can taste the hypertension. The sandwich is not as messy as I thought. The chicken, fries, mozzarella sticks and bread absorb the sauce. The sandwich tastes very rich. The first few bites are satisfying, but halfway through the first half, I start doubting the feasibility of actually finishing this monster. I just want to eat healthy green things. There is so much sauce; five bites in and still so much left. Separately, all of the ingredients would be perfect, but together they are overwhelming. Sure it is tasty, but very salty. The fries are everywhere.

**Marisa Ratchford**
I have had enough bread to satisfy her carb cravings for eternity.

**The Fat Hippie:**
OK, so at least mine is full of veggies, right? “This won’t be too bad,” I think to myself. I’ve taken down Mac Daddy bowls, medium pizzas and massive plates of nachos; a little sandwich won’t defeat me. I was so full of optimism and hope. I was wrong. The flavor was there, but the veggie patties and falafel were so dry, and in my frugal state, I skipped on a drink to wash it down. Mistake number one! After a while, the flavors are no longer there; it becomes nothing more than a compilation of rich texture and sadness. Three-quarters in and I’ve become delusional. I dance woefully in my chair and watch as one of my fellow troops lapses onto the green couch for a defeated nap. I’m only three bites from finishing; I look at the person on my left with tears in my eyes. Words of peer pressure escape her lips and I consume. It’s over. I’m free. I’ll never eat again.

As you can tell, this was not a pleasant experience. However, it was an educational one. It made us all realize that food should be something you enjoy, not something you suffer through. How many times have I blindly consumed 3,000 calories on a Friday night and in the morning felt terrible? Let this be a warning to everyone that moderation is key and greasy food is great, but let’s take it one bite at a time.
SCIENCE & TECH

UCSB Probes the Hidden World: A Look into Nanoscale Imaging

Pictured above is an image of a typical diamond cantilever fabricated for magnetometry. Each cantilever measures 150 x 20 x 3 micrometers. On average, there is one NV center per pillar.

Karan Maitra

Every thing in the world of quantum mechanics collapses to probabilities, as it has always been challenging to observe interactions at the quantum level.

However, UCSB professor Ania Jayich has developed a method to do so at temperatures approaching zero Kelvin, or absolute zero. Jayich, associate director of the Materials Research Lab, has built a new probe that uses an array of single atoms to capture images of nanoscale material at very high resolutions and very low temperatures.

High resolution imaging has proved to be important in driving new developments in fields like materials science and biology. However, capturing these images at very low temperatures has been difficult because as temperatures decrease, matter starts behaving in ways one would not expect. The existence of magnetic superconductors is just one of the strange things that happens at extremely low temperatures.

At zero Kelvin (−273.15 °C, −459.68 °F), all particles in matter theoretically stop moving; they no longer process kinetic energy. In a paper published in *Nature Nanotechnology*, Jayich discusses her research on how a single-spin quantum sensor was used to image nanoscale magnetism at a temperature scale between 6K and room temperature (from −267 °C to 25 °C).

“The core of the probe is something called a nitrogen-vacancy (NV) defect,” Jayich said.

At the apex of the tip of a pure diamond nanocrystal, an NV defect is added. The nitrogen replaces a particle of carbon in the diamond lattice structure and makes it much more sensitive to changes in its vicinity. The probe consists of an array of such tips with NV defects.

“The presence of a magnetic field induces a quantum phase in the NV sensor which we can read out with optical techniques,” Jayich said.

This type of matter imaging has not been done before at such low temperatures. In her research, Jayich imaged a hard drive and magnetic superconductors.

“There are a lot of different interactions between atoms, and you need to understand all of them before you can predict how the material will behave,” Jayich said.

“What we presented in the paper is magnetic imaging — but our tool — an atom sized defect for a sensor — has multi-functional capabilities,” Jayich said in regards to the scope of her research.

The probe is sensitive to magnetic fields, and according to Jayich it can also image electric fields, temperature and the local conductivity of materials. Her team is currently working on adding more functions to the probe.

“Something we are working on [in] the lab is adding multifunctional capabilities to the probe so it can simultaneously measure magnetic and electric fields emanating from a substance. That is one of the real benefits of this,” Jayich said.

One of the advantages of this method is that it is minimally invasive, as “it does not noticeably change the properties of the object being studied.”

The paper was published in *Nature Nanotechnology* on May 2, 2016, with Professor Jayich as the lead principal investigator along with UCSB co-authors post-doctoral Matthew Pellecchia, graduate students Alec Jenkins and Preeti Ovartzaiyapong and undergraduate Christopher Reetz. Co-authors from UCLA include Ev Emmanuel Rodia and Ni Ni.

ECE Professor Interprets WiFi Signals into Vision

Kevin Flores

With the advent of technologies reminiscent of science fiction films popping up all over the world, it comes as no surprise that some of the most astounding discoveries are being made right on our campus.

Yasamin Mostofi, associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at UCSB, has designed a new technology that uses simple WiFi signals to allow unmanned vehicles to essentially “see” through walls.

In a hypothetical situation, a pair of robots arrives at an area that has been closed off with thick concrete walls, with no prior knowledge of what is behind them. As they move back and forth around the perimeter of the location, one robot transmits a WiFi signal while the other receives it. As the signal travels through the walled-in area, it interacts with the objects that lie within. Depending on the specific ways in which these signals interact with the objects, specific data, such as material properties and size, can be extracted.

“By designing paths more informative for imaging through walls, exploiting sparse signal processing and proper approximated wave modeling, we have shown that it is indeed possible for the two unmanned vehicles to image the entire area,” Mosfoi said. “We can essentially see through walls, even thick concrete walls, based on only WiFi received power measurements.”

The potential applications of this technology in various fields of science and manufacturing, as well as to everyday life, are numerous. Rescuers in a search-and-rescue operation following a natural or manmade disaster, for example, could assess the disaster site before entering to avoid placing volunteers in a situation that could potentially be hazardous for humans.

“Furthermore, heating and cooling of a building can be better optimized based on learning the concentration of the people over the building,” Mostofi said. “Businesses can also benefit from counting the number of shoppers for better business planning.”

Simple though it may sound, interpreting the signals and building models to extract the data from the unmanned vehicles is no easy task. The inclusion of information from the fields of wireless communications, signal processing and robotics makes for complicated engineering work.

The two unmanned vehicles (depicted above) survey an area of an unknown volume. The two vehicles can see through the walls based only on WiFi measurements.

Solving the challenges that inevitably arise from such work requires a team of researchers who work alongside Mostofi to create novel solutions that allow the new technology to continue moving forward, while always keeping sight of the fundamental limits of sensing with these signals.

“Radio frequency (RF) signals such as WiFi are everywhere these days. So it is natural to ask how much information they carry about us or about their surroundings,” Mostofi said. “Using these signals for sensing can have many other potential applications beyond imaging or occupancy estimation.”
HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Travel and adventure calls to you. Keep the big picture in mind... does this trip forward the dream? Set long-term goals. There’s more work coming in. A mate has excellent advice. Invest in an experience that forwards the action for a project you love.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Get into the details today and tomorrow. Consider resources and supplies. And gals and teams learn management... finances. Wheeling and dealing could be required. Build a strong foundation. Consult friends and experts. Many hands make lighter work. Someone from your past could reappear.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Let your partner drive. Collaboration gets you farther than playing Lone Ranger. Practice your arts, and beautify your surroundings. Indulge your curiosity, and get the latest expert research. Let yourself get carried away by romance. Negotiate and compromise. Two heads are better than one.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Practical considerations hold your concern. Follow safety rules and high standards. Sort through feelings as they arise. Trust your experience. Could get hectic today and tomorrow. A friend makes an excellent suggestion. Use it to persuade the team. It pays to have good manners.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Lay down the law. Make every attempt to follow the rules. Even if you make mistakes, you’re charming. Work out kinks in private. Emerge victorious. What I learned: abundance. Improve your living conditions. Include delicious treats, cozy atmosphere and friends (or one special friend).

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Home and family take priority today and tomorrow. Settle into your nest. Good deeds you’ve done bring benefits. Check out an interesting suggestion. Keep your future vision in mind. There’s more money coming in... divert some of the flow to savings. Share a treat.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- It’s easier to learn for the next two days. Study instructions first. Talk to someone who’s been there, done that. Creative work pays well. A generous offer requires more thought. A lucky break blesses your passion project. Your work and opinions garner respect.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Pay attention to finances. Fill orders and rake in the money. Schedule social events and gatherings are where it all happens. Make your life a party. You’re very persuasive now. Trust your feminine side.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 5 -- Generate enough to cover expenses in a test of your frugality skills. There’s more money coming your way. Friends and siblings share the wisdom of their experience. Brilliant ideas come at odd moments. Evaluate old policies. You’re emerging more certain. It all works out.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 6 -- Today is a 6 -- There’s more work, and the pressure’s rising. Take a philosophical view. You’re making an excellent impression. Acknowledge more work, and the pressure’s rising. Take a philosophical view. You’re making an excellent impression. Acknowledge more work, and the pressure’s rising. Take a philosophical view. You’re making an excellent impression.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 6 -- Get together with friends today and tomorrow. Show your emotional support and laughter. Invent new goals and reaffirm previous ones. It’s a good time to ask for money. Craft the perfect pitch. Social events and gatherings are where it all happens. What comes around goes around.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 6 -- Career matters occupy your time now. There’s a rise in status available. Prepare for a test or challenge today and tomorrow. Compete for the best score. Provide well for your family. Find out what your partner wants. All this love comes back to you multiplied.
We're all at UCSB to succeed and do well. You certainly don't need me to tell you that. As college students, there is a desire — with strength varying from person to person — to succeed. We achieve victories ranging from getting an A on a midterm to working our asses off at an internship in hopes that it will turn into a real job in the midst of an often unyielding job market. We work hard and we play just as hard; that's our thing right? We study all night for a final and we start drinking as soon as it's over because we're in the clear for the foreseeable future. Many of us will have a smoke break here and there to clear our heads and keep working immediately after until our brains stop comprehending and the sun comes up. Students will pop a few Addies each day during finals week and forget to eat more than a granola bar in the morning. I know these descriptions aren't appropriate for every single student, but I can say with confidence that I have either performed one of these behaviors or watched several others around me do the same, beginning in freshman dorms and proliferating once living in L.V.

We do it in the name of success, in the name of, “This is fucking college and I don’t need to sleep. I need to do well so I can be a real, successful human being at the end of this.” College is a time of hard work and that's not easily forgotten, but during this time of hard work our priorities need to be carefully considered before we start getting too attached to As and validation from TAs three years ahead of us in school; we grow less concerned with what the madness we put ourselves through might mean once we graduate. Our health — both physical and mental — may not come first 100 percent of the time, but when we trick ourselves into thinking we are growing and bettering ourselves whilst developing patterns of unhealthy behavior as coping mechanisms for our day to day rush, we are sacrificing our health for our perceived productivity. Mental health is absolutely a prevalent issue facing college students; this is something we are told early and often and it is evidenced by the sheer number of essential resources we have for those having trouble. A study conducted in the Journal of American College Health of 13 different colleges found that 17.6 percent of those surveyed suffered from depression, generalized anxiety or a panic disorder, with 5.8 percent of those surveyed saying they had considered taking their own life. I am a believer that over-diagnosis exists, but underreporting and silent suffering counterbalance over-diagnosis more than we are able to understand.

What are we struggling for? What are we working for? Idealistically, we are expanding our knowledge and growing as people while working toward a fulfilling career, but I’m not here to inspire freshman at orientation. Let’s be real: We will do an absurd amount of reading, note-taking and other forms of studying that will not serve us in any way whatsoever, let alone later on in life. We will stress and stress and give up sleep for an extra few pages and one more example problem. I’m not knocking students for working hard, but something I find myself forgetting while burning the 3 a.m. oil is my own well-being and what it means to my body and mind to strain myself over a screen for all those hours. If you feel the urge for a cigarette break or start questioning your entire life path over tomorrow’s assignment, what victories are you really ascribing worth to? The brilliance of success is worth grinding for, but not to the point that we neglect ourselves as human beings.

I have found that the norm in college is to live and sleep by the screen. When your social life and your next assignment are adjacent tabs on your toolbar, what choice do you have? We accomplish things through a series of clicks and scrolls, whether it is an assignment or creating an event page for a party. And for what? We get things done while sitting on our asses staring at a screen for hours. We're moving forward, doing well and we haven’t moved since breakfast. It’s essential to step away from that screen and realize this perceived productivity might be dangerous to our actual health. Personally, I try to fight that sedentary lifestyle that has started to creep in every step of the way.

The drinking that permeates much of our college lives can also prove to be a slippery slope. We often drink to forget the subpar paper we wrote and drink to celebrate nailing that midterm. The sense of productivity we feel is often paired with the reactionary act of partying. Doing this in the name of either failing or succeeding really leaves no excuse not to party. I love partying — I really do — and I.V. is party heaven. That's just a fact. Only recently did I stop and think about what is happening when — no matter what happens with us on campus, we either brace ourselves or welcome the result with open handles.

College is an age where we form habits that live on during our (hopefully) professional careers. In college, you might get home and join the party with your housemates or decide to go out because that paper is finally turned in and of course there’s somewhere you can go to release. Life after graduating likely won’t present us with the same options. It'll be more like a choice between drinking alone or hitting the bar when we get home from a long day.

I’m aware that many feel it’s a foregone conclusion that our weekday shenanigans will be relegated to Fridays and Saturdays once we graduate, but old habits tend to die hard. When you're reacting to tasks, victories and failures with the same behavior, it’s not as simple as distinguishing between Tuesday and Friday. By no means do I advocate for less partying. It isn’t a matter of frequency (OK, it might be a little bit about frequency). What I am ultimately getting at is that partying should be done on your own terms. When you are matching getting things done with drinking, what are you really doing? What does your productivity mean? There’s nothing wrong with a little celebration, but when “Win or lose, I booze” stops being your IM softball team’s chant on Friday afternoons and becomes your whole life’s motto, major problems will ensue.

Being productive should not always mean sacrificing your well-being. Sleepless nights are more or less inevitable and hard work typically pays off. It’s the constant link between getting things done and not being as healthy as you should be that threatens the very worth of your productivity.

It’s time to reconsider the definition of productivity and include ourselves in that definition. Jackson Kerr advocates for a healthy balance of working hard and maintaining your own well-being.