Carnival To Feature Games, Food
Patrons will enjoy games, prizes and free food at seventh annual Pardall Carnival on Pardall Road

Erin Kownacki
Reporter

The Associated Students Isla Vista Community Relations Committee (IVCRC) will host the seventh annual Pardall Carnival Oct. 3 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Pardall Road.

The carnival will feature a Ferris wheel, games, prizes, free food and more than 60 different campus organizations and local businesses, including UCSB Health & Wellness, the I.V. Food Co-op, A.S. Food Bank, the Commission on Student Well-Being (COSWEB) and KCSB-FM. IVCRC plans to hold many food-related activities to fulfill its goal of focusing on food security and food justice this year.

IVCRC advisor Ruth Guevara Garcia said the carnival is meant to strengthen the I.V. community in the recently restored central area.

"Pardall Carnival was established in 2009 as a way to highlight the renovation of Pardall Road and bring students and kids living in Isla Vista together," Garcia said.

IVCRC external chair Aimee Hanna said A.S. Food Bank and COSWB will provide services at the event.

"A.S. Food Bank’s table that will be hosting a food distribution, as well as UCSB’s COSWB will be there providing free yoga to carnival-goers," Hanna said.

The Pardall Carnival was established in 2009 to celebrate renovations to Pardall Road, and since then it has served as a place for students to get together and build a stronger community while playing games and enjoying food.

First Students
Move Into Sierra Madre Villages

Parts of Sierra Madre Villages which are not finished are scheduled for completion in two or three weeks.

Jonathan Mendez
Reporter

UCSB’s Housing & Residential Services opened Sierra Madre Village Apartments on Storke Road this fall to accommodate an increase in student enrollment and faculty members.

The Sierra Madre Village Apartments are university apartments recently opened for the 2015-2016 school year after nearly
An Evening with Paul Relis & Pico Iyer
Monday, October 12 6:30 p.m.
Lobero Theatre
33 E. Canon Perdido Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Benefit for 45th Anniversary of Community Environmental Council
Presented by Santa Barbara Permaculture Center and Community Environmental Council
Buy tickets for the event at www.lobero.com/events/cec-pico-pico-paul-relis

Paul Relis & Pico Iyer honor the Community Environmental Council’s 45th anniversary. Join this conversational journey exploring the past, present & future of the environmental movement, including a discussion of Paul Relis’s recently published book, Out of the Wasteland – Stories from the Environmental Frontier.

Book signing & reception to follow.

IMPROVABILITY

UCSB Arts & Lectures presents Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Héctor Tobar discussing Deep Down Dark, the harrowing story of 33 Chilean miners trapped underground for more than three months
Mon., Nov. 2, at 8:00 p.m. at UCSB Campbell Hall

In 2010 a Chilean mine collapsed, trapping 33 miners beneath thousands of feet of rock for 69 days. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Héctor Tobar received exclusive access to the miners and their personal narratives of the unimaginable experience. Tobar recounts the miners’ physical, emotional, and spiritual journey – from moments of their deepest uncertainty to their miraculous rescue – in a textured account that keeps audiences riveted. The 33, a film adaptation of Tobar’s book starring Antonio Banderas and Juliette Binoche, will be released this November.

IMPROVISED COMEDY FRIDAY NIGHTS - 8PM EMBARCADERO HALL - $3

IV LIVE presents IMPROVABILITY’S DISNEY NIGHT
Friday, October 2 at 8pm
Embarcadero Hall
$3

Magic Lantern Films presents JURASSIC WORLD
Friday, October 2 at 7 & 10pm
Monday October 5 at 7 & 10pm
IV Theater
$4

Under the direction of Moses Pendleton, a founding member of the groundbreaking Pilobolus Dance Theater, and his wife Cynthia Quinn, MOMIX delvers Alchemia, the dazzling multimedia spectacle that manipulates the notion of transformation and the four classic elements: earth, air, fire and water, to create a visually arresting theatrical experience full of whimsy, sensuality, beauty and intrigue.

Magic Lantern Films presents JURASSIC WORLD
Friday, October 2 at 7 & 10pm

Résumé + Date: Tuesday, October 6th
(STEM Majors) & Wednesday, October 7th, 2015 (Non-Tech Majors)
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Our quarterly résumé clinic just got better! Fall quarter’s Resume + will be TWO-DAY event! Employers specifically for STEM majors will be attending on Tuesday, October 6 and employers for Non-Tech majors (Liberal Arts) will be present on Wednesday, October 7. These “real world” employers and our career counselors will be available to give you advice on your résumé. Be sure to bring hard copies of your résumé!

Contact Us

News Office:
Phone: (805) 893-2691
Email: eic@dailynexus.com

Advertising Office:
Phone: (805) 893-3828 • Fax: (805) 893-2789

Monday was National Coffee Day and yesterday was National Beer Day, so the Weatherhuman had a pretty great week. Ze set a new record for himself, drinking seven gallons of coffee and nine gallons of beer over the course of the two holidays.

Tomorrow’s Forecast: Does the ‘human have to wait until next year to try to beat his record?...
Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs  
Reporter

University of California postdoctoral students will have the option to vote online or by mail Oct. 1 through 9 on whether to allow their union’s (UAW 5810) bargaining team to call for a strike if contract negotiations with UC fall through. The union, which represents more than 6,000 postdoctoral students across all 10 UC campuses, is demanding the University clarify overtime pay regulations, decrease the salary gap between women and men, provide childcare and increase job security for international postdocs. A supermajority of two-thirds is required to authorize a potential strike. The bargaining team has been negotiating with the University since May, and the union’s current contract, signed in 2010, expired on Sep. 30.

Union president Anke Schennink said postdocs are increasingly frustrated with what they see as the University not caring about women and men, providing childcare and increasing job security for international postdocs. A supermajority of two-thirds is required to authorize a potential strike. The bargaining team has been negotiating with the University since May, and the union’s current contract, signed in 2010, expired on Sep. 30.

Schennink, who was a postdoc in UC Davis’ animal science department for four years, said postdocs do “a whole lot of everything” for UC schools.

“Postdocs do research at the University — stem cell research, new green technology, astrophysics,” Schennink said.

One of the union’s demands focuses on a proposal by President Barack Obama earlier this year that would require overtime pay for those making less than $50,400 but working more than 40 hours per week. Given the average postdoctoral student at UC earns $47,870, many would be eligible for overtime pay under the proposal, which could go into effect next year.

In a public letter to the U.S. Department of Labor, UC associate vice president of federal governmental relations John Falle said UC should be exempt from the proposed requirement. “Given the uniqueness of the activities that postdoctoral scholars and specialists perform, UC believes they should be excluded from the proposed rule,” Falle said.

Falle also said monitoring hours would be "extremely difficult," potentially leading UC to reduce the number of postdoctoral students it employs.

"University research would suffer if the University is forced to lay off or not hire these key personnel," Falle said.

Schennink said it is difficult for the union to negotiate with UC because neither side is certain whether or not Obama’s proposal will ultimately apply to postdoctoral students working for the University.

“We want to make sure that postdocs are being paid fairly, and right now there is a lot of uncertainty about those regulations, and the university is hiding behind the uncertainty,” Schennink said.

Schennink said postdoctoral students going on strike would send a strong message to the UC system.

“If they were not there, this would have a huge effect on the research of the University,” Schennink said. “We have the feeling that we’re not being valued, that the University is not caring about us and not respecting us.”

Steven Zamora  
Reporter

Kaplan Test Prep’s recently released 2015 Survey of Law School Admissions Officers reveals 88 percent of law school admissions officers predict their schools will see an increase in the number of applicants in 2015.

Last year, 267 UC Santa Barbara students applied to law schools in the United States out of a total 53,548 applicants nationwide. Kaplan reports these numbers make UCSB a large source of applicants in comparison to other universities across the country.

Kaplan Test Prep executive director of pre-law programs Jeff Thomas attributes this expected spike in applicants to the shift in law school curriculum from philosophical discussion to more practical instruction.

“Law schools have done a good job in changing their curriculum that would make them marketable after graduation,” Thomas said. “The implications from a school perspective are now law schools are going to have more qualified applicants.”

According to Thomas, as more undergraduate students apply to law school, the admission criteria is becoming more difficult to ensure quality of education.

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LAW p.6

Halloween 2015 parking restrictions in Isla Vista may affect you!

Isla Vista Parking

No street parking in Isla Vista from 9am on 10/30 until 7am on 11/1 for Del Playa residents (6500, 6600, 6700); Camino Del Sur residents between Del Playa and Trigo; Camino Pescadero residents between Del Playa and Trigo; El Embarcadero residents between Del Playa and Top of Loop; Trigo residents on 6500 only.

El Nido residents on 6500 and Sabado Tarde residents on 6500, 6600, 6700 do not need to move cars off street, but vehicles will not be allowed to enter or exit through roadblocks from 9am on 10/30 until 7am on 11/1.

UCSB Parking Campus

No Overnight Visitor Parking is allowed on the UCSB Campus from Friday October 30th through Sunday November 2nd

- Registered UCSB Undergrads with an Annual Night & Weekend parking permit can park in designated lots on campus beginning at 9am Friday, October 30th until 7:30am on Monday, November 2nd Parking is allowed only in Structure 22, 18 (Mesa Structure) and Lot 16. All other campus lots are subject to closure and may be physically closed.

- Apply/order on-line by October 16th to ensure your permit arrives by USPS mail prior to October 30th. Visit our office to purchase a permit now through October 25th (permits ordered after the 16th are NOT guaranteed to arrive by the 30th).

Order online today! Deadline to order is October 16th!

Annual N/W permit is discounted by 50% from $52.50 to $26.25 plus $5.95 shipping/handling fee = $32.20.

Permit is valid through June 30, 2016.

One permit per registered student; vehicle must be linked to permit.
Local Marijuana Bust Indicative of Larger Operation

Two men arrested at Gaviota State Park for being under the influence and transporting tens of thousands of dollars worth of marijuana to San Onofre State Beach earlier this week

A panga boat containing bales of marijuana was found on San Onofre State Beach Monday morning, and two suspects have been arrested in the ongoing investigation.

A local resident was walking his dog along the hiking trails at Gaviota State Park when he noticed a panga boat on the beach and called 911. Santa Barbara Sheriff's deputies and state park rangers responded to the call and confirmed the 30-foot, two-engine panga boat was involved in drug smuggling.

Deputies and rangers found a 60-pound bale of marijuana worth $25,000 in the boat, along with food and fuel. Additional evidence of food packaging and clothing items were found in the water near the boat. Deputies searched the area and found another 60-pound bale of marijuana on the nearby hiking trails.

Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Department spokesperson Kelly Hoover said James Pierce, 58, and Francisco Soltero, 32, were found and arrested near the vista point at Gaviota State Park.

“Deputies searched the area and located two male suspects from the Riverside area,” Hoover said. “They booked these two individuals on charges of being under influence of controlled substance and possession, transportation and sales of marijuana.”

According to Hoover, it is unknown where the drugs were smuggled from and where the suspects were headed. Hoover also said the marijuana may have been smuggled from within California despite the common perception that drugs are usually smuggled from Mexico.

“There may be an assumption that individuals who are involved in drug smuggling by using panga boats are only individuals from Mexico,” Hoover said. “What we’re finding is that people being arrested with these panga boats are oftentimes from California. We had one in 2014 where several suspects were from the L.A. area.”

Santa Barbara Area State Park Superintendent Eric Hjelstrom said United States Department of Homeland Security has taken over the investigation.

“We received a report that there was a boat there and my officers responded, and then we called Homeland Security,” Hjelstrom said.

According to Hoover, both Homeland Security investigations and the Sheriff’s Department are still considering the possibility that more drugs and suspects were involved in the smuggling incident.

“We suspect that there were more people involved and that there were more narcotics,” Hoover said. “There’s a strong likelihood that the individuals involved were successful in offloading marijuana and possibly they were interrupted or something happened where the two bales were left behind.”

Fourth-year anthropology and psychology double major Vikki Papadakis said while she is unsure of the consequences that come with legalizing marijuana, doing so would make the drug flow easier to control.

“‘If marijuana was legalized then it wouldn’t have to be smuggled in on these boats and it can be more regulated,’ Papadakis said. ‘I feel like regulated weed is better than weed that’s being smuggled in. I’m surprised that I hadn’t heard about this earlier.’

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- Kelly Hoover

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- Kelly Hoover

UC SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

UCSB CHOIR AUDITIONS
EXTENDED

Love to sing? Audition for a chance to be part of the UCSB Chamber Choir or Women’s Chorus!
Please call Professor Michel Marc Gervais at (805) 688-8314 ASAP to schedule an audition time.
Majors and nonmajors welcome!

CHAMBER CHOIR
Music A36 / A136 / A236
Conductor: Michel Marc Gervais
Rehearsals: Mon./Wed. 5-7 PM
Location: Music Room 1145
First rehearsal: Monday, September 28, 2015

Audition Info: Auditions are short (10 min.) and simple. The conductor needs to hear your voice and evaluate your reading level to place you in the choir that is a good match for you. An accompanist will be available. If you have never sung in a choir, you’ll be surprised at how easy it is! Simply show up with your voice, that’s all! You do need to read music, as the choirs use scores and do not learn by rote. The choirs include all levels of undergraduate, masters and doctoral, and even post-docs, faculty and staff. The mixture is great, and it works because what motivates us is our love of music and singing! Please consider joining, you won’t regret it!
Visit www.music.ucsb.edu for more information.

WOMEN’S CHORUS
Music A37 / A137 / A237
Conductor: Pascal Salomon
Rehearsals: Tuesday 5-8 PM
Location: Music Room 1145
First rehearsal: Tuesday, September 29, 2015

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We can help with:
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Individual, Couples and Family Counseling
UCSB Students Receive a Reduced Rate of $20/session
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facebook.com/hosfordclinic
Larry Calvaletto Returns to his Popular Question Booth

The new school year marks the return of Larry Calvaletto, who offers conversation and advice to students willing to approach him at his booth outside Davidson Library.

Armistead said she approved his booth to be on campus and has received nothing but positive comments about Calvaletto.

“He’s a colorful fellow; I see students really enjoy talking with him,” Armistead said.

According to Calvaletto, his questions and conversations usually revolve around relationships.

“What does that tell you about mankind? We were designed for relationships,” Calvaletto said. “People are hurting because of broken relationships — I can only tell them it takes time to heal some of these things.”

Calvaletto said although he identifies as a conservative Catholic, he is not here to argue his beliefs, despite rumors on social media sites like Reddit:

“I’m open and honest talking about a relationship with God,” Calvaletto said. “I’m not here to argue; I’m here to be a light and I do believe God loves all these students but it’s not about a religion, it’s about a relationship.”

Armistead said she was fine with him conversing with students so long as he does not provide academic counseling.

“My biggest concern wasn’t in terms of what his opinion was; it was that he wasn’t trying to provide anything that was university business,” Armistead said.

Third-year economics major Christopher Wong said Calvaletto has a lot to offer students on campus.

“He’s cool, just doing his thing, posting at the corner with his 5 cents sign, probably the most productive 5 cents you can give somebody,” Wong said.

Office of Student Life Dean of Student Life & Activities Katya
Hanna said IVCRC will reward game participants at the carnival with "Pardollas," which they redeem at IV/ restaurants on the day of the event. "If people participate in any of the free games we have going on, they will receive Pardollas in which they can use in restaurants that are participating to score deals on free food," Hanna said. According to IVCRC publicity manager and third-year global studies major Lauren Lim, the carnival will feature free activities music from KCSB-FM. "We really want to emphasize that there will be tons of free giveaways and games to participate in," Lim said. "I'm really excited about KCSB attending and providing cool DJ sets for people to listen to while they're there as well." Lim said IVCRC expects a large turnout at the carnival. "We have over 1,000 people that have RSVPed on the Facebook event, but we are anticipating way more than that to attend on the day of," Lim said.

"Pardollas," which they redeem at I.V. game participants at the carnival with Lim said IVCRC expects a large turnout at the carnival. "We have over 1,000 people that have RSVPed on the Facebook event, but we are anticipating way more than that to attend on the day of," Lim said. "I didn't choose to live here; I got randomly assigned, but I like it a lot. It's nice to have a new apartment and not have to share a shower with more than one person," Tang said in an email. "I lived in Santa Ynez before and it definitely a lot nicer [here], especially the new appliances, also there's a lot less ants."

Third-year communication major Allie Lobos said she chose to live at Sierra Madre and though the new apartments are clean, she dislikes the 1.8 mile commute to campus. "Living here is great. It's new, it's clean, but I wish I didn't live in Ida Vista," Lobos said. "My biggest complaint is the distance; I have three 8 a.m.s a week." Tang said despite the distance, he would be willing to choose to live in Sierra Madre Village Apartments again. "It's kind of far and taking the bus can be annoying when I miss it and become late for class, but I like it a lot and would choose to live here again," Tang said again, in an email. "I don't choose to live here; I got randomly assigned, but I like it a lot. It's nice to have a new apartment and not have to share a shower with more than one person," Tang said in an email. "I lived in Santa Ynez before and it definitely a lot nicer [here], especially the new appliances, also there's a lot less ants."

According to UCSB Career Services counselor Lily Maestas, the undergraduate pre-law advising she and other counselors provide prepares students with the necessary tools to search for jobs and become marketable upon graduating law school. "Just having a degree is not going to be the most important thing, it's knowing how you want to use that degree and how you're going to market yourself," Maestas said. "I think finding a job is tough for anybody that doesn't know how to look for work … if you don't know the steps of job searching, you're going to have a difficult time."

Maestas said potential law students she works with are often motivated by a desire to serve others through the profession. "I think a lot of [students] have altruistic intents," Maestas said. "I mean, they want to do good, they want to help people. They want to do public interest law — that seems to be a theme at UCSB?"

President of co-ed pre-law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta and third-year political science major Suman Kaur said students are interested in law school because of the stability it provides during a time of economic uncertainty in the United States. "I think people are becoming more aware of the urgency of having to find a job in this day and age," Kaur said. "It's a great profession to be in and there's so many things you can do with a law degree besides practicing the law."

According to Kaur, the competitiveness of law school is partially due to a range of applicants from varying educational backgrounds. "Not everybody wants to go to law school or do engineering or something like that and law school is just so diverse," Kaur said. "You can be any major to apply to law school so I think it's attracting a lot of people which is great, but it does get a lot more competitive for whoever wants to go."

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Library Opening Postponed Until January

UCSB Library Senior Writer Karen Lindell said the expanded library will open on Jan. 4, 2016, rather than this November as was announced this summer. According to Lindell, the newly renovated library will span 150,000 square feet and include a house, a 24-Hour Learning Commons, Summit Café and Special Research Collections.

Top: The Paseo houses the reference desk and services desk, where users can check out course reserves, interlibrary loans, laptops and other circulating materials. A second-floor bridge connects the newly named Mountain Side (north) and Ocean Side (south) of the library.

Bottom: The sit-down Summit Café, located on the first floor of the 24-hour Learning Commons and run by UCen Dining Services, will sell hot and cold foods, including coffee and tea. According to Lindell, the café's name was chosen because the food station is located on the mountain side of the library, where “knowledge reaches its summit.”

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PRAYER, HEALING & YOU
Does Christian Science really heal sickness and sin?
Explore how healing is possible through the practical application of scientific prayer

International speaker, John Adams is a practitioner and teacher of Christian Science healing and a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship

SUNDAY, OCT 4, 2015 @ 2:00PM
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500 NORTH FAIRVIEW AVE
GOLETA, CA

additional parking in rear of Christian Science church

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The UCSB MultiCultural Center and the Ethnomusicology Program in the Department of Music Present
FALL 2015 WORLD MUSIC SERIES

FREE Wednesdays at Noon
In the Music Department’s outdoor Music Bowl

UCSB'S BEST KEPT SECRET

For more information or assistance in accommodating people of varying abilities, contact the MultiCultural Center at (805) 893-8411

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Notes:

- Library Opening Postponed Until January
- UCSB Senior Writer Karen Lindell announced that the expanded library will open on January 4, 2016, instead of November as previously announced.
- The library expansion will span 150,000 square feet and include features such as a 24-hour Learning Commons, Summit Café, and Special Research Collections.
- The Paseo houses the reference desk and services desk, allowing users to check out course reserves, interlibrary loans, laptops, and other materials.
- The newly named Mountain Side (north) and Ocean Side (south) of the library are connected by a second-floor bridge.
- The Summit Café, located on the first floor of the Learning Commons and operated by UCen Dining Services, will offer hot and cold foods, including coffee and tea.
- The café’s name was chosen because it is located on the mountain side of the library, symbolizing the ascent of knowledge.
Big West Opening Weekend: Time for Business

Michael Jorgenson
Sports Editor

Despite clinching No. 1 seeds and first-round byes in the Big West Tournament the past two seasons, the UCSB men’s soccer team was knocked out in its postseason opener at home on both occasions. For a team hungry to win its first Big West Championship in five years, the wait is finally over.

Santa Barbara opens up Big West play with road games today and Saturday against UC Irvine and Cal State Northridge, respectively. The Gauchos enter tonight’s match with a 5-3-1 record, which includes statement wins over No. 5 Stanford and on the road at UCLA.

The Anteaters were a national powerhouse last season, but have not found nearly the same success this time around, starting the year at 2-5-2. The Matadors started slowly in 2015, but won their last three games on the road to improve to 4-3-1 heading into conference play.

As a team, UCSB has been the best on offense this season, currently leading the Big West with 18 goals through nine games. Junior Nick DePuy has been a model of consistency since moving from the midfield to forward midway through the season, scoring 16 goals in his 22 games up front. He currently leads the Big West with seven goals and was named this week’s Big West Offensive Player of the Week.

Freshman forward Geoffrey Acheampong came into the year as a player to watch coming out of Cate School and he has not disappointed. The lefty notched his fourth assist of the year in the Gauchos’ 4-0 win over San Diego this past Sunday, making him the conference’s sole leader in assists.

In 2014, the Gauchos went winless in its first four conference games on the road. After a long preseason of preparation in the pool, the men’s team will start the season this Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the UCSB Campus Pool against Cal. The Gauchos play Pacific at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday as well.

Kristian Lackovicz
The Gauchos Face Familiar Foe in USC

Daniel Moebus-Bowles
Staff Writer

After a long preseason of preparation in the pool, the UCSB men’s and women’s swim teams are ready to kick off their seasons this October.

The men’s team will start the season this Friday when they welcome the visiting USC Trojans to Campus Pool.

“This will be a great challenge for us,” Head Coach Gregg Wilson said. “This is easily the toughest team we will face in a head to head match this season.”

The Gauchos will head into this meet seeking revenge on a Trojan team that spoiled their season opener last year in a tight race. USC was one of the only teams to defeat Santa Barbara in a head to head meet last season.

Friday will be the first NCAA competition for the 11 freshmen that came into the men’s team and they will be looking to make a splash as College Swimmers has ranked them as the No. 22 recruiting class in the nation.

“Our team this year is the best team that we’ve had starting out in many years. These freshmen are very dedicated and motivated to make a mark on this team,” Coach Wilson said.

The bulk of this young group of freshman consists of swimmers from the California area, whom just recently competed in the California State High School Championships this past spring.

Freestyler Bobby Guerra heads this talented list having taken first place in the 500 meter Freestyle.

Eric Van-Bricklin, Calvin Kirkpatrick, and Mason Titelle all come into UCSB as teammates from Northgate HS in Walnut Creek, CA. Competing together, they took home gold in the 4x100 meter freestyle at State.

Outside of California, the Gauchos will welcome returning Washburn Swimmer of the Year in Kasey Calwell, another freestyler looking to make his mark on the team.

These young athletes will join an already talented team of veterans that are hungry to get back to the MPSF Championships. They ended last season just points shy of taking the title over BYU, despite not having a single diver to help boost their point total.

Junior Dylan Kubik will be one of many Gaucho returners looking to take his team back to postseason after boasting a fantastic final performances at last season’s championships.

This versatile swimmer aims to strengthen both the IM and Freestyle category for the Gauchos. Along with Kubik, sophomore Billy Mullis will be returning form an excellent season in which he was named MPSF Freshmen of the year.

The most exciting story of this upcoming season is that Head Coach Gregg Wilson will be heading into his 40th-straight season as the UCSB Swimming Coach, making him the most tenured coach at Santa Barbara.

“I’ve really enjoyed my time here and ultimately my goal is to set the program up for the years to come,” Coach Wilson said. “We have a fantastic coaching staff and I know we will get the job done.”

Tomorrow’s match begins at 1:00 p.m. at Campus Pool.
Women's Soccer Opens Big West Against Hawaii

Elliott Thornton
Staff Writer

Following a controlled 1-0 victory against Pacific, the UCSB women's soccer team tops off their first Big West match of the year with a one-game road trip to 3-6-1 University of Hawaii. While expectations are high for the Gauchos finishing nonconference play with a solid record of 7-3-1 Head Coach Paul Stumpf describes this beginning of conference play with “cautiously optimistic” approach.

“Conference is a different animal,” said Stumpf. “Every team starts back at 0-0-0 so the seven wins [that we won] are great for our confidence but we are starting back from scratch and going to have to work for every result.”

UCSB faced some early troubles heading into the Big West last year. The Gauchos were on a two-game losing skid after dropping matches against CSU Northridge and Long Beach before clinching their first conference win at home against none other than the Rainbow Wahine. Despite a rough start to last season Stumpf is very optimistic for this young team along with valuable veterans such as Amanda Ball and Savannah Francis coming back into the lineup.

“It’s going to be nice to have a deeper bench and more experience around the league. Even a rookie like Marcus can stop him. Say he isn’t even the best to put on a Packer uniform. I’m standing by my claim. If you saw Mr. Discount Double Check’s parents once watched Dan Marino and Joe Montana for the team I root for, I’m picking Brett Favre’s kid, Aaron, over him. Yeah, I said it. Bring it on. Read me the NFL record book, aka Peyton Manning’s biography. Make it about juicy, how the 31-year-old QB has just one ring and miles to go if he’s going to catch Tom Brady or Joe Montana. Say he isn’t even the best to put on a Packer uniform. I’m standing by my claim. If you saw Mr. Discount Double Check’s performance against the Kansas City Chiefs on Monday Night Football, then you saw in a nutshell why I think he’s the most complete signal caller of all time. His stat line of five touchdowns, 24-35 passing, 33 yards and a quarterback rating of 138.5 says a lot, but it doesn’t tell the whole story.

Rodgers is deadly accurate whether he’s standing in the pocket or on the move. He’s so quick and mobile, with feet that never stop hopping, it’s almost impossible to bring him down. Even when there is pressure in his face, he has a lightning quick trigger and a Spidey-sense presence that allows him to throw ridiculous fadeaway bullets right into his receiver’s chest.

It’s like watching Madden, except in real life. Wait …. isn’t that the point of Madden? It can be argued that in this day and age, performances like this happen all the time around the league. Even a rookie like Marcus Mariota can throw for four TD’s and no picks in a game. After all, we are currently living in the era of iPhones and inflated passing numbers.

With Rodgers though, it’s almost assured that we’re going to see sky-high numerical dominance every single time he steps on the field. That’s why his QB rating of 106.8 is the highest in the history of the NFL and the only one above 100 (Tony Romo and Peyton Manning are distant runners-up at 97.6 and 97.3, respectively). I’m not saying he’s the greatest quarterback ever. That’s obviously a boringly impossible to prove statement to make.

But in terms of the accuracy, the mobility, the numbers, the consistency and the overall feeling of helplessness that he gives to opposing defenses, I don’t think there’s another quarterback in any situation that I would ever take over him. Sure, Brady is the ultimate winner. Sure, Peyton is the ultimate robot. And yes, our parents once watched Dan Marino and Joe Montana and will never change their minds about who the best ever is.

In the end, when you see on my fantasy team or the team I root for, I’m picking Brett Favre’s patient former backup to lead me to victory, and I don’t think there’s anyone in the NFC that can stop him.

ONLINE FOCUS: NFL ROUND-UP

Michael Jorgenson
Sports Editor

FC Championship Bound: Packers & Cardinals

Aaron Rodgers is the Best QB ... Ever

Yeah, I said it. Bring it on. Read me the NFL record book, aka Peyton Manning’s biography. Make it about juicy, how the 31-year-old QB has just one ring and miles to go if he’s going to catch Tom Brady or Joe Montana. Say he isn’t even the best to put on a Packer uniform. I’m standing by my claim. If you saw Mr. Discount Double Check’s performance against the Kansas City Chiefs on Monday Night Football, then you saw in a nutshell why I think he’s the most complete signal caller of all time. His stat line of five touchdowns, 24-35 passing, 33 yards and a quarterback rating of 138.5 says a lot, but it doesn’t tell the whole story.

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Cards Soaring to Success Behind Palmer and Arians

After Week 3 of last year, I put the Arizona Cardinals’ chances of winning the Super Bowl at zero. The reason? Quarterback Carson Palmer had torn his ACL for the second time in his career. Even without Palmer in the lineup, the Cardinals proved just how good they were by starting off 9-1 and making the playoffs with third-string quarterback Ryan Lindley heading the offense.

Fast forward to now. Arizona is 3-0 with the most points in the league and the third-fewest points allowed. It’s all been attributed to the new coaching staff, but it’s also how ruthless Arizona Head Coach Bruce Arians is.

Despite going into the half leading 31-7, Arians’ message to his team was simply this: “step on their throats.”

This isn’t to be confused with the message that Sean Payton has for his New Orleans Saints to literally step on their opponents’ throats. This is more in the scoreboard sense. #bountyjokes

All humor aside, I don’t know about you, but if I was a six-foot, 230-pound athlete with a super strong frame, lightning speed and physically violent capabilities, then Arizona is the kind of guy that I would want to play for. Unfortunately for me, I’m about 60 pounds shy of being that.

Now I’m not 100 percent sure what goes on behind the scenes with the New England Patriots other than cheating, but I’m guessing Bill Belichick is sending the same kind of message to his players as they put 40 and 50 burgers up on teams, regardless if it’s in the rain or snow. That’s just one of the many reasons why he’s won four Super Bowls.

Right now, the Cardinals have it all: an excellent coaching staff, a tenacious defense with playmakers all around, an offense that seems to be drinking water from the fountain of youth, not to mention their supply of young studs like Michael Floyd, John Brown and Andre Ellington.

If the Cardinals can stay healthy, they are the favorites to make it to the NFC Championship alongside Green Bay. They have the right mindset to do it.

If there’s anything that the 2009 runner-up Cardinals, led by old dog Kurt Warner, or the 2007 and 2012 New York Giants have taught us, it’s that it just takes one solid run in January to make it to the greatest show on turf. America style.

Carson Palmer, just watch your knees and get healthy. If the Cardinals can stay healthy, they are the favorites to make it to the NFC Championship alongside Green Bay. They have the right mindset to do it.

If there’s anything that the 2009 runner-up Cardinals, led by old dog Kurt Warner, or the 2007 and 2012 New York Giants have taught us, it’s that it just takes one solid run in January to make it to the greatest show on turf. America style.
By now, even if you’re new here, you’ve probably heard the bragging litany for UCSB over and over: We have six Nobel Prize winners on faculty, we’re the top public Green School in the nation, one of the top 10 public universities and number two in the world for impact in the sciences. All of these are great achievements, to be sure, and we have every right to be proud of them. But at the same time there is another, less flattering ranking of this school which you probably have not heard of which, in fact, has been almost completely glossed over and ignored here at UCSB, which is both unimportant and about which I am writing to the Daily Nexus in the desperate hope that some members of our community will take notice: Over the summer, our F.I.R.E. ranking was downgraded.

What is F.I.R.E.? F.I.R.E. is the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, a nonprofit civil liberties advocacy group that focuses on issues affecting higher education. It was founded in 1999 by Professor Alan Charles Kors and civil liberties attorney Harvey Silverglate. Notably, F.I.R.E. has no political agenda. In the course of its free speech advocacy, F.I.R.E. has stood up for free expression of a wide range of political opinions, ranging from the very conservative (“affirmative action bake sale”) events to the very liberal (University of Colorado Professor Ward Churchill’s controversial comments about ordinary Americans’ responsibility for 9/11). At UCSB alone, in recent years, F.I.R.E. has stood up for the “UCSB Confessions” Facebook page, for outspoken conservative author David Horowitz, who spoke here in 2011 amid protests and for a sociology professor who was vocally critical of Israel’s treatment of the Palestinians. Although F.I.R.E. deals with several important civil liberties issues, including due process, the bulk of its activism is geared toward preserving free expression in the university. F.I.R.E. believes that a college campus, rather than being a place where free expression is limited, should be a place where all ideas (no matter how unpopular or offensive) are up for debate. Questioning one’s beliefs is a basic right. Freedom of speech is not a mere luxury; it is a necessary tool for the university to embark upon its central goal of seeking the truth. If students and professors cannot speak and question freely, it is for impact in the sciences.

Now, on its website, F.I.R.E. has a three-tiered rating system to analyze campus policies and determine whether a university has any prohibitive “speech codes” in place. If a college receives a “green light” ranking, the mean school has no speech codes that threaten freedom of expression. However, if a college receives a “yellow light” ranking, this means that the school has at least one speech code that either restricts some form of protected free speech or has the potential to be abused. (I myself have seen speech codes specifically marked as by F.I.R.E. “yellow light policies” being used by certain instructors to intimidate students during my time here at UCSB.) If a college has a “red light” ranking, then it has at least one speech code that “clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech.”

For most of my time at UCSB, our school has been assigned a “yellow light” ranking by F.I.R.E., meaning that we had some poorly worded speech codes but nothing that clearly restricted free expression. However, UCSB’s ranking was recently downgraded to red after a letter was sent to students by the school administration which actively encouraged students to report on each other for “acts of disrespect.” (“Who defines respect?” a thoughtful citizen might ask. There are probably a million different definitions of respect). This vague but sinister proclamation also became F.I.R.E.’s “speech code of the month” for this past September.

What has been the response from UCSB to having been ranked so poorly by such a well-established civil liberties organization? One would hope that our school would immediately recognize its errors and work to correct them. Student media (who are themselves at risk for censorship) would report on our F.I.R.E. ranking, making it known to the general community; Associated Students would pass a resolution condemning the silencing of student voices; Chancellor Yang and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Klawunn would work within the administration to reform speech codes so that they are more conducive to free expression. At the very least, one would hope that UCSB would attempt to dignify F.I.R.E. with an official response, explaining why they feel the current rules are necessary.

Instead, there has been nothing but silence. UCSB faculty and administration have not addressed the concerns of F.I.R.E., nor have our elected representatives in Associated Students, nor have any student media. If the entire point of a university education is to encourage students to develop their critical thinking abilities, then why does the UCSB community as a whole seem completely unconcerned that free expression, the cornerstone of critical thinking, is under attack at UCSB?

This new speech codes appear to have been put in place, at least in part, as a response to the impassioned and divisive debates that UCSB has witnessed in recent years surrounding the proposed financial divestment from Israel. While this is a hot-button issue for many students, myself included, there is no reason to stifle debate for the sake of alleviating some students’ emotional discomfort. In fact, I believe that vigorous and open discussion of the issue is the only chance we have of ever resolving it. Furthermore, as Samantha Harris pointed out in her editorial for F.I.R.E. addressing this new speech code, harassment and violence against Jewish or Muslim students — while very legitimate concerns which unfortunately have a history of occurring at UCSB during debates over divestment — are already punishable by existing legislation.

The mission of F.I.R.E. is one which I wholeheartedly support. During my campaign for Associated Students president last April, I made reforming UCSB’s speech codes (which at the time had only been given a “yellow light” ranking) a central plank of my platform. Had I won, I would have worked tirelessly to rework poorly written speech codes and make expression at UCSB as free as possible. Ideally, I would have liked to see UCSB become a national model for free expression. Instead, we have taken a step backwards towards greater censorship, and no one at UCSB seems the slightest bit concerned. I am ashamed of my school’s utter apathy on this issue.

I am writing this for the Daily Nexus in the hopes of making as many members of our community as possible aware of UCSB’s troubling free speech situation so that we can work together to improve it. If our administration has proven itself to be unresponsive to these concerns, then the responsibility for change lies with us, the students. I am now in my senior year at UCSB and my time here is limited, but some of you are freshmen, and you have four years to make an impact on this community. Perhaps you will be able to succeed where I and the rest of our school have failed you. Perhaps by the time some of you graduate, UCSB students will be able to proudly say that they attend a school which has six Nobel Prize winners on its faculty, leads the world in the sciences and has one of the best records in the nation of encouraging free speech, free expression and free thought among its students.

Jason Garshfield didn’t start the F.I.R.E, but he’s happy to help [censored] it at UCSB.
Death Cab Kicks Off SB Bowl for Fall

Simone Dupuy  
Chief Copy Editor

With the 2015 release of Death Cab For Cutie’s *Kintsugi* came the departure of guitarist Chris Walla. Many feared the group’s sound and stage presence would suffer on tour, myself included. After a life-changing show at the Santa Barbara Bowl last Saturday, however, my worries were quelled. Kintsugi itself is a Japanese art form involving mending broken pottery with metallic lacquer, aiming to add to the beauty and history of the pottery rather than cover up the breakage. How appropriate a title for their tour, as the group performed “Black Sun.” The image of sitting on the moon, the stage lighting alluding to the illusion of a ghost floating above the performers, proved to be a true rock star performance.

The audience was drawn into another world. Drawn into Death Cab songs, but with this lighting, the concert was a consistently symphonic, yet always unique balance of piano, drums, bass, guitar and synth, it is easy to be transported. The somber yet honest record summoned the lyrics to “Holy Holy” rolled off of his tongue. The 21-year-old’s eyes paced the crowd as the somber yet honest record summoned the feeling of sitting on the moon, the stage lighting alluding to tendrils of Starbursts reaching off into the vast cosmos above the performers. The audience was drawn into another world. Drawn into Death Cab songs, but with this lighting, the concert was a consistently symphonic, yet always unique balance of piano, drums, bass, guitar and synth, it is easy to be transported. The somber yet honest record summoned the feeling of sitting on the moon, the stage lighting alluding to tendrils of Starbursts reaching off into the vast cosmos above the performers.

Not one to leave his fans in a somber mood, Mensa ended the show on a much more exciting note with his hit single, “U Mad.” The shirtless star leaped on and off the stage in true rock star fashion while the bass rumbled the ears of the attendees before bidding farewell.

The Daily Nexus caught up with Sanford to hear her reaction to the show and the performance of her favorite song, “Honestly, I can’t even describe what I felt. At first, it was shock and then it felt like I was on a body high; it was exhilarating.

To hear more from the rising star, check Vic Mensa out on Soundcloud and download his most recent mixtape, Innanetape.

Vic Mensa Gives a Wild Welcome

Nisa Smith  
Staff Writer

A full moon adorned the sky above Storke Tower Saturday as UCSB students lined up to witness Vic Mensa take the stage. As all full moons foreshadow the new, the night began a tad weird as Community Service Officers (CSOs) allowed eager students to sprint to the unoccupied stage before being forced back into the line for an additional 30 minutes. As if that false alarm was not irritating enough, a serious nerve was struck with the ladies and gentlemen occupying the first places in line. A mere two minutes before entry, CSOs declared absolutely no bags were allowed in spite of the advertisement reading “no large bags.” After disputing with CSOs and later police, UCSB students darted to the stage with their backpacks and purses in tow to see the rising star.

Fittingly, the “Welcome Back” concert’s opening DJ introduced himself as a UCSB alum before jumping into set. The crowd welcomed him with flaring arms and bodily thrusts from the waist up. Diplo’s “Express Yourself” spurred a sea of hip-winding and hand-clapping. Not to be outdone, however, a remix to Kendrick Lamar’s “Control” outdone, however, a remix to Kendrick Lamar’s “Control” was the heart-aching ballad, “What Sarah Said.” Just a few taps of the keys in, the crowd recognized the song, “I Will Follow You Into The Dark.” Gibbard mumbled sure each song showcased a different style than in and out of their more melancholy tunes, but managing sure each song showcased a different style than in and out of their more melancholy tunes, but managing

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Frankie Cunningham: Engineering a Poets’ Club

Jason Chun
Staff Writer

What does a poet look like? The beret-topped face half-hidden behind an obscure novel at Starbucks? Or the stuffy, thick-bearded professor in his book-lined study? Frankie Cunningham eludes both of these archetypes. Few would suspect the fourth-year chemical engineering student, in his sweatshirt and khakis, to be a self-proclaimed “Mad Scientist Poet.” As the founder of the campus’ Poets’ Club, he maintains an air of casualness in this creative space and welcomes wordsmiths of all backgrounds and experience levels.

The club has its origins in Poetics of Struggle, the workshop course created by visiting artist in residence, Daniel “Fritz” Silber-Baker. Cunningham credits the class as a key experience that drove him to write poetry. Upon his second enrollment in Fall 2014, he was asked himself the question, “What do you see yourself doing in the future?” His first thought was whether he would be writing poetry after Fritz’s class. When the answer came with hesitation, the Mad Scientist Poet knew he had to start a new version of Poetics of Struggle.

True to the name of the course, poetry is no simple focus for a discussion-based club. Cunningham found help from Fritz, as well as Professor Felice Blake, who contributed to the creation of Poetics of Struggle. The instructors provided crucial resources and inspiration for the club’s development. Initial enthusiasm among members of Poetics of Struggle and other poets gave Cunningham additional confidence to build the club in the following quarter.

The nature of both the club and class are rooted in participation. Its founder structured Poets’ Club to resemble Poetics of Struggle: a “safe, creative space” in participation. An integral aspect borrowed from the course is the check-in question, which opens every meeting. “What is a conversation you’ve been meaning to have?” “What season are you feeling today?” These are just a few of the questions that Cunningham says leads to “profound thoughts” and “powerful conversations.” “It’s very open, it’s very vague, but it basically stimulates your mind, gets you to ask questions on an internally reflecting level.” Cunningham said. “You’d be surprised how many people are willing to open up to these simple questions.”

Other participants are crucial to this process of discovery. Oftentimes when one person lacks the right words, another has them written and ready. Cunningham sees poetry as an act of speaking both to the self and to others. “Everyone’s dealing with the same struggles, but in different contexts,” he says. He emphasizes the process of creating poetry as a sort of give and take, allowing one person to look deeper into him or herself while providing potential answers to another person’s issues.

So what compels a chemical engineering major to start a poetry club? When asked how he came to love poetry, Cunningham jokes, “Engineers are people too.” He relates that he came to UCSB as undeclared, contemplated becoming an English major, but changed his mind when he fell in love with science. “Science is what I want to do to contribute to society,” Cunningham declared, contemplated becoming an English major, but changed his mind when he fell in love with science. “Science is what I want to do to contribute to society,” Cunningham said. “What I want to contribute to myself is through poetry.”

Cunningham first wrote poetry in high school and cites Charles Bukowski as one of his favorite poets. However, what really sparked his interest in poetry was his discovery of spoken word on YouTube. There was no particular spoken word performer or piece; even if one piece resonates with him, another by the same poet might not. It is the drive to find the pieces that “can create the sort of emotion you’ve never felt before,” which the Mad Scientist Poet finds thrilling and “quite addicting.” Oftentimes, he shares his favorites with his club, in hopes of entertaining and inspiring others.

The Poets’ Club has big plans for the 2015-16 school year, starting with a video to display some of its creative output to the general public. Further down the line, the club authority is seeking to host public writing workshops and open mics. Cunningham wants to work on making the club more performance-oriented. Writers often focus on introspection, but the Mad Scientist Poet describes the act of performing a personal piece in front of an audience as “exhilarating.”

The club founder also hopes to see members grow closer. He believes that this goal will be achieved as participation becomes more natural and common. All the same, he will never discourage those who simply want to come to Poets’ Club to spectate.

The club looks forward to exciting projects but also potential struggles. While results so far are promising, Cunningham acknowledges the difficulty of reproducing the inviting environment of Fritz’s class. “I expected it,” he says. “I think the club is very much in the process of being created. We can’t be Poetics of Struggle anymore.”

The Poets’ Club meets on Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. For more details, email ucsbpoetsclub@gmail.com.

Note: The author is a member of Poets’ Club.
The Best and Worst of Carrillo’s Frozen Yogurt

Precursor Tips
1. Bowl or Cone?
   The frozen yogurt set up typically comes with cones. However, there are bowls conveniently scattered around Carrillo meant for salads or soups that can be used for frozen yogurt to pack on the swirls and tons of toppings.
2. Flavors
   To the right there is always a chocolate, vanilla and chocolate-vanilla swirl for those who prefer the classics. But be sure to check the flavors to the left; they rotate often, are original and creative and you never know what you mind find!
3. Toppings Galore
   Near the frozen yogurt station are toppings including brown sugar, granola, almond slivers, raisins and sunflower seeds. But across from the island of toppings and sauces by the window are more traditional toppings like rainbow and chocolate sprinkles.

The Best
1. The classics
   Vanilla and chocolate are by far the fan favorites in most people’s books. If you’re a fan of both flavors, then you can also get a swirled frozen yogurt. These flavors are not the most outstanding compared to other frozen yogurt chains like Menchie’s or Pinkberry, but they are definitely worth trying if you are in the mood for something sweet and classic.
2. Cookies and cream
   It is apparent that Oreos were present in the mix, but the yogurt was mixed so much that it tasted much grainier than one would have hoped. As an Oreo lover, I would have preferred milk’s favorite cookie to be more crushed and chunky to encompass the true texture of this classic treat.
3. Caramel
   The caramel frozen yogurt is among one of the best at Carrillo despite its overly sweet flavor. However, every now and then when I pull the lever down the frozen yogurt, it is completely melted and not cold enough to sustain its shape. Not the yogurt itself’s fault but still an unsatisfying experience. Instead of a nice swirl, it becomes more reminiscent of ice cream melted in the sun.
4. Peanut Butter Salted Caramel
   Although the title implies that it would taste salty, there is a prominent sweetness from the peanut butter that also adds a delectable level of smoothness. The thickness of this yogurt blend is apparent. When I was dispensing it from the machine it took quite a bit longer than your average frozen yogurt and my impatience proved strong. In order to create a classic lunch specialty; you could also accompany your peanut butter salted caramel with grape jelly to make PB&J.
5. Cinnamon Chocolate
   Any other day I would prefer vanilla over chocolate, but when I saw this cocoa concoction included cinnamon, I knew I had to give it a try. Unexpectedly it tasted like a churro without the delicious crunch aspect of the fried traditional Mexican dessert. The texture was smooth yet a tad grainy and looked slightly lighter than the classic chocolate color. Although this was not my favorite, it would be worth trying if you are both a chocolate and cinnamon fan.
6. Vanilla Apricot Earl Grey
   Vanilla is a staple in dessert, but with the subtle sweetness and tang of the apricot along with the earthy flavor of the Earl Grey, this flavor propelled plain ol’ vanilla into another dimension. As one who prefers vanilla over chocolate and tea over coffee, this was by far my favorite frozen yogurt I have tasted in the dining commons thus far.
7. Orange Creamsicle
   This flavor tastes as if orange creamsicle ice cream and popsicles melted, united and resurrected together in frozen yogurt form. The flavor of orange lacked in comparison to the tartness and tanginess of the actual fruit, but the flavor was still enjoyable. In fact, I even went back for seconds. The subtleness of the orange should only be eaten sans toppings to truly enjoy the flavors.
8. Chocolate Mint
   On the same day as the orange creamsicle was served, so was chocolate mint. Tasting them side by side made it apparent how much richer and thicker the chocolate makes the frozen yogurt, proving to be a velvety-rich texture with a cooling yet sweet component. However, orange and chocolate do not make a good combo and the aftertaste was unpleasant.

The Worst
1. European Berry and Mixed Berry
   This flavor is by far my least favorite because it does not taste anything like the title. Similar to the mixed berry, this yogurt reminds me of the smell and taste of lotion. And one may ask, what’s the difference between European and Mixed Berry? To answer your pressing question, there honestly is no difference, at least in this fro-yo, because they are both flavors that are little to be desired.
2. Habanero
   The first question I asked myself was, “Who the hell would even eat this?” The first bite tastes pleasantly cold like any other frozen treat, but then an undesirable and unexpected kick inflamed my mouth. The thought that one would create this flavor troubles me because many dessert eaters do not want something savory after a filling meal. This is my least favorite flavor I have had at the dining commons and myself and my poor scorched taste buds hope it never returns.
A New Definition of ‘Cheating’

Daniela Garcia
Reporter

In the scientific community it has been widely accepted that there is a large amount of cheating by members of mutualistic partnerships. According to a new study conducted by scientists at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) at UCSB, there is no concrete definition scientists use to define the word “cheating.”

The working group that conducted this analysis was led by Emily Jones, an evolutionary ecologist at Rice University in Houston, as well as Maren Friesen, a plant biologist at Michigan State University.

Jones explained, “understanding what mechanisms prevent cheating is a major part of understanding the evolution and persistence of [interspecies] cooperation,” a phenomenon that frequently occurs in the natural world. So, why does this occur if, according to Darwinian natural selection, all living organisms should act in their own self-interest, even if it is at the expense of another’s well being? Well, it seems that the definition of mutualism explains this query. According to an advisor of Friesen, in a mutualistic relationship both partners exploit one another and the benefits far outweigh the consequences. Therefore this self-interest then leads to cheating, because once a partner has taken as much as they need from their other partner, they will move on to the next partner. In simple terms, natural selection encourages species to cheat.

Given this background knowledge, the scientists reviewed a variety of studies on cheating among species that cooperate for a mutual benefit and found that there was no widespread common definition of cheating. It seemed that within most of the studies the researchers looked at, the definition of cheating was focused on only one side of the situation — the cheater or the one being cheated on. This way of looking at cheating only showed that one partner was taking more from his or her counterpart, but it doesn’t imply that the partner being cheated on was harmed.

Although the outcome of the study didn’t prove or disprove whether a large amount of cheating happens among mutualistic partnerships, it lead to a concrete definition of the word cheating.

“‘To be clear, we found that evidence of cheating is currently rare. That is different than there being evidence that cheating is rare,” Jones said. “Currently, most of our evidence is insufficient to determine how rare cheating is. However, theory does suggest that cheating should be rare, and thus I would not be surprised if the evidence eventually shows that cheating is rare.”

In order for one to be considered cheating on their partner, the cheating must improve the organism’s Darwinian fitness above the fitness of the rest of its species, while simultaneously decreasing the fitness of their partner far below the rest of their species. Jones explained why it is imperative to include the concept of species fitness in the definition of mutualistic cheating. This definition can be used all the time, across the board, in every situation.

“The common denominator in other definitions of cheating is that it is a threat to the persistence of cooperation. We wanted a definition that captured this threat but also specified how cheats could be identified in a standard way,” Jones said. “Logically, in order for a behavior to be a threat to cooperation between mutualist species, it must both spread in one species and reduce the benefit of the interaction for partners in the other species. Both of these effects can best be measured through relative fitness. Additionally, relative fitness is something that can be compared meaningfully across different systems.”

This new definition of the word cheating will be very useful in future studies on mutualism by ending the confusion on what qualifies as cheating. By taking an interdisciplinary approach to this issue, this working group has gained a better understanding on how to define the actions done by the members of the mutual partnerships in our natural world.

The highly social false killer whales and bottlenose dolphins form interspecies partnerships with each other during hunts to help themselves defend and avoid predators.
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