

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Hannah Jackson
Asst. Opinion Editor

If you had asked me a few years ago where I'd want to live after college, I would tell you Los Angeles without a moment's hesitation. Leaving my home state, or even my hometown, had never crossed my

shootings hit incredibly close to home for me, as they targeted communities with which I consider myself affiliated. The Jewish community of Pittsburgh was targeted when a man opened fire using an AR-15 during a morning service at the Tree of Life

considered common sense. After a mass shooting in 1996,

age of purchasing a firearm to 21, but we are far from full reform. As a community rocked by gun violence, it is Isla Vista's responsibility to remain at the forefront of demanding better gun laws and what comes with it. Vote for representatives who will vote for common sense gun laws.

Vote out the NRA's puppets. And, in the meantime, remember that we have a long way to go before we see change. I'll leave you, then, with one quintessential American takeaway: The right to own a semi-automatic assault weapon is somehow enshrined in the constitution, but you know what isn't? Healthcare – something you'll desperately need if you're lucky enough to survive being shot.

Hannah Jackson thinks that the right to life is exponentially more valuable than the second amendment.

Opinion | Guns Trump Lives: Is It Worth Living In America Anymore?

mind – that is, until now. As I consider more and more the growing insecurity and increasing frequency of mass shootings in our country, I don't even know that I want to live in America at all.

Having spent Fall Quarter abroad in the United Kingdom, I experienced two major mass shootings – Pittsburgh and Thousand Oaks – from beyond the confines of the American border. Living in a country outside the U.S. has opened my eyes to how truly broken our political system is – one where the right to own a gun clearly trumps the right to live.

Going abroad always raises concerns, mainly of safety. The United Kingdom has seen a meteoric rise in anti-Semitism (as has the U.S.) and has since greatly tightened domestic security amid mounting threats of terrorism. But guess what it doesn't have? Seemingly daily reports of horrific and preventable mass shootings.

Both the Tree of Life Synagogue and Borderline

Synagogue. Before his rampage, he allegedly shouted, "All Jews must die!" Amongst his victims were family members, a pioneering doctor and a Holocaust survivor. When one manages to escape the horrors of the Holocaust, it is such a cruel irony to die at the hands of an anti-Semite in a country previously viewed as a safe haven. The Borderline shooting was another instance of a community close to my heart that was rocked by tragedy. While the country was still reeling from the Pittsburgh shooting, news soon broke that an ex-Marine fired into a crowded college night at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks, California. The man used a legally-obtained Glock with an illegal extended magazine, though the illegality of said magazine is at odds with views typical to gun rights activists.

Trying to explain mass shootings to the friends I made abroad was incredibly frustrating, mostly because I couldn't completely wrap my head around them myself. In no world does it make any sense for guns to take precedence over any human life. In the UK, the value of a human life over that of a gun is

the UK banned several types of guns and strictly controlled background checks. Presently, the rate of gun ownership in the UK is 6.5 guns for every 100 people. The U.S., which has had a mass shooting for practically every day of the year, has a rate of 101 guns for every 100 people. For the first time in a long time I felt at ease while I was out; like I could breathe at the club, at the movies, at school or on public transportation. While living in a big city certainly was unpredictable and unnerving things did happen, I never once worried about what I would do if someone pulled out a gun and started shooting. For the first time, I genuinely considered leaving America after college.

California has taken a very small yet important step forward toward greater gun control by raising the

Unfinished Business: I.V., State and National Leaders Praise New California Gun Control Laws But Hope For More

Simren Verma
University News Editor
Max Abrams
Reporter

California's legislative tiller has rolled its way through the new year, allowing for several new gun control laws to sprout from the seeds of last year's bills. So far, the new laws have been subject to praise from UC Santa Barbara, Isla Vista, California and national leaders.

The new laws include:

- Senate Bill 1100: Raises the minimum age to purchase a firearm to 21
 - Assembly Bill 1968: Imposes lifetime gun-ownership bans on individuals considered to be "dangerous gun owners"
 - Senate Bill 1346: Bans bump-stock devices
 - Assembly Bill 3129: Imposes lifetime gun-ownership bans on individuals convicted of domestic violence
 - Assembly Bill 2103: Requires that individuals applying for concealed-carry weapons permits undergo a minimum of eight hours of training
 - Senate Bill 1200: Magazines and ammunition can now be temporarily confiscated as part of a gun violence restraining order.
- I.V. and UCSB community leaders have oftentimes held vigils after mass shootings occur in the United States and around the world,

calling for stricter gun control laws in both California and the country to prevent future mass shootings. To some extent, their calls seem to have been heard.

Hannah-Beth Jackson, Santa Barbara's state senator representing California's 19th district and author of SB 1346, optimistically expressed approval for the new gun control laws.

Although these laws encompass the entire state, UCSB's past experience with gun violence oftentimes compels many local leaders and students to be more vocal about their opinions on the issue of gun control.

In May 2014, a violent attack in I.V. left six people killed. Most died due to gunshot wounds.

"[UCSB] students will support these laws by being reminded that we need to do more – this will give them an incentive to call for more action, particularly at the federal level to combat gun violence," Jackson said in an interview with the Nexus.

Combating gun violence has been an ongoing initiative in California, highlighted by legislative action taken by former California Governor Jerry Brown.

While Gov. Brown did sign some bills addressing gun control, he also vetoed a number of them, some of

which could have reduced the number of guns in the state, Jackson said.

In the context of gun control, Jackson has high expectations for Gov. Newsom.

"I expect him to be very supportive of policies that help reduce gun violence and keep our communities safe," she said.

Jackson believes her bump-stock bill, SB 1346, will have an impact in



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ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS

A
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INSIDE

SPORTS
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How Men's Basketball Stacks Up Within the League



"Dissecting"
Music's Most Necessary Podcast
ARTSWEEK
page 8



ON THE MENU
page 10
Recipes to Warm Your Cold Heart

Weather Report
Mostly Cloudy
High 59°F | Low 47°F
Surf Report
Rough
You'll probably contract flesh-eating bacteria



THIS

WEEK'S

UP & COMING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

ZULFIKAR ALI BHUTTO //FALUDA ISLAM\\

MCC THEATER | 7:30PM



Zulfikar Ali Bhutto //Faluda Islam\\ is an artist, performer, zombie drag queen and curator of mixed Pakistani, Lebanese and Iranian descent. His work explores complex identities formed by centuries of colonialism and exacerbated by contemporary international politics. Bhutto unpacks the intersections of queerness and Islam and how it exists in a constant liminal and non-aligned space. She has traveled through time and space and been brought back to life through wifi technology from a gory encounter with American-allied troops in Libya. As a time traveller and living corpse, she has many powers including being able to speak to the dead, as she herself comes back to life she will also resurrect, if only for a brief period, martyrs, comrades, allies and family who she must engage in conversation with.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

QUOTE UNQUOTE COLLECTIVE

CAMPBELL HALL | 8:00PM

A two-woman theatrical performance acclaimed for its raw honesty and insightful portrayal of womanhood, *Mouthpiece* follows a woman over the course of a day as she struggles to find her voice. The engrossing work is co-created and performed by the Toronto-based Quote Unquote Collective.



Photo: Brooke Waddock

DAILY

NEXUS

WWW.DAILYNEXUS.COM

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"Eating spicy food is like BDSM."

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Contact Us

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

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

Additional contact information for individual sections and editors can be found at www.dailynexus.com
University of California, Santa Barbara
PO Box 13402 UCEN
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

WEATHER

The Weatherhuman is going to lose hir MIND if ze hears one more man complain about the Gillette ad!!! Wake up plz and try to be (a little) less shitty :-)

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

4/28/12

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8	6	1	2	5	3	7	4	9
9	2	7	4	1	6	5	3	8
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2	7	9	8	4	5	3	6	1
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

TESTED FILM SCREENING

MCC THEATER | 6:00PM

The racialized opportunity gap in America remains extreme. Nowhere is this more evident than our nation's top public schools. In New York City, where Blacks and Hispanics make up 70 percent of the city's school-aged population, they represent less than 5 percent at the city's most elite public high schools. Meanwhile, Asian Americans make up as much as 73 percent. This documentary, in an effort to prove that this gap is systematic, not individual, follows a dozen racially and socioeconomically diverse eighth graders as they fight for a seat at one of these schools. Their only way in: to ace a single standardized test. TESTED includes the voices of such education experts as Pedro Noguera and Diane Ravitch as it explores such issues as access to a high-quality public education, affirmative action, and the model-minority myth. Post film discussion with director, Curtis Chin himself!



FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

IMPROVABILITY

8:00PM | \$3

EMBARCADERO HALL

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS:

OVERLOAD

7:00PM AND 10:00PM

IV THEATER

JAN. 18 & 21

\$4



©BILLY RAY ©BILLY RAY, MARK L. SMITH ©JULIUS RIVERA

ACROSS

- 1 Help for the poor
- 5 Buffalo bunches
- 10 Florida resort, familiarly
- 14 Quick look
- 15 German sub
- 16 Cowardly Lion actor
- 17 Old Sinclair Oil rival
- 18 "Throw ___ From the Train"
- 19 Soap Box Derby state
- 20 Defend a position
- 23 Bind with a band
- 24 Pinup's leg
- 25 Water under the bridge
- 28 One in a church chorus?
- 30 Brit. fliers
- 33 Walk-off home run, often
- 35 Horne of jazz
- 36 Metallic mixture
- 37 Homie
- 38 Honda compact
- 39 Fast-talking
- 40 Explodes with rage
- 42 PC panic button
- 43 Rounded hammer end
- 44 Filled flapjack-like food
- 45 Assist
- 46 Bow-toting deity
- 47 With "The," PBS show for kids, and a hint to the ends of 20-, 33- and 40-Across
- 55 Put in cargo
- 56 Swashbuckler Flynn
- 57 Space
- 58 Prepare, as rice
- 59 Petty
- 60 Swed. neighbor
- 61 "The Thin Man" terrier
- 62 Tones down
- 63 Before long

DOWN

- 1 "Tarzan" characters
- 2 "___ we forget"

- 3 Colorado's ___ Verde National Park
- 4 Toon fry cook in The Krusty Krab restaurant
- 5 "Just go along with what I said"
- 6 WWII investment
- 7 "When in ___ ..."
- 8 River projects
- 9 Walk drunkenly
- 10 Come into one's own
- 11 Hawaii's most populous island
- 12 Stubble spot
- 13 Yankee slugger, familiarly
- 21 Bridget Jones's book
- 22 Was on the ballot
- 25 ___ fright
- 26 Cultivates
- 27 Thing of the past
- 28 Soap Box Derby city
- 29 Ask for Friskies, maybe
- 30 Accelerate, as an engine
- 31 Licorice-flavored seed

- 32 Stands up to
- 34 Competent
- 35 Cradle-to-grave stretches
- 38 Billiards bounce
- 40 Doctor's advice
- 41 Uses a mouse wheel
- 43 Poe's "The ___ and the Pendulum"
- 45 Amtrak speedster

- 46 Pierre's school
- 47 Isle off Tuscany
- 48 Cambodia neighbor
- 49 Revise copy
- 50 "Joy of Cooking" writer Rombauer
- 51 Study all night
- 52 Suffix with buck
- 53 Emperor after Claudius I
- 54 Show fatigue

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

A	B	S	O	R	B		S	H	A	H		E	L	S
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xwordeditor@aol.com

05/07/13

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61					62						63			

By Jack McInturff
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05/07/13

Tomorrow's Forecast:

Self righteous white men ruling the world and sadness

CSD and STESA To Bring Survivor Resource Center to I.V.

Arturo Martinez Rivera
Reporter

The Isla Vista Community Services District finalized an agreement during its Jan. 8 meeting to open a survivor resource center in Isla Vista in collaboration with Standing Together Against Sexual Assault, an organization addressing sexual assault in Santa Barbara.

Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA) President Emily Montalvo-Telford said the new center would make it easier for survivors to meet with a Standing Together to End Sexual Assault (STESA) representative and receive immediate counseling. The center will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The center will provide a place in I.V. where survivors can receive medical attention, make a police report and obtain an emergency protective order. Previously, survivors would only have access to these services at STESA's location in downtown Santa Barbara.

Survivors will also be able to obtain emergency services such as food, shelter and transportation. The center will also have the resources to help survivors apply for U Visas and T Visas, Montalvo said.

U visas are non-immigrant visas designed to aid victims of crime who have suffered physical or mental abuse in the U.S. and are assisting the investigation of the crime. T visas provide the same service to those who have suffered from human trafficking.

The idea for a Survivor Resource Center in I.V. began with Ro/Shawndra Earvin's 2017 Demands, a list of 12 demands presented to Chancellor Yang after a 13 hour sit-in.

Earvin, a former student at UCSB and advocate for sexual assault reforms, along with a large group of students, presented a list of 12 demands calling for sexual assault reform. The No. 1 demand on the list called for

the creation of a survivor resource center.

STESA, along with SASA and the I.V. CSD board members, have been collaborating over the past year in order to make the center a reality.

Spencer Brandt, board president of the I.V. CSD, said work on the project first began in Spring 2018 when he was approached by Montalvo and Madeline Loudon, I.V. Community Coordinator for SASA. They presented to Brandt the lack of services for survivors of sexual assault provided by UCSB and said that the resource center would be a quick solution to the problem.

"We want to be a voice for survivors when there are injustices in the system," Brandt said. "So this, in particular, is an example of a supporting service."

Funding for the center primarily comes from the Measure R tax that was passed last year, granting the CSD a source of revenue for their projects.

The survivor resource center will be located in a central location in I.V. and will be easily accessible for residents of the community, Montalvo said. To access the center, a survivor would need to call STESA's hotline at (805) 564-3696, where they will be directed by an advocate to the center for aid.

"During our budgeting process this year, it was a big priority for the budget committee to make a line item specifically for renovating this space so that it could become the survivor resource center," Brandt said.

Montalvo and Brandt both mentioned how rewarding it was to work with the various groups dedicated to resolving the issue of sexual assault in Isla Vista and UCSB.

"Honestly, this project was one of the smoothest that I've ever seen, especially when it comes to projects where I've worked with student groups on it, and that is really a testament to SASA and everything they've done. The same would go for STESA," Brandt said.

Newsom Allocates \$400 Million to UCs



SICHENG WANG / DAILY NEXUS

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

Newly-elected Governor Gavin Newsom released his budget plan for California on Thursday, with approximately a \$400 million augmentation for the University of California system.

Newsom, who was sworn in on Jan. 7, 2019, called his \$144 billion budget a "California For All" plan that places emphasis on "building a foundation for the American dream."

"During my inaugural speech, I described the California Dream as a house we are building together," Newsom said in a press release. "That wasn't just a speech device – it's exactly what we are proposing today. To make the California Dream available to all, our state must be fiscally sound."

The UC Office of the President (UCOP) and the UC Board of Regents were quick to praise Newsom's budget, calling it a "welcome step and a solid down payment" for the UC system.

"These funds help further the academic mission of the university, from student success to classroom upgrades, financial aid to timely graduations," UCOP and the Regents said in joint statement released soon after the budget plan was announced.

Gov. Newsom's funds for the UC are mainly split into three parts: \$240 million toward an ongoing general fund, \$138 million as one-time payment and \$15 million to increase degree completion and programs at UC extension centers, according to the budget.

The ongoing general fund will fund finance operating costs, efforts to increase student success, improving student mental health services and helping to address homelessness and student hunger; the one-time fund will address the UC's deferred maintenance backlog.

"These investments are provided with the expectation that tuition will remain flat, access will be increased, and time to degree will improve," the budget states.

This \$400 million is an increase from the \$346 million that former Gov. Brown allocated in the Budget Act of 2018.

Newsom's budget took into account the UC's "significant growth" over the past decade. Enrollment for the UC system rose from about 230,000 students in 2010 compared to 270,000 for fall 2017, a 19.2 percent increase, according to the budget.

For UC Santa Barbara, this was 22,000 in 2010 to approximately 25,000 students for Fall 2017.

Within the \$400 million allotted, there is also a designated \$5.3 million toward mental health services – with the goal of allowing campuses to hire additional clinicians -- and \$15 million toward addressing student hunger and housing needs.

Approximately \$1.3 million for an immigration legal services program is also designated, to begin in 2022-23.

The budget also included a \$1 million fund toward supporting UC Davis' Firearms Violence Research Center, beginning in 2021-22.

Newsom will not sign the budget until June, after the California legislature has voted on it.



STAFFER / DAILY NEXUS

The idea for a Survivor Resource Center in I.V. began with Ro/Shawndra Earvin's 2017 Demands, a list of 12 demands presented to Chancellor Yang after a 13 hour sit-in.

Food Bank To Increase Hours Due to Food Insecurity

Michelle Wong
Reporter

Over 3,000 UC Santa Barbara students visited the Associated Students Food Bank in the 2017-2018 school year, making up approximately 13 percent of the student body, according to the A.S. Food Bank's annual report.

The Food Bank recently expanded its service hours for students last October, adding Friday to their regular Monday, Wednesday and Thursday schedule.

Food Bank use has "been increasing steadily" for about 18 months, according to Rodolfo Herrera, A.S. Food Bank's Food Bank coordinator.

"We used to see 400 students a day, and now we're seeing about 600," Herrera said.

However, a 2016 study conducted on UC students by the UC Global Food initiative suggests that more UCSB students have food insecurity than are using the food bank.

Approximately 19 percent of University of California students suffered from very low food security, and about 23 percent suffered from low food security, according to the study.

According to a separate 2017 study from the Global Food Initiative, food insecurity was more prevalent among under-represented minority students. Approximately 62 percent of African-American and 57 percent of Hispanic students reported

experiencing food insecurity, while 35 percent of white students and 41 percent of Asian-American students reported it.

LGBTQ students and first-generation students also reported higher rates of food insecurity than non-LGBTQ and non-first-generation students.

Students experiencing food insecurity were 11 percent more likely to purchase food from fast food restaurants, according to the 2016 study. Food insecurity also can negatively impact diet quality through inadequate amounts of vitamins and minerals, leading to potential health issues.

These students also reported lower GPA averages (3.1) compared to students who are confident in their food security (3.4). Food insecure students were also seven percent more likely to suspend studies due to financial hardship.

Over half of food-insecure UC students were new to food insecurity, according to the study.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines several levels of food security. Individuals with high food security do not have food-access limitations or problems. Food security includes those experiencing both high and marginal food security.

People with marginal food security have issues accessing adequate food, but the quality, variety and quantity of their food intake is not considerably reduced, according to the USDA.

Low food security symptoms, however, include reduced qual-

ity, variety and desirability of diets without significant changes in quantity.

Very low security qualifies as disrupted eating patterns and lowered food intake due to a lack of money and resources.

UC students also reported higher rates of food insecurity than United States residents as a whole.

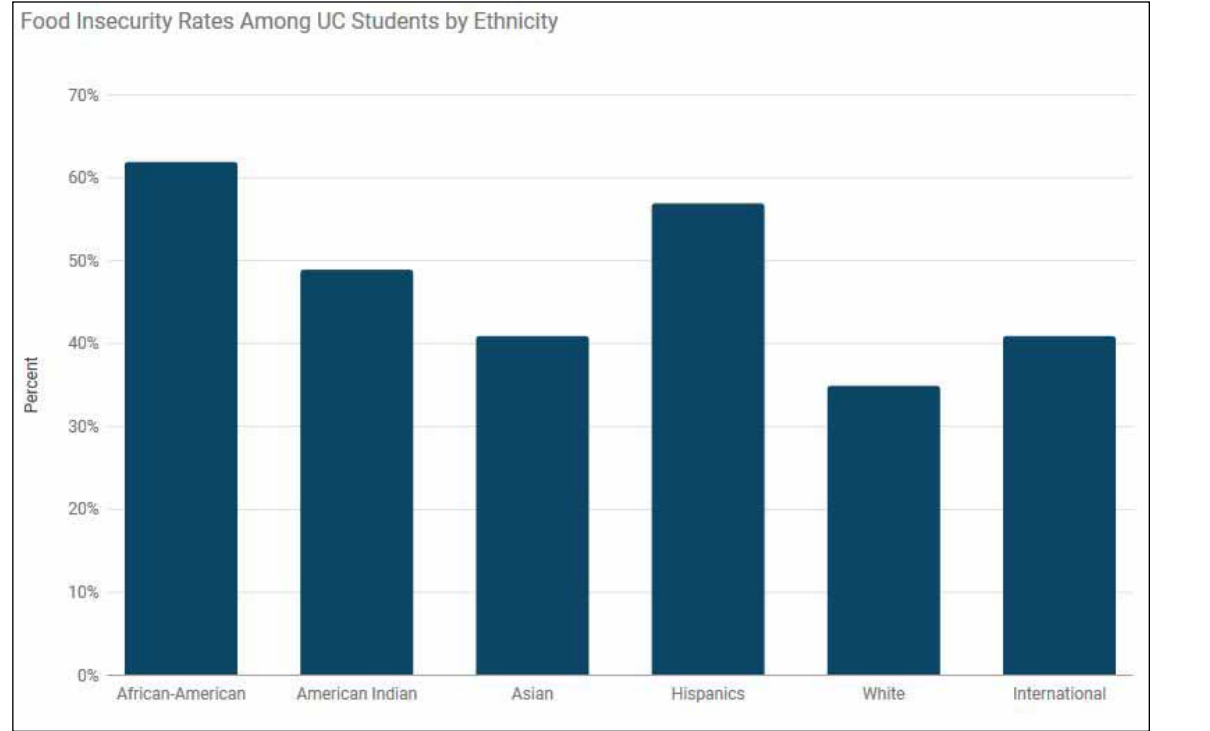
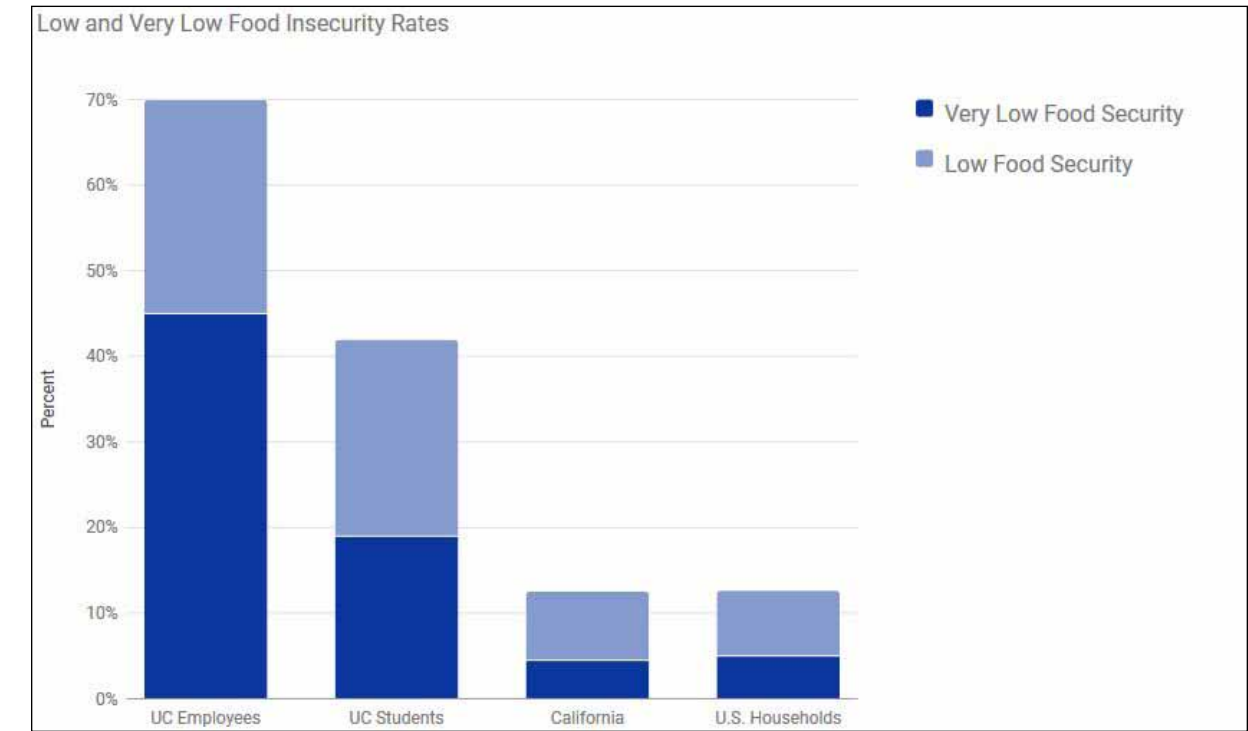
Undergraduates were more likely to have low or very low food security than graduate students. Approximately 48 percent of undergraduates had low or very low food security compared to 25 percent of graduate students.

Approximately 12 percent of U.S. households were food insecure in 2017, according to a USDA survey. Less than five percent of U.S. residents had very low food security that year.

Other universities had significant rates of food insecurity among students as well. A 2016 survey at West Virginia University found that approximately 30 percent of students at the university were food insecure.

At a mid-sized rural university in Oregon, 59 percent of students were food insecure at some point between May 2010 and May 2011, according to a 2014 study.

Students, however, are not the only people on campus affected by food insecurity. A 2016 study from Occidental College found that 45 percent of clerical, administrative and support staff across the University of California suffer from very low food security and an additional 25 percent have low food security.



HAYLEY TICE / DAILY NEXUS

California's New Gun Laws

Continued from p.1

reducing gun violence by prohibiting access to bump stocks in California and will hopefully reduce the number of gun deaths in the state.

“I’m happy to see that our representative Hannah Beth Jackson introduced SB 1346,” Jeike Meijer, Associated Students (A.S.) executive vice president of local affairs, said in an email.

Meijer spoke at the vigil for the 11 lives lost in a Pittsburgh synagogue due to gun violence and then again at the vigil in remembrance of the Thousand Oaks shooting victims.

Both mass shootings occurred in November.

“Hopefully we’ll see the rest of the country follow California soon,” Meijer added.

Brooke Kopel, A.S. president, believes the new legislation will be effective.

“[Gun violence] is always on people’s minds, on prospective students’ minds, and I think that these kinds of measures are exactly what we need to have students feel more comfortable and safe in Isla Vista,” Kopel said.

Kopel believes that SB 1100 specifically, which raises the minimum age to 21 to purchase a firearm, would make UCSB students more comfortable “knowing that the people around them can’t even purchase a firearm.”

“Even though most of the students that are attending this university now weren’t here to experience the 2014 shooting, that legacy does live on through vigils and remembrances,” Kopel added.

Still, Kopel finds that more work needs to be done and believes that a “cultural change” regarding guns is needed in the United States.

Monique Limón, who represents the 37th Assembly District, has expressed hope for the new gun control laws in California, but also believes that there is still work to be done.

Limón is specifically looking forward to the potential impacts of AB 3129, which imposes a lifetime ban on individuals convicted of domestic violence.

“I am especially hopeful that AB 3129... will make an impact in reducing the rate of women and children who die at the hands of repeat domestic abusers,” she said in an email.

Spencer Brandt, board president of the Isla Vista Community Services District, believes that California serves as a model for the rest of the country when it comes to gun control legislation.

“As a resident of Isla Vista, I feel like my voice has been heard and that our calls for reducing the amount of gun violence in this country are actually being taken seriously,” Brandt said.

While Brandt believes that California is an effective leader on gun control legislation, he does not think the federal government has been adequately following California’s lead.

“The national government, under the Republican Party, has decided that they’re going to pretend like they can ignore this issue and it’ll just go away,” Brandt said. “I think that that philosophy is something that has never worked out well and never been viewed well by history.”

“The federal government used to look to California as a model, because these are the sorts of bills that should be implemented nationally.”

Congressman Salud Carbajal said that he’s fighting for just that: he wants pieces of California gun control legislation to be laws of the nation.

Carbajal plans to reintroduce the Gun Violence Restraining Act in the House of Representatives.

“[The Gun Violence Restraining Act] allows family members, when they come across a loved one that seems to be, through their behavior, posing a danger to themselves or others... to work with law enforcement, officials and the court system to temporarily take guns away from [that individual],” Carbajal



“
Hopefully we’ll
see the rest of the
country follow
California soon.

Jeike Meijer

NEXUS FILE PHOTO

said in an interview with the Nexus.

“It’s actually similar to the one that California has in place that was enacted after the tragedy that happened in Isla Vista and UCSB, so it’s duplicating a similar law that exists in California.”

Carbajal believes that the new California gun control legislation will enhance gun safety in California, and says he is “working to introduce similar legislation and be part of similar legislation introduced here in the House of Representatives.”

“Far too many lives continue to be taken due to unnecessary gun use,” Carbajal said.

“We need to make sure we are passing banning assault weapons, that we are banning high capacity magazines and that we move forward with universal background checks and the Gun Violence Restraining Order Act.”

Letters & Science Runner-Up Senator Sworn In



SANYA KAMIDI / DAILY NEXUS

Sanya Kamidi
Asst. News Editor

Gabriella Shofet, a fourth-year biopsychology major, was sworn in as the newest Letters & Science Senator on Wednesday evening after former Senator Joshua Takeuchi stepped down over winter break.

Takeuchi said in a statement to Internal Vice President Steven Ho that he decided to resign in order to dedicate more time to a business with which he is working.

“That being said, while I will no longer be serving on senate with you all, I will still be around to continue working on my senate project with Senator Funk and assist in any way,” Takeuchi said in his statement.

Shofet was the first runner-up for a Letters & Science senator position in the Spring Quarter 2018 Election, earning 12.94 percent of the first-choice votes for the position. Takeuchi came just above Shofet with 14.88 percent.

Shofet’s platform in the spring included:

- “[creating] a L&S Student Council that allows chosen students to act as liaisons between their major departments and their colleagues to vocalize their concerns and needs;
- [reforming] library late-night to include more study spaces as well as textbooks course reserves, whiteboards and computers;
- [implementing] a women in S.T.E.M mentorship program that matches freshmen and sophomores with juniors and seniors who act as personalized peer advisors;
- [executing] a stream-lined research matching program that categorizes available research opportunities to be more accessible on collegiate-wide basis.”

Shofet also stressed her appreciation for education and her previous experience teaching English to children as well as her time in research labs studying brain sciences.

While Shofet said she was excited to serve on the Senate, she joked that Ho would have to teach her everything now.

Associated Students Senate Shows Support of Voting Rights for Non-Citizens in Isla Vista Elections

Katherine Swartz
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, UC Santa Barbara’s Associated Students Senate unanimously passed a resolution in support of extending voting to non-citizens in Isla Vista local government.

This resolution was authored by Off-Campus Senator Rafael Cornejo and On-Campus Senator Melissa Perez.

Perez emphasized during the meeting that the extension of voting rights, if done, would only be for local governments into which Isla Vista residents pay taxes.

“They would only be voting on Isla Vista measures, not president, not governor, not any national or state issues. Students live in IV. for four to five years; they deserve to have their voices heard,” Perez said.

The resolution writes that non-citizen resident status includes “visa holders, permanent residents, undocumented, and mixed status.”

The Senate will only support these efforts if residents’ personal information and voting data will not be accessible to third parties such as

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (I.C.E.), and if any movements to extend voting rights to non-citizens does not negatively impact UCSB students.

Residents of IV. pay property taxes which fund local agencies including the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District (IVRPD), the Isla Vista Community Services District (IV. CSD) and local school districts, but only citizens can elect board members to these organizations.

The issue of voting rights for non-citizens is personal for Cornejo.

“As students and residents here we pay taxes ... For some, you do have a vote on who you elect, for others, myself for instance, I do not,” Cornejo told the Senate during Wednesday’s meeting.

Measure R was cited as a reason for passing the resolution. Because non-citizens could not vote for this measure, which raised taxes for IV. residents, “many students and UCSB community members [are] disenfranchised regarding their tax dollars,” according to the resolution.

During discussion of the resolution, Cornejo cited the San Francisco Unified School District as an example of granting non-citizens the right to vote in District elections. In November 2016, San Francisco voters passed

Proposition N, which extended voting rights in school district elections to non-citizens who are of legal voting age and are a parent or legal guardian of a child under 19 living in San Francisco.

Currently, there are no resolutions to extend voting rights to non-citizens in IV., and the path to extend non-citizens the right to vote is more complex than other cities because IV. is unincorporated territory.

According to Cornejo, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors would have to vote to declare IV. incorporated territory. If IV. was an incorporated territory, town representatives could add a resolution into IV.’s bylaws granting non-citizens voting rights in local elections.

As of 7 p.m. on Wednesday, IV. CSD President Spencer Brandt said he was not aware of the resolution and said he would have to consult IV. CSD’s legal counsel before he could give a firm answer about what governing body would have the power to grant non-citizens local voting rights.

“But in general, I support allowing undocumented people to vote in local elections. If you live here and pay taxes here, you should be able to participate in local decision making,” Brandt added in a statement to the *Nexus*.



RILEY ESGUERRA / DAILY NEXUS

Two Candidates Declare in Third Attempt To Elect New EVPSA

Evelyn Spence
County News Editor

The Declaration of Candidacy period for the External Vice President for Statewide Affairs Winter Quarter special election closed at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, leaving two candidates in the running for an executive position that has remained vacant for over nine months.

The two declared candidates – Richard Zierer and Rachel Ng – are newcomers to the External Vice President for Statewide Affairs (EVPSA) election. Neither have previous experience in Associated Students (A.S.) Senate and did not run during either the Spring Quarter 2018 election and the Fall Quarter 2018 special election.

Zierer is a fourth-year political science and English double major; Ng is a fourth-year biological sciences and global studies double major. Neither could immediately be reached for comment.

A notable absence in the Winter Quarter 2019 special election is third-year history of public policy major Madeline Loudon. Loudon ran for the position during both the Spring Quarter 2018 election and the Fall Quarter 2018 special election.

In the first, she lost to her competitor, Mayela Morales; in the second she was the sole candidate, but the election did not reach the 16 percent voting threshold required for it to be valid.

Loudon could not immediately be reached for comment.

This is Election Board's second attempt to fill the position following the disqualification of EVPSA-elect Morales during the Spring Quarter 2018 election.

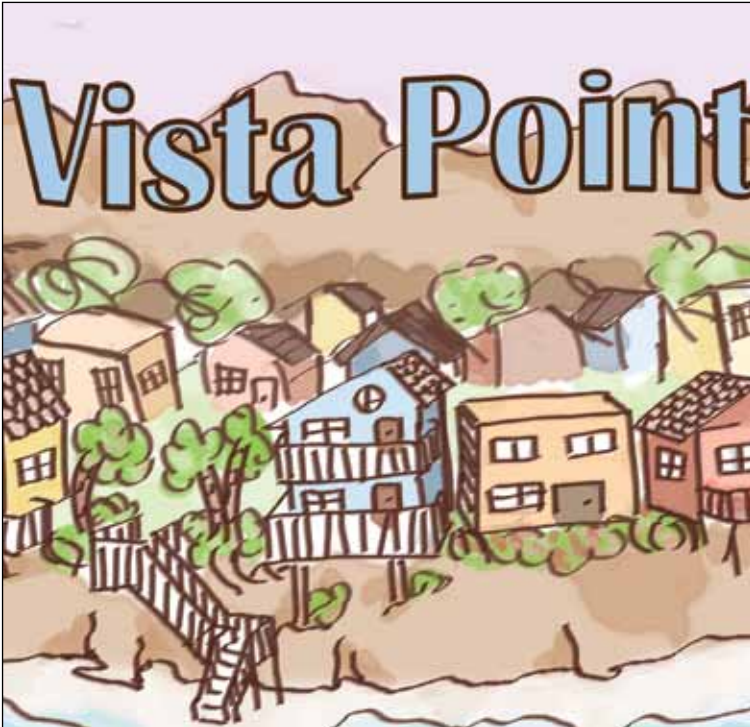
The board discovered that Morales, a fifth-year global studies and Chicana and Chicano studies major, was not enrolled during Spring Quarter 2018, disqualifying her from the position.

Following the failure to meet the minimum voting threshold for the fall election, the board petitioned to hold a Winter Quarter special election. The Senate initially tabled the petition over winter break but eventually passed it the week before school resumed.

A.S. Senate voted to table the ballot Wednesday night, pending further background checks of the candidates.

On-Campus Senator Lea Toubian expressed concern about voter burnout during Wednesday night's meeting – because the board has held an election every quarter this school year unlike the typical one-election-a-year system – but Elections Board Chair John Paul Renteria said he did not think it would be a problem for the upcoming spring elections.

Voting for the election opens on Jan. 24, 2019. Results will be announced on Feb. 7. More than eight percent of the student body must vote in the election for it to be valid.



Weekly Events in Isla Vista

Staff Report

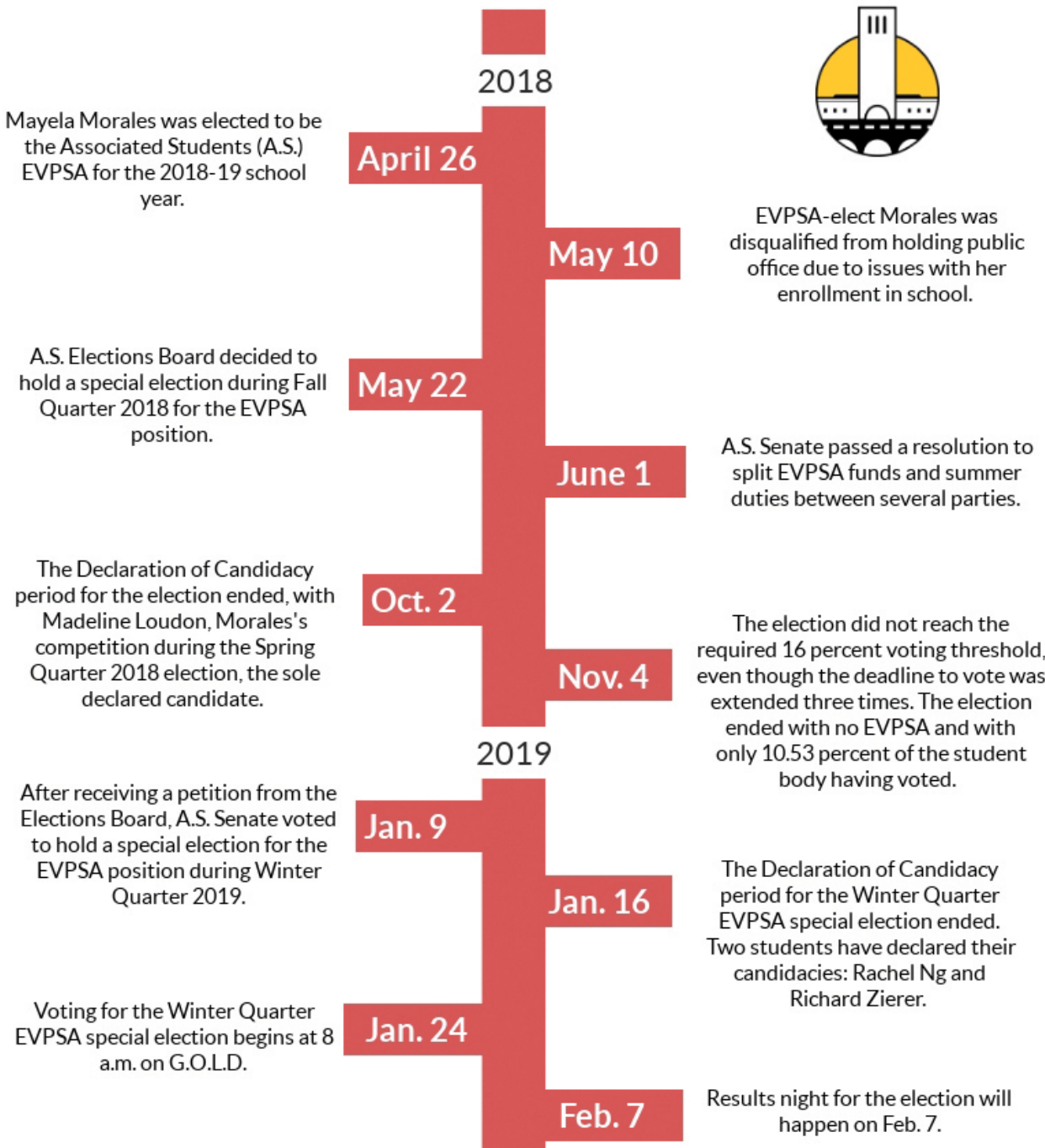
“HAIR” the Musical
Step back into the 60s for a couple hours with a student performance of “HAIR” the musical this weekend. Shrunkn Heads Production Company, a student-run theatre group that organizes various musical performances, will be offering several showtimes throughout the weekend, with performances on Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Campbell Hall. Sing along to hit rock songs from the musical including “Aquarius,” “Good Morning Starshine” and “Let the Sunshine In” while following the story of a group of young friends who navigate the trials of everyday life against the backdrop of the military draft and Vietnam War. UCSB Students and military members can get in for free; students can buy tickets for \$5.50 and general admission is \$10.50.

Pajama Party!
Don't let the rain keep you indoors this weekend! A couple local bands will brave the storm to perform live music for I.V. residents. Stop by to see Close Out, a three-member punk, reggae and alternative rock band from I.V., and Peach Gazebo, another local band, this Friday at 6666 Sueno Rd. Party-goers are encouraged to come dressed in their comfiest onesie or pajamas to dance the night away in style. Peach Gazebo opens the show from 9:20 p.m to 10:20 p.m. and then Close Out will finish out the night from 9:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Shopping in Style
If you're one of those people who still doesn't use reusable bags when grocery shopping, you're still in 2018. Update your shopping routine while learning about the latest in zero-waste grocery shopping from staff at the I.V. Food Co-op on 6575 Seville Rd. This upcoming Wednesday, Jan. 23, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Co-op Sustainability Coordinator Allison will provide information on how attendees can reduce their “shopping footprint.” The workshop includes tastings of zero-waste recipes as well as raffles to win reusable water bottles and containers. All participants will leave with a reusable shopping bag, so for that roommate who always asks to borrow yours, be sure to bring them along.

External Vice President for Statewide Affairs Election Timeline

We went from April 2018 to January 2019 with no EVPSA. Here's how.
Check out dailynexus.com for more information.



ORIENTATION

DAILY NEXUS

Get involved and make your voice heard!

Meet under Storke Tower on Tuesday or Thursday the 22nd and 24th at 6pm

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

*videographers

*graphic designers

*coders

*photographers

*artists

*writers

QUESTIONS?

CONCERNS?

COMMENTS?

TIPS?

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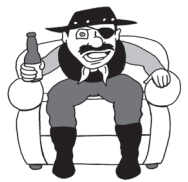
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Armchair QB



The Warriors marched into the top-seeded Nugget's stadium and made a strong statement with a 142-111 win. If you were worried about any semblance of parity in the NBA fret not, Boogie is back on Friday.

Men's Volleyball

The UCSB men's volleyball team started off the season on fire and is currently ranked #12 in the country. Make sure to tune in and support your Gauchos as they take on Ball St. on Friday at 4 p.m.

SPORTS

UCSB Heads North To Take On Last-Place UC Davis

The Gauchos are set to defend their position atop the Big West Standings this Thursday night against the UC Davis Aggies



ANGIE BANKS/ DAILY NEXUS

Richard Benites
Staff Writer

Another week of collegiate men's basketball is on the cards, as the Gauchos are on the road for another Big West bout against UC Davis.

On Thursday, UCSB travels up north to face off against the UC Davis Aggies. This road game is following the Gauchos' long home series of five consecutive games at the Thunderdome, with their last away game occurring back in Dec. 19 of last year.

The Gauchos' 13-3 overall and 2-0 conference record is enough to place them at the very top of Big West Standings, with UC Irvine falling in second place and CSUN in third.

UC Davis finds themselves at the bottom of the table at a 4-12 overall and 0-2 conference record, but a surprise win will do them the world of good in terms of conference standings.

The Gauchos are red hot entering this game, considering their current five-game win streak that they'd like to extend over the Aggies.

UCSB's most recent win occurred last weekend in another Big West showdown at home against UC Riverside, which ended in a 72-64 final score that favored the Gaucho hosts.

On the season, UCSB stands at an overall record of 13-3, with an outstanding 9-0 record when at home. Although on paper this upcoming match may appear to be a trap game, UCSB is actually 2-3 when it comes to their performance on the road.

Alternatively, UC Davis is 3-2 when defending their home court, so both teams will want to bring those respective records to an even .500 win percentage.

A win for the Gauchos will bring their win streak to six in a row and further cement their status at the top of the Big West Conference standings.

As for UC Davis, the Aggies will want to get their act together quickly, even in this unlikeliest of matchups.

On the season, UC Davis holds an overall record of 4-12, including constantly poor showings on the road with a 0-9 away record.

The month of January has been a bit fairer for the Aggies, who have won one of three matches over this period.

Although both of those losses were well fought and one of them was an overtime heartbreaker, these pair of road games were both Big West confrontations and are the reason for UC Davis' presence at the bottom of conference standings.

Historically, this will be the 39th time these two

sides have faced off against each other.

From the 38 other previous meetings, UCSB leads favorably with a 29-9 all-time series record. The last meeting between these two occurred last year, where the Aggies upset the at-home Gauchos by a final score of 71-54.

Nonetheless, conference matchups are always prone to go either way, regardless of a perceived advantage.

After an incredible showing last week against UC Riverside, UCSB's freshman forward Amadou Sow is this week's one to watch.

At 6'9", Sow enters the UC Davis game following a career-high 22 points and nine rebounds; each stat was game-leading in the aforementioned match.

A vital part in head coach Pasternak's team layout, Sow has been tearing up stat lines all season long, leading his side in total rebounds, with 100 to his name, and fourth in both total scoring and minutes played.

Another player to watch would be the Gauchos' senior forward Jarriesse Blackmon.

Slowly starting to see more consistent minutes, Blackmon has made the most of his play time as he leads his team in total blocks with 17, and he is third overall in total rebounds with 67.

Both Sow and Blackmon will feature as UCSB's premier rim protectors against UC Davis.

On the opposing end, Aggies' senior guard TJ Shorts II is in charge of making the offense function.

As UC Davis' leader in total points and assists, Shorts II already has 239 points and 60 assists to his name.

He'll also be hungry for a win after coming just short against last week's opponent in Long Beach State, a match where he added 19 points, five assists and three steals to his tally.

Coming off a team-leading 29 points against Long Beach State, junior guard Joe Mooney will be in fine form entering the UCSB game.

Mooney appears to be the Aggies' three-point specialist as he leads his side in three-pointers, with a total of 29 on the season.

UCSB will want to keep both Mooney and Shorts II in mind come game time.

Although Davis is currently in last place, their play so far this year has been an outlier, not the norm. With the return of AJ John to the lineup for the Aggies, the Gauchos can't afford to take the win for granted.

UCSB will be the visiting side this Thursday, Jan. 17, as they travel to UC Davis for a tip-off time 7 p.m.

Gauchos Still Searching for First Big West Win, Host 49ers

Kunal Mehta
Staff Writer

Riding a three-game losing streak, the UCSB women's basketball team will look to get back in the winning column as they host Long Beach State. Santa Barbara is currently 3-12 on the year, with a conference record of 0-2.

In their most recent matchup, the 'Chos fell to rival Cal Poly by eight points, despite a spectacular effort from redshirt junior guard Coco Miller who scored a career high 33 points, which included six three pointers.

Miller has been on a streak lately as she has led the team in scoring while also providing veteran leadership to a young squad are still finding their way.

After sitting out last year, she has certainly made her presence felt by not only being a threat from the three point line but also by being a playmaker for her teammates as well.

With the story of the game being a game of runs for both squads, it was the Mustangs who were able to pull the game out as they were able to knock down clutch free throws to keep the Gauchos from completing their comeback attempt.

Although Long Beach State has faced similar struggles as UCSB with a 4-10 record on the season, they have started to find their rhythm as of late with three straight wins with their most recent win against UC Riverside where they won by 18 points.

They were able to get the victory through a balanced scoring attack where four of their players were in double figures with junior forward Cydnee Kinslow leading the way with 14 points, 12 of which came from behind the three point line.

Although Kinslow has only played in two games this season, her 6.5 rebounds per game is good for the top spot on the team. She's proven to be a sparkplug for this 49er team that heavily struggled to start of the season, and keeping her off the glass will have to be a priority for the Gauchos.

Despite going on multiple five game losing streaks this season, Long Beach State has been able stay the course, which can be attributed to their recent success.

Kinslow and sophomore forward Naomi Hunt have been instrumental as far as leadership goes and will look to continue to keep their teammates on the right track.

With the 49ers playing their best ball of the season, it will make them a very difficult opponent for the Gauchos as they look to find their identity as a team.

In order for Santa Barbara to succeed against a red hot Long Beach State team, they must keep everything

in front of them and prevent the 49ers from getting easy baskets in transition.

It will be crucial for junior center Natalia Bruening to rebound the ball consistently and limit second chance opportunities for Long Beach State.

She is currently averaging 6.2 rebounds per game to go along with her 9.6 points per game.

Although former starting center Drew Edelman left big shoes to fill when she graduated last year, Bruening has done a solid job being a big presence in the paint.

Long Beach State offers a great opportunity for the frontcourt of the Gauchos, as their 29.6 rebounds per game makes them the worst rebounding team in the Big West.

For a UCSB team that has really struggled shooting the ball this year, their 35.6 percent shooting percentage is dead last in the conference, second-chance opportunities are going to be crucial to putting points on the board.

Another key to the game for the Gauchos will be diversifying their offense.

A second scorer must emerge behind Miller in order to prevent opposing defenses from doubling her.

There are many different players on the team that have the potential to fill this role, including Bruening, who can score easily in the paint, as well as sophomore guard Bri Anugwom, who is constantly in attack mode and can lead to getting to the line.

One of the strengths for Long Beach State is their ability for every player on the floor to be a threat from behind the three point line.

Naomi Hunt in particular has led the way from behind the arc, as her 42.4 percent three point percentage is good for third place in the conference.

Santa Barbara must play with consistent ball pressure starting at the three point line if they hope to prevent a shooting barrage by Long Beach State.

Although pressuring up so far might be risky without a dominant interior defender, it could lead to turnovers for the 49ers and fastbreak baskets for the 'Chos.

It has been a difficult year thus far for Santa Barbara, but there are many positives to take away, especially the team's consistent effort.

What the team lacks in shooting they make up for in hustle, and the expectation moving forward is that eventually the shots will start falling.

Head Coach Bonnie Henrickson has been able to bring the best out of her young team and will look to build on the habits being developed this season.

Santa Barbara will look to pick up their first conference win as they face Long Beach State at 4 p.m. this Saturday.

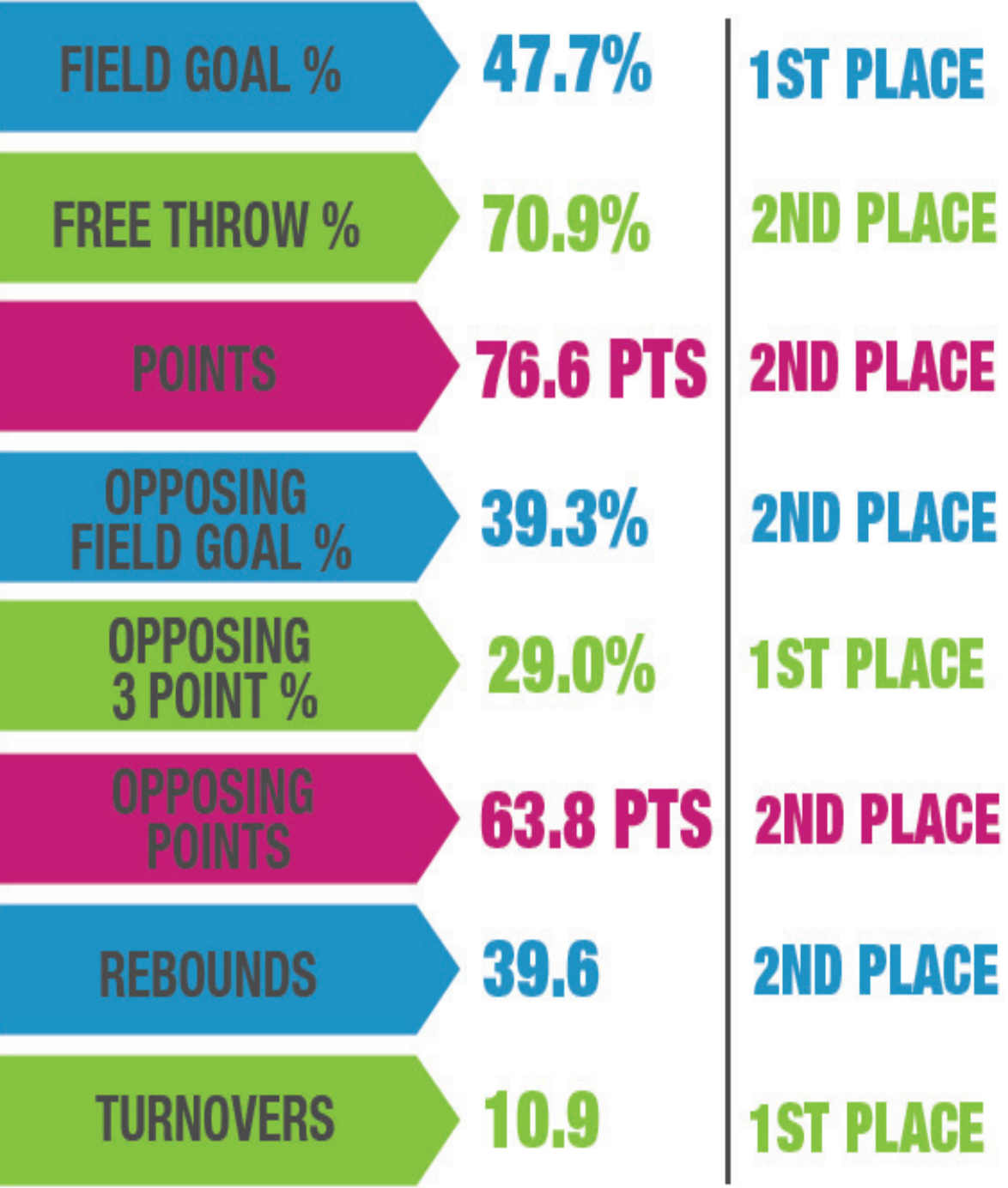


ANGIE BANKS/ DAILY NEXUS

Tal Sahar rises up for a layup in the 70-57 loss to Loyola Marymount. The junior guard is averaging 7.7 points per game and 2.5 rebounds per game on 22.7 minutes.



HOW THE GAUCHOS STACK UP AGAINST THE REST OF THE BIG WEST



NCAA Basketball Weekly Conference Update

Jake Ciccone
Staff Writer

Now that we’re heading into the second week of the NCAA men’s basketball conference season, here’s a breakdown of some of the most interesting storylines around the league:

Markus Howard’s dominant play

The junior from Marquette had himself an outstanding week as he averaged 39.5 points per game in two close wins over Big East foes. His most notable performance was his 53-point night in an overtime win at Creighton, where he answered every call and hit clutch shot after clutch shot to lead the Golden Eagles to a win. He followed up Wednesday’s game with a 26-6-6 line in another close win over Seton Hall. Howard has planted his name firmly in Big East player of the year discussion already, and in a year during which Villanova is not as loaded as it has been previously, a player like him could be what Marquette needs to get over the hump and win the conference title.

UCLA’s comeback vs. Oregon and subsequent resurgence

On Thursday night, anyone who enjoyed staring at annoying court designs and extraneous tangents from announcers thoroughly enjoyed the Oregon vs. UCLA game that took place in Eugene. Some memorable games have taken place between these two squads over the past few years, and this did not seem like one of them. UCLA was down double-digits for almost the entire second half, and as they faced a nine-point deficit with under a minute to go, things looked all but over for the Bruins. Their only consolation would be a non-basketball-related soliloquy from Bill Walton – that is, until a frenzy of forced turnovers, deep threes and a miracle intentional miss on a free throw forced overtime in a game that had seemed all but over just one minute prior. UCLA rode this momentum to an overtime win, as all the life had been sucked out of the Ducks. The win made the Bruins 3-0 since the firing of Steve Alford, and maybe this is just a flash in the pan, but it looks like their talent is finally being used and motivated in the right way for them to achieve success.

Duke and Carolina are headed in different directions

The best game on Saturday between Duke and Florida State was decided when Cam Reddish knocked down a wide open three after a defensive miscue by the ‘Noles with 2.8 seconds left. This win should serve as a boost of confidence for the Blue Devils since Zion Williamson sat out the entire second half with an injury, and this also allowed Cam Reddish to break out of his recent slump by putting up 23 points, many of them being clutch baskets in big moments. Plus, ESPN will finally be forced to talk about Duke since they have clearly avoided covering Duke for the whole season. Just down the road from Duke’s campus, its rival, the Tar Heels, were feeling opposite emotions after suffering a 83-62 loss to unranked Louisville in the Dean Dome. Now 13-4, North Carolina has suffered several bad losses to inferior teams, and its inconsistency is becoming a problem for Roy Williams’s group. The Tar Heels have the talent to compete with the best teams in the country, as they have shown with wins over Gonzaga and NC State, but they still have a long way to go before they will be ready for another championship run.

The Undefeateds keep rolling

Michigan and Virginia are the final two undefeated teams in college basketball this season even though they seem to be somewhat flying under the radar so far with the national media’s nonstop coverage of teams like Duke and ... I guess just Duke. These two teams have found their formula to winning consistently, and it starts on the defensive end. Both the Wolverines and the Wahoos rank in the top four in Kenpom’s adjusted defense statistic, and Virginia does this while also ranking sixth in offense. It will be interesting to see how each team fares going forward as Virginia travels to No. 1 Duke on Saturday, while Michigan doesn’t have to play another ranked team until Jan. 25, when they travel to Bloomington to face off with Indiana. They may not be the flashiest or most high-flying teams, but these are two squads that play within themselves and have potential to make a deep run come March.

Hard Work Pays Off: Jovanovic’s Record-Breaking Season and Water Polo’s Bright Future

Richard Benites
Staff Writer

Simply put, Boris Jovanovic’s water polo career has been remarkable – enough to etch his name into the Gaucho history books. The 6’1” senior driver has caught everyone’s attention since his arrival here at UCSB years ago, but his fourth and final collegiate season was the most impactful. Although his tenure here has been a great success, his story of moving from Novi Sad, Serbia, and how water polo led him here is quite unique. “My journey here to UCSB was actually very extraordinary,” Jovanovic stated. “None of my family had ever visited or lived in the United States. I didn’t really know how any of the programs worked, but in America I saw a great opportunity. The coaching staff here was incredible and far beyond any others at the collegiate level; that made the decision to come here easy.” When asked about the early part of his collegiate career and his initial experience with UCSB’s water polo program, Jovanovic’s response was, “It’s a change of mentality, a change in understanding with this team, a different approach altogether. Prior to this season I was not used to carrying such a work load, leading this team and fitting in as the captain. Growing into that position was a hard process, but I found great camaraderie with the team.” At first glance, one can quickly notice the importance that Jovanovic’s stats had on the team’s overall performance. Through the 26 total games that he played, he closed the year with 78 goals, which impressively averages out to a hat trick a game, while also adding 10 assists to his name. His scoring production not only led his team but also had him

tied for the most in the entire Golden Coast Conference. “I’m very satisfied with what I’ve done; I think I helped the team out and believe I always did my best both in practice and in games. My teammates also helped me reach my individual goals and reached a level of success I hadn’t expected nor planned for.” Jovanovic’s great stat line also translated to the team’s shared success. With a final Gaucho overall record of 18-8, this year’s record was tied for the program’s all-time best, with the last 18-8 mark occurring back in 1991. Thanks to such a great campaign, the NCAA also ranks UCSB within the top five men’s water polo programs in the nation. “As far as the team goes, I’m very proud of what we had accomplished. This year the team was very well-structured; it was a group of people who all had the same goal.” When asked about the bright future in store for the returning Gauchos, Jovanovic said, “We have a great group of people who are returning, and changing one element [i.e. his departure] definitely won’t change the whole machinery that was created.” To add to their team’s success, four Gauchos were recognized with All-GCC honors: Jovanovic, sophomore goalkeeper Tiago Bonchristiano, junior utility Ivan Gvozdanovic and sophomore attacker Leo Yuno. Further recognizing his teammates’ play, Jovanovic added, “To name only a few other people who didn’t get the nod, probably because they had to include more people from other teams: Jacob Halle, Tommy Fellner, Cole Brosnan and Adam Lott. They and many others are all coming back, and I believe UCSB will have its strongest year next year.” Jovanovic’s accolades don’t end there, however, as his 78 goals this year was the seventh most ever scored in a single season at UCSB. Not to mention, his career total of 178 goals earns him the fifth place spot

among career scoring leaders. “It’s something that I’m truly proud of and happy about because it’s what will remain of the four years I’ve spent here; it brings me a lot of joy.” Besides his obvious scoring prowess, Jovanovic was also asked about what he believes is the next best part of his game, to which he replied, “It’s usually hard to talk about the best parts of your game and easy to talk about what I could improve, but if I had to choose one thing, I hope I provided leadership and the will the fight until the end.” Asked about his most memorable moment, he said, “The most memorable moment of the season was the team huddle, every time before jumping in – the cheers that we did, as well as being able to stand there in front of the guys and say a couple of words to motivate them, hopefully.” This altogether concludes Jovanovic’s stellar performance for the Gauchos, but if you ask him about what else is in store for him, he’ll respond with the utmost satisfaction and confidence. “I don’t have any more water polo aspirations; I have been playing this sport for some 15 years and I feel really satisfied with what I’ve been able achieve here at UCSB. I’m now working on personal goals for my career, but I think with water polo this was maybe the last year, and I’m very proud that I could be in a Gaucho cap here with my team ... I’ll be their biggest supporter and I look forward to hopefully watching the best games UCSB’s ever had.” Lastly, Jovanovic added, “It’s worth mentioning again that the team and coaches worked hard together ... ultimately, the most important thing was that we achieved something together through hard work and it’s something we all fought for. It’s something that I want to thank all those people for.”



ARTSWEEK

‘Dissect’ Is the Music Podcast We All Needed

Artsweek interviewed the host of the Spotify Original Podcast, Cole Cuchna, about passion projects, white discourse around black music and his own creative process when writing episodes for the show

Zoe Jones
Artsweek Editor

“Dissect” is what music nerds think they sound like when they talk about their favorite albums. This is how I’d describe Cole Cuchna’s serialized music podcast, which takes one album per season and, quite literally, dissects it track by track, lyric by lyric.

The show has four seasons so far: seasons one and two, respectively, are Kendrick Lamar’s *To Pimp a Butterfly* and Kanye West’s *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*; season three dives into Frank Ocean’s early career and analysis of his second album *Blonde*; and season four, dubbed a mini-series, explores Ms. Lauryn Hill’s *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* upon its 20th anniversary. The common threads between these albums are obvious: modern classics by enigmatic black artists that are not commonly analyzed through an academic lens. It’s quite amazing listening to the way that Cuchna pays attention to detail with the heart of a fan and the ear of a scholar.

It’s clear that Cuchna is a hardworking guy – he created “Dissect” while working full-time as creative director for a coffee company in Sacramento. The show was initially a passion project – he wrote, recorded and edited the show with most of the free time he had, somehow maintaining his packed schedule for the first two seasons. Then, “Dissect” was picked up by Spotify, and Cuchna was able to turn it into his primary gig. This gave way to season three, the Frank Ocean season, which put “Dissect” on a much wider radar.

The show topped the *New York Times*’ top podcasts of 2018 list, sharing coveted space with true crime and talk shows. Before “Dissect,” I thought of podcasts as time for listening to news and true murder mysteries – music podcasts never got quite deep enough. “Dissect” is the show that I needed.

Cuchna has always had a deep interest in music. He recounts his love for the music of the mid-nineties that was popular during his adolescence; he remembers listening to Motown and the Beatles as a child in his parents’ home. Then, he started buying his own albums and “gravitated toward hip-hop, then rock music,” he told me. Similar to many young music fans, he consumed whatever he could – from jazz, to classical, to electronica. He went to Sacramento State and



WILLIAM EMMONS / DAILY NEXUS

got a music composition degree, which cultivated an academic voice that largely influences the tone of “Dissect.”

Each episode takes a song and goes into technical details of phrasing, chord progressions and musical metaphor. That’s not to say that someone who isn’t well-versed in music theory couldn’t follow along – Cuchna’s patient voice can guide even the most musically inept listener to understanding why an artist chose to use a minor chord instead of a major seventh.

There’s a great deal of time and care that goes into crafting each season of “Dissect,” but most of all, there’s a lot of listening. “I will take

a general look at the lyrics and play through the music on piano, just to see if there’s any connections there,” Cuchna says. He plays through the album on repeat while writing the content for each episode and listens to each song anywhere from 10 to 20 times. Then, “after that it’s just pointing out the most interesting musical features followed by a line-by-line analysis of the lyrics,” he explains.

White men analyzing black music is a huge part of modern-day music discourse – and there always seems to be room for one more voice to add to the chatter. But Cuchna comes from a place of love, a place of respect that could not possibly

be faked. He admits that discomfort used to come up sometimes for him when considering his position in this dichotomy, but it has faded with time. “I’ve learned so much, particularly about the black experience, through examining these works,” he imparts. “I wouldn’t trade that for anything.”

There’s no sense of overstepping boundaries when listening Cuchna’s analysis of such deeply black works. Perhaps it’s a little awkward listening to him explain obscure black slang to his audience, but that’s okay – it’s something that he is very good at.

The best episode of “Dissect” is a 40-minute feature from the

Frank Ocean season, covering *Blonde* tracks “Skyline To” and “Self Control.” It’s a beautiful montage of Ocean’s possible inspirations – none are definitive, but Cuchna makes sure not to leave out any possibilities. He covers obscure 80s tracks and Robert Frost poems to chart what could have been Ocean’s thought process while writing *Blonde* and breaks down why these songs, “Self Control” in particular, are so moving. He plays each arpeggiating chord that makes up the soul of the song, breaking down the gorgeous melody that Ocean sings and why it makes us so damn emotional every single time.

“Music is a glimpse into that unknown, an impression of the enigmatic, the shadow of a figure just out of sight,” Cuchna concludes at the end of his analysis – fitting for music as ethereal as Ocean’s.

Talking about music for a living is a dream job, which is at least half the reason why I listen to “Dissect” – I become more educated and inspired, listening to someone talk about some of the most important albums of my generation. Cuchna is one of the best at it, giving much deserved credit to albums outside of the traditional scholarly conversations around music.

How does a person make a passion for music their full-time job? “Do it for yourself. Don’t worry about results at first,” he advises. “Just get to doing the damn thing.”

“

Music is a glimpse into the unknown, an impression of the enigmatic, the shadow of a figure just out of sight.

COLE CUCHNA

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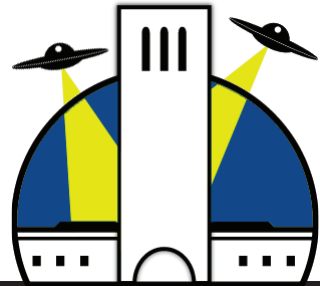
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NEXUSTENTIALISM

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OLLIE TABOOGER / DAILY NEXUS

UCSB Associated Students Presents: Fight Night

John Jackson
Reporter

After years of squabbling over Facebook feeds and Nexus comment boards, Associated Students is bringing its tension to the foreground with an evening of bare-knuckle pageantry. Current rifts in Senate prompted the Associated Students (A.S.) Internal Vice President (IVP) Steven Ho to put on this event in order to “clear the air” and “stop all the public bickering.” Ho was inspired to put on the event after a late night showing of Creed II. According to Ho, the classic outlets for A.S. feuds have not been sufficient for this year’s political quagmire and thus students need to up the ante. He brought up the idea with several other students in Associated Students, who agreed that something must be done since the issues of A.S. are only metastasizing into more trouble. This evening of sport will include divisions that span across

all levels of A.S. Bouts will include Boards, Commissions and Units (BCU) chairs, Senate members, A.S. Fellows and career staff. One unnamed source stated that his “bout will be live stream-worthy” and suggested that “you should place your bets now.” Special fight categories will include IVP versus Judicial Affairs and all of Campus United vs. Brooke Kopel. All levels of A.S. will be scrapping it out for Marisela’s \$250,000 salary. Who will be the king of the hill? This event will take place in the Flying A room at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23, during the Senate meeting. CSPAN-UNI will be selling pay-per-view showings and direct lines on res hall monitors. Contact the IVP’s office for more information.

John Jackson definitely has no affiliation with A.S.

Budding 21-Year-Old Entrepreneur To Drop Out and Sell Juul Pods to Underage Friends

Kian Karamdashti
Staff Writer

A 3.87 GPA and multiple summer internship offers were not enough to stop third-year student Niko Teene from dropping out and pursuing financial success in selling Juul pods to his underage friends. Teene’s 21st birthday was over the past winter break. “At first, I starting charging my friends a \$3 delivery fee as a joke, but they coughed up the money immediately,” Teene said. “As soon as I realized how desperate these people are to get their fix, I knew I had a chance to make a quick buck and raised the price to five dollars.” Teene’s financial success has been so rampant that he was recently included in the 2019 edition of the Forbes “30 Under 30” list, placing six spots ahead of the current Goldman Sachs vice president. According to financial records posted on Teene’s company website, quickpods.com, Teene made about \$115,000 in the first two weeks of January – a concerning number given that his customers go through an average of 10.2 pods per week. “The key to my success is to never be busy,” Teene said. “If I’m in class or doing some other worthless activity, customers will start asking random fourth-year students on the streets once they get desperate enough. I pride myself on being fast, professional and reliable. I even chip in my own money for transportation to increase efficiency.” A further analysis of the delivery process showed Teene was referring to the

\$1 Bird scooter charge and not a car. Despite his success, Teene’s friends don’t seem to be too excited for the budding entrepreneur. “Oh, fuck that kid, he’s such a little shit,” Richard Fiend, Teene’s best friend and first customer, said. “Like, I’m still going to buy from him, but he’s so lucky he’s the first one to hit 21. I would never do this to my friends. His buy six, get one 10 percent off deal was clutch, though.” While business seems to be booming, some have questioned Teene’s business model, expressing concern over the fact that many of his current customers turn 21 in the next few months. “Oh shit, I didn’t even think of that,” Teene said.

Kian Karamdashti’s own Juul pod delivery service is still in development.



DAILY NEXUS ART & COMICS

8. WINDY WINTER



R. BRUDER

21ST CENTURY PROBLEMS

BY KATE



ON THE MENU

Mexican Hot Chocolate the Millennial Way



Marilu Bedolla
Staff Writer

Winter Quarter has begun and the drop in temperature calls for warm drinks all times of the day. Mexican hot chocolate is a cup of rich cinnamon and chocolate flavor, popular during the Day of the Dead and throughout las posadas among Hispanics living in the U.S. and Latin America. This hot chocolate is enjoyed on its own or paired with pan dulce, a type of Mexican sweet pastry or tamales.

The drink is traditionally made with a solid tablet of chocolate, milk and a whisk, which is a timely process because the drink is only ready once the tablet is fully melted. This recipe replaces the whisk with a blender, shortens the time to prepare the drink and still gives you that same grandma-made flavor.

MEXICAN HOT CHOCOLATE

Servings: 4

Time: 15 minutes

- 4 cups of milk
- 1 Abuelita chocolate tablet

In a medium pot on high heat, simmer two cups of milk and then remove from heat. Place Abuelita tablet in a blender, add the warm milk and blend until the chocolate is dissolved. In the meantime, bring the second two cups of milk to a simmer. Add the mixture from the blender to the pot and boil. Stir the pot with a whisk until the chocolate drink boils. Serve warm.



Three Oatmeal Recipes to Warm Your Freezing Soul



Laura Tucker
Staff Writer

Winter Quarter Isla Vista is still warm by most standards (does it really ever drop below 50?), but those 7:50 a.m. bike rides to campus can make it feel like you're cycling across Alaska. When the temperature drops and the rain clouds roll in, the best way to prepare yourself for a brisk bike ride to class is with a delicious, hot bowl of oatmeal. Here are three takes on this breakfast classic to keep you nice and warm for the winter months to come.

CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER OATS

- ½ cup rolled oats
- 1 cup water
- 2 tsp unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 tbsp peanut butter
- 1 banana, sliced
- Honey (as much as desired)



In a small pot, bring 1 cup of water and ½ cup rolled oats to a boil. Once boiling, reduce to a simmer and cover until the oats absorb all of the liquid. Stir in cocoa powder and transfer to a bowl. Top with peanut butter, sliced banana and drizzled honey.

SAUTÉD APPLE AND CINNAMON OATMEAL

- ½ cup rolled oats
- 1 cup water
- 1 apple, diced
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tbsp maple syrup
- 1 tbsp butter
- Chia seeds



In a small pot, bring 1 cup of water and ½ cup rolled oats to a boil. Once boiling, reduce to a simmer and cover until the oats absorb all of the liquid. Melt the butter in a pan and sauté the diced apples over medium heat until soft. Stir in the maple syrup and cinnamon to the oatmeal and transfer to a bowl. Top with cooked apples and chia seeds.

STEEL CUT OATS WITH BERRY COMPOTE

- ½ cup steel cut oats
- 1½ cup water
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 1 tbsp honey
- Handful blueberries
- Handful blackberries
- Chia seeds



In a small pot, bring 1½ cup water and ½ cup steel cut oats to a boil, then reduce to a simmer and cover until all the liquid is absorbed. In a saucepan, cook lemon juice, honey and berries over medium heat until they have reduced down to a jam-like consistency. Pour berry compote over oats and top with chia seeds.

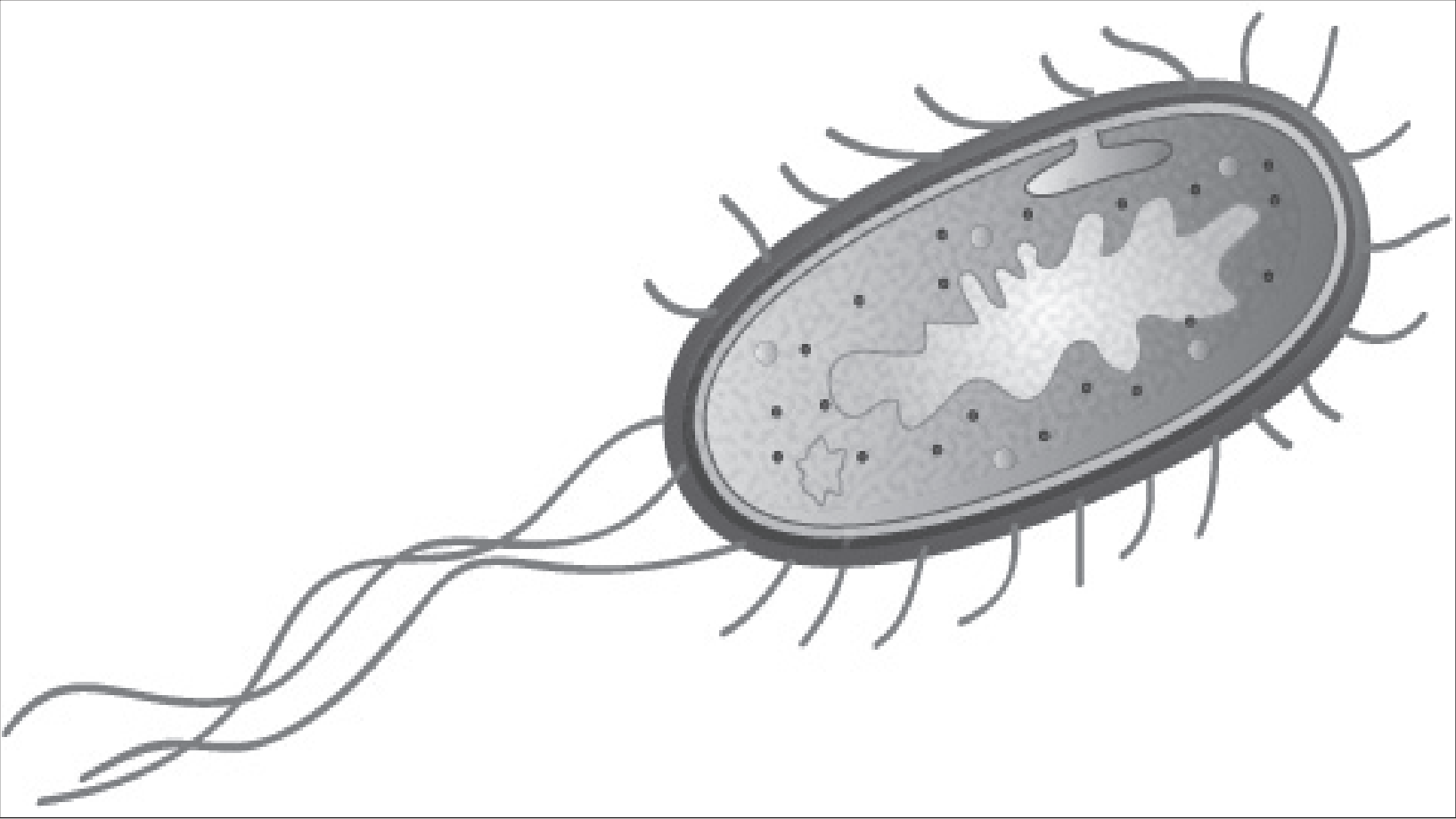
HELPFUL TIPS:

If you want your oatmeal a bit richer, make it with ½ cup water and ½ cup milk. Also, you'll want to make sure you turn the temperature pretty low while you're cooking the oats, they'll turn out far better than if you blast them on a high temperature.

All three of these takes on oatmeal are perfect for gloomy mornings. Not only will they keep you nice and warm, but they'll provide you with the perfect amount of energy to make it through these cold and dreary Winter Quarter days.

SCIENCE & TECH

Microbial Assassins: Changing the Face of Modern Antibiotics



The researchers studied the toxin delivery system by which a strain of *E. coli*, EC93, inhibited the growth of rival *E. coli* strain K-12. This model system sheds light on how this mechanism is wielded against specific cells, which could have significant implications in addressing the increasingly worrisome issue of antibiotic resistance.

Sunidhi Sridhar
Staff Writer

Looking back at the scientific advancements throughout the history of medicine, it is evident that these past decades have transformed the way humans approach the treatment of infections and diseases. From the breakthrough discovery of antibiotics in the early 20th century to the latest developments in targeted cancer therapies, new research continues to progress at warp speed.

Here at UC Santa Barbara, a team of researchers has detected a mechanism by which various strains of bacteria target and destroy rival strains.

The widespread use of antibiotics in treating bacterial infections has resulted in widespread resistance of these antibiotics, and this may lead to difficulties in controlling illnesses that are now easily preventable. As Kiho Song, a fifth-year doctoral candidate and graduate researcher, explained, the human microbiome is composed of tremendously diverse microorganisms; antibiotics that are commonly administered can at times be ineffective at identifying and eliminating bacteria that carry the infection.

This study, however, reveals a procedure in which bacteria will recognize other bacteria, often of the same species, and deliver a toxin to destroy them. The reason for this is that bacteria of the same species often compete against one another for the same niche, and this will eliminate any competition for limited resources.

When a bacterium identifies a molecule on the surface of another bacterium in close contact, its sensor filaments will bind to it. The bacterium will then secrete the destructive toxin. These findings are of great promise to the scientific community, Song pointed out, as “we can equip helpful bacteria with a toxin-delivering system to target and destroy harmful ones. Such specificity could give us more control over our microbiome and our health.”

The presence of such toxin delivery systems has been known to researchers for some time and is quite common in pathogens. Contact-dependent growth inhibition systems, referred to as CDI, were first observed in a strain of *E. coli* present in rat intestines. This strain, EC93, inhibited the growth of a different strain of *E. coli* called K-12.

The results from this study, however, significantly increase our understanding in regard to how these systems generally work.

The model system, developed under the supervision of faculty member Dr. Christopher Hayes, uses electron cryotomography, a high-resolution imaging technology, to take a closer look at the proteins that form the filament as well as the infiltration of the cell periplasm, the gel matrix between the inner cytoplasmic membrane and the bacterial outer membrane, by the toxin.

These extracellular filaments measure a mere 33 nanometers and are located on the N-terminal end of the effector molecule. On the C-terminal end of the molecule, there is a programmed secretion arrest so that toxins are not released in the absence of a target cell. When the bacterium is in close proximity to a target cell, the filaments on the N-terminal will bind to a receptor protein and the C-terminal will activate secretion. In order to be destroyed by sibling cells, the bacteria carry immunity proteins, which neutralize toxins that may be delivered into their periplasm.

When asked about any major challenges or complications that arose throughout the research process, Song responded that, as with most research, the question he and his team sought to address required the contributions of many intelligent and innovative minds.

“Our discovery is built on collaboration and group effort. Being a young grad student at the beginning of the project, I especially needed more help from the team. I owe much to my advisor, Professor Christopher Hayes, and my co-author, Dr. Zachary Ruhe, for their guidance. Our findings wouldn’t be possible without the other co-author, Dr. Poorna Subramanian, and her expertise.”

This study comes at a time when scientists and researchers across the world are searching for ways to further improve the effectiveness of antibiotics, and its findings may lead to improved drug delivery technologies. With the rise of antimicrobial resistance posing a major threat to people’s health and wellbeing, there is an urgent need for new developments within the industry

“

We can equip helpful bacteria with a toxin-delivering system to target and destroy harmful ones. Such specificity could give us more control over our microbiome and our health.

Kiho Song

Underneath the Surface: Shrinking Groundwater in the United States

Sunidhi Sridhar
Staff Writer

Given the fragile state of today’s climate and environment, it comes as no surprise that many of the planet’s vital natural resources are threatened. New research indicates that the supply of groundwater in the United States – which plays an integral role in meeting the irrigation and consumption needs of the population – might be in more finite supply than previously thought.

Debra Perrone, an assistant professor in UCSB’s Department of Environmental Studies, and Scott Jasechko, an assistant professor in the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, conducted research examining the depths at which groundwater transitions from fresh to saline. The use of saline water in irrigation affects the crops’ ability to absorb nutrients efficiently, and excessive salinity in drinking water can alter the regulation of ion levels and can result in net dehydration in both humans and livestock.

The research process, conducted in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Arizona, is documented in *Environmental Research Letters*, a leading peer-reviewed scientific journal. The team calculated the degree of separation between fresh groundwater and brackish groundwater in over 25 sedimentary basins throughout the United States. They then looked at data from regional wells to determine at which depths groundwater is accessed for “domestic, agricultural, or industrial purposes.”

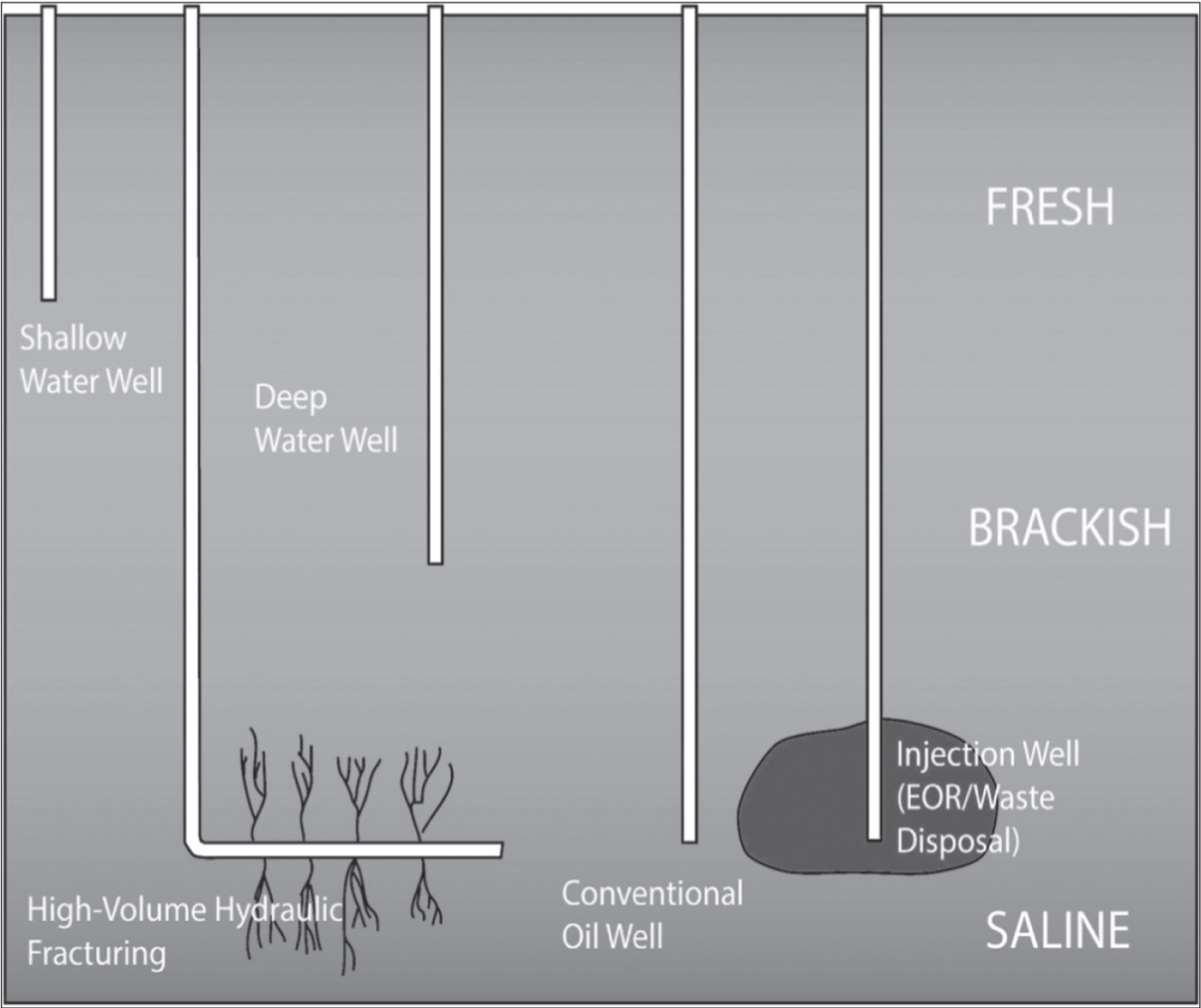
The results show that the mean depth at which fresh groundwater transitions into brackish groundwater is 550 meters below ground surface. The shallowest transition,

however, occurred at 50 meters in the Sedgwick Basin in south-central Kansas, and the deepest transition occurs at 1,350 meters in the Antler Foreland Basin in upper Mississippi. Previous estimates had placed the transition at depths of 1,000 to 2,000 meters, much greater than the findings of this study. This suggests that the supply of fresh groundwater is much more limited than expected.

Minerals and other contaminants can dissolve into groundwater that is in contact with rock, and the rampant gas and oil activity, such as drilling and well operations, throughout the nation serves to further decrease the supply of potable water available for use. While the required separation between gas and oil activity and water wells is most likely no less than 350 meters, data published in *Marine and Petroleum Geology* has revealed that fewer than one percent of fractures satisfy that regulation.

“A major takeaway from this work is that fresh waters are finite, that overusing fresh water can disrupt food production, manufacturing and household water supplies,” Jasechko explained, as quoted in *The Current*. “The more we learn, the smaller and more precious that fresh and unfrozen fraction seems to be.”

As the world’s largest source of fresh water, groundwater is a vital resource that many communities rely on; the U.S. Geological Survey states that 33 percent of the public supply of water comes from groundwater, and some major U.S. cities, like San Antonio, depend entirely on groundwater for their water needs. In the coming future, it is crucial that greater measures are put in place in order to protect and defend our already vulnerable groundwater supplies.



Groundwater resources are stressed by near-surface contamination and excessive withdrawals, and deep groundwater resources are potentially threatened by contamination from oil and gas production and injection wells.

OPINION

Fresh Off First Quarter



Joshen Mantai
Social Media Manager

Nowadays it seems impossible for young adults to completely have their lives together, as we struggle to juggle friends, family, dating, self-care, academics, jobs, extracurriculars, etc. Despite the glaring difficulties we young adults face, the adults in our lives expect us to both survive and thrive.

This expectation of having it all figured out hit the majority of us even harder when we first entered into college life, alone and without guidance. Thousands of students in the class of 2022 enrolled in UC Santa Barbara with no set of rules on how to navigate college life – and I was one of them.

I never could have predicted that I'd end up at UCSB, but it seemed like fate seeing as I'm interested in pursuing a major in environmental studies and the university happens to have one of the best and oldest programs for this in the country. I was ecstatic that I was going to be studying at the beach, and I had no choice but to imagine and map out my future at UCSB for the upcoming year.

I made many decisions in order to give myself a feeling of security entering college. I decided I was going to rush a sorority, get an environmental job and join intramural tennis. The fact that I could plan and thus see my future college self granted me a sense of ease. However, the activities I chose posed a dichotomy between my perception versus my reality. Rushing a sorority came with the expectation that you would feel as though you belonged, a feeling that never actually came for me. The environmental job I applied to did not work out and intramural tennis was discontinued at UCSB.

I planned my extracurricular life around a schedule of goals I could feasibly accomplish and, ironically, none of it panned out. And so, naively I

decided to try again.

I rushed a business fraternity, thinking I would end up in a community where I could make friends while exploring my entrepreneurial interests. During the process, I'm not exactly sure how I ended up in a rush group with virtually all economics and accounting majors. When I did not end up joining, I was again back to square one and researched my next option: becoming a writer at the *Daily Nexus*.

This research was followed by a job opening I saw for the social media manager of the *Nexus*. I applied enthusiastically for the job and (spoiler alert) was eventually hired.

Journalism has been one of my dream careers since the moment I saw Rory working at the *Yale Daily News* on "Gilmore Girls," but I'd have never thought I would work at my very own college newspaper – one of the most important organizations on campus.

In a way, this allowed me to identify a place for myself here at UCSB. The stigma surrounding young adults and having to figure out their entire lives before it even starts needs to end. I did not go into UCSB planning to double major in communications or be employed by a newspaper out of college. Now this is an exciting part of my reality and, possibly, my future. Overall, I discovered this was just one piece in the bigger process of identity formation in college.

The most exhilarating thing about being a college student is that you never know what is going to happen next or where your life will take you in a few months. Contrastingly, in high school, there is at least some degree of predictability: football games, homecoming dances, AP classes, static friend groups. I set myself up for success by being involved in as many leadership opportunities as I could, while simultaneously not really being sure why. In high school, I did what I thought was necessary to get accepted by a good college.

This secured my acceptance, for sure, but at what cost? Being too engrossed in school instead of the outside world and not really being sure of what I wanted to major in, prompting me to default into the negatively stigmatized "undeclared" major upon entering college. I wrote vague college essays on activities that I (and many, many other students in the world) enjoyed doing. These activities included volunteering, traveling, etc. But I found that most essays asked for that *one* passion you had developed and honed overtime, subsequently leading to an identity crisis no teenager should have to face at that young of an age.

Previous generations should realize that college needs to be less about fulfilling the expectations of the people in our lives and more about finding our passions at our own rate. Liberal arts majors should not have to worry about the backlash of widespread prejudiced views which hold that S.T.E.M. majors work harder, will inevitably earn more or are

objectively better in some way. Each person at UCSB is unique and should be able to grow their respective skills and dictate their involvement based on their interests alone.

Every upperclassmen I have met at UCSB has assured me they have changed their major at least a dozen times, often to their family's dismay. Students have expressed dissatisfaction with the major-declaring process, primarily due to each department's hesitation to permit students a major change if they are not completely sure of their decision.

Every time I hear a story like this, I am baffled that departments within UCSB so heavily discourage students to declare their major if they are not yet certain. Is that not what college is for? Finding what you eventually want to do with your life? Instead of persuading students to choose one major and stick to it, I challenge department heads and advisors to be more sympathetic. We are a growing and multifaceted generation of students with many, many factors to consider when choosing a career – the competitiveness of the job market, the state of the economy, various gender and race biases, etc. – while still vying for jobs that genuinely interest us.

While my confusion in preparing for what is coming next in my personal, academic and work life persists today, I have discovered during my short time at UCSB that I am not supposed to prepare at all. I have met many interesting people at UCSB and feel like I am trying something new almost every week. While sometimes it seems I am wandering aimlessly, the activities that stuck with me (like the *Nexus*) have given me hope rather than fear for life after college.

I found some parts of myself during my first quarter at UCSB, as many freshmen do, but most importantly: at my own pace.

Joshen Mantai wants all freshmen to know it's okay to face an identity crisis in college.



ALYSSA LONG / DAILY NEXUS

Fantastic Queerbaiting and Where to Find Them

Anabel Costa
Opinion Writer

Like most people, I am a huge *Harry Potter* fan. I've read every single book, hosted multiple movie marathons and, for about two years straight, was lulled to sleep by cassette recordings that feature the voice of the one and only Jim Dale.

As a fan, I of course was excited to see my favorite fantasy worlds – *Fantastic Beasts* and *Where to Find Them* and *The Crimes of Grindelwald* – back on the big screen. However, leaving the theatre after watching the latter, I was not happy. Most of the characters lacked proper arcs and development, and several plot-lines were then introduced that proved to be nothing more than cheap attempts at connecting this film to the original *Harry Potter* series, while retaining little (if any) purpose or relevance to the original story. Although I found myself frustrated by all of this, what overshadowed even the duller characters was Albus Dumbledore's newfound gayness.

Though the film is centered around Dumbledore and his supposed ex-lover, it does a pretty poor job of actually portraying a same-sex relationship. The few moments in the film that do hint at gayness can easily be brushed off as "a really close friendship" by anyone who might feel even the slightest bit uncomfortable. There is a word we use to describe this type of writing and it's called queerbaiting. It's a way of drawing in queer audiences and getting them to shut up about representation without having to follow through with any of it or commit to a stance.

I found myself leaving the theatre ranting about how Dumbledore's gay subplot lacks authenticity. If it's not going to be properly addressed then the relationship shouldn't be included at all. I was met with retorts like "Why are you complaining?" and "You should be happy there is anything at all." I fought back by pointing out that Dumbledore's sexuality was never mentioned before, so it feels disingenuous to add it in now. In response, I was reminded of how Dumbledore never had a wife or a female love interest. Tell me again why that makes him gay? Are all gay men doomed to be lonely hermits? If this is the evidence, why not argue that he

is asexual? Let's not define gayness by a lack of heterosexual attraction but instead by the presence of same-sex attraction—that is what being gay means, after all.

Shortly after the final film in the original *Harry Potter* series was released, author J.K. Rowling received some backlash for the lack of LGBTQ+ characters in her books and movies. She countered this by saying



Let's not define gayness by a lack of heterosexual attraction, but instead by the presence of same sex attraction—that is what being gay means, after all.

that she "always thought of Dumbledore as gay." To many fans, this was exciting news—finally! An essential queer character in a major franchise! But wait. Rowling wrote seven books and produced eight movies, but not once was Dumbledore's sexuality stated, explored or even *hinted* at. As much as I appreciate the effort, this is still not adequate representation. Inventing gayness just because it makes the work appeal to more people does not count.

However, in this newest film, Dumbledore's sexuality is touched upon—that is, if one vague line and a 10-second clip of him looking into the eyes of another male is considered "touched upon." The director of the film, David Yates, stated that Dumbledore's sexuality

would not be "explicitly" clear, but that the fans would *know* (can you feel the sarcasm dripping from my italics?) It's not acceptable to claim queer representation without following through. Romeo and Juliet would have been exponentially less riveting or literarily significant had Shakespeare said their relationship wouldn't be explicitly clear but the audience would know.

In J.K. Rowling's defense, I honestly believe that when she was writing the *Harry Potter* books she imagined Dumbledore being in love with the wizard Grindelwald. It makes sense with the events of the story and adds valuable layers. However, it was clearly not in the forefront of her mind because, if it was, we would have known. Any good writer (and I consider Rowling a very good writer) must know their character inside and out. A character who is five feet is going to act differently than one who is six feet, a character who is black is going to act differently than one who is white, and a character who is gay is going to act differently than one who is straight. This is especially true if the character in question is the only gay person in the story, like Dumbledore.

The thing is, sure, it's genuinely great that we have a new movie franchise (theoretically) centered around a same-sex couple, and there are supposed to be three more of these *Fantastic Beasts* films, so who's to say this romance isn't a slow burn? But even given all that, it's just too little too late. There were over 3,000 pages' worth of opportunity to reveal Dumbledore's sexuality, so why doesn't it ever come up? Perhaps it could be argued that the information was too personal, but he reveals many other personal things, so why not this? One could also argue that he was closeted, but that is a cop-out.

As a long-time fan, it's hard to admit but the truth remains: stories from the *Harry Potter* universe have become some of the biggest queerbaits in modern film and literature. It's not just *Fantastic Beasts*, but also *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* that many would consider queerbait. Who's to say what will become of these stories as they age and expand? As of now, I'm done being drawn in, only to be left disappointed.

Anabel Costa is tired of Hollywood's exploitation of queer relationships to claim diversity and representation.

HOROSCOPES

The signs as MLK Day Weekend predictions

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

All of your housemates will go home...but so did your hookup buddy

TAURUS
APRIL 20 - MAY 20

Right before you're set to leave for the long weekend (insert natural disaster) will destroy the freeway

GEMINI
MAY 21 - JUNE 20

Your only remaining umbrella will flip itself inside out

CANCER
JUNE 21 - JULY 22

You will get mono but student health is booked solid for the next two months

LEO
JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

Your housemate's shoeless boyfriend will track a puddle of mud into your living room. Sorry, he's too busy to mop!

VIRGO
AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

You forgot it's a long weekend and show up to your Monday 8 a.m.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

You will somehow skip your Tuesday classes, in spite of the three-day weekend

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

Your crush will reply to your Instagram story...to let you know that you made a typo

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

Your grand weekend plans will be derailed by a monstrous Vitali-induced hangover

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

You will compliment a fellow AirPods-wearer's sick 'pods only to discover that they are hearing aids

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

Your ex will ask if they can count on your vote in a local election

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

You will get all of your homework done. Mazel.