

## Sheriff's Office Rolls Out PARTY Registration Program for Isla Vista



Arturo Martinez  
Staff Writer

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office introduced its new Party Registration Program Tuesday night, now in effect for Isla Vista.

The Party Registration Program allows residents of I.V. to pre-register their parties online with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office (SBSO) in order to avoid the risk of being cited and fined.

A designated sober party monitor is alerted through telephone if SBSO receives a noise complaint about the party. The monitor then has 20 minutes to shut down the party and lower noise levels, according to a press release sent out by SBSO on Tuesday.

The program is intended to foster a partnership between residents and police, allowing party hosts to remedy noise complaints without the need for a police response.

Deputy Justin Schroeder, community resource deputy for Isla Vista Foot Patrol (IVFP), announced the launch of the program at the April 23 meeting of the Isla Vista Community Services District (I.V. CSD).

"If a complaint is received, we then call or text that person and they have 20 minutes to mitigate that noise problem themselves without a police response. So our slogan for that is, 'Get a text, not a ticket,'" said Schroeder at the I.V. CSD meeting.

"So we're hoping people utilize that program, just to kind of foster a more community-oriented policing method out here in Isla Vista, and we hope it's a popular program."

The Party Registration Program has been in Schroeder's plans since his instatement as Community Resource Deputy back in November 2018.

"I don't think the students realize there's like families and young kids that live in Isla Vista. We have some families that call every single night about a noise complaint," Schroeder said in an interview with the Nexus in November.

The program builds on Schroeder's goals of constructing a community-policing model and bridging the gap between law enforcement and community members. The program allows I.V. residents to monitor themselves, without the need for police intervention.

Similar programs are also in effect in cities around the country. San Luis Obispo's adoption of this program has been successful at California Polytechnic State University, according to the press release.

Residents must follow a set of guidelines in order to register a party with the program. Parties must be registered at least 48 hours in advance and can only be registered for Fridays and Saturdays, as well as Sunday if the following Monday is a holiday.

Police will be dispatched if contact cannot be made with the party monitor, and a citation will be issued if noise violations are verified. A citation will also be issued if a second complaint is received by SBSO.

Properties will also lose registration privileges for nine months if complaints are received for two separate parties within nine months of each other. Individuals who have received a noise violation citation or a social host ordinance violation cannot register for the program for nine months after the last

**PARTY REGISTRATION p.3**

## New Proposed Cliff Policy Could Affect Homes on Del Playa Drive

Sofia Mejias-Pascoe  
Asst. News Editor

The Building & Safety Division of the County of Santa Barbara is hoping to implement a new cliff policy in Isla Vista – one that would raise the minimum threshold distance between the cliffside to the property line of Del Playa Drive houses.

The current policy requires that all 84 properties facing the ocean on Del Playa Drive be at least five feet away from the bluff, according to Massoud Abolhoda, manager of the division.

The county's new proposed policy would move the minimum distance to 15 feet and require that "a building foundation should be evaluated when any portion of the building, foundations, or appurtenances, are within 15 feet of the bluff face," according to the I.V. Bluffs Report released in March 2019.

The proposed changes to the I.V. Bluff Policy follow an instance in which 15 feet of the cliff between 6653 and 6663 Del Playa Drive collapsed in a short period in January 2017, according to the report. This collapse forced out 28 residents from the surrounding properties after a portion of the balcony crumbled off the cliff.

This "single-event failure" – an event where the most cliff erosion occurs in a single point in time, as opposed to erosion over time – exceeded the current requirement of five feet and "raised concern regarding the current policy for structure setbacks, which includes an assumption that a single bluff failure will be no more than five feet," according to the report.

However, not all properties would be affected by the new proposal, Abolhoda noted.

Due to site-specific conditions of property, the threshold distance can be

**BLUFF POLICY p.3**

## Amidst Lawsuit, Ike's Moves to State Street

Max Abrams  
Asst. News Editor

### Litigation

Nearly three years have passed since Ike's began filling the stomachs of hungry Isla Vistans. The shop, nestled between Cajé and Spudnuts on Embarcadero del Norte, opened its doors for the last time on April 13, bringing the local sandwich spree to an end.

The company's founder Ike Shehadeh – colloquially called the "Ike of Ike's" – said in an interview with the Nexus that the Isla Vista location was initially launched as an experiment, implying that the location was destined to be only temporary.

With the exception of a few spare signs, there isn't much left to the now-defunct I.V. location – other than an eviction notice.

On the Tuesday following the store's departure, an eviction notice on the window demanded that Shehadeh vacate the Icon-owned property by the day it was posted, April 16.

The eviction notice stems from a case that was originally filed by Icon Property as an unlawful detainer last December, according to public records from Santa Barbara Superior Court. The case alleges that Shehadeh owes Icon more than \$42,000 in overdue rent, according to public records.

The Nexus reached out to both Icon's leasing office and its legal team several times, but did not receive any comment.

In a separate interview with the Nexus, Shehadeh said he recently filed a countersuit against Icon, alleging that "[Icon] did some things that we didn't appreciate."

Shehadeh's countersuit alleges that Icon breached his lease agreement and committed fraud in the form of concealment.

According to a court document sent to the Nexus by Shehadeh's attorney, the countersuit

alleges that Icon hid important information following a situation involving mold on the premises, resulting in the eventual litigation currently taking place.

After informing Icon in January of 2018 that he would no longer be leasing the store, "Icon negotiated with Ike's Place to amend the lease" and remain in I.V., according to the court document.

The court document alleges that following the repair of a faulty hose in the soda dispenser at the I.V. location, I c o n ,

"unbeknownst to Ike's Place... hired ATC Group Services LLC to perform a mold inspection in the neighboring property..." that same day.

Within that same week, ATC Group Services reported that the mold found on the premises was coming from Shehadeh's store.

The report claimed that the faulty hose was to blame for the mold but, allegedly, nobody from ATC Group Services contacted the store to inform Shehadeh there was a presence of mold on the premises.

Furthermore, the court document alleges that Icon had knowledge of mold on the premises prior to the faulty hose in the I.V. location's soda dispenser.

**IKE'S p.3**



REENA NANAVATI / DAILY NEXUS



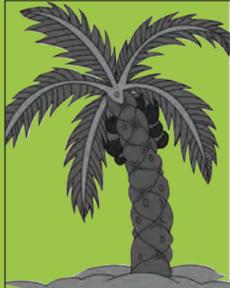
PEYTON STOTELMYRE / DAILY NEXUS

A LOOK INSIDE

SPORTS  
page 8  
Men's Tennis Reaches for 5th Consecutive Big West Title



Get Your Festival Fix Without Coachella  
ARTSWEEK  
page 11



ON THE MENU  
page 12  
Every Non-Dairy Option. Ever.

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

# THIS WEEK'S UP AND COMING

**Saturday 27 April Yo-Yo Ma**  
Granada Theatre | 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLBOARD.COM

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma's career is a testament to his enduring belief in culture's power to generate trust and understanding. In this special talk, he will explore the role culture can play in helping us to imagine and build a better future, drawing on examples from his own life as a musician and citizen. Yo-Yo Ma's presentation is rooted in the belief that at a moment when our world is challenged by the pace of change and the divisions it can create, culture's ability to create and share meaning is essential in shaping the next stage of our evolution. A Q&A will follow.

**Tuesday 30 April "El Norte" 35th Anniversary Screening**  
Campbell Hall | 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REMEZCLA.COM

A work of social realism imbued with dreamlike imagery, "El Norte" is a lovingly-rendered story of hope and survival, which critic Roger Ebert called "a *Grapes of Wrath* for our time." The film tells the timely story of Enrique and Rosa, siblings who flee persecution in Guatemala and journey north through Mexico and on to the United States with the dream of starting a new life. This 35th-anniversary screening pays homage to the movie's masterful quality and enduring influence. (Gregory Nava, 1983, 139 min.)

**Wednesday May Dawnland Film Screening**  
MCC Theater | 6 p.m.

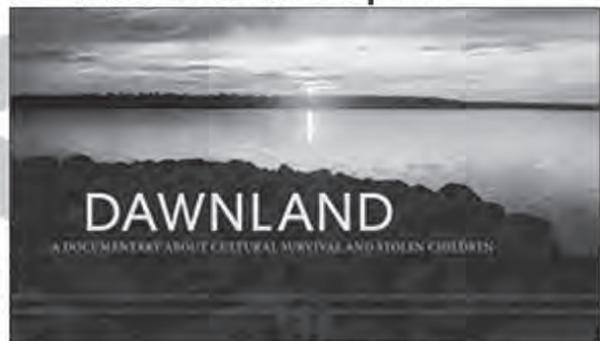


PHOTO COURTESY OF PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES ASSOCIATION

"Dawnland" is a documentary about cultural survival and stolen children. It reveals the untold narrative of Indigenous child removal in the United States. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission discovers that state power continues to be used to break up Wabanaki families, threatening the very existence of the Wabanaki people. "Dawnland" foregrounds the immense challenges that this commission faces as they work toward truth, reconciliation and the survival of all Indigenous peoples.

**MAGIC LANTERN FILMS PRESENTS:**

**Friday 26 COLD WAR & SHOPLIFTERS** **Monday 29 POKEMON: THE MOVIE & POKEMON 2000**  
IV Theater | 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.

## IMPROVABILITY

**The Musical Show!**  
Embarcadero Hall | 8 p.m.  
Friday 26 April \$3

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## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

7									
6	3		4			7			
8				2	9				
				3				8	
		7		9	8	6			3
	1								
			7	5					4
			2					3	6
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SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE 5/4/12

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

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

### ACROSS

- Jerk
- Casting leader?
- 1925 musical based on the play "My Lady Friends"
- Stumble
- Expanse seen from Point Barrow
- Draw
- Check out
- Shatner's "\_\_\_ War"
- Snickers
- Cole Porter and Rudy Vallée, e.g.
- Thing to do in Hurts, in a way
- Glare
- Connecting line
- Make an example of
- Food found in rings
- Starfleet uniform wearers
- Twerpz and Strawz candy brand
- Actor honored with a memorial statue in Hong Kong
- Heavyweight
- Bill's first Supreme Court appointee
- Pencil holders?
- \_\_\_ Hall
- Hitched behind
- 1924 Darrow client
- Value
- Pitman users
- DOJ part
- Rebuffs
- White wine apéritif
- Reason to make a stand?
- Subj. for an au pair
- 1993 movie co-written by Quentin Tarantino
- Commandment word
- Back-to-the-land movement practitioner

### DOWN

- Jacks
- Razor handle?
- Balm
- Where a guest may rest
- Loop together
- Tied together
- Japanese mushrooms
- Lawman Ramsey of '70s TV
- Haitian season
- Rat-\_\_\_
- Brightest star in Cygnus
- 18th-century teenage Russian emperor
- Region of eastern Ecuador
- Clothing store hangers
- Peddler
- Activate, in a way
- Los Angeles-based ISP
- Hall of Fame running back Campbell
- "The West Wing" Emmy nominee
- Fulfill

- Shade of green
- Songwriter Kristofferson
- Fire
- Common entrée at 48-Down
- Scrawny
- Altogether
- Finished
- Never
- Rituals including the Cup of Elijah
- Bird, for one
- Value
- Inebriate
- Prefix with -tonin
- Words of lament
- Giant word
- Lough \_\_\_, second-largest lake on the River Shannon
- Pasture plea

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

R	A	B	B	I	B	J	O	R	N	S	E	C								
O	N	E	A	M	R	E	C	A	P	I	T	E								
W	I	T	C	H	H	I	T	T	E	R	M	A	S							
					C	O	U	N	T		A	I	L	S						
R	O	M	A		L	E	A	B	A	R	G	A	I	N						
E	M	E	R	I	L		O	C	E	A	N	I	A							
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xwordeditor@aol.com 05/11/13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15												16	
17												18	
19				20				21		22			
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29				30		31			32		33		
	34				35		36			37			
40	41	42						43			44	45	
46					47			48		49			50
51				52		53			54		55		
56					57			58		59		60	
61						62		63	64			65	
66						67							
68								69					

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## WEATHER

The Weatherhuman has gone BATSHIT crazy everyone. Bat. SHIT!

Tomorrow's Forecast: A social media cleanse as a desparate attempt to get hir life together.

## Party Registration

Continued from p.1

violation occurred.

Additionally, people who have received a public nuisance party citation cannot register with the program.

Lieutenant Juan Camarena of the IVFP also believes that the program will create a clearer line of communication between IV residents and law enforcement, along with establishing a safe environment.

"This program embraces the idea of community-oriented policing and partners community members with law enforcement to solve the problem of noise complaints in Isla Vista," Camarena said in the press release.

"It also creates an open line of communication between the community and law enforcement, shows transparency and cooperation, and encourages future partnerships to solve other crimes."



LEONARD PAULASA / DAILY NEXUS

## Bluff Policy

Continued from p.1

different for each property, depending on the type of foundation of the building, how close the building is to the property line and how close the south side of the building is to the cliff.

Property owners would be able to submit geotechnical evaluation reports to sidestep having to make renovations or cutbacks to the building, so long as the building meets the division's requirements.

"Since we know that site-to-site situations can vary, we are asking that property owners hire a geotechnical engineer to evaluate their specific condition and let us know," Abolhoda said. "[They can then] offer us a geotechnical report if they believe the 15 feet that would be the basis of our new policy is not really applicable."

"Once we get that report, we get other geotechnical engineers to review it and see if it's acceptable, and if it's acceptable then the policy would be based on a single event that is going to happen in that specific site. That's how our policies are being revised."

Buildings with shallow foundations, about 24 to 32 inches deep, would be less likely to meet the division's building safety requirements.

Buildings with caisson foundations in good shape have a better chance of sliding by the new policy, but a "series of triggers" would be established to monitor the integrity of the foundation and the safety of the building over time. The triggers would designate points in erosion which would render the support structures ineffective and require property owners to address the conditions of the building at that time.

If a building is less than 15 feet from the bluff, the property would be placed on a watch list to be "monitored on a continuing basis for bluff retreat and building proximity," according to the report. The property owners would also be notified.

"We can adjust our policy according to what is considered the most prevalent single-event failure that can be experienced on that site," Abolhoda said.

If a building comes within 10 feet of the bluff, the property owner will be issued an official "Notice of Violation" and will be required to address the "noncompliant conditions."

If nothing is done to address the threshold violation, the property owner would be fined and receive a "Notice of Non-Compliance," according to the report.

In the event that a building comes within five feet of the bluff, the property owner may be issued a "Notice and Order to Vacate Building and Abate."

If it is determined that the property does not meet the safety threshold, the property owner has several options.

The owner can "cut the building back a minimum of 30 feet," but

would also be allowed to do smaller cutbacks on a "case-by-case basis."

They could also maintain the building in its current condition if a geotechnical engineering report proves the building is safe to live in. Property owners would still need a "monitoring and abatement plan" prepared by a civil or structural engineer.

A third option is foundation strengthening, which could also allow property owners to maintain the existing structure through the "underpinning of shallow foundations," anchoring of existing foundations or other methods, according to the report. Property owners would need reports from geotechnical and structural engineers to oversee the modifications.

The building and safety division is holding a meeting with property owners on May 2 at the planning commission room on 123 E Anapamu Street to discuss concerns and "have a discussion about moving forward with new policy," Abolhoda said.

"We are not rushing to this, and we want everyone to understand what we are asking, and we do not want to create a false panic," Abolhoda said. "Safety is the primary reason for this change of policy."



ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS

# Vista Point



## Weekly Events in Isla Vista

### Fun at the Fairgrounds

As summer inches closer, lots of people are looking to break away from hitting the books and start enjoying all the fun that summer has to offer. For those looking to get started early, the Santa Barbara Fair & Expo is coming to town this week. It's open from 4 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Apr. 25; from 4 to 12 p.m. on Friday, Apr. 26; from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturday, Apr. 27; and from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 28. The fair, which is dinosaur-themed this year, will have vendors, entertainers, rides and all the other sentimental fair festivities. Tickets are \$5 to \$8 for general admission and \$30 for carnival wristbands. The fair will take place at the Earl Warren Showgrounds at 400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara.

### Shopping Local

If you find yourself with some free time and extra cash this Saturday, Apr. 27, stop by the Isla Vista Market at Little Acorn Park at 6747 El Embarcadero from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The casual open-air market will host local vendors selling everything from vintage clothing, handmade jewelry and ceramics to biodegradable glitter, stickers and art. There will even be services such as eyebrow threading. Over 30 vendors will be putting their goods on display, with some taking Venmo for payment, too. Isla Vista Trading Post will also have their shop set up and will be allowing patrons to pick out three pieces of clothing for free.

### Soundcheck

Some say that the best bands are formed solely by chance. For bands playing at the 2019 Band Lottery Showcase, that's exactly what happened. About a month ago, Biko Garage Funzone hosted an event where musicians looking to form a group could meet up and be randomly sorted into new bands. Now, some of those bands are returning to Biko Garage at 6612 Sueno Road on Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m. to put their new grooves to the test. At least two of the bands are scheduled to play, and Isla Vistans can drop in throughout the night to support some of the newest local music in IV.

### Down with Capitalism

Who ever said communism is dead? Definitely not a couple of bands slated to play at Communist Mothers Music Collective this Saturday, Apr. 17 at 8 p.m. Local bands Careless Cub and Aqua Stalin will be providing the tunes for a night of condemning capitalism among comrades. If you've got a bone to pick with the system, this is the party for you.

### Yoga for the Soul

Mantra Lounge Kirtan Santa Barbara and Yoga Isla Vista host an evening of Kirtan Yoga for community members to gather, shed the stresses of the day and unwind with meditative music. Kirtan is a type of religious performance art, using storytelling and narrating to take participants through meditation, but participants of all beliefs are encouraged to participate. The yoga sesh charges a \$5 fee and comes with a complimentary vegan treat. The class will be held at Yoga Isla Vista at 900 Embarcadero Del Mar, Suite D, upstairs from the parking behind Silvergreens.

## Ike's

Continued from p.1



REENA NANAVATI / DAILY NEXUS

However, the soda dispensary machine at the IV location had allegedly been inspected just "weeks prior" and the health inspector "did not find any issues with that machine," according to the court document.

When Shehadeh entered negotiations between Jan. 19 of 2018 and Jul. 4 of 2018 to extend his lease with Icon, the leasing agency allegedly "did not disclose this mold report to Ike's Place," according to the court document: "had Ike's Place known that Icon intended to blame mold damages in the Premises upon Ike's place, then Ike's Place would have been able to obtain contemporaneous evidence that it was not responsible for said damages."

Shehadeh eventually decided to terminate his lease with Icon during the negotiation period but received an email in which Icon offered to "modify the amendment for the reduced gross rent," according to the document.

Within weeks, Shehadeh agreed to extend the lease, ending negotiations with Icon.

Allegedly, "almost immediately" after Shehadeh signed the extended lease, Icon began inspections to "establish the presence of mold that it was already aware existed but had not disclosed to Ike's Place," according to the document.

The court document alleges that "Intrusive remedial work" was performed on the IV store following the inspection, ceasing store operations.

During this time, biohazard signs were scattered throughout the store, bathrooms were closed, the kitchen was sealed off and the IV location was unable to make and serve sandwiches, according to the court document.

"Ike's place was unable to continue to do business at the level it previously did and was accordingly unable to pay rent," the court document states.

By leaving the IV store uninformed about the mold, the court document alleges, Icon breached "the covenant of good faith and fair dealing when it concealed material facts from Ike's place."

The IV store claims, in the court document, that it was "harm" by Icon due to its reliance on false information the leasing agency provided.

"Icon's suppression of material facts was malicious and egregious

such that Icon should be liable for punitive damages," according to the document.

The court document adds that the IV location is seeking compensation for "punitive damages," the cost of the suit, attorney's fees and "general, special, compensatory, incidental, consequential and/or economic damages..."

### New State Street Store

With the new shop slated to open next week, Shehadeh circumvented the short hiring window by offering all current employees at the IV location a chance to work at the new store. Furthermore, the store will be managed by one of Ike's first-ever managers, who will bring roughly 10 years of experience to the new sandwich parlor.

The State Street location is equipped with a parking lot, which allows for a full-size catering menu, decreased wait times for delivery and parking for both employees and customers, according to Shehadeh.

Furthermore, Shehadeh also plans to keep the lights on late into the night, flirting with new store hours such as "10 to 10" on weekdays and "10 to midnight" on weekends. However, the hours will be adjusted according to demand, as Shehadeh finds that there's no use in staying open if nobody wants to purchase food.

To further compensate for the move, Shehadeh is excited to offer a "super student discount," where both Santa Barbara City College and UC Santa Barbara students can tuck on chips and a drink to their meal for "a buck fifty."

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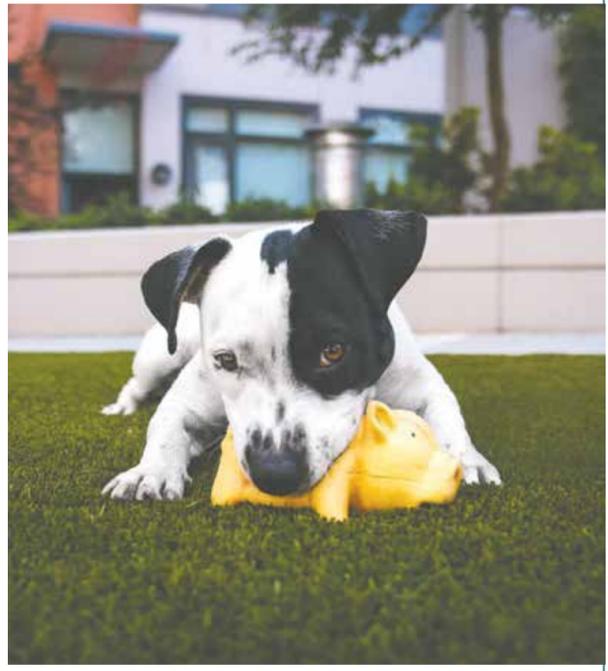
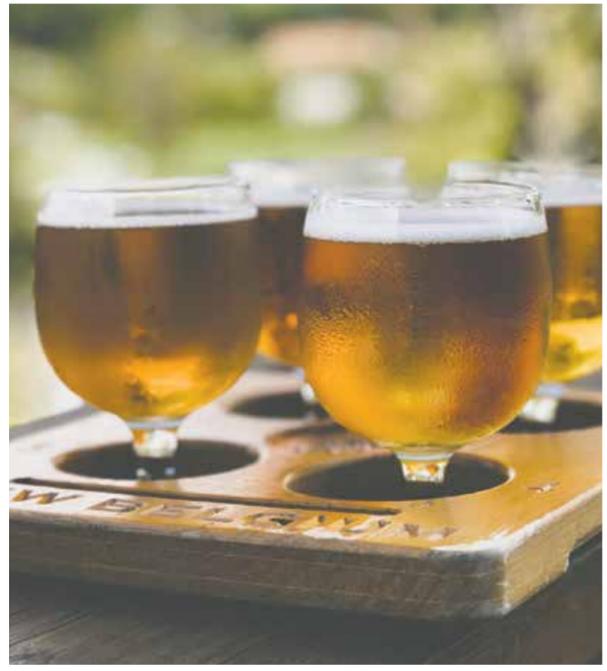
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## UCSB Professor Wins Pulitzer Prize

Sean Crommelin  
Copy Editor

UC Santa Barbara Black Studies professor and author Jeffrey Stewart won a Pulitzer prize on April 15 in the category of biography for his work *The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke*.

*The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke* chronicles the life and works of Alain Locke, a Black intellectual and patron of the arts known as the "Father of the Harlem Renaissance."

The biography is the culmination of decades of work, Stewart said in an interview with the Nexus.

Stewart began research on Locke in 1977 while in graduate school at Yale University. He dropped the project for a long period of time but resumed writing the biography in 1992.

"I went away from it because it was so challenging ... It was a very complex project. I didn't feel like early on, coming out of graduate school, I could write the book. I had to grow as a writer," he said.

Stewart made use of Howard University's exhaustive collection of Locke's personal correspondences to paint a picture of Locke's philosophy, life experiences, conflicts and interpersonal relationships.

A professor at Howard University, Locke left the bulk of his letters with the university institution, where they were compiled in the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center.

Stewart pored over thousands of documents in the process of writing *The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke*.

"He has voluminous letters. He had probably 5000 letters to his mother alone... He would report on what he did and where he went almost like a diary, he used letters as a kind of diary."

Unlike historical counterparts such as Booker T. Washington or W. E. B. Du Bois, who focused on social advancement through economic efficacy and protest respectively, Locke looked at the arts and saw an opportunity to connect white audiences with Black creators, Stewart said.

"He's like a facilitator. He's like a producer of these things. He did it out of a belief that art was a way to advance the situation of race relations more positively than through other avenues," he said.

Locke popularized the works of Black artists and authors such as Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston and others who "started doing poems and short stories and novels about the Black experience," Stewart said.

Locke believed that "art was a way to advance the situation of race relations more positively than through other avenues."

"Almost like a Trojan Horse, [art] could be rode into the citadel of American culture and there would be poetry and art and all about Black people which would humanize how people thought about Black people."

Locke faced challenges relating to his disposition, his size, his sexuality and his focus on art over other forms of activism. In the greater Black cultural narrative, Stewart believes Locke was overlooked because of these peculiarities.

"Take somebody like Frederick Douglas. He's

independent, a leader, a spokesperson. He's heterosexual, he has a family. It's like it's the mirror of the white world, but Black. Locke was small. He was 4'11." He weighed 99 pounds. He was into art, which is not typically the focus of Black politics. He was a difficult personality."

Locke's challenges gave him a unique perspective on life, and his success and resilience in the face of dismissiveness from other activists inspired Stewart.

"He never let the opposition from other people stop him, whether it was gendered or sexual, or racial, or even the issue of his size, or those people who thought that art was ridiculous to be concerned about when you're in the midst of a racial struggle."

Also significant to Stewart was Locke's faith in the Black cultural capacity for change and reinvention, away from the ideals and standards imposed by white people.

Locke believed that in altering one's conception of oneself and embracing one's innate qualities as a Black person, one could "acquire and gain a sense of self-esteem and agency that [one could] never acquire by trying to get what the other people have," Stewart said.

"So there's a narrative of self-sufficiency and self determination through art."

However, Locke also led a life of loneliness which intensified after the death of the most prominent figure in Locke's life: his mother.

"Much of his life was after her death in 1922, a search for someone to replace her... and he never found that," Stewart said.

This was coupled with a desire for a meaningful relationship with a man, which Locke could never fulfill, Stewart said.

"He had relationships but never anything that was really permanent. He felt people would get with him because of what he could do for them, they used him. He was a means, not an end."

However, Locke was a perpetual optimist deep down, even in his dying moments. In every aspect of his life, whether it be romantic pursuits, academic ambitions or social activism, Locke never let seemingly insurmountable disadvantages discourage him, Stewart said.

Stewart believes young people can learn from Locke.

"That kind of relates to today, I think. A lot of young people come out and look at the situation. There's a lot of controversy... but [Locke] was always hopeful, always thinking that by contributing you could make a difference."

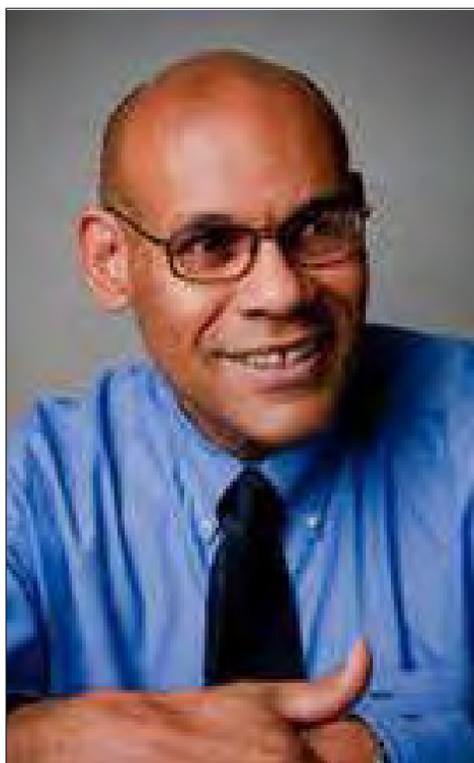
"This signature concept of The New Negro is that Black people reinvented themselves in the 20th century, away from slavery... There's this idea that wherever you are in your life, whatever has happened, you still have the capacity for a new version of yourself," Stewart said.

"His whole thing is, well, if you believe you can change, then maybe you can."



Almost like a Trojan Horse, [art] could be rode into the citadel of American culture

Jeffrey Stewart



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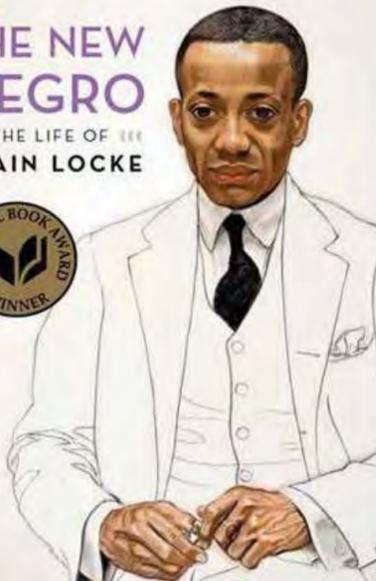
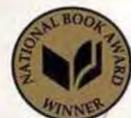
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# Flintstone Bench Removed, Donated to IVRPD

Max Abrams  
 Asst. News Editor

For the last 11 years, the intersection at Pardall Road and Embarcadero del Mar was rounded by the bulbous Flintstone bench. The sprawling piece of concrete, which could be found right in front of the Pardall Solar Parking Lot, was a haven for the tired legs of local residents.

Until it went missing. On April 10, the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department removed the bench after being informed to do so by the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office (SBSO), according to Chris Sneddon, transportation deputy director of the Santa Barbara Public Works Department.

The decision to remove the bench was made by SBSO following numerous complaints that individuals were "monopolizing" it, according to Gina Fischer, district representative for SB County Third-District Supervisor Joan Hartmann. Fischer noted the slew of community complaints received by both the supervisor's office and SBSO. According to Fischer, students and long-term residents complained about the bench's constant occupation, noting that it deteriorated the curb appeal of the intersection.

As a result, the bench was removed and broken into "a whole bunch of pieces," according to Isla Vista Recreation and Parks District (IVRPD)

Adopt-A-Block Supervisor Raymond Willefert. Following the removal of the bench, Willefert said the Public Works Department approached the IVRPD, asking if they would like to keep the pieces.

"We had an offer to receive all these slabs of stone and big boulders and we said, 'Yes, please, we'll take them,'" he said.

The IVRPD had the Public Works Department deliver the pieces to the Sueno Bark Park, where they plan to permanently keep the benches after they are rebuilt, according to Willefert.

The IVRPD plans to "reconstruct [the bench]" into two, probably three separate smaller benches," he added.

Although there is currently no plan to have an unveiling for the new benches, Willefert said the IVRPD plans to have them finished before May 18, the day of their planned "Bark Party" at the Sueno Bark Park.

"On May 18, we're having an event in the dog park called 'Bark Party.' We've got 'Care For Paws' out there doing free or discounted immunizations for dogs and Pet Smart's giving away coupons and stuff. Humane Society will be there [and] Goleta Animal Pet Hospital will be giving away free coupons for services," Willefert said.

"And then we're going to have the best dog trick contest and the owner-pet look alike contest and musical chairs, dog version."

# Students Create "Apathy Unveiled" Podcast



SIMREN VERMA / DAILY NEXUS

Simren Verma  
 University News Editor

UC Santa Barbara's Associated Students is oftentimes referred to as a "bubble" – a common sentiment on campus that only people involved in student government know about its inner workings.

Despite the fact that candidates run on a platform of accessibility to Associated Students (A.S.) during A.S. elections each Spring Quarter, it becomes clear throughout the school year that the majority of the student body is unaware of what they pay into A.S., the responsibilities A.S. has and what A.S. does.

Two students are trying to change that – and no, not two students who are already heavily involved in A.S. In fact, they aren't involved in A.S. at all.

Sophia Steinhorn, a third-year communication major, and Adri Davies, a third-year political science major, have been close friends since their freshman year when they were matched as roommates.

The two got the idea to start a podcast about the lack of knowledge students have about A.S. during a class they took together last quarter: Writing for Public Discourse (105PD), an upper-division writing class.

The final project in the class was to put together an advocacy campaign, and Steinhorn and Davies decided to create a 30-minute podcast titled "Apathy Unveiled."

As of now, this first episode of "Apathy Unveiled" is the only podcast the two have created but they plan to make more about A.S. and even expand to new topics, such as UCSB's Greek system and national politics.

"I didn't know a lot of the stuff that we ended up reporting on and covering until we started doing the research," Steinhorn said in an interview with the *Nexus*. "I think a lot of it also stemmed from our own curiosity about A.S. elections and how A.S. works."

Toward the beginning of the podcast, Steinhorn spoke to how UCSB students seem to care about national politics, but not A.S.

"UCSB has one of the highest student voting populations out of public universities," Steinhorn said. "But somehow, we have failed... to even get half the student body to vote in any recent [A.S.] elections."

Both Steinhorn's and Davies' perspectives differ from that of current A.S. elected officials and candidates. Many students – including those currently running in the Spring Quarter 2019 elections – emphasize that the student body is unaware of A.S.'s budget due to a lack of transparency.

Steinhorn and Davies disagree. They find the root of the problem to be apathetic students.

When Steinhorn and Davies began researching for the podcast, they decided to look into A.S.'s level of transparency for themselves and ended up finding A.S.'s budget almost immediately, Steinhorn said in an interview with the *Nexus*.

"The issue is not that we don't have information or that it's not transparent," Davies said in the podcast. "You Google UCSB A.S. budget and it's like the second link."

"Because students have no idea what's going on, students that do run for positions know that they can get away with whatever they want basically."

Steinhorn and Davies then went on in the podcast to discuss the disqualification of former External Vice President for Statewide Affairs (EVPSA)-elect Mayela Morales and the subsequently vacant EVPSA position.

"Associated Students has tried to elect a new representative, and we have continually not been able to get enough student votes to allow that representative into their position," Steinhorn said in the podcast, referring to the failed A.S. special elections held this past school year in an attempt to elect an EVPSA.

Steinhorn re-emphasized that she believes the reason behind the vacant EVPSA position is largely due to apathetic students.

Steinhorn and Davies spent a bulk of the podcast, however, arguing that many students do not know the reality of how much money A.S. controls.

"It's easy to attribute inaction to the lack of transparency, but then when we found that there was a lot of transparency... it's like, okay then, what is the actual problem?" Steinhorn said in an interview with the *Nexus*. "That kind of led us to talking to the students."

Davies clarified that she believes it is hard to understand what happens inside of A.S. and what exactly is on A.S. elected officials' agendas, noting that it is the budget and the financial information that she thinks is transparent.

Both Steinhorn and Davies asked UCSB students what they knew about A.S. and how much money they thought the A.S. budget was.

One student guessed \$20,000, and another guessed \$500,000.

All of them missed the mark by a longshot. Steinhorn and Davies told each student they interviewed that A.S.'s budget for this school year was \$13.8 million.

Students responded with gasps; one exclaimed "Oh my god!" and one even said, "For what? What do they do?"

Steinhorn and Davies also asked the students if they knew how much each student individually pays A.S. with their fees and asked the students if they knew that the A.S. executive elected officials get most of their tuition paid through honoraria.

Along with interviewing students not involved in A.S., they also interviewed an A.S. insider, who wanted to remain anonymous, and asked the insider to explain what exactly A.S. is.

"What I've noticed on this campus is there is a small group of people who are politically engaged, and they end up determining a lot of student-wide issues... that not necessarily a majority of students would want," the A.S. insider said during the podcast.

Along with the theme of apathy, Steinhorn and Davies stressed that they believe there is an issue of accessibility to A.S. Although they think that students can do more, they also believe that A.S. can do more.

"I think people probably view university government as more of a club than a body that actually makes decisions," Steinhorn said.

*Continue reading at [dailynews.com](http://dailynews.com).*

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# Elections “Ask Me Anything”

## “ What Kind of Compensation Do A.S. Members Receive? ”

The A.S. executive director and other full-time staff members within A.S. receive yearly salaries. For example, the current A.S. executive director, Marisela Marquez, received \$110,911 for the 2017 fiscal year. A.S. Executives receive \$3,000 per quarter, while A.S. senators receive \$400 per quarter for serving on the Senate. Both face different sets of rules and requirements, which can be found in the 2018-2019 version of Legal Code on page 271.

## “ Who is Advising Elections? Who are Members of the Committee in Charge of Elections? Do We get to See the Minutes? ”

The Associated Students Elections Board is in charge of the elections. There are seven members of the board, and they are advised by Kendra Sandoval and Ruth Garcia Guevara. Election Board minutes are not open to the public.

## “ Can I View a List of Candidates? ”

A list of all candidates can be seen at [dailynexus.com](http://dailynexus.com) at “Associated Students Elections Guide: Spring Quarter 2019.”



## “ What are Some of the Programs That Come From My Student Fees? ”

Besides providing Senate with a budget to spend throughout the year, your student fees fund a variety of different programs across campus. For example, the A.S. Program Board is funded by student fees, as well as the Bike Shop, the Queer Commission, the Food Bank and many others. You can find the full list of A.S. funded entities at [dailynexus.com](http://dailynexus.com) at “Associated Students Elections Guide: Spring Quarter 2019.”

## “ Is Results Night Still in the UCen? ”

Yes. Results night will happen in the UCen’s Hub at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 25.



ALL ELECTION ART BY PEYTON STOTELMYRE / DAILY NEXUS

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# S P O R T S

**Track and Field**

Check out our track and field teams as they head down the Central Coast to take part in the Cal Poly Dual meet.

## Top-Seeded Gauchos Look to Roll Through Conference Tournament

Brandon Victor  
Assistant Sports Editor

For the second straight season, the UCSB women's tennis team secured the Big West regular season title. This time, however, they will look to parlay that regular season success into a tournament title and a postseason berth.

With their 4-0 sweep over rivals Cal Poly on Saturday, the Gauchos clinched the top seed in the Big West tournament, finishing the regular season with an impressive 7-1 conference record.

Fittingly, senior Stephanie Yamada won the deciding game in her last ever home game, knocking off her opponent in two sets and getting a post-match Gatorade bath to top it all off.

Now the winner of four consecutive matches, Santa Barbara heads into the Big West tournament with confidence and momentum on their side. On Friday, the Gauchos will kick off their postseason campaign against either UC Irvine or UC Riverside.

On paper, neither team should give Santa Barbara much trouble. Just weeks prior, the 'Chos went into Riverside and knocked off the Highlanders 7-0. A week later, SB returned home to defeat UC Irvine 5-1.

While the Anteaters struggled in conference play, they went

12-5 in non-conference this year and seem the likelier opponent for UCSB on Friday.

Inconsistency has plagued Irvine all season – especially on court one, where UCI has struggled to a 10-13 record. On the other hand, junior Amit Lev Ari has dominated all season at the one spot for the Gauchos, coming into the postseason with a 6-1 record on the top court.

Another advantage for SB will be at the five spot, where Yamada has settled nicely after some early-season struggles. Yamada remains unbeaten when playing on court five; on the other hand, Irvine has failed to find a consistent contributor for this spot, with the team sporting an 11-11 record on the fifth court this season.

In the earlier matchup between these teams, the Gauchos completed all of their victories in only two sets, while Irvine's lone victory came due to a forfeit on court six.

If UCSB can get past the quarterfinals, they will take on either fourth-seeded Hawai'i or fifth-seeded UC Davis in the semifinals.

Historically, Hawai'i has caused problems for SB; last season, the fourth-seeded Rainbow Wahine knocked off the top-seeded Gauchos in a 4-3 nailbiter.

Earlier this year, Hawai'i handed UCSB its lone conference defeat, hammering Santa Barbara 6-1 in Honolulu. In that match,

Petra Melounova – a junior who has been ranked in the top 100 at various points this year – handed Lev Ari her sole loss on court one.

While almost every match went three sets, the defeat certainly proves that Hawai'i has the skill to knock off UCSB once again this postseason.

Santa Barbara may want to root for UC Davis to knock off Hawai'i, as UCSB defeated the Aggies 5-1 earlier this season. While the doubles point was canceled because of inclement weather, Davis's sole victory came on court one, where junior Nikita Pradeep knocked off sophomore Elizaveta Volodko despite dropping the first set.

If the Gauchos can advance, UCSB will move on to the title game for the second time in the last three years.

In 2017, the Gauchos knocked off the top-seeded Rainbow Wahine to advance to the NCAA tournament, where the 'Chos were swept in the opening round by UCLA.

With a 13-7 overall record and a deep and talented roster, UCSB has dominated their Big West opponents all season. If they can keep up their hot play, Santa Barbara may very well find itself in the NCAA tournament field at the end of the weekend.

The Gauchos will kick off play Friday morning, when the 'Chos take on either UC Irvine or UC Riverside at 8:30 a.m. at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

## UCSB Aims For Fifth Consecutive Big West Title

Brandon Victor  
Assistant Sports Editor

Last Sunday, the UCSB men's tennis team celebrated their fourth straight regular season title, knocking off Hawai'i in front of their home crowd.

If all goes according to Head Coach Marty Davis' plan, the Gauchos will be celebrating once again this Sunday after winning their fifth consecutive Big West Conference tournament.

After amassing a 5-0 conference record—and only dropping three total sets throughout conference play – the 'Chos earned the top seed and a first round bye in this year's tournament.

As such, Santa Barbara's first match will come on Friday at 3 p.m. against the winner of Thursday's matchup between fourth-seeded UC Riverside and fifth-seeded UC Davis.

All year, the Gauchos have leaned on their trio of nationally-ranked athletes: No.16 Nicolas Moreno De Alboran, No.58 Joseph Guillin, and No.115 Victor Krustev.

In his senior year, Moreno De Alboran has had yet another stellar year for the team, finishing the season with a 12-2 record on court one.

If Moreno De Alboran finishes the season in the top 16, he will become the first UCSB All-American since David Decret in 1992.

Junior Guillin and sophomore Krustev have also provided steady contributions from the second and third courts respectively, with the two finishing a combined 19-8 on their best courts.

With arguably the three top singles players in the conference – and each team only needing four points to secure victory – the Gauchos seem on paper to be the clear favorites for the title this weekend.

Even on the lower courts, Santa Barbara has seen improved play from some of their veterans. On court six, senior Anders Holm seems to have found his stroke, winning seven straight matches.

For any team to knock off the 'Chos, they will likely need to steal the doubles point and establish some

momentum heading into singles play. As of late, however, UCSB has dominated doubles play.

On court one, Moreno De Alboran and Holm have won their last six matches, while on court two the duo of Guillin and Krustev have a 9-1 overall record on the season.

On paper, Santa Barbara shouldn't have too much trouble with their Friday opponent, with the Gauchos sweeping both Davis and Riverside 4-0 in their previous matchup this season.

In the match against Riverside, UCSB opted to rest both Moreno de Alboran and Holm—something the Highlanders won't have the luxury of this time around.

Despite being the higher seed between the two potential opponents, UCR only have a 1-4 conference record, and shouldn't pose too much of a threat to the 'Chos dominance.

If Santa Barbara wins Friday, they will get a day off on Saturday before playing in the finals on Sunday at 9 a.m.

In that game, the 'Chos will likely take on either UC Irvine or Cal Poly, with the Anteaters arguably posing the biggest threat to UCSB.

In the first matchup between the two teams, UCI took two points off the Gauchos, before ultimately falling 4-2.

Surprisingly, Krustev was one of the players to lose for UCSB, with sophomore Joseph Rotheram also dropping his match on court five.

Still, with no individual nearly as talented as Moreno De Alboran, the Anteaters will need all hands on deck on the other five courts to defeat the Gauchos.

If Santa Barbara can win the conference tournament this year, it will be their 12th conference tournament title under Davis in his 20 years as coach.

In Moreno De Alboran's last season, and with a postseason berth on the line, look for the Gauchos to come out firing over the weekend in their quest to hoist the trophy for the fifth consecutive season.

UCSB will begin their postseason against either Riverside or Davis on Friday at 3 p.m. at Indian Wells Tennis Garden.



JORGE MERCADO / DAILY NEXUS

Senior co-captain Anders Holm struggled to start the year, but won his final seven matches to finish with an overall mark of 10-7. He is 9-2 when playing at the No. 6 court.

# No. 6 Gauchos Look To Extend New Program Win Streak at UC Riverside

Jorge Mercado  
Editor in Chief

Three days ago, the No. 6 UCSB baseball team set a new program record for most consecutive wins in a single season with 13 following a 4-1 at Cal State Bakersfield. Still, the season has a way to go as Santa Barbara will look to continue one of its best seasons in program history when it takes on UC Riverside.

Saying the Gauchos are in the midst of their best season ever is not much of an overstatement at this point considering they are off to their best start in school history with a 31-5 overall record. UCSB is also sitting atop the Big West standings with an 8-1 conference record following sweeps of UC Davis, UC Irvine and taking two of three at CSUF.

In previous years, Santa Barbara going on the road would be enough to worry about the team faring well. In fact, before this year, UCSB was 76-91-1 in the Andrew Checketts era and the last two seasons in particular, the team was an abysmal 13-33.

This year, the Gauchos are 11-4, and if they win four of their final nine road matches that would be the most road wins in the Checketts era.

This week, UCSB will take on a UCR team that is struggling. The Highlanders are currently 13-25 overall and sit at seventh in the conference with a 3-6 Big West mark. UCR is a much better 6-6 at home compared to a 7-19 record away from Riverside.

Still, if UCR has any hopes of upsetting a hot UCSB team then it will need to focus on taking away its strong bats.

Through its nine conference games, Santa Barbara is slashing .318/.372/.538. Specifically, the Gauchos' .318 batting average and .538 slugging is first in the conference while its .372 on base percentage is second only behind Fullerton.

Counting all games, not just conference, the Gauchos are the best team in the conference in nearly all statistics such as batting average (.290), on-base percentage (.383), slugging percentage (.495), home runs (42), RBI's (232), doubles (74), triples (22) and runs (258).

Tommy Jew is one of the players directly responsible for this strong Gaucho offense.

The junior center fielder currently sports a strong .296 batting average, and in the last four games, he has gone 7-15 at the plate with two RBI's and one home run. His 30 RBI's are tied for the second-most on the team.

Jew leads the team in homers with nine on the season and he has also

been a terror on the base paths with 16 stolen bases, tied for the team best mark with fellow outfielder Tevin Mitchell.

Jew has also been stellar defensively with a perfect fielding percentage, and he has also made some great catches, including one that stole a home run.

Another very hot bat is senior designated hitter/catcher Thomas Rowan, who comes into the series opener working a seven-game hit streak. In fact, Rowan has successfully earned a hit in all but six games this season.

In the 12 games UCSB has played this April, Rowan is 18-43 (.418) with 12 RBI's, four home runs, two extra-base hits and striking out just six times in 43 at bats. The senior has also had 14 multiple hit games this season in his 36 appearances.

On the mound, the Gauchos do not get much easier. Michael McGreevy has quickly transformed himself into the first guy out of the bullpen for the Gauchos as the freshman sports a Big West best 1.62 ERA.

Left-handed Saturday starting pitcher Jack Dashwood has also been hot as of late and was named Big West Pitcher of the Week this past Tuesday following a dominant performance against UC Davis.

The sophomore tossed a three-hit complete game shutout and was actually working a perfect game through seven innings before allowing back-to-back singles.

Finally, ace closer Chris Lincoln, whose 10 saves are a league best, was recently named to the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association's Stopper of the Year Midseason Watch List.

The junior righty currently holds a 4.18 ERA and has struck out 25 batters in just 23.1 innings of work.

Still, UCSB does need to watch out for the Highlanders streak hitter, Connor Cannon. The junior right-handed pitcher/first baseman has been on an absolute tear the past two weeks winning back-to-back Big West Field Player of the Week.

Last week, Cannon had a slash line of .588/.650/1.235 as he hit three home runs and knocked in 11 runs. He broke UCR's program record for most RBIs in a game with eight against New Mexico on Apr. 19.

Overall, this week is just another week for UCSB to inch closer to something it hasn't laid claim to in more than 30 years: a Big West title. There is no time for complacency in conference play. 13 straight wins is great, but nothing compared to the other ambitions this team has.

UCSB will take on UC Riverside for game one of the series at 6 p.m. on Friday, Apr. 26 at the Riverside Sports Complex.



ANGIE BANKS / DAILY NEXUS

UCSB set a new program record for most-consecutive wins in a single season on Monday with its 13th straight following a 4-1 win at CSUB.

# No. 4 UCSB Opens Up Big West Tourney Against No. 5 LBSU



ALLISON FANN / DAILY NEXUS

Nithesh Perumal  
Staff Writer

No. 4 UCSB will head into Long Beach State Friday Apr. 26, commencing the quarterfinals of the Big West Tournament.

Santa Barbara will look to carry their momentum from a convincing win against LBSU this past Saturday at home.

In their 6-3 win against LBSU, the 'Chos showed both their stout defense and high-powered offense. LBSU was nearly outplayed by every meaningful metric of the contest.

The 'Chos shot 22% better, gave up one less foul, converted on 100% of their penalty opportunities and did all of this attempting fewer shots than LBSU.

The low-scoring nature of the match less reflects its toughness and is more indicative of the patient and calculated offense UCSB has established to complement their stifling defense.

This complete team is driven by high-level play and leadership from upperclassmen on both sides of the ball.

Junior utility Sarah Snyder and senior utility Kate Pipkin have both put together statement seasons on the offensive side of the ball for the 'Chos.

Snyder ended her hat trick streak this past game. Pipkin has been a model of unparalleled consistency by putting up her third straight season with 40+ goals.

On the other side of the ball UCSB's goalies have been phenomenal this season, making an impact on every game that they check in for.

In the most recent of these games senior goalie Kenzi Snyder posted an impressive 75% save percentage against LBSU.

The confidence and skills the upperclassmen bring

to the water have trickled down into the underclassmen, who have all shown their own ability to compete at a high level despite having less experience than a lot of their competitors.

This unique mix of upper and underclassmen playing top-of-the-pack defense and still packing a punch offensively is what makes the 'Chos aim to go far in this year's Big West Tournament.

Even though the team was not able to secure a first round bye with a win over Davis a few games prior, the added pressure has molded this UCSB team into a dynamic powerhouse.

Despite the strong play from UCSB, no team in the Big West Tournament should be taken lightly.

It is imperative that the 'Chos come out of the gates ready to go on both offense and defense.

One of UCSB's concerns going into not just this game but also to the Big West Tournament as a whole is to make sure to control the tempo of the game right from the start of the match all the way to the end.

Many of the UCSB losses this season have occurred because of losing pace early and having to play catch-up after the half.

With many qualified teams competing in this year's tournament, taking an early deficit is ill-advised and will likely lead to an untimely defeat.

On the bright side, all the 'Chos need to do to be successful this weekend is play the way they played against LBSU.

By controlling the tempo and initiating a patient yet efficient offense on top of a stifling defense, UCSB can definitely look to dominate the competition in this year's tournament.

Santa Barbara will ride their momentum from last Saturday's win to Apr. 26 when they replay Long Beach State, this time with some more added stakes at 1 p.m.

# Gauchos Look To Build On Positive Momentum, Face Matadors

Jake Ciccone  
Staff Writer

The UCSB softball team will look to bounce back from a tough series loss last weekend as they take on Cal State Northridge in a three game series starting on Saturday.

The Gauchos are reeling from a devastating series loss in which they let Long Beach come back in the final game to steal the win away from them. However, they did take a step in the right direction with a pair of solid offensive outputs over their last three-games.

Their upcoming opponent, CSUN, is looking to pick up some momentum as we head down the stretch in conference play after earning their first Big West series win of the season against Cal Poly last weekend.

The Matadors are 5-7 in the Big West which puts them in a tie for fifth with UC Riverside, while the Gauchos are still sitting in last place, with their 2-10 conference record placing them just one game behind Cal Poly.

UCSB will look to build on what was a stellar offensive series in Long Beach where they scored five runs or more in two of the three games, a feat that they had not accomplished once in conference play before then.

One of the main reasons for the Gauchos' offensive outbreak was junior infielder Devan Sperry's arguably best series of the season, going 5-11 with multiple hits in two of the games; she became a much-needed contributor to a team that desperately needed more run production.

Sophomore infielder Maci Fines also had a stellar series as she recorded a hit in each game, solidifying herself as one of the most consistent producers on the team.

An encouraging note for UCSB is that sophomore outfielder Sammy Fabian is due to get back to her old ways and start hitting again as she has cooled off after she was nearly unstop-

pable earlier in the year. Fabian is hitting .397 on the season but just .250 in conference play, as she has been unable to put together consistent at-bats as of late.

This is encouraging for the team because they seem to be improving on offense even with their best hitter being in a bit of a slump.

If she can break out along with the rest of her teammates, the Gauchos might be able to peak near the end of the season and surprise some folks.

Cal State Northridge also has some positive momentum going their way, however, as they were able to claim their first Big West series victory of the season mainly due to the great work of their pitching staff.

Northridge is not the deepest squad in the Big West by any means; however, they have a pair of quality pitchers to look out for along with possibly the most dangerous hitter in the entire conference.

CSUN has two pitchers that rank in the top 10 in the Big West in terms of E.R.A. Sophomore Kenedee Jamerson's 3.19 mark puts her at ninth overall, and sophomore pitcher Jillian James and her 2.15 E.R.A. is good for fourth in the league. James is the clear ace of the staff, as she leads the entire conference in innings pitched, with 172.1, and she is also second overall with 187 strikeouts.

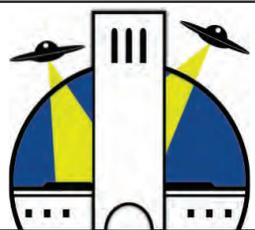
Aside from the pitchers, the one person who the team should gameplan for is junior outfielder and pitcher Megan Stevens, who bats .455 on the season with 47 runs batted in.

These stats, paired with her 12 home runs on the season, demonstrate the power and skill of Stevens, but it is more important to stress that no one else on her team hits over .300, so if the Gaucho pitchers can neutralize her, they will put themselves in a position to win.

The three-game set begins with a Saturday doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. at Campus Diamond.



NEXUS FILE PHOTO



# NEXUSTENTIALISM

It's satire, stupid.

## UCSB Academic Ranking Plummet as Alumni Return to Campus

Max Myszkowski  
Staff Writer

It's almost alumni weekend here at UCSB, and with flocks of former Gauchos returning to campus, the university's academic ranking is dropping by the second.

UCSB just recently clawed its way up to the No. 5 spot on the national rankings of public universities, but that prestige is set to come crumbling down as these ghosts of Gauchos past return the school to a time when students spent more time reading the labels on beer cans than they did textbooks.

These alumni – who somehow during their tenure here spent even more time coked out than current UCSB students do – have reportedly been thrilled about the university's new high-achieving status.

"Since the university made the top five on the leaderboards, people have started to actually respect my degree for once," one returning alumnus told the Nexus. "Keep up the good work, kiddos," he added before asking if he could still find qualaludes 'round these parts.

Indeed, the focus of UCSB students has not always been so squarely set on the academic achievements of the institution, and as thousands of alumni storm the campus, they bring with them the zeitgeist of Isla Vista in its heyday: couches burning in the streets, mattress fires, burning banks... a lot of mild to moderate arson, really. With all this crime to commit, there's just no way these alumni could have had time to squeeze a study session into their busy, busy schedules.

Indeed, as current students have begun emulating the actions of the older generation, the academics of the institution have fallen back to their historically mediocre levels, and incidents

of drunken revelry have risen back to their historic highs.

"I could have sworn we were No. 5 last week," one confused Gaucho wondered. "But now we're back down to No. 8. It's like we're traveling back in time. At this rate, we'll be ranking below the CSUs by the end of the week," he continued, fear creeping into his voice.

Many returning alumni have not kept track of the goings-on of our community since their graduations and have reportedly felt out of the loop about certain aspects of the university's departure from its party-school reputation. This is made especially evident by the graduates who have taken to mourning the loss of some of our most sacred festivities.

One alumnus, distraught upon hearing that Floatopia had been terminated since his graduation in 2006, had this to say about the school's new, more academically-inclined leanings:

"You've lost your way, Gauchos. You can't just submit to the will of the man. That's, like, totally not cool, dudes."

He also inquired as to whether the area was at least still plagued by packs of raccoons that roamed the streets at night in search of late-night partygoers to ambush. The Nexus was delighted to respond in affirmation.

The influx of senior Gauchos has brought the school back to a different age – one where drunken debauchery ruled the streets and academics were more of an afterthought. That being said, this weekend marks the perfect time to scapegoat the alumni for the "party school" reputation of this university, despite knowing most of its current students have drank more beer than water in the past six months and wouldn't be caught dead on the eighth floor of the library.



TESS KARLS / DAILY NEXUS

## Surprise, Bitch! Bet You Thought You'd Seen the Last of Me: By the UCen Bird

UCen Bird  
Reporter

A lot can change in a year. Students come and go, relationships will form and crumble and people keep deciding to switch majors. However, some things will never change.

A.S. continues to wage campus-wide party warfare even though they all run on the same platforms. Chancellor Yang is still strutting his stuff. And me, the UCen bird; try as you might, but I will never stop attacking the innocent heads of those who dare cross my path at UC Santa Barbara.

To those of you who thought I was dead: I bet you're surprised. Well don't be – I will never die. My earthly body may change form but my powerfully spiteful spirit remains the same. Am I the same bird as last year? Only I know.

So beware, all you students, faculty and tour groups alike who walk idly into my trap. I will come for you

and your precious strands of hair. My nest will not be complete until I have snatched a hair off of every head that walks below my UCen perch.

Think you're tricking me by going around my roost? Good luck explaining that you're walking minutes out of your way to avoid a silly little bird. They will call you a fool, and they will walk right into my clutches. You may know the truth, but others underestimate me ... and that is my biggest strength of all.

So, UCSB administration: Keep putting up your nets to prevent us from nesting, I say. Let us winged creatures flock to the UCen and rain terror on the heads below. I will be the harbinger of destruction on this campus, the general of a mighty aerial fleet. My army will be small but fierce, and you simple, flightless humans will never defeat us.

*The UCen Bird considers this a threat and a promise.*

### DAILY NEXUS ART & COMICS



SAM RANKIN

# ARTSWEEK

## Rüfüs Du Sol Comes to SB Ahead of Sunny Coachella Set

Kristina Valencia  
Senior Staff Writer

For those who didn't make the trek out to Coachella this past weekend, the Santa Barbara Bowl provided an opportunity to catch a glimpse of that special music festival experience this past Saturday. Headlining the sold-out show was alternative EDM group Rüfüs Du Sol, accompanied by opening act, SG Lewis. Fresh off the release of their third album, *Solace*, Rüfüs Du Sol delivered an exciting performance in which fans of all ages could dance and let loose at this stop in their current world tour.

Opening the show was DJ, producer, songwriter and fellow EDM artist SG Lewis. Name sound familiar? Though he spent the night performing before Rüfüs Du Sol at the Bowl, Lewis has previously performed at The Hub on campus here at UCSB two fall seasons ago.

Originally from Britain, Lewis has begun to leave his mark in the United States with his moody yet dance-oriented remix tracks that blend quite well with the sometimes depressing yet also fun atmosphere of college. Like many other rising musicians in the age of the internet, Lewis began his music career by posting remixes and songs online until a loyal fan base was eventually established. After gaining some attention in 2014 for his remix of "You & I (Forever)" by Jessie Ware, Lewis was quickly signed to the British label PMR Records and has continued to grow since then.

As the music began to pour out of the speakers at the beginning of the night, SG Lewis stood behind his keyboard and entranced early concert-goers to the front of the stage. Though originally a solo act, Lewis was accompanied by a live band and female vocalist who performed alongside him.

While most people were just arriving or getting settled into their seats, Lewis provided a sound that was suitable for both those who

wanted to sit and chill before Rüfüs and those who wanted to start dancing already. Performing new songs like "Throwaway," which features indie-pop singer Clairo; "Hurting"; and "Aura" with a live band, Lewis reminded local Santa Barbarans exactly how much dedication he puts into producing and playing his tracks.

Once the sun set and SG Lewis finished his performance, the Santa Barbara Bowl became noticeably more crowded than before as anticipation for Rüfüs Du Sol continued to grow. Now almost in the 10th year of their career, Rüfüs Du Sol was first formed in 2010 by members Tyrone Lindqvist, Jon George and James Hunt. Although the trio is most famous in their home of Australia, with their debut album *Atlas* reaching the No. 1 spot on the Australian Albums Chart in 2013, Rüfüs Du Sol has since expanded their popularity all over the world. Since their debut, Rüfüs has performed in several international music festivals like the NSW Bluesfest at Byron Bay, Electric Forest Festival, Mountain Sounds Festival and even at Coachella on three separate occasions, including this year.

Finally, after a brief intermission, all the lights went black, and Rüfüs Du Sol took the stage. With flashing red lights synchronized to the beat of an unusually long introduction to their song "Eyes," cheers from the crowd began to erupt once they recognized the familiar tune. From left to right was Jon George on keyboard, Tyrone Lindqvist on lead vocals and guitar and finally James Hunt on drums. Though originally performing songs from the electronic dance genre of music, like SG Lewis, Rüfüs performed with a complete band setup, leading to a more captivating performance than just a static DJ set. With all three members dressed in black from head to toe, Rüfüs Du Sol made it clear they're more dedicated to the art of creating music rather than for the showiness of being famous musicians.

The night continued to unravel without a

hitch as mysterious clouds of smoke hovered over the standing general admission area on this special April 20 evening of music. While everyone seemed to be having fun throughout each song, it was quite clear which songs of Rüfüs Du Sol's were fan favorites. With the album release of *Solace* in late 2018, they have since become smitten with the new tracks "Underwater," "No Place" and "Treat You Better," all of which have recently made it onto U.S. Billboard Charts, unlike their previous singles.

In addition to playing these recent hits, Rüfüs performed older songs as well, like "Say a Prayer," in which singer Lindqvist decided to abandon the stage and instead occupy a tall speaker located directly in front of the

audience. It was during this moment that the loving relationship between artist and fan was most apparent, displaying to everyone at the Bowl just how appreciative Rüfüs is for their fame, success and support.

Toward the end of the show, lead singer Lindqvist addressed the audience and described the special place Santa Barbara has in their hearts. "This was the first city that we came to in the United States," Lindqvist said.

"We're from Australia. We made the big trip over here when I was about 21, and we visited a friend that was in college and had the best time here. We've got two beautiful days in this city; we're going to enjoy it, and if you see us around say hello to us," he concluded, continuing on with the illuminating night of music.



Courtesy of Beatport

## Six Great Music Festivals That Are Not Coachella

Melody Pezeshkian  
Staff Writer

Festival season is upon us, with "unexcused absences" drawing nigh. This festy season you might be anticipating a new venue or two. Maybe you're on a budget and can't afford to go to the mainstream shows that are materializing onto your Instagram feed. Perhaps you didn't want to contribute to Coachella's extremely conservative revenue allocation but are still longing for a few nights of music-laden excitement. Whatever your reason may be, here are a few festivals that you should mark as hopeful candidates for either this or next year.

I'll start the list local since California-based festivals are more practical for the busy and the financially deprived.

The **Joshua Tree Music Festival** occurs bi-annually with an astronomy theater, yoga, visual arts and an amazing venue. There are both a spring and a fall four-day festival in the Mojave desert. This festival offers a "Healing Oasis"; here, you can find a range of healing practitioners from ayurvedic healers to a

certified medical assistant offering B12 injections. If the Healing Oasis isn't enough to pique your interest, the location should be.

You may have heard of this one; the **Dirtybird Campout** is an intimate, three-day party campout in Modesto, Calif. The festival's site description boasts that campers will be able to intermingle with their favorite DJs, as artists don't hide behind "velvet ropes" at Dirtybird. In case you're wondering, this festival will comprise of mostly house music DJs. I attended their cookout in Las Vegas two years ago and danced to house non-stop for eight hours.

**Woogie Weekend** in Silverado, Calif. is a three-day festival hosted by the Do-Lab in July. If you're looking for a new Lightning in a Bottle, this is the festival for you. Woogie Weekend offers the same energy as the Woogie Stage from L.I.B. and is spread out over the course of three days. While

the festival provides less activities and lectures than L.I.B., it is sure to be a more intimate experience. Woogie Weekend attendees claim that this festival definitely gives off the same liveliness as an early Lightning in a Bottle experience.

**Just Like Heaven** is a festival in Long Beach; while it's only a one day festival, its lineup is attractive enough to make the list.

The festival features artists such as The Yeah Yeah Yeahs, MGMT, Passion Pit, Beach House and Neon Indian. This lineup throws me back to 2014's most popular indie artists, so if you want to please the dormant indie enthusiast inside of you, head to Just Like Heaven.

**Shambala Music Festival** in Canada has a max capacity of 11,000 (think 126,000 for Coachella). This August their lineup includes Troyboi, Zhu, FKJ, Zeds Dead and several other notable artists. The festival is located next

to a beautiful river that attendees can swim in throughout the day.

If you aren't yet sold, take a look at their stage name, for example, in "The Fractal Forest," you'll be surrounded by tall trees and the sweet sound of funk music. It's important to note that this festival is meat and fish free, plus a lot of their drinks are void of milk and their beverages aren't sold in single-use plastic containers.

**Solid Sound Festival** is a little more low-key than Shambala with a capacity of around 7,000, but check it out if you're planning on visiting North Adams, Mass. or neighboring cities this June. The whole festival is hosted by Wilco, who will be playing two sets at the festival. They also offer limited one-day passes for people who can't make the whole weekend.

I did some e-digging to find these festivals, but by no means is it intended to be a comprehensive list. I also didn't happen to add any hard-core EDM festivals to the list, but you can find those festivals aplenty both in and out of state.

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# ON THE MENU

## Got Milk?: A Guide to Your Ever Growing Non-Dairy Options



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Calista Liu  
Social Media Manager

Nowadays, when you're walking around the supermarket, there seem to be more non-dairy milk choices than ever. New research from Mintel says that non-dairy milk sales have grown an impressive 61% since 2012. With many reasons to choose non-dairy milk, this increase in sales makes sense. Some people are lactose intolerant and unable to drink dairy milk. Other people are vegan and do not consume animal products. Some people choose non-dairy milk to improve their health. Others choose to drink less cow milk to reduce their negative impact on the environment, as dairy cows produce a significant amount of methane and contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Some people simply think drinking milk from other animals is unnatural.

Regardless of your reason for choosing non-dairy milk at your next grocery run, from the popular almond milk to the lesser known hemp milk, deciding which non-dairy milk is right for you can be overwhelming. Here is your guide to six different types of non-dairy milk, as you make the choice to consume less dairy.

### SOY MILK

Most comparable to cow's milk, soy milk is rich and creamy with 100 calories and seven grams of protein per eight ounce serving. Also, it is one of the few plant-based sources of high-quality "complete" protein. Soy milk provides the body with all the essential amino acids it must obtain from its diet. Made from grinding dry soybeans with water, the taste is distinctive with a slight soybean taste and is often described as nutty or sweet. Although soy is one of the more controversial foods, containing large amounts of isoflavones which can affect estrogen receptors in the body and the function of hormones, there is no conclusive evidence on moderate soy consumption causing harm to the average adult.

### ALMOND MILK

Thinner in texture than 2% cow's milk, almond milk is one of the lowest calorie non-dairy milks. With approximately 40 calories per eight ounce serving, it is not a significant source of protein or fiber. This non-dairy choice is a natural source of vitamin E, which is a powerful antioxidant that combats inflammation and stress in the body while also protecting against heart disease and cancer. A popular non-dairy choice, almond milk has a slightly sweet and nutty taste.



COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

### COCONUT MILK

Made from water and the white meat of brown coconuts, coconut milk is known for its rich and creamy texture, as well as a sweet, coconut taste. Per eight ounce serving, it contains approximately 45 calories. Overall, coconut milk has the lowest protein and carbohydrate content out of all the non-dairy milk options. However, moderate coconut milk consumption can help heart health by raising the good cholesterol levels in the body.

### FLAX MILK

Made from cold-pressed flaxseed oil mixed with water, flax milk is the most comparable non-dairy milk to cow milk in terms of taste. Texture-wise, flax milk is most similar to skim milk or 1% milk, and is thin and smooth. Depending on the brand, the calories in an eight ounce serving can range from 25-60. Flax milk does not contain protein or fiber, but is high in omega-3 fatty acids and contains 30% of the recommended dietary allowance of calcium.

### OAT MILK

A favorite in Europe, oat milk has a mildly sweet flavor and creamy texture. Made from pre-soaked oat groats, (hulled whole grains) oat milk is most comparable to low-fat or fat free milk and contains approximately 130 calories per eight ounce serving. It is high in fat and carbohydrates, with around 25 grams of each. Oat milk is high in total fiber and beta-glucan, which can help lower cholesterol levels. Like the popular soy and almond milks, oat milk is becoming more prevalent in coffee shops as an option for non-dairy milk.

### HEMP MILK

Made from the seeds of the hemp plant, hemp milk (*Cannabis Sativa*) comes from the same plant species used to make the drug cannabis, commonly known as marijuana. Although it is sweet and nutty, hemp milk has a more acquired taste, with its thin and watery texture. In an eight ounce serving, it contains approximately 60 calories, five grams of fat, and two grams of protein. Disclaimer: Consuming this non-dairy milk will not result in mind-altering effects, as hemp seeds only contain trace amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol.



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# SCIENCE & TECH

## Exploring Mental Health Through the Art of Film



Courtesy of UCSB Active Minds

UCSB Active Minds' recent event, "Movies for Mental Health," screened several short films provided by Art With Impact about various aspects of mental health and featured four student speakers who spoke out about their personal mental health experiences.

Sunidhi Sridhar  
Staff Writer

The shift from high school to college is often seen as an important milestone filled with exciting opportunities on the horizon, but for many students, this period of transition can be difficult to navigate. Between the unrelenting stress of exams and the continual barrage of extracurricular and social commitments, these years can take a heavy toll on students' emotional and mental well-being.

While mental health awareness has been spreading on college campuses and people are now able to have more open conversations about their experiences, there is still a lot of lingering stigma surrounding the subject.

Active Minds, a nonprofit organization with a chapter here at UCSB, is an advocacy group dedicated to raising awareness and promoting healthy discussions about mental health in order to

demystify common misconceptions about depression, anxiety and other common disorders.

Recently, Active Minds hosted an event on campus called "Movies for Mental Health," where several short films about various mental illnesses were screened for an audience of students and attendees from the Isla Vista community. These films, all under five minutes in length, were submitted as part of a monthly contest put on by Art With Impact, an organization that addresses mental health issues through art and media.

One feature titled "A Short Film About Anxiety," directed by London-based filmmakers Lily Rose Thomas and Stephen Isaac-Wilson, particularly resonated with fourth-year biopsychology major Cody Brink.

"It is something that is hard to put into words, and things can be communicated a little bit differently through film," Brink reflected. "The fact that the [cast] was filming themselves in their own per-

sonal space, rather than someone recording them – the cinematography makes the film feel like it wasn't scripted."

"It was nice to see that, through their struggle, all of them were eager to share the things they had learned and their experiences living with [anxiety]. They have been getting the help that they need, and everyone should get the help that they need."

The two-hour-long event also featured a student-led panel in which four UCSB undergraduates courageously shared their personal struggles with mental health. They also focused on the resources and outlets they turned to during their most trying times.

Second-year biopsychology major Arianna DiRomualdo, one of the panelists, spoke highly of her experiences in therapy and highlighted the incredible difference that the sessions made on her overall well-being.

"Therapy is not easy, but everyone should go. It's an amazing experience. I call it a journey because it is not linear – you go up and down and off the path and everywhere. No matter what, I'm always farther than where I started. Ever since I started therapy, I've learned to cope with my feelings better. It's been tough, but I've found my support and my people," she said.

Another panelist, third-year econ and accounting major Evelyn Gutierrez, commented on the stigmas more prevalent in certain cultures and the barriers these stigmas can pose.

People who come from more conservative backgrounds may be more hesitant to seek treatment. For example, some cultures pride themselves on emotional self-control and mental perseverance and therefore view mental illness as a source of shame, she said.

Gutierrez, however, feels like she has found a tight-knit community through Active Minds. "There can be a lot of cultural stigma, but surrounding myself with people who have had similar experiences helps me be able to talk more freely about mental health. Having access to the resources and being able to get help – yes, it's a roller coaster – allows me to accept that the bad is going to be here but there is always going to be good," Gutierrez shared.

Under the pressures of college and early adult life, mental health issues may either become accelerated or present themselves for the first time. While it can be daunting to take the first step and reach out for help, advocates at Active Minds want students to know that there are several resources available both on and off campus.

UCSB's Counseling and Psychological Services is located across the Arts Building on campus and offers both short-term and long-term individual counseling, as well as the Mental Health Peer Program, in which students are trained to address and advocate for the emotional well-being of their peers. There are several counseling and treatment centers located throughout Goleta and Santa Barbara as well.

Leslie Poston, a program facilitator for Art With Impact, wants people who are struggling to come to terms with their emotions to know that mental illnesses do not discriminate.

"Mental illness does not sound like something that affects people who are established or married with a house and kids, but that's not true. It does not stop with accomplishment or age."

Active Minds can be reached at [ucsbactiveminds@gmail.com](mailto:ucsbactiveminds@gmail.com).

## UCSB Researchers Investigate Factors Affecting Gasoline Price Variability in Santa Barbara County

Jacqueline Wen  
Science Editor

California's average gasoline prices are the highest in the country at slightly above \$4 per gallon compared to the national average of around \$2.85 per gallon, as reported by the American Automobile Association.

While several primary components – crude oil prices, taxes and refining and distribution costs and profits – reliably predict national and state gas prices, nuanced factors specific to neighborhoods may impact regional gas pricing.

Adopting a more local viewpoint, UC Santa Barbara geographers explored spatial and other significant features affecting gas price variability in Santa Barbara County. They also sought to explain underlying factors behind unusual pricing practices in the region.

"Motivating the study was really trying to understand and explain variability in gas prices that we see, both in Santa Barbara and more broadly in the county," Alan Murray, a professor of geography, said.

Jing Xu, a graduate student researcher in the Department of Geography, co-authored a paper with Murray that appears in the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science*.

Using the real-time tracking app GasBuddy, the researchers collected volunteer geographic information of daily gas prices at 108 gas stations in Santa Barbara County over a two-week study period.

The two developed a spatial analytic framework which integrated remote sensing, geographic information science and spatial regression techniques to assess gas price variations between stations.

"The market competition is definitely the first factor that will affect gas prices," Xu said. "Spatial factors we found [to be important include] gas station density within a 2.5-mile radius and the distance from a station to its nearest competitor station. These factors significantly affect the gas price statistically in terms of typically decreasing price with more competition."

Additionally, the presence of a nearby store or car wash service resulted in lower prices.

In urban areas with high gas station density, gas prices were typically lower than in more rural areas or those near the urban fringe, which observed low market competition.

The researchers found that major gas brands such as Mobile, Shell and Chevron drove up prices, with a 32-cent-per-gallon difference higher than prices at minor brand retailers.

And indeed, as we all might have presumed, station proximity to activity hotspots including shopping centers, school districts and major roads, freeways and highways influence gas prices. Gas stations closer to these hotspots often charged higher prices.

"If a gas station is closer to a school district or a shopping mall, it's going to have higher gasoline prices to take advantage of the fact that people are usually going to fill up their tanks on the road when they're doing other things," Xu explained.

A major second interest in performing the study was to find pricing outliers, according to Xu.

In particular, they identified three gas stations – in Carpinteria, Santa Ynez and Goleta – with higher gas prices compared to the average prices other stations in the county offered. Convenient station access and low market competition help to explain this phenomenon.

"The most interesting one is the Mobile near exit 108 of [U.S. Route] 101. That one sells gasoline at the price of \$4.79 per gallon compared to the average price of about \$2.80 per gallon in the whole county during our two-week study period. That's about 68 percent higher than the average of the gas stations, so that one is really significant," Xu said.

In their study, Xu and Murray found that the Mobile station at the intersection of Storke Road and Glen Annie Road was the biggest outlier in the entire county. Situated near the freeway and popular areas including Camino Real Marketplace and Isla Vista, the station can take advantage of its prime location through price-gouging behavior.

The California Department of Transportation's daily observed transportation numbers show that Storke Road receives nearly double the average amount of traffic per intersection in the county annually, Xu stated. This particular Mobile is also the last major-name gas station before Solvang when traveling north on the 101 freeway.

In their paper, the researchers concluded that spatial factors do play a significant role in gas price variation – at least in their area of study. Their work "offers a first attempt" at analyzing the spatial factors associated with gas pricing outliers, in hopes of encouraging "government



Courtesy of Pixabay

Looking at Santa Barbara County, Xu and Murray found in their study that factors including market competition and urban areas with more gas stations tended to drive down gas prices. Major-name brands and stations near activity hotspots often charged higher prices.

agencies, urban planners and policy makers with capabilities to investigate regional gasoline price variation and potential gouging behavior."

"Spatial advantage dictates, which isn't really a big surprise," Murray said. "But in this case, it's a bit more so than you would expect. In particular, the Mobile's prices are much higher than some nearby competitors and it appears to be a function of the traffic volume but also proximity and who some of those drivers are – students going to UCSB. Storke Road has a lot of traffic, or certain kinds of students in particular [including] graduate students and maybe upper-division students that live in parts of Goleta."

"There could be aspects of taking some advantage of particular socioeconomic or particular kinds of groups. You have [Dos Pueblos] High School in the area and you have a less affluent residential area in proximity to that particular station," he added.

From onsite observations, the researchers noted

that while the Mobile station charged distinctly higher prices, overall, less traffic volume passed through. Most drivers who stopped at the station either only bought items from the convenience store and left or simply left without purchasing gas.

This led the researchers to think about their potential next steps.

One idea could be to acquire more information on traffic volumes and other activities to better understand the relationship to pricing behavior, according to Murray.

"If we could, it would be quite interesting to look at some issues of volume and the degree to which pricing seems to be influenced by levels of volume, in addition to spatial issues. Relative to the study [especially in regards to the Mobile outlier], this issue of total sales and volume and the degree to which people are working profitability margins will be particularly interesting," he said.

# OPINION

## The Can Fairies of Isla Vista



Thomas Lenihan  
Opinion Writer

Since last spring I've become increasingly convinced that an invisible gymnast has been controlling much of what I see. Although many of you are probably under his spell too, he's not indigenous to Isla Vista – gymnasts like this one are everywhere and they pop up when we least expect it, leading us in acrobatic dances around difficult truths, obscuring our surroundings and prompting us to act in ways that we might otherwise balk at. But before you start looking around for my tinfoil hat, I should explain what I mean.

If you live in Isla Vista or the surrounding area, you've probably encountered one or more of the people we've collectively termed "can fairies." Often Hispanic and much older than the overwhelming majority of sunburnt 20-somethings, can fairies are solitary scavengers who roam the streets of I.V. toting bulging, sour-smelling trash bags full of discarded bottles and cans. Can fairies and students don't really mix: maybe you nod or flash a tight-lipped smile as you bike to class or walk downtown for a bite to eat or exchange bilingual pleasantries as you stoop under the beer die table to help them collect the day's haul of empties. However, chances are that's the extent of most interactions many of us have had with can fairies. At a cursory glance, it's a mutually beneficial relationship – but this is just what the gymnast wants you to believe.

Last year I lived out in the boonies, at least by Isla Vistan standards. My duplex was perched on the far corner of I.V. – a stone's throw from my former dorm, which could be seen towering impassively through my kitchen window. Maybe that's why whenever I sat on our balcony after sunset in a post-dinner stupor, listening to the endless thumps and mumbled triplets blasted through a neighbor's tired speakers as they happily tossed the night away, I felt somewhat removed from the larger community.

It was on those nights that I first noticed my neighbors across the street, whose rusty Chevy panel van would shake and creak as the elderly couple called it a day. They would clamor over the crinkling, clinking, crashing mountain of salvaged bottles and cans that occasionally spilled out the back of the van and onto the road. At the time their noisy repose signified nothing; it was just a softer accompaniment to the sounds of trap and laughter, wafting over the tops of eucalyptus trees.

I'd like to think of myself as a fairly empathetic and giving person: If I saw a friend in need, I'd gladly provide whatever help I could. But I didn't offer any help to the couple in the van – I didn't even think twice about it. Ignoring their ongoing struggle with extreme poverty right outside my

door while simultaneously maintaining the lifestyle of an affluent college student is a sort of paradox, and it would have been crippling to see it for what it was and do nothing. Mental gymnastics makes ignoring your neighbor's suffering much easier.

Psychologists call this paradox cognitive dissonance: the implacable discomfort that occurs whenever our thoughts, opinions or actions don't fall in line with our values. To relieve ourselves of this dissonance, we must change. We commonly alter either our thoughts or actions to fit with our ideals or vice versa. But there is another way to rid ourselves of dissonance.

As Leon Festinger – the psychologist who first described cognitive dissonance – puts it, to reduce cognitive dissonance, "a person...can even distort his perception and his information about the world around him." If we aren't seeing things for what they are, then we can still keep our morals intact and go on, business as usual. This distortion is the gymnast's specialty, and morals are his medium. I can see now that, with the help of my gymnast, I was carefully avoiding my neighbors and their struggles. My gymnast and I twisted, flipped and spun around moral obstacles, performing contortions that from a different perspective could appear improbable or astounding.

My gymnast helped me look at my neighbors without seeing them. We interacted fairly regularly. Most mornings I would shuffle around the back of my house to my bike, still sore from lack of sleep the night before and come face to face with the man rifling through my garbage cans, bag in hand. I'd smile and say hello. He'd flash a nervous greeting from under the brim of his sunhat and that would be that. I never made an effort to get to know him – after a year of living so close to each other, I never learned his name. To me he was just another can fairy. A part of the backdrop that is life in I.V.

I'm tired of living with my moral gymnast. I'm tired of avoiding eye contact with people I know deep down could really use someone's acknowledgement. I'm tired of

pretending like I don't know most can fairies likely make around \$40 a day, working sunrise to sunset. I'm tired of not knowing my neighbors' names, and I'm tired of feeling guilty and still doing nothing to change that. It's too late for me to get to know my old neighbors. I've gone back to my old street and looked for them, but their van is gone. Maybe they found a more hospitable place to stay – I certainly hope so. And I hope my struggle to get my gymnast out of my head is a personal one, but I've seen too many other people in I.V. vault up and get themselves out of the way of seeing their neighbors to believe that's the case.

But it's not all doom and gloom. We Isla Vistans are uniquely poised to evict our moral gymnasts once and for all. I.V. is now a sort of Neverland, toeing the line between reality and myth. We live (to paraphrase Lewis Hyde) in a place halfway between a slum and a library – an island of endless shabby apartments where throngs of shoeless idealists are free to let their imaginations run wild. Isla Vista rests on a lengthy volume of history, much of it fairly unpleasant. From wetland to parking lot, Chumash land to bean farm, open pit mine to proving ground for environmental and social activists – we live in a place that has seen a lot of suffering over the decades and centuries. Yet it is this history that gives us an opportunity to learn from the mistakes of previous residents.

Our gymnast-aided denial of the existence of can fairies represents a chance to bring the myth of Isla Vista closer to its reality. It begins with a conversation, a real one, with the next person who slips into our backyards to collect our empties or check your bins for misfiled bottles. What we do to reduce dissonance is ultimately a conscious choice: We can continue to distort, obscure, and contort our perception to avoid facing uncomfortable facts, or we can brush up on those two years of high school Spanish quickly fading from memory and change our actions instead.

Thomas Lenihan believes fairies are real.

PEYTON STOTELMYRE / DAILY NEXUS



# HOROSCOPES

The Signs as impulsive decisions

**ARIES**  
MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

Your haircut will end your week with you looking like a Sweet Jane wig.

**TAURUS**  
APRIL 20 - MAY 20

You will get a Precious Slut tramp stamp of a smirking emoji.

**GEMINI**  
MAY 21 - JUNE 20

You will meet a dude at a frat party and take him back to fuck in Chancellor Yang's backyard.

**CANCER**  
JUNE 21 - JULY 22

You will get a second slice of cream cheese pie from DLG and regret it.

**LEO**  
JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

You will pull the red wire and cause a campus-wide wifi blackout.

**VIRGO**  
AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

You will get a nipple piercing that gets infected.

**LIBRA**  
SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

You will drunk email your professor about why you deserve a better grade in the class.

**SCORPIO**  
OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

You will impulsively ditch your last class and watch the sunset at Sands. Good for you.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

You'll have a shitty day and impulsively drive home without telling anyone.

**CAPRICORN**  
DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

You will spend all of your money on a badass costume for a themed frat party and still go home alone.

**AQUARIUS**  
JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18

You will impulsively run for AS because you have nothing else to do.

**PISCES**  
FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20

You will impulsively sign up for a fencing class at the Rec Cen that you never show up to.

## Toxic Friends No More!

Grace Wiley  
Opinion Writer

You know those friends? Yeah, those friends. The friends that flake on you, the friends that require constant attention, the friends that make fun of you but then take it back immediately after you nervously laugh it off. They can be old friends that you've had since you were young but have always stayed around, the new friends that you just met in September or those people in the middle that are somehow just always there.

Although difficult to recognize at times, these kinds of friends can often be some of the most toxic people in our lives. Whether it is needing to constantly reassure them of your friendship or acting like their therapist rather than a friend, at some point many of us come to ask ourselves, "Is this friendship worth maintaining?"

As college students, we meet new people every day. Especially as a first-year, it feels like I'm constantly getting introduced to new people, even in Spring Quarter. This has made me realize that friendships are constantly changing, as there are simply so many people on this campus.

Now, I'm not saying that every friendship is inherently draining and should be questioned; however, I think as a whole college students need to become better at self-care in terms of determining which friendships are actually healthy. This is not high school, people. We don't have classes with the same people five days a week, we do not have the same dependence on finding a group of people to eat lunch with and, thank god, we are not stuck in the same place for seven hours of our day.

Instead, we have freedom. And not only does this mean being able to choose where we eat lunch and what classes we take, but it also means choosing who we spend our time with. This means that friendships are not obligatory, and we can find people who truly make us feel happy and fulfilled.

However, I am not saying that this task is easy. In the complicated social life of college, your friends are usually connected to your other friends to create a complex web of people you know but do not always like. So trying to get rid of a toxic friend that sits within a group of people you generally like is almost impossible. And I am

not saying that I have all the solutions to these types of awkward situations; what I am saying is that it is important to recognize people in your life that repeatedly annoy and drain you. This doesn't mean they are inherently horrible people – you just don't want them in your house constantly, eating your beloved Ben & Jerry's The Tonight Dough.



ALYSSA LONG / DAILY NEXUS

I myself have had a series of epiphanies, this quarter especially. I have reached the end of the honeymoon phase where everyone is nice, funny and a great friend. Some people are just friends more so out of obligation or for convenience, as we just don't click with everybody. The same goes for friends in high school. At UCSB, I have learned what I want in my friends and the people I surround myself with. In high school, friends were more handed to us through similar activities and classes, but here, as we constantly cycle through who we see, we have

the amazing ability to narrow down who we see in our daily schedule based on a prioritized list of qualities that we want in friends.

There is a difference between loving your friends for their faults and tolerating a toxic friendship because we are too nice or too lazy to express our feelings. Loving your friends for who they are should not translate to making you feel degraded or hurt constantly but rather means appreciating the diversity among friends. This does not mean we should berid anyone that seems slightly irritating, as some of my best friends are individuals who I did not originally click with. However, that only means that active communication is even more important so both friends understand each other and their wishes.

For many of us, it can be easier to recognize these qualities within romantic partners. Of course, this does not always mean that a break-up is clean, as sometimes even the most disgusting of partners tend to stick around, whether we like it or not. However, just like how our friends would tell us to break up with a person who is treating us poorly, I am also saying that this break-up, although messy and stressful, can also happen with friends, whether we've known them for 10 years or 10 months. At the same time, it is also important to understand that people are capable of change, and sometimes communicating your feelings is the most important step toward mending a broken friendship.

Taking care of others can often be easier than taking care of ourselves. We make excuses for them and tell ourselves that they aren't that bad, that they'll get better, but then five years later they're still eating The Tonight Dough out of your fridge while you glare at them from across the living room. But as adults now trying to navigate through the complex social scene of UCSB, it is important for us to prioritize our own lives and search for meaningful friendships that make us feel happy. We do not have to put up with people who make us feel like shit or people who never put in any effort. We are adults, and it's time we start having friendships with people who are adult enough to be good friends too.

Grace Wiley is a first-year who emphasizes the importance of finding and maintaining genuine friendships within the complex social scene of college.