

"THE TRY GUYS" VISIT UCR

BUZZFEED'S FAB FOUR GIVE AN "OPEN-MINDED" TALK TO STUDENTS.



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CLOTHESLINE PROJECT RAISES AWARENESS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



LYDIA TSOU / HIGHLANDER

The Clothesline Project exhibited in recognition of domestic violence awareness month.

GUY HOCKER
Contributing Writer

Last week, many multicolored shirts adorned the west sidewalk near the UCR Bell Tower to raise awareness of sexual and domestic violence. Hosted by the UC Riverside Women's Resource Center and the Sexual Assault and Violence (S.A.V.E.) Peer Group, the campus' annual rendition of a national event known as "The Clothesline Project" was held from Oct. 12-14.

The Clothesline Project is meant as an opportunity to begin a conversation focused on sexual and domestic violence. "The historical goal is 'airing your dirty laundry'... domestic/relationship violence used to be hidden behind closed doors and through the Clothesline we [shed] light on the issue" explained Romanie Arterberry, Student Affairs Officer at the Women's Resource Center.

Students were invited to share their experiences through making a shirt or to honor those who have been victims of these crimes. The S.A.V.E. Peer Group stood by providing support for any who might be negatively triggered

by the display, or simply to talk with passersby.

Katheryn Valle, a philosophy major who felt compelled to make a shirt, shared afterward: "I feel as though I have let some energy or memories out from underneath. It's kind of like a switch, you kind of, like in a way switch on everything that you can remember from all that into the shirt ... My general advice for everyone who goes through something like that, it's kind of something I say to myself: 'Everything will be ok in the end, and if it's not ok it's not the end.'"

Many UCR students, faculty and staff have participated in the Clothesline Project throughout the years, and every shirt on the lines at one point or another was made by someone connected to UCR.

Kris Moisa, an honors student who has been working with S.A.F.E. for over a year and who also made a shirt honoring victims, stated "When you make a shirt, that's your voice, and since we do this project every year and we use old shirts, your voice will transcend the years. The general

► SEE CLOTHESLINE, PAGE 4

ASUCR: R'Pantry bylaws receive criticism, acting executive vice president presentations

JOSEPH AVILA
Senior Staff Writer

The ASUCR meeting held on Wednesday yielded comments during the public forum segment about edits made last week to a clause in the ASUCR bylaws which handles R'Pantry implementation and the Diversity Council. Acting executive vice president presentations were also given by candidates Wen-Yu Chou, Melina Reyes and Taylor Valmores, with Valmores being appointed on Oct. 15.

According to a clause in the previous draft of the bylaws for the Food Security Committee, the committee was to include seven members appointed by the Diversity Council which consists of student representatives from the Ethnic and Gender programs. Their inclusion was to secure the involvement of non-ASUCR members in decisions made related to the R'Pantry. This clause is currently being edited and drafted to the degree that members of the Ethnic and Gender programs came to speak at public forum to express their concerns.

Daniel Lopez, a fourth-year linguistics and anthropology major and one of the leading student organizers for the R'Pantry, spoke to receive clarification regarding the edits made to the bylaws and voiced his grievance of the draft saying, "We feel that if [the clause] is being removed, we are being excluded from that conversation and ... we'd like to continue to be [included] as active members of the food pantry."

Michael Ervin, vice president of internal affairs who has also worked to advocate for R'Pantry, responded to Lopez' comments stating, "... I had previously assumed that the food pantry was going to be on a much bigger timeline and would probably be coming along online early fall quarter and I want to ensure that the Diversity Council would have all of its members ... and I'm still collecting representatives for the Diversity Council as we speak."

Jessica Urquidez, a political science and ethnic studies double major, followed up to also express concerns with the draft. Urquidez spoke about the readiness of the representatives of the Diversity Council to meet up and discuss the food pantry is perceived as not being matched with equal effort

► SEE ASUCR, PAGE 4



VINCENT TA / HIGHLANDER

Backpacks littered the grassy lawns surrounding the Bell Tower to raise awareness on details surrounding the 1,100 college students that commit suicide each year.

UCR sends silence packing to promote suicide awareness

ADRIAN TRAN
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, October 15, 1,100 backpacks were scattered across the University of California, Riverside's Bell Tower Lawn from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in

honor of college suicide victims. The event, called "Send Silence Packing," is a program created by Active Minds, the nation's leading organization on young adult mental wellness.

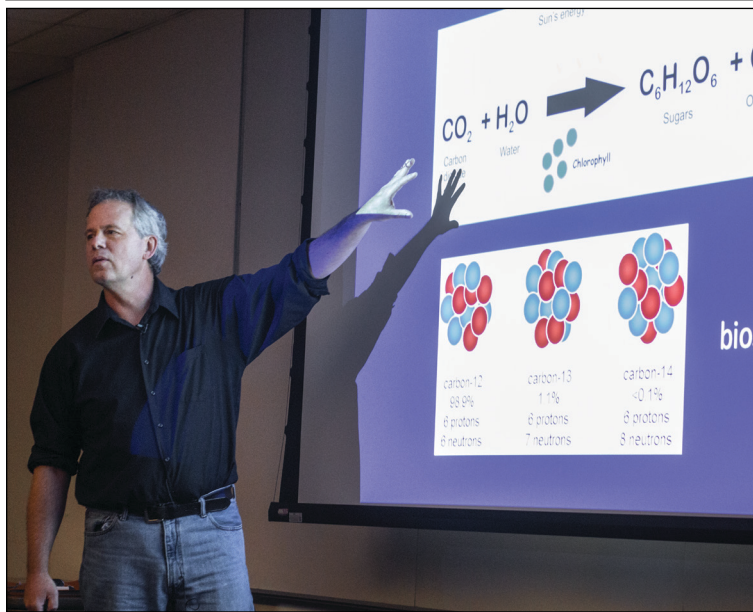
Since its inaugural display on the National Mall grounds

in Washington, DC in 2008, Send Silence Packing has traveled to over 98 cities in California and the Midwest, visiting over 320,000 people.

"Send Silence Packing is one of Active Minds's largest national programs. It's a traveling public education

display of 1,100 backpacks representing the 1,100 college students each year that die by suicide," says Lauren Redding, Active Minds's Communications Coordinator.

► SEE BACKPACKS, PAGE 5



AARON LAI / HIGHLANDER
Dr. Lyons explains that by intimately knowing what early conditions on Earth were like, the search for life in outer space can be narrowed down to more precise fingerprints.

Professor Timothy Lyons speaks on finding earth-like planets

CHRISTAL MIMS
Senior Staff Writer

Cosmic Thursdays, a series of free and public talks about astronomy-related topics, returned on Thursday, October 15 with a lecture entitled “Alternative Earths: What our planet’s history may tell us about life in the Universe.” The talk was given by Timothy Lyons, a professor in the earth sciences department at UCR who earned his Ph.D in geochemistry from Yale University.

Lyons began the lecture by discussing the recent revelation of liquid water on Mars. Many of the results display lines, which are downslope streaks assumed to be liquid water. “There’s quite a bit of debate about how these things are generated. They’re associated with salts, flurate, other compounds that are known to be microscopic,” Lyons explained. Many are hoping that the liquid water is coming from the subsurface, which would allow fluids to flow seasonally. “I’d say the jury is still out on that but stay tuned because these kinds of things are coming fast and furiously. We’re launching soon for another rover in 2020,” Lyons

stated. Other places also explored for liquid water are icy moons. Both Europa, Jupiter’s moon, and Saturn’s moon Enceladus are candidates. “There could be subsurface liquid oceans that would be beneath the icy crust,” Lyons said. In order for the water to be in liquid form, the moon would need to absorb heat generated by the planet it orbits, which is possible. The Europa fly-by has been approved and will launch in the next decade. The mission is hoping to capture one of the plumes containing water erupting from the icy crust.

The celestial bodies Lyons is most excited to find liquid water on are extra-solar planets, also known as exoplanets. These planets exist outside of our solar system. The first exoplanet was discovered in 1992 and since then, Kepler has discovered over 4,000 exoplanet candidates. One way they are detected is by using the transit method, which consists of keeping a telescope like Kepler directed at a star and waiting for the light to dim, signifying that a planet has passed by. “It’s easier to identify planets that are large. It’s also easier to identify planets that are close to their stars because they transit across

their stars more frequently,” he explained. “There could be as many as 40 billion earth-sized planets orbiting in the habitable zones of sun-like stars or red dwarfs within the Milky Way.”

Finding planets in the habitable “Goldilocks” zone is promising, but Lyons suggested that it’s impossible to know if the “ingredients of life” are identical for all places around the universe. “You have to keep an open mind and you have to think in a theoretical space. There are certainly other possibilities,” Lyons stated. However, according to Lyons finding intelligent life won’t happen any time soon, and contrary to popular belief, scientists aren’t looking for it. “What we’re really doing is looking for signs of microbial activity. I hate to say it but we’re not going to find a footprint,” Lyons explained.

The talk concluded with a Q-and-A in which Lyons was able to explain more about Earth, as well as talk about the possibility of finding similar planets elsewhere to curious attendees. The next talk in the Cosmic Thursdays series will discuss tracking the evolution of life using ancient lipid biomarkers preserved in rocks and petroleum; it will take place on November 12.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



STERLING HAMPTON

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

“All Along The Watch Tower”

QUOTEBOOK

“I am sorry I didn’t tell you more when you were here. That I love you very much, [that] you were and will always be one of the most important persons in my life.”

- Message on Active Minds backpack from Thursday’s demonstration

MULTIMEDIA

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL 2015, WEEK 4

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26
Diversity Job Fair 11 a.m - 3 p.m. HUB 302	Cover Letter Writing 11 a.m. - Noon HUB 302 North	Lecture: The How of Happiness Noon - 1 p.m. HUB 302 North	PB&J: Peanut Butter and Jogging! 10 - 11 a.m. HUB 248	UCR Botanic Gardens Fall Plant Sale 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Botanic Gardens Center	Harvest Fest and Community Garden Sleepover 12 - 11 a.m. UCR Community Garden	Foresters Financial Information Session Noon - 1:30 p.m. HUB 260w
Tuesday Talk: Labels & Language 5 - 6 p.m. Costo Hall 245	Wednesday@Noon: Graziela Bortz 12:10 - 1 p.m. ARTS 157	Concert: Songs of New Spain 8 - 9:30 p.m. ARTS 166	Ballroom/Latin Dance: Waltz/Cha Cha 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. SRC MPR A	Highlander Warrior 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. SRC Challenge Course		Scream Week at the SRC! 5 - 8 p.m. SRC South and North

KUCR



DJ Name: Shahriar Momen
Hometown: Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Major: Econ/Business Admin, 3rd year
Show: @momensnotice, Mondays 11 am - 12 pm
Why KUCR? "I love forcing my 'weird' music onto people. There's no better feeling than someone loving a song that you showed them. KUCR gives me the opportunity to take that to a whole new level."
Genres: Indie/alternative everything, experimental electronic, shoegaze, EDM, deep house, tech house, hip-hop
Artists like: Radiohead, Nicolas Jaar, Björk, Maceo Plex, Cocteau Twins, Eric Prydz, Death Grips, Flying Lotus, Animal Collective, Yung Gleesh

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

WyoTech is part of the Corinthian Colleges.

Riverside assemblymen lose fight for Corinthian College bill

SHARON LIU-BETTENCOURT
Contributing Writer

This past April, the U.S. Department of Education fined the for-profit Corinthian College system \$30 million for misleading loan agencies and students regarding the ability of their graduates to obtain jobs. Soon after, Corinthian College shut down all of its Everest, Heald, WyoTech and online campuses, halting the education of 13,000 California students.

In response, Assemblyman Jose Medina (D-Riverside) and Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) wrote Assembly Bill 573 (AB 573), a debt relief bill for the California students affected by

the closure of Corinthian College. The bill received bipartisan support in both the state Senate and the state Assembly and easily passed both houses. The bill then passed on to Governor Brown who vetoed the legislation proposed to aid Corinthian College students.

In his message, the governor states, "While the bill's provision to extend Cal Grant eligibility ... are well-intentioned, I am not comfortable creating new General Fund costs outside of the budget process, particularly given the Cal Grant augmentations already included in this year's budget."

AB 573 would have expanded Cal Grant eligibility, National Guard Education Assistance

awards and eligibility for California's Student Tuition Recovery Fund to students who attended Heald campuses or partook solely in online education. Currently only students who attended the WyoTech or Everest campuses are eligible for California's Student Tuition Recovery Fund.

This bill also aimed to increase the Student Tuition Recovery Fund from \$25 million to \$30 million, in addition to providing \$1.3 million to help former Corinthian College students combat legal issues. Other benefits included directing former students toward both federal and private loan discharge and other types of financial aid relief available to them.

Many students, lawmakers and proponents of the bill have rallied against the governor citing the grievance of students who only wanted to get an education and blamed the lack of stricter legislation targeted at for-profit colleges.

"I think it's sad the students got scammed out of their money like that. I believe there should be more laws about for-profit, non-accredited schools. They prey on people who are down on their luck and need a college education but maybe can't get into a state or private school. There needs to be more legislation passed about who can claim to be a college and how they market their programs," said art

history major Kaytlyn Van Dorn-Hanson.

Medina, who is the Chair of the State Assembly's High Education Committee, also feels deeply disappointed by the governor's decision. In a statement he said that he feels the governor has "let down thousands of California students. These students, through no fault of their own, are still left with insurmountable debt and unfulfilled dreams of attaining a career."

Medina believes strongly that the students harmed by the Corinthian College system deserve a second chance at getting a college education. He promises that this is not the last of the issue, and plans to revisit the bill next year. ■



VINCENT TA / HIGHLANDER

Taylor Valmores was appointed the role of interim executive vice president for the remainder of fall quarter.

► FROM ASUCR, PAGE 1

know that the student regent also sent you an email asking why you haven't met (with them yet). I just clarified in the bylaws that you are in charge of setting up the meetings no later than week three ... but I was just kind of concerned because you were using the excuse of the timeline ... when the student representatives that are waiting to get your e-mail ... are still not understanding who's supposed to take charge."

Ervin later commented that he was waiting on communication from the African Student Programs but will work to further the conversation of the inclusion of the Ethnic and Gender programs in regards to the R'Pantry.

ASUCR president Ashley Harano stated that they are hoping to set up a meeting by next Wednesday or Thursday and allow a discussion amongst the members of the Diversity Council and ASUCR about the goals that these organizations will work towards

with respect to the food pantry.

The changes to these bylaws have yet to be posted on the ASUCR website at the time of printing.

Presentations for acting executive vice president were also given in order to fill the seat of current Executive Vice President of ASUCR Armando Saldana, as he is currently studying at the UCDC Academic Internship Program.

Chou, who currently serves as CNAS senator, opened her presentation saying, "I believe the role that we all play is ... to help others achieve their success." She emphasized her work with the office of the executive vice president and the office of the Mayor. Among other things she hopes to strengthen student recruitment if she was to be elected.

Reyes, who previously served as acting chief justice on the ASUCR Judicial Council, stated that accountability, integrity and transparency are of top priority to her because they are "some of the most crucial aspects to every student

government." Reyes' presentation centered on how she'd make sure that students and faculty can access resources in order to increase engagement and involvement. She was recently selected to be a UC Office of the President Fellow and plans to work on housing and food security during her tenure.

Valmores, fourth-year public service-political science major, touted his work as a passionate student organizer, naming his positions as president of student senate at his previous community college as one of his accomplishments. He ran for the position of ASUCR executive vice president last year and stated, "I believe strongly that you can't serve the public without their trust." He is currently involved in organizing for the Bernie Sanders campaign on campus.

Valmores was ultimately chosen as interim executive vice president, according to an email from President Pro-Tempore Corey Willis on Thursday. ■



LYDIA TSOU / HIGHLANDER

Curious students walk by the Clothesline Project by the Bell Tower.

► FROM CLOTHESLINE, PAGE 1

takeaway is awareness and power. You're taking your power back by telling your story. Sometimes people just need to talk or need their story to be heard, and that's why we were there."

Moisa is currently working on a capstone project entitled "The Recent Effects of the Anti-Rape/Anti-Sexual Assault Movement in College Campuses," which she will present through UCR's University Honors.

The UCR Women's Resource

Center has been deeply involved with the UCR campus since August of 1973, working to advance feminism, prevent rape and to promote LGBTQ and prisoner's rights.

The Women's Resource Center's next scheduled event is a free film screening of "Escalation," to take place in Hub 355 Wednesday October 21, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Both the film screening and The Clothesline Project are intentionally taking place during October, which is Relationship Violence Awareness Month. ■

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ASUCR Judicial Council appointments of Joe B., second-year philosophy, law and society, and ethnic studies major, and Hayden Jackson, second-year political science major.

- The job listings for Food Pantry coordinator and student employees have been posted. A soft rollout date for operations of the R'Pantry is set for November 3.

UCR joins annual earthquake procedure drill

▶ FROM BACKPACKS, PAGE 1



MADIHA JAMAL / HIGHLANDER

Students participate in The Great California ShakeOut in Rivera Library.

AARON GRECH
Senior Staff Writer

On Thursday, Oct. 15, UCR held an emergency earthquake drill at 10:15 a.m. as part of the “Great California Shake Out,” a regional drill which seeks to encourage preparedness for a large magnitude 7.8 earthquake. UCR students joined 10 million other people across the state who participated in this drill.

Since 2006, seismology experts have predicted that “the big one,” an over-7.0 magnitude earthquake will occur along the San Andreas fault in the near future. An earthquake this large has the possibility to cause severe damage across the Riverside, Imperial and San Bernardino counties, while counties close to it such as LA and San Diego will face lighter repercussions.

According to Abhijit Ghosh, an earth science professor and the main organizer of the earthquake drill, it is nearly impossible to predict when the earthquake will occur. “We know the basic physics of earthquake. But details of the physics of fault motion is still unclear, and an active area of research. This is because there are many factors that control earthquakes, like fault friction, evolution of stress on the fault, fluid pressure etc. With current technology, it is hard to measure majority of these factors directly,” Ghosh explains.

UCR lies 13 miles away from the San Andreas fault and five miles away from the San Jacinto fault, which Ghosh states can also cause severe damage.

When asked how well campus buildings can fare if an earthquake of that magnitude were to occur, Ghosh answered “It is a tricky question to answer because ground shaking due to

an earthquake depends on multiple factors like, distance to the earthquake focus, distance from the fault, rupture direction, geology under the building etc.”

Ghosh also provided further tips on what to do if an earthquake were to occur during lecture and other moments, “During shaking due to an earthquake, don’t run or try to walk out of a room. Drop, cover and hold on wherever you are. If there is no table or desk near you, drop to the ground and then if possible move to an inside corner of the room. Be in a crawling position to protect your vital organs and be ready to move if necessary, and cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.”

Information booths were posted outside Coffee Bean on Wednesday and Thursday Oct. 14-15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to raise awareness of major earthquakes and to help prepare students. Infographics of major international earthquakes, such as the 2010 Haiti Earthquake and the 2008 Sichuan earthquake in China were a part of the display.

George Payne, a third-year political science major who was in class during the drill, explained that many students and the professor took the drill lightly. “Well, our professor told us about the drill, which we kinda joked about it, and when the time came, most of us stayed in our seats. The professor went under the desk, which we all laughed at, and I went under mine just for fun,” Payne explained.

Payne, however, also believed that basic common sense caused that reaction from the classroom. “In my opinion, the reason why most of us stayed in our seats was because we all know how the drill goes, and at this point, it’s kind of a joke. I would hope everyone knows how to stop and take cover during an earthquake.”

Cleaning the ocean one stroke at a time

KIMBERLY MILLER
Contributing Writer

In a collaborative effort to create a functional swimsuit that cleans the ocean, UCR professors and the Eray Carbajo design firm recently won the international Reshape15 competition for the best of wearable technology.

For the past four years, electrical engineering professors Mihri and Cengiz Ozkan along with graduate students, Daisy Patino and Hamed Bay have been trying to create an environmentally friendly swimsuit that would reverse the damage done by oil tankers that have polluted our oceans.

As part of the competition, they developed the Sponge, a permeable material primarily composed of tempered sucrose capable of repelling water while absorbing oil-based contaminants. The Sponge has been designed to refrain from contaminating the human body by keeping the oil-based contaminants safely constricted inside the swimsuit itself, only to be expelled during an intense sanitation and recy-

cling process at an extremely high temperature.

The swimsuit is comprised of two key components: the Sponge, which weighs only 54 grams and the plastic frame, which has been termed “elastomer.” Professor Cengiz Ozkan explained, “[The] Spongesuit will be designed to elastically fit the human body and will be very comfortable. The sponge material will be blended or incorporated within the fiber structure, which will be woven into a sponge fabric. The sponge suit concept will be extended to other wearable clothing such as swimming shorts and divers suit.”

The Sponge inserts are reusable up to 20 times and then can be recycled. A new sponge can be inserted in the frame allowing the bathing suit to be used again. Although the sponges must be replaced, Professor Mihri Ozkan prices the Sponge at approximately “fifteen cents per gram of sponge,” making it a cost effective when manufactured in mass quantities — a small price to pay for a positive impact on our planet.

After creating this super-hydrophobic

sponge and incorporating it into a functional and fashionable — piece of swimwear, Dr. Mihri Ozkan says she hopes that their work will inspire others in the swimsuit or athletic clothing industry into actually creating functional fashion. “Green technology and sustainability are important buzzwords (in the clothing industry), but we have to move beyond using these buzz words.”

When asked about their future ambitions for the swimsuit technology, Dr. Cengiz Ozkan reveals that, “There are other concepts and applications we are working on including water purification and chemical decontamination.” Aside from decontamination the sponges have other excellent uses.

Dr. Mihri Ozkan explains, “It can prevent corrosion of ships/boats from sea water, if they are painted with paints embedded with the sponge’s protective properties. This paint can be applied to surfaces in contact with water and/or with air. Paints exposed to air will also work well for decontamination and also for corrosion protection.”

The backpacks, which were donated by friends and families of the deceased, are often decorated with personal stories or poems. The stories provide an outlet for survivors’ grief, and serve as a powerful and sobering experience for observers, according to the exhibit attendees.

By providing a tangible manifestation and an accompanying story, passersby are able to put a “face” to suicide, according to Redding. Consequently, onlookers are able to imagine the loss of a human life, rather than glancing over a name in the paper or text on a television screen.

Redding explained, “Send Silence Packing brings out strong emotions to those who see it. Some people can be reminded of a loved one who died, or may be struggling themselves, and seeing Send Silence Packing can be very difficult...”

Despite the organization’s best efforts, honoring 1,100 sons and daughters does not paint the full picture. According to a 2012 study published by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, 10 to 11.2 percent of the then 14.1 million undergraduate and graduate students had either seriously considered suicide, made a plan, or had actually attempted suicide.

“Unfortunately, a relatively small percentage of those approximately 1.5 million people will actively seek or receive proper treatment,” Ammarie Cameron, CEO of the Mental Wellness Center at Santa Barbara, stated.

“Mental health problems are common among college students and the consequences of untreated mental health issues can be devastating,” she elaborated. “Stigma is a major reason why students don’t seek the help they need, and when it comes to suicide, that help could save lives.”

To combat the stigma associated with suicide, Active Minds was founded in 2000 to connect students to resources, raise awareness of mental health and educate about mental disorders.

Since its inception, Active Minds has expanded rapidly, establishing a network of over 400 student-led chapters at high schools, colleges and universities, including a chapter at the University of California, Riverside.

The nonprofit organization has also been featured on prominent media outlets like CNN and the New York Times.

“The pain of his loss is beyond words. Devastating,” one of the backpacks lamented. “That is why we have chosen to support efforts to prevent suicide and we hope that you will, too. There is help. There is hope.”

UCR was the final stop of Send Silence Packing’s 2015 Fall Tour. The UCR Active Minds Chapter meets periodically throughout the year at Hub 248.

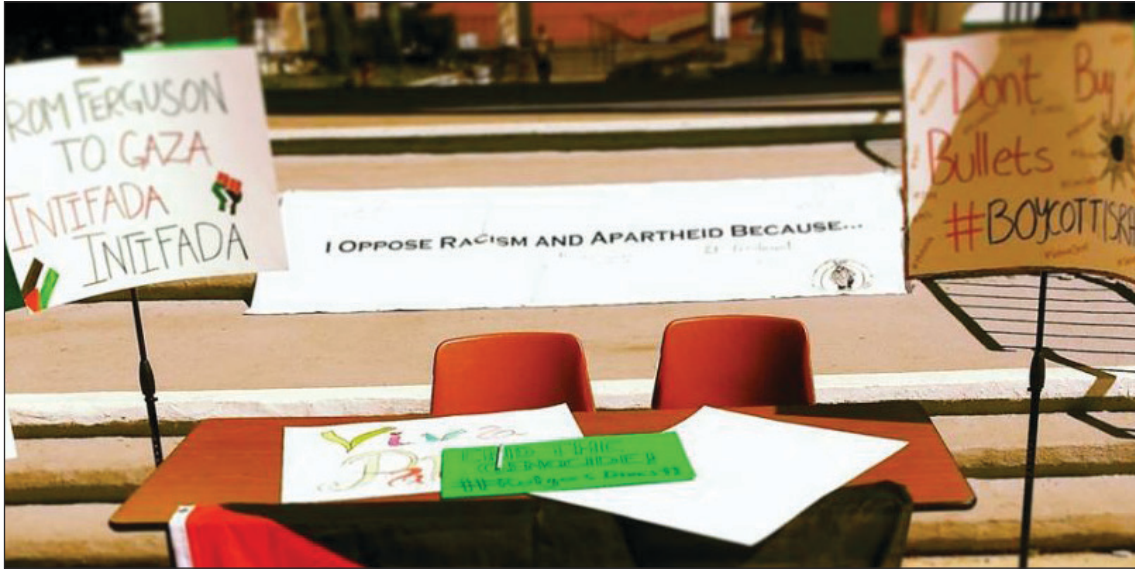
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MEETINGS MONDAYS, 5:15 P.M., @HUB 101

NEWS IN BRIEF

COMPILED BY JOSEPH AVILA, SENIOR STAFF WRITER



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

SJP leads procession for International Day of Action for Palestine

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) led a procession on Wednesday of around 20-25 Highlanders that started under the Rivera archways and wrapped around the Bell Tower to honor the International Day of Action for Palestine. The event was organized in tandem with other protests around the world rallying to call for an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

"We wanted to stand in solidarity with all the other student activist at all the other universities around the world to show that they're not alone ... that we're all standing together for the same cause," said A'isha Saleh, film

production major, and SJP member who spearheaded the procession.

Students held up various signs that read "Anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism" and "Familia means nobody gets left behind or occupied, militarized, or forgotten," amongst other things, to express solidarity with different social injustices like the disappearance of 43 student teachers in Ayotzinapa, Mexico and police brutality in Ferguson, Illinois.

Saleh felt that it was important to express solidarity with other calls for justice "because there are so many intersectionalities within the

struggles." She highlighted a student who held up a sign for United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS) and her experience as an immigrant saying, "Her experience with checkpoints, with borders, with soldiers who treat her less than human is exactly the same experience of a Palestinian when being oppressed by the [Israeli government]. There is an interconnection with how people of color are being treated all around the world."

The National Day of Action comes amidst unrest in the Israel-Palestine conflict that has claimed the lives of eight Israelis and 40 Palestinians in the past month alone.



ANT PHAN / HIGHLANDER

Riverside mayor speaks on campus

Rusty Bailey, mayor of Riverside, spoke at the Bell Tower on Wednesday about private partnerships between the city of Riverside and their aim to strengthen job security for UCR graduates.

"Riverside truly has a great partnership between our private sector partners in downtown trying to improve the life of the city to help you connect to jobs. Ultimately in the long run it would be a dream of mine for you to be able to walk down University Avenue and have that [as] an innovation corridor ... that connects downtown to UCR."

Mayor Bailey used the non-profit co-working space, Riverside.io, which opened last summer and aims to create a collaborative work-space for technologically inclined people, and Riverside ExCITE, an incubation program that

facilitates successful high tech start-up companies and organized in collaboration with the City and County of Riverside and UCR, as examples of ways that the private sphere has provided and will continue to provide resources for students and the larger Riverside population.

"We have a couple levels of entrepreneurial eco-systems ... all of those things are brewing at the right time for students of UCR to find jobs here once they graduate," explained Bailey.

Live Nation, the Beverly Hills-based concert promotion business, was also present on campus during club rush and was situated a few yards away from the mayor's booth. The mayor reminded students that Live Nation is another business that works with the city to improve the lives of its citizens. It held a Zombie Crawl on October 17 in Downtown. ■



COURTESY OF UCR TODAY

Psychology Professor David Funder has been awarded grants to continue his research into what is known as "The World at 7."

NSF grant to answer what the world does during the evening

IXIA JOHNSON
Senior Staff Writer

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a three-year grant totaling \$454,866 for the continuation of a project led by UCR Professor of Psychology, David Funder.

This study has been published in the "Journal of Personality" and is known as The World at 7: Comparing the Experience Across 20 Countries, and captures the behavior of people spanning the globe and their experiences at 7 p.m. Three UCR doctoral students have contributed to the writing of this publication: Esther Guillaume, Erica Baranski and Elysia Todd.

Professor Funder's decision to conduct this research coincides with his interest in cross-cultural psychology and his observations have led him to believe that living experiences are one of the most important aspects of a culture.

Twenty countries were represented in this study through an online survey that asked 5,447 people what kind of experience they had had at 7 p.m. the previous night. Participants asked to take part in this study were recruited by local research collaborators who were psychology professors and included students and other members of the local college community, explained Funder.

"Very little research has been done on this topic, probably because a way to measure the experience of daily contexts, or "situations" was not available.

So we developed such an instrument, the Riverside Situational Q-sort, and with the help of our international research collaborators had it translated into 14 languages."

The Riverside Situational Q-sort (RSQ) includes 89 statements of various descriptions that participants are asked to rank from being most to least characteristic of their experience at 7 p.m. and attempts to assess behavior and personality.

To Funder's surprise, experiences by participants have shown to be similar, regardless of what country they resided in. The two countries that have shown to have the most synonymous ratings for the statements provided for how their previous evening was are the United States and Canada, while South Korea and Denmark contrast the most. "Whether in China, Denmark, Russia, or the U.S., at 7 p.m. people are generally having a mildly pleasant, relaxing evening."

The NSF grant will help to resume similar research that will now extend to other countries that have not yet taken part in this study and conduct follow-up research in countries that have participated.

"I am very much looking forward to extending our research to areas of the world that we were unable to include in our original study, including India, Latin America, the Middle East, and central Africa, and seeing if our previous findings continue to hold up." ■

OPINIONS

HIGHLANDER EDITORIAL

With the Global Rally for Humanity, comes a call to be conscious



COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

On October 10 and 11, a national protest called the “Global Rally for Humanity” was to be held in at least 20 cities across the U.S. for the “humanity [that] is [being] attacked daily by radical Islam.” Massively planned on Facebook’s public event pages, the rally sought to carry out its intent via protesting in front of Islamic places of worship, with some pages stating that protesters are “welcomed to carry” any concealed firearms. Thankfully, no deaths or injuries have been reported from this protest. However, that does not mean it should be dismissed. Though the closest planned protest was in San Francisco, UCR students should take into consideration the larger problems that the Global Rally for Humanity illustrates, such as racism and hate speech on social media.

There’s no argument that can be made to justify the Global Rally for Humanity, especially on the rally’s vocalization of violence. Though freedom of speech is a valued right that should be upheld, such heavy overtones of violent intent by welcoming protesters to wield weapons, construes the whole rally as a “clear

and present danger” to those of the Islamic faith. Violence such as this should never be justified in protests.

Beyond posing as a physical threat, the rally perpetuates the negative perspectives against practitioners of Islam, like Muslim-Americans or Muslims. The rhetoric posted on the rally’s facebook pages — “stand up against evil Islam,” “Islam ... which is not a religion of peace,” “Islam expressly calls for the death of anyone who opposes Islam” — only adds fuel to the fire of negative perceptions on the religion and dehumanizes the many people practicing Islam, which is an unacceptable reality that should not be prevalent in one of the most diverse nations in the world. Even at our acclaimed diverse university, students from the Middle Eastern Student Center have reported on how inaccurate views of Middle Easterners is a reason for the necessity of such a center. Amal Ali stated that “there are a lot of misconceptions, a lot of kinds of hesitations ... over Middle Eastern people,” which Lamees Alkhamis explained is because “people don’t really know who Middle Eastern people are.” In a diverse community, all members should feel

comfortable without fear of discrimination. Though the Middle Eastern Student Center is inclusive of not just those who practice Islam, these students’ sentiments express how important representation of minority groups is, which the Global Rally for Humanity has wrecked and stomped upon with its rhetoric.

The rally became even more problematic with the attention paid to it on social media and news outlets, allowing for its mission against Islam to reach wider audiences. Though counter-protests grew out of support and solidarity against the Global Rally for Humanity, such protests have not been given equal media representation — yet this should not discourage anyone from standing up for their beliefs. Just as the organization behind the rally was able to utilize Facebook, students must remember that social media can be a platform for their voices to be heard — that they do not need to be a passive passerby in these situations. We can bring attention to such violence by either stating our opinion or bringing to light information to educate others (such as the true basis of the Islamic faith).

Some may say that pay-

ing such critical attention to social media is superfluous, that surely not everyone will do what they say. Yet, what about Elliot Rodger’s online proclamations for wanting to hurt others prior to the Isla Vista murders? What about Christopher Harper Mercer, who wrote admiring statements of the Roanoke shooter Vester Flanagan, such as “the more people you kill, the more you’re in the limelight,” prior to the recent shooting at Umpqua Community College in Oregon? What if the poser of the Yik Yak hoax from last year made sure to carry out the “UCR shooting spree coming! Mark my words, you cattle?”

Social media may be the place where numerous cat videos are frequent and the memes flourish to dangerous amounts, but it can be a place where real, intended violence is voiced and carried out. So, please don’t throw caution to the wind all the time on social media if you encounter such statements. Speak, educate and report. ■

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Highlander accepts letters from the campus community. They must be 600-800 words at length and include the author’s name and contact information. Topics should be UCR-centric and/or pertain to our generation of students. Contact Opinions Editor Jessica Baker at opinions@highlandernews.org by Wednesday if interested in writing a letter and submit the completed letter by Saturday at noon. Letters can and will be rejected if it does not meet requirements.

LEGAL

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OPINION POLL

It's almost Halloween! What's your favorite scary movie?

COMPILED BY JASPERY GOH



Joel Fuerte
Biochemistry
Third-year

"Paranormal Activity the original in the movie theater. I like being with the crowd and everyone reacting the same way. But at my house it's not the same."



Erika Stephens
Neuroscience
First-year

"The Shining. I don't find scary movies 'scary' because it's not very realistic most of the time."



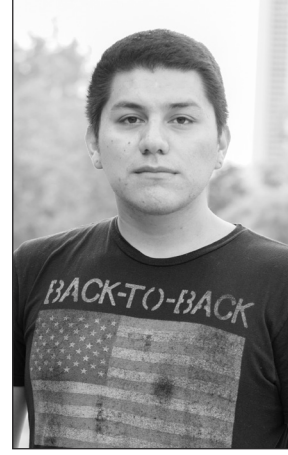
Hector Jimenez
Bioengineering
Third-year

"Event Horizon. People are stuck in outer space and are being possessed by space demons."



Virgiline Ongkingco
Chemical Engineering
Third-year

"Probably the Conjuring. I don't watch very many scary movies."



Juan Martinez
Chemical Engineering
Third-year

"Disturbia."



Kayla Cervera
Chemical Engineering
Second-year

"I would probably say the Insidious series."

▶ SEE MORE AT [YOUTUBE.COM/UCRCHANNELH](https://www.youtube.com/UCRCHANNELH)



COURTESY OF THE DAILY BRUIN

UCLA students rally in protest to the recent "Kanye Western" party hosted by Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Phi that mocked black culture.

Black culture is not to be mocked

ALEXANDER WILSON JR.
Contributing Writer

What comes to mind when you think of UCLA? Reputation? Dignity? Well, after the UCLA chapters of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and Alpha Phi sorority's joint "Kanye Western" themed party, UCLA has just become the most recent location for modern-day racism. It was a blatant example of the lack of cultural sensitivity that exists amongst hundreds of college campuses across America, and it was also a harsh reminder that racism is still alive and well.

The "Kanye Western" party was held on October 6, 2015. This theme does have some relevance. One of Kanye West's biggest songs is titled "Gold Digger," which explains the inclusion of "Western" into the party theme. Despite the slight relation between Kanye West's song title and the party theme, the actions of the students partaking in the party were absolutely offensive and classless. The attendants of the party literally exagger-

ated as many black stereotypes they could think of. The students wore extremely baggy and thuggish clothing, the girls stuffed their butts to resemble Kim Kardashian (Kanye West's wife) and some students even had the audacity to wear blackface.

Alicia Frison, a UCLA undergraduate student who witnessed the party taking place, said that she saw "a male student wearing blackface." She continued by saying "the issue isn't simply about putting on blackface ... it's the mockery of black culture." The true reason this party is getting so much attention is because of the lack of cultural sensitivity that was displayed by these so called "highly-educated" UCLA students. Additionally, this happened in Los Angeles, which is one of the most diverse and inclusive cities in the world. One would assume that people living in such a diverse city would have a bit more knowledge about different cultures and how to respectfully admire them, rather than ridicule them.

As a fellow UC student,

I'm appalled that an event like this even occurred on one of the sister campuses. Being a black student, I am reminded that there are many students within the same UC system that don't respect my culture, my presence and my humanity. Additionally, this extremely disrespectful party was "coincidentally" thrown on Black Bruin Welcome Week, where new UCLA black freshmen were becoming more integrated into the larger UCLA community. One of the most powerful rallying cries of the #BlackBruinsMatter movement was "our culture is not a costume."

This phrase speaks volumes because it connects far back to the dehumanization of black people, most notably Saartjie "Sarah" Bartman. Bartman was sold from South Africa and taken all over 19th century Europe, where she was forced to participate in "human zoo expeditions" for her abnormally large buttocks and breasts. This extreme example shows the foundation of why we still have racist actions like the "Kanye Western"

party that occurred at UCLA in 2015. Throughout world history, black people have consistently not been seen as human and thus anything that they associate with themselves can be ridiculed because they are "sub-human." I don't believe all the students that participated in this racist party see black people as "sub-human," but they clearly were ignorant enough to believe that mocking black culture in such an obscene manner was completely acceptable. For example, the UCLA sorority girls stuffing their butts with pillows in order to portray Kim Kardashian's curves is a disgusting act of cultural appropriation because they are negatively depicting how some women are naturally shaped, like Bartman.

Now the big question is: what does the "Kanye Western" party truly say about the UCLA student population? I believe the answer to this question was answered perfectly by a UCLA undergraduate student, Kelsee Thomas, who said: "Everyone keep in mind that simply because I go

to one of the top ranked institutions in the country, doesn't mean I'm any farther away from ignorance and racism as anyone else." Thomas' statement highlights the reality of American higher education in 2015: the schools that black students attend were never built for them and thus don't know how to accommodate them. The lack of cultural sensitivity and awareness on supposed "diverse" campuses all around the country is an existing problem and needs to be taken more seriously.

The "Kanye Western" party was one of the poorest decisions made by people that are in the same age group as I am. It completely illuminates the lack of cultural awareness that is present on these alleged "diverse and inclusive" campuses across America. Additionally, in order to stand in solidarity with their black Bruins, UCLA should take severe measures against the Greek organizations involved, such as banning Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Phi in order to set a precedent. So I ask, what's good UCLA? ■

WRITE OFF



COURTESY OF THE HUFFINGTON POST

What matters more, the lives of drug addicts or the drug problem?

DIEGO XOCOYOTZIN ROMERO
Contributing Writer

Just a few weeks ago, my friends and I had a case of the mid-night munchies; with all other fast food establishments closed down for the night, we decided to go to the 24 hour Jack in the Box on Blaine Street. As we pulled into the parking lot, we saw three meth addicts outside the front of the Jack in the Box. Being a resident of Riverside, this becomes an all-too-common sight. We don't usually worry ourselves with it, we just roll up our car windows, lock the doors and continue on our way, which is exactly what happened on that night. Yet, one woman by the name of Katie Chamberlain has decided to make these addicts her concern.

Chamberlain is planning to set up the Inland Empire Needle Exchange, a nonprofit group that aims to distribute clean syringes to drug users to prevent the transmission of diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. Furthermore, Chamberlain aims to provide overdose prevention kits, HIV testing as well as counseling and support for any of those that seek it. Although this seems like a good idea, it is being met with resistance. Many individuals believe that the Inland Empire Needle Exchange enables drug users and promote drug use which in turn creates a larger drug problem. So the question remains: is she promoting drug use or is she providing a much-needed service?

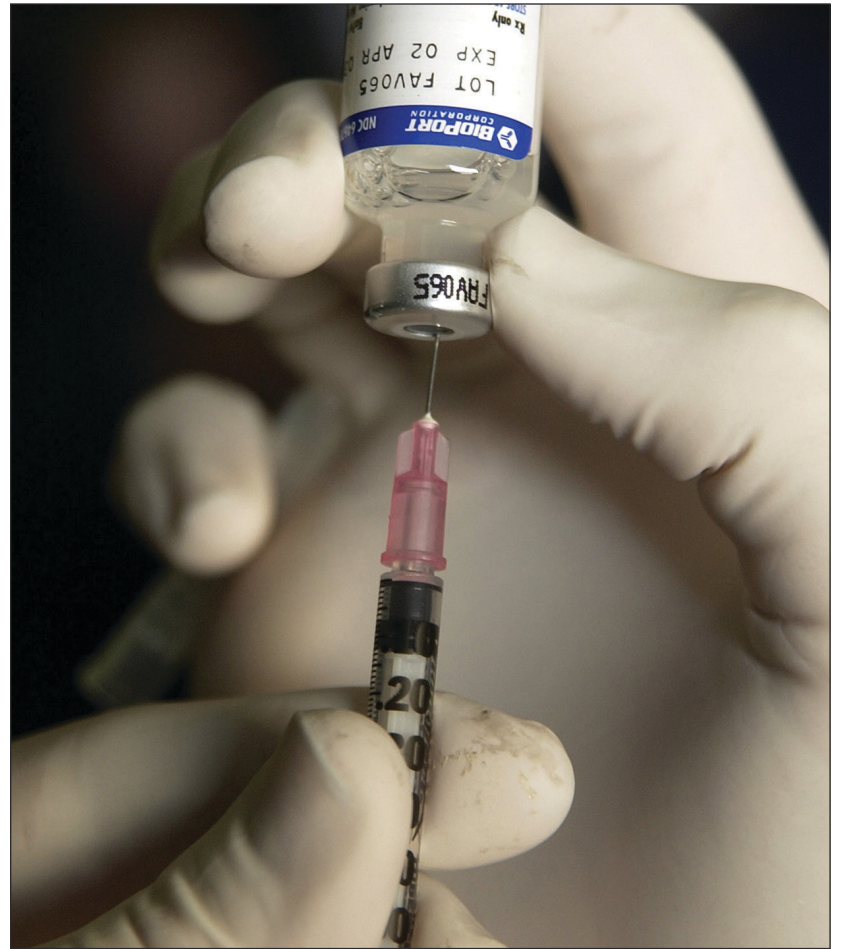
I, for one, admire the institution that Chamberlain has proposed. However, I do admit that the Inland Empire Needle Exchange will not solve or aid Riverside's drug problem in any significant way. Keep in mind that if implemented, this nonprofit group has the potential to save hundreds, if not thousands of lives. Perhaps the needle exchange will promote the use of drugs; however there are other ways that drugs are endorsed as well. Peer pressure can lead to drug use and TV shows such as "Breaking Bad" work toward desensitizing people to drugs. Pretty

much anything, be it stress in one's life, depression or anything else that makes someone want to escape, can lead to substance abuse.

Adversely, some believe that Chamberlain is merely facilitating a user's habit and that the money that would go to the Inland Empire Needle Exchange would be more helpful in being used to combat drugs directly and/or providing shelters for addicts. Although pouring more money into initiatives like this would certainly help in combatting the drug problem directly, I believe that it is time we tried something new. First of all, we already have thousands of shelters and rehabilitations centers sprawled throughout our city. Will a few more really make that much more of a difference? Secondly, even though drugs are the issue, lives are what matter and that is exactly what Chamberlain is addressing with her group.

So why not have something that allows for drugs to be used in a safe manner? It lowers the risk for the individual and the distribution of overdose kits can potentially save many lives. The people being treated aren't just addicts: they are someone's son or daughter, someone's brother, sister or cousin, they are all human beings. Just because they didn't stay on the straight and narrow doesn't mean that they should suffer more for it than they already are. One could even make the argument that by not supporting the Needle Exchange, we are enabling the transmission of debilitating and life threatening diseases.

Yet, I digress. Katie Chamberlain may be an enabler, but her proposal is just the kind of alternative that we need, based on the support and direction that it intends to provide to users. Also the Inland Empire Needle Exchange will not be a group that aids users in continuing their habit — it will be one that will facilitate the prolongation of their lives, which I believe is a much more valuable outcome in the larger scope of things. Remember, these are not just addicts, these are human beings, and they need our help. ■



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Riverside needle exchange — just shooting ourselves in the arm

QUINN MINTEN
Senior Staff Writer

Riverside has a drug problem. It may not be the most popular subject for the public to talk about, but it is, nevertheless, still there. With this in mind, a Riverside resident, Katie Chamberlain, is working to establish a nonprofit group that will provide clean needles, as well as some amount of support — such as HIV testing, overdose prevention kits and referrals for drug therapy — to local drug users. Her goal is to reduce the incidence of bloodborne pathogen spread caused by addicts sharing dirty needles.

To think that the issue of drug-related deaths can be at all solved by handing out clean needles is absolutely ludicrous. In all fairness, she is attempting to provide other helpful services that can benefit drug users. Nevertheless, such a course of action does not so much prevent dangerous drug use as it enables it (after all, her group is called the Inland Empire Needle Exchange — the name pretty much sums up the main service that would be provided). Chamberlain is not the one selling drugs, nor is she the one using them (because it is ultimately the user who is responsible for injecting poison into the veins). Rather, her role in this tragic cycle is comparable to that of the family member or friend who continually provides a known user with a "loan" that will be immediately spent on fueling the self-destructive habit. In other words, she is providing the means for addicts to continue ruining their lives.

The county knows that Chamberlain's plan is foolish. A similar proposal was rejected by Riverside County over a decade ago, and her plan has yet to be given the permission it requires (both county and local officials are required for it to gain approval). It would seem, therefore, that the county is not so naive to believe that the problem will go away (or at least be diminished) because of Chamberlain's misguided attempt at fixing it.

The underlying flaw in Chamberlain's grand design is that it seeks to prevent drug-related deaths, not

drug use. If Chamberlain managed to gain the necessary permissions to begin putting her plan into action, and if she was able to acquire sufficient resources (i.e. money) for it to work, then there is still an insurmountable hurdle in the way that renders her whole operation moot.

It is this: even if Chamberlain provides 100 safe needles to 100 drug users, and they survive the diseases they could have contracted from dirty needles, nothing has changed. She may have kept 100 addicts from becoming 100 corpses, but she has not achieved the vastly more valuable goal of turning these same 100 addicts into 100 healthy citizens. As long as her focus is on handling one minor aspect of this crisis, there will be — can be — no real change.

Let's ignore the larger problem for a minute to consider a more superficial, but still highly significant failing. Deaths from drug abuse are not just caused by diseases transmitted by any needles used. A user could fall victim to anything from an overdose to a murder by a drug dealer. No amount of clean needles will prevent these causes of death; only sobering up and getting out of the addict lifestyle can. Hence, Chamberlain's program can only be partly successful anyway, because it can only fix a small part of one problem, which is itself overshadowed in the larger scheme of things.

Instead of trying to stop deaths from one specific angle of drug use, Chamberlain would achieve much more by providing support for drug users so they can kick the habit. The same resources that would go toward needles that only enable addicts could be better used for creating a sort of haven for those struggling with drugs. Chamberlain could hire (or better yet, encourage to volunteer) the kind of people that can truly help users: therapists, counselors and other medical experts. This way, we can guarantee that fewer people will die drug-related deaths, because there will be fewer addicts.

Attempting to stop deaths among drug users is a noble effort; unfortunately, the way Riverside's problem with drugs is being dealt with, it will not be going away any time soon. ■

Fast fashion: the real costs of your cheapest clothes

SHIGUFA SALEHEEN
Contributing Writer

Today, only two percent of the clothing we wear is actually made in the United States. Only two percent of the clothing we wear is held to the labor standards we have secured in the United States after years of labor rights movements, strikes, unionization and slow progress. Only two percent of our clothing is dependable for having decent working conditions for all of its employees and proper compensation for work. Meanwhile, the other 98 percent of clothing we wear is made by women and children in developing countries, working in sweatshop factories with terrible conditions and far too little pay.

The growth of fast fashion in the garment industry is most easily illustrated by how clothes and trends are going from fashion shows' catwalks to the department stores' clothing racks in shorter and shorter amounts of time. The limitless need for new clothes in large volumes as fast as possible has led to the movement of manufacturers out of the country and into places like Bangladesh, Vietnam and Cambodia, in order to get the most product for the cheapest price. We see it everywhere. Stores like H&M, Zara, Old Navy and Forever 21 are known for having the newest styles in fashion at the cheapest prices possible; you are almost guaranteed to find something new on the racks every single day.

But our rapid consumption and desire for the cheapest clothes from wherever we can find them is causing a problem in the global market.

We're forgetting about the other human lives affected by our clothes. We've forgotten about the people behind our clothing; the labor of millions of women and children behind all the deals and the

sales.

In 2013, a clothing factory known as Rana Plaza in Bangladesh collapsed, killing 1,129 people. The collapse, now known as the deadliest garment factory accident in history, was due to a structural failure in the building when cracks were discovered in the foundation, but employees were ordered to continue working despite warnings to evacuate. Though workers had complained about the poor state of the building and lack of proper safety exits, owners did nothing. To finish the orders for several companies, over 3,000 people were killed or injured in an event that was totally preventable. Rana Plaza was a tragedy that brought a horrifying, emerging situation to light.

And yet, in 2015, nothing has changed. Though the "Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh," which is an agreement between global brands, retailers and trade unions designed to build a safe and healthy industry for workers, exists, various companies have not signed it — many simply expressing wishes to continue working toward safety conditions in Bangladesh on their own terms.

But with little real incentive, their work isn't progressing fast enough. The Children's Place, though agreeing to improve safety, still falls short when it comes to responsible business practices, as they still purchase Bangladeshi garments from factories in danger of collapsing and without proper fire safety measures. The most popular fast fashion brand H&M, though one of the first to sign the accord, has repeatedly said far more than they have actually done, as their garment factories still remain extremely behind schedule for repairs.

It's easy for us as college students to see the price of a \$5 t-shirt and revel at how cheap and amazing



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Afghan woman at a textile factory in Kabul.

it is. But as we remain in awe over our cheap clothes, we ignore the fact that the fashion industry is in a "race to the bottom," where prices are getting lower and the only place to cut costs are at the manufacturing stage. While we continue to fill our closets with hauls of cheap clothes just because we can, the conditions for workers are only getting worse. Their wages continue to decrease as we shop with no regret at the next holiday sale. The sweatshop laborers continue to have their

voices silenced as companies who pay their workers a livable wage go bankrupt, because the standard for treating garment workers has fallen below humane.

But, we still have a voice to help them. Remember that as consumers, we have the power to be conscious, the power to remind these companies that we know what they're doing is wrong. We can work to ensure our own student store provides clothing free of suffering by garment workers in de-

veloping countries. We can encourage brands to make their businesses sustainable, so Bangladesh's growing economy benefits as well as our own. We alone cannot solve the injustices happening on the other side of the world, but calling attention to it is far better than nothing.

Fashion is a tool we use to communicate who we are and what we believe in. So is the suffering of women and children for the shirt you're about to put on something you can get behind? ■

A letter to Berkeley: let students recommend themselves



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

UC Berkeley is requiring undergraduate applicants to submit a letter of recommendation.

BETTEENA MARCO
Contributing Writer

Dear University of California, Berkeley,

We understand. You are special. Everyone wants you, and considering the large volume of applicants you receive each year, I am sure it is difficult distinguishing one amazing student from another. So while it is

great that you want to give everyone a fair shot by accepting letters of recommendation from some applicants this upcoming fall, I believe that doing so will unnecessarily complicate the admission process, as well as discourage students from applying to college.

I know this doesn't affect me, since I am already in college and do not have a time machine

in my possession. However, let me tell you the story of Sally Earnestchild. Though Sally gets good grades and is active in her school, she is not exceptional. Fortunately for Sally, her AP English teacher and her school counselor are willing to vouch for her amazing personality and work ethic. They will describe her as hard working and sneak in a charming anecdote for a touch of familiarity. This letter of recommendation could be the thing that pushes her over the threshold, yes?

However, Sally's AP English teacher instructs seven periods in one day, and her school counselor advises around 300 students whose last names begin with the letters E through F. Sally also only meets with the latter twice every school year. Sure, Sally could have asked her club advisors to write her recommendation — but she does not really get along with them. In reality, Sally is merely another face in a galaxy of students. She might get good grades and participate in extracurricular activities, but so does anyone else who is serious about college.

Sally might be fictional, but her plight is not. Her story is similar to all the public high school students across the nation who want to get with you, UC Berkeley. You are the perfect combination of West Coast cool and East Coast class. You are basically the common folk's answer to Harvard. But why are you trying to be Harvard?

I admit that was presumptuous, since letters of recommen-

dation are not solely Harvard territory. All private universities require them, but it is also students from intimate private high schools who have an advantage because their smaller class sizes allow faculty members to actually get to know them beyond face value.

Meanwhile, public school students are left with generic letters of recommendation, composed by people who do not get paid enough to deal with such a large volume of students' requests. Also, at the tender ages 14 to 18, not many students possess the shrewdness or awareness to network and build beneficial relationships.

While there are definitely students who can easily befriend a teacher, others have a difficult time making an impression and might perceive this new policy as a hurdle in their college endeavors.

Also, you are part of a system. What you do, the nine other UCs are expected to follow. Adopting this new policy can transform the University of California system's reputation. A series of public universities will suddenly seem like an exclusive society one can only get into through the sponsorship of others.

It is unfortunate that students who apply to public universities are reduced to grades and test scores. However, their personal statements are meant to compensate for that discrepancy. In a sense, they are like letters of recommendation — except they are composed by the students who are recommending

themselves to you. If anything, a personal composition is the greatest measure of a person's character. You can not only judge them by the content of their essays, but also their style. A person's writing can reveal a lot about them if read closely enough.

It is not as if there is a shortage of students applying to your school. I personally find nothing wrong about your current policy of requesting supplemental letters from students you are on the fence about.

The comfort in applying to a public university is that, although it is a selective process, it is also simple and intuitive. While grades, scores and personal statements definitely only provide a limited perspective on a student, they are still testaments to a student's abilities and values. Perhaps a closer analysis of the information presented to you is a better approach.

Those grades and test scores are still the product of long hours of studying and practice. These are in addition to hours of extracurricular activities and volunteer work. How the student manages to excel in both departments as well as reveal aspects of themselves in their personal response should be an adequate rule of measurement in determining whether they are accepted or rejected.

Adding another variable to an equation never leads to a solution — it only makes it longer and more complicated.

Peace, love and light,
Betteena ■

COMICS



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FEATURES



the TRY GUY GUY S: on life, BuzzFeed and each others' butts

Check out our exclusive interview with the Try Guys on our YouTube channel.

HighlanderTV



By Tiffany Liaw, Senior Staff Writer // Photos by Jasperry Goh

Trying on ladies' underwear? Check. Trying cosplay, drag and even extremely disturbing Halloween costumes? Check. Even fighting UFC fighters and simulating motherhood? Yup. They've pretty much tried it all, and there's still so much more to do. If you haven't heard of the Try Guys, they're a group of four hilarious men: Eugene Lee, Ned Fulmer, Keith Habersberger and Zach Kornfeld, who take it upon themselves to try an array of scenarios and situations for entertainment and educational value.

On Thursday night at Hub 302, the dynamic quartet hosted a lecture and Q-and-A session entitled "The Try Guys Try UCR" which allowed fans to become better acquainted with them. My videographer Cameron and I packed up equipment and headed upstairs toward Hub 302, passing by the insanely long line of fans that stretched from the opposite side of the HUB to Latitude hoping to get into the event despite the limited seating of the conference room, only allowing a maximum of 700 attendees. "The people that get to sit in the front row have been lining up since the morning!" revealed Jasperry, our photographer, astonished by the idea of people skipping their entire day to have a chance to see the Try Guys.

As the event started with an uproar of

screams from the audience, the members of ASPB played a small game of trivia with the audience to give out meet-and-greet passes for the fans that had the correct answer first. Sadly, those who surpassed the 700-person mark had to be dismissed and even so, there was still a small crowd of fans trying to look into the windows of the door leading into the conference room.

The uproar increased, with fans waving posters and phones, jumping up and down screaming, signaling the arrival of the Try Guys. After an introduction of each of the members, who were seated on tall stools on the stage in a row, their coordinator began the onstage interview. Each response was met with an outrageous amount of screaming and waving, as well as "aww's" and laughter at the first mention of Fulmer's wife.

The Try Guys discussed more in depth how they began pursuing film, inspired by creating lego movies at a young age, as well as their next plan of recreating a boy-band album cover photo. They discussed their experiences throughout life and working under BuzzFeed as well as their unanticipated acquaintances, ending the lecture on a positive note while encouraging the audience to pursue their dreams.

Following the interview was a preview of one of their Halloween videos, which in-

involved the four guys trying on ridiculous costumes such as a giant inflatable penis, a fake vagina, a sexy snake charmer and even an elderly flasher. Met with an extensive amount of laughter, they announced that this was only the first part, which will be released on Saturday.

"Go live life and be unafraid, try a bunch of stuff. Just do it so you can make stories that you would want to tell for the rest of your lives; go have some fun!" encouraged Kornfeld, as the Try Guys left the audience in a starstruck awe, concluding the highly anticipated and laughter-filled event.

Cameron and I received the exclusive opportunity to have a formal interview, and I must admit that it took some very strong willpower to keep the inner fangirl from showing as I sat face to face with the Try Guys.

Before the formation of the group, they truly had no intention of even being the internet sensations that they are now. Starting off as interns for BuzzFeed in different fields with completely different backgrounds and not too much experience in front of the camera, the timing was perfect for the four guys. "It really came down to who was willing to show show their butts," admits Kornfeld, referring to the first video where they try on ladies' underwear, seemingly the one video that sparked the flame. "It also happened really organically and our dauntlessness matched the comedic dynamic," added Lee proudly.

After receiving extremely positive feedback from their viewers, they decided unanimously that they should step out from behind the camera to become not only the producers of their own episodes, but also the talent. "Our content comes from our concept of identity and going after what a group of people also go after," exclaims Fulmer. And they basically share the rule that if they're afraid to do something, that means they should do it — as long as it isn't evil or harmful. And if it involves butts, then all the better.

"My favorite would be the one where we test the legal alcohol limit since it served as an experiment as well as a teaching device!" remarked Habersberger enthusiastically. However, the drag video was easily Fulmer's favorite (and one that received more crowd appeal) as it opened up their eyes to the entire drag culture that they weren't necessarily aware of before.

It definitely set the blueprint for future

shows, since their support for drag culture was heavily encouraged by their viewers. They had a lot of fun coming up with hilarious drag names such as Ginger Vitis, Champagne Canne, Kornucopia and Cheyenne Pepper. This led to the Try Guys being more open to explore other groups, culturally and sexually.

Despite the outspoken weirdness and purely comedic value of their content, with each video, there is also a hunger to learn about different social structures, cultures and people in general. "Being an Asian-American, it's cool to see the value of being seen and heard," says Lee. Therefore, as a group of four extremely open-minded guys, they hope to shed more light on what happens in the world and the endless conversation topics that the internet provides.

"We try to impact people's lives in positive ways. It's a unique way to give people a voice (that they once didn't have)," encourages Kornfeld. Whether it's through getting in touch with their feminine sides by trying boob contouring, or rubbing oil on each others' butts for a Kim Kardashian-inspired video, or representing more serious groups such as moms and the LGBTIQ community, they always strive to open our eyes while making us laugh.

"The Motherhood series," began Lee, "it blew Facebook up and it really gave the moms out there strong positivity," as he referenced the five-part series that involved the guys trying a fake pregnancy belly, caring for robot babies, changing diapers and even simulating labor pain. "I'm actually hoping to start a family with my wife (Ariel, as you might be familiar with him mentioning from time to time) so it makes me have a better understanding of what she would have to go through — it also makes me want a baby but not want one at the same time," revealed Fulmer.

Although they have shamelessly tried just about everything, there's still room for more. Expanding content through education and traveling is only one of the few ideas they have in store, including more branding, more seemingly impossible things, more butts and hopefully space travel.

As our brief interview neared an end, we parted with advice from the Try Guys to "fail hard and often to see what happens," "embrace all your differences" and that "the sky's the limit."





RESTAURANT REVIEW:

Woodfire Cafe

ASHLEY CHUNG, STAFF WRITER
VINCENT TA, PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

As a sort of habit, I have a tendency to check Yelp reviews of a restaurant before I eat there. They either offer me a mouth-drooling experience to look forward to, or serve as a proper warning to keep away from their dishes. In the case of Woodfire Cafe, I found myself painfully counting down the days of the week until my plans to finally pay a visit to the restaurant would come. It would be an understatement to say that my expectations were high after taking note of their 4.5 star rating on Google and Yelp.

My friend and I eagerly — but safely — drove down Market Street in Downtown Riverside after a long, stressful day of exams in hopes of eating away the misery of our failed midterms. We arrived after 6 p.m. for dinner with growling stomachs. The evening sky set a cool and comfortable tone for the two of us as we strolled around the corner to find the restaurant hidden alongside a row of other shops in a dull, white building. Upon entering the res-

taurant, we noticed that only a couple of other tables were silently occupied at the two ends of the room as the waitress gestured for us to seat ourselves.

The interior contrasted greatly with the stark outer image of the restaurant as the walls were coated in a vibrant, deep shade of orange to simulate a warm and homely backdrop. In the dim light, I observed a sporadic array of paintings strewn across one of the walls, which I discovered were displays of local artists' pieces for sale. Below that, was an Aztec chevron-patterned bench. The opposing wall exhibited a large chalkboard that listed their specials, as well as their list of domestic and imported wines and beers. A full view of the chef tossing slabs of dough into midair before a large, old-fashioned open brick oven was visible behind a counter as well. Overall, the setting was somewhat cozy, yet confusing with what theme they attempted to convey, and could've used better lighting.

After reading recommen-

dations on Yelp, my friend and I decided to share an appetizer of fried zucchini alongside a chicken alfredo pesto pizza and the popular turkey, bacon and pesto panini. The fried zucchini arrived in no time to my grumbling tummy's delight. What my stomach didn't appreciate though, was that only a stingy handful of six slices were laid out beside a dipping dish of ranch that took up the majority of the space on the plate. Still, I excitedly reached out for a fry, but as soon as it was lifted up by an inch, the over-fried batter casing the vegetable quickly crumbled off. I was left forking up the fried bits to accompany my zucchini that was at least still juicy.

Soon after, the waitress dropped off a plate of what looked like the end piece of a loaf of bread that had been repeatedly run over by a truck as she hurriedly strode back into the kitchen. I decided to give this panini a shot before I completely misjudged it based on its appearance. Aside from the somewhat dry turkey and excessive fat on the bacon, the

panini wasn't quite as unappetizing as I had expected.

By this point, I felt completely deceived by the critics of the online reviews and was disappointed in the quality of their dishes, but then came the saving grace that was the 12-inch pesto alfredo chicken pizza. Though a little too much on the oily side, the pizza crust was just the perfect balance of doughy suppleness and crispness. If you love cheese as much as I do, then you'll experience a small glimpse of heaven too when you take a bite of the soft pizza only to find yourself pulling apart stretches of gooey, stringy cheese. We can defi-

nately attribute this heavenly pizza to their real wood-burning oven, which lent a rather cushiony texture not found in ordinary pizza ovens.

If it weren't for the scrumptious chewiness of the pizza, I would've immediately declared a proclamation to never return. Although Woodfire Cafe didn't exactly meet my expectations, what with an almost five star rating it was given, I was still able to eat away my academic stress — goal accomplished! If anything, I will probably return next week to scarf down an entire pizza by myself, when I fabricate more stressful scenarios to eat away. ■

RATING	★★★★☆
LOCATION	3965 Market St. Riverside, CA 92501
PRICE	\$ \$
HOURS	11:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
CATEGORY	Italian
CREDIT	YES
WEBSITE	http://www.yelp.com/biz/woodfire-cafe-riverside

One of England's leading poets and current professor of poetry at Oxford Simon Armitage gave a reading followed by a book signing last Wednesday at INTS 1113. He read about 10 poems that spanned his career, from his early work in "Seeing Stars" to his translation of "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight." The crowd was decent-sized, with about 40 people which included students as well as professors, many of whom were familiar with Armitage's wide body of work. Overall, the entire event was intimate and inviting, and Armitage was very open to questions.

The first poem he read was titled "Thank You for Waiting" which was a wonderfully witty and sly poem, recited as if the narrator was a flight attendant. As Armitage began his reading, he invited us into his comic world. In between poems, Armitage would offer some background information on the poems, the frame of mind that he was in when he wrote them as well as various opinions he holds when it comes to poetry or politics. This background information really helped place his poems in context, and made his reading accessible for people who are very familiar with his work, as well as those who are not.

These tangents were always incredibly insightful, and made the reading more of a master class in poetry by one of its best practitioners, than a performance. One insight I found very interesting was when he introduced his third

poem, "An Accommodation" by comparing it to song lyrics. He began, "Some people here consider song lyrics to be poetry, and talk about Leonard Cohen or Bob Dylan as poets, but I've never thought so. Song lyrics aren't poetry because even though they have the same fabric of language, and texture, poetry comes with its own little score that song lyrics don't have because they always come with music." I found this interesting, because many people, myself included, usually do not distinguish between the aesthetic pleasures that song lyrics give, as opposed to poems. His tangent ended up changing my own opinion on the subject.

Armitage's reading was wonderful, and his soft-spoken demeanor gave an air of intimacy to the occasion that was reflected in laughs from the audience and intriguing questions.

The poems ranged from funny, to impressionistic, to celebratory. However, the last poem, titled "Columbine" was the most memorable. A moving pean to the victims of the Columbine shooting, Armitage's poem narrates the event in the style of a news report. However, he replaces every mention of guns and bullets with the word "flowers." The poetic inversion really highlighted the tragedy of the Columbine Massacre. ■

Following his performance, Armitage hosted a Q-and-A session. Speaking of the poets who influenced him most, he said, "Perhaps Ted Hughes. There was a certain earthiness to his language that I did not know was possible." In response to the Columbine poem, a student asked him, "Was there any critical backlash after you writing that poem since you are British and not American? Did any critics take offense to that?" to which he wittily replied, "Well, poets don't recognize national boundaries as such."

As the event neared its conclusion, Armitage made sure to meet everyone individually. It was during this time that I also caught up with him and talked to him about his new position as the Oxford professor of poetry, which is perhaps one of the most prestigious literary positions in the world, existing for almost 300 years. He stated that he is going to begin working on a lecture shortly, which is required of everyone appointed to his position. Currently, he is still unsure of what exactly the lecture will be about. He added that, while predecessors have published their lectures, he was still unsure of whether or not he wanted to take that route.

Overall, the event was very well-planned, and the turnout was also appropriate to the occasion. Armitage's reading was wonderful, and his soft-spoken demeanor gave an air of intimacy to the occasion that was reflected in laughs from the audience and intriguing questions. ■



OXFORD PROFESSOR OF POETRY,
SIMON ARMITAGE,
GIVES READING ON CAMPUS

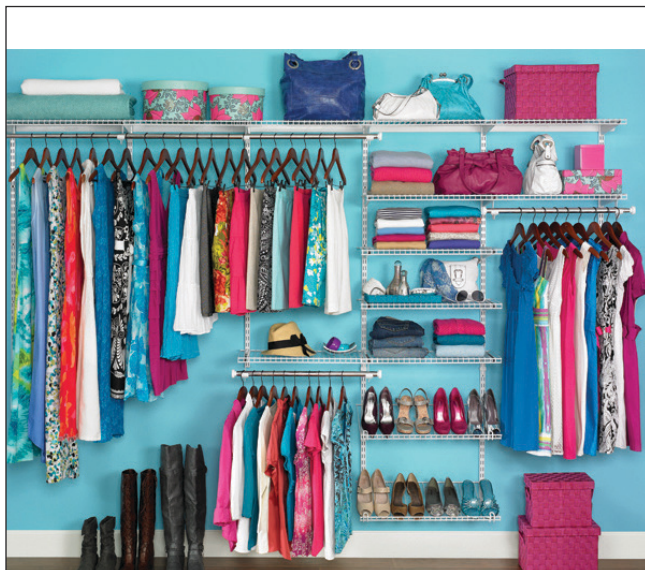
FARAZ RIZ, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

VINCENT TA / HIGHLANDER

Simon Armitage cracks a smile while reading a poem about airport check-ins.

CAMPUS COPE: MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME

BY EDWARD DAVE, CONTRIBUTING WRITER



JANINE YBANEZ / HIGHLANDER

Staying organized and studying in a relaxing environment are key to staying productive under stressful times.

The road to productivity is an uphill battle indeed. Productivity has been a main source of peril for students since the concept of school and work were created. Many people have the idea that being productive requires a great amount of discipline and practice. While that's true, it's also something that can be incrementally established. Productivity, more than anything, is a combination of physical and mental practices. The real battle toward productivity begins with recognition of our lazy habits and attempting to sort them out, one by one.

One of the first things that can help boost productivity, while giving you peace of mind, is making sure that you're organized. The less mess around you, the easier it will be to hone in on what needs to be taken care of. Having a clean space will eliminate the stress of having to sort through it, thus making you more likely to focus on what really matters. Second-year biology major Jasmine Huerta testifies that "keeping a clean space can make all the difference. I used to be a very messy person until I realized that it was the source of my laziness. I invested in some folders for each class and made sure I separated my work."

Once you have a clean space it's advantageous to begin buying office supplies that work to separate the different sections of your life. Those classic two-inch binders with the colorful dividers may

seem like they tread into middle school territory, but they go a long way to making sure everything is in its place.

Whether we like it or not, we can all fall victim to what's going on in our surroundings. Pause for a second and realize that there are more important things than finding out the killer on your favorite television show in 48 hours. Instead of studying or doing work in an environment loaded with electronics and devices that will catch your eye, venture out and find a spot

Instead of studying or doing work in an environment loaded with electronics and devices that will catch your eye, venture out and find a spot that's ideal for studying.

that's ideal for studying. The library is the typical choice for people who like to isolate themselves and study in a serene environment.

If the library still doesn't prompt you to be more proactive, other alternatives include studying in nature. People love outdoor environments because not only are there no devices for them to fiddle with, and it provides a sense of calmness that will make them focus on your work. An ideal spot is right outside the Physics 2000

building which sports wonderful green scenery.

One of the final tips that can be instrumental in becoming productive is to reward yourself. After exhausting your mind, it's important that you provide yourself with a well-deserved break — just make sure you've really earned it. Sporadic social media checks during your work sessions can make your mind feel as though you are covering a lot of ground. In reality, it just distracts you from giving all of your effort to the assignment at hand. Don't use petty breaks as a reward for the work you've done because in the end it will just prolong whatever assignment you are trying to finish. Treat every assignment and task as if it was for a job. Having that sense of urgency and prominence will shift your mind from a passive state into an active and ready position.

Even after all of those tips, the road to becoming a productive student won't come easy. There will be all sorts of detours along the way that will attempt to knock you off-course. Even if you encounter some missteps it's important to understand the significance of becoming a productive student. Some people never actually reach that point. Don't worry if you don't reach it right away. Everything in life is trial and error. Treat this mission as if you were learning to ride a bike. Baby steps and small, gradual leaps can go a long way to making you a more ideal student. ■



ON BEING GAY AND CHRISTIAN

ANONYMOUS

It's a strange feeling to be a walking oxymoron. No one really expects you to be gay when you're a Christian nor are you really expected to be Christian when you're gay. Like some ideological Capulet and Montague feud, I've always grown up as some dystopic mixture of Romeo and Juliet; futilely attempting to keep my blasphemous union a secret.

I first started going to church in middle school, roughly the same time I started figuring out that I may not be as straight as I thought I was. Unfortunately,

the church I went to was incredibly conservative with both the Chinese and English speaking congregations. In the few years I went there, it was constantly drilled into my head that being remotely homosexual was something that was inherently wrong and should be either stamped out, or suppressed.

Freshman year of high school, I participated in my first "Day of Silence" and was made fun of and mercilessly bullied. The following Sunday I went to talk with my youth pastor about my experiences that week and asked her for advice. She was someone I greatly looked up to; she

was beautiful, popular amongst the other youths my age and always seemed to give the best advice to whatever seemed to be on our minds. However, her actions affected me more than her words. In the following weeks, she gradually stopped talking to me, most of the friends that I had made began to avoid me and I gradually grew distant from the church. I eventually went to church on Sundays only to ditch Sunday school and services with my other church friends to hang out for a few hours. Soon after, I stopped going altogether.

I eventually made my way back to the Christian circle af-

ter I graduated from high school and got involved with a fellowship here at UCR. Even though years have passed since my time at my old church, I've always felt a distance with my new fellowship friends even though I know most of them are more accepting than the people that went to my previous church. I eventually came out later in my college years and for the most part, it wasn't as traumatic as I had thought it would be. It wasn't until I started experiencing microaggressions from my friends that I started remembering why I left in the first place. I can't even begin to count how many times I've been told "I don't hate you, I just hate your sin," as if this gigantically inherent part of who I am as a human being is dirty and wrong. I really don't think that many of my Christian friends fully comprehend what being gay truly is. And even when I try to discuss and explain what it is to them, their own ways of thinking about homosexuality are so skewed by their churches that I can't even get them to understand that saying being gay is a sin is like telling me that my ethnicity or my gender is a sin (please don't get me started on when the Supreme Court made gay marriage legal).

So where do I stand now? I still keep a small group of Christian friends close by me because they sincerely attempt to understand my struggles. However, I've decided to stay away from organized religion. I've grown tired of hearing someone tell me on the regular who God is or isn't, what he loves, and doesn't love and what is and isn't acceptable when being a Christian. Don't get me wrong, I still go out to a fellowship meeting every now and then to connect with other Christians. But for now, I'm taking things back to when I was a kid, just God and I. ■

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Spoken word poetry
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10/24

Music Make Out
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"Marilyn: Forever Blonde"
@ Fox Performing Arts Center, 2-10 p.m.

MOVIE REVIEWS

COMING OUT SOON:
LAST WITCH HUNTER

JEM AND THE
HOLOGRAMS

HEART OF A DOG
BACK IN TIME

GOOSEBUMPS // RATING: ★★★★★

MICHAEL LOCASCIO
Contributing Writer

I sat down to watch “Goosebumps” on the night of its premiere with no expectations whatsoever. Like many people whose childhoods spanned the mid-to-late ‘90s and early 2000s, I was familiar with the “Goosebumps” series of children’s horror books, but I had only completely read a few (though my brother owned nearly every entry in the series). The success of R.L. Stine’s world-renowned series is hard to miss, with over 400 million copies sold worldwide, but since he didn’t have a direct part in writing the screenplay for this film, I refused to expect anything substantial from it.

Rob Letterman’s “Goosebumps” doesn’t chronicle the events of any one book in R.L. Stine’s hit series, but instead brings an entirely new experience set in the real world, with the real author himself as a central character. After losing his father to an unknown circumstance, 17-year-old Zach (Dylan Minnette) and his mother Gale (Amy Ryan) move from New York to the small town of Madison, Delaware to start a new life. Unfortunately for Zach, his embarrassing mom is the new vice principal at his local high school. And his neighbor is R.L. Stine (Jack Black). After repeated warnings from Stine to stay away from his home and his daughter Hannah (Odeya Rush), Zach decides to break into his home and meddle with his collection of original typewritten copies of the “Goosebumps” series, which bring the monsters to life when opened ... because reasons. Zach must team up with his new pal Champ

(Ryan Lee), Hannah and R.L. Stine himself to capture the monsters before they destroy the city.

I was pleasantly surprised with “Goosebumps,” because as a film it’s not half bad. It is a movie targeted for younger audiences, but it manages to remain entertaining for those of us who still have that kid inside. Part of this is thanks to Black’s great performance as R.L. Stine, the author of “Goosebumps.” His portrayal initially falls in line with what you might expect from a horror-writer: creepy, anti-social and mysterious — three characteristics that don’t quite match Black’s typical acting style. Seeing this kind of acting from

Black was unusual. His character opens up and shifts to his more goofy self as the story progresses, which was refreshing and gave the character some humanity that was otherwise missing. The supporting cast delivers believable performances, none of which are comparable to some of the horrible acting present in some

other recent films.

For those interested in the soundtrack, none other than Danny Elfman (“The Simpsons,” “Batman: the Animated Series,” Sam Raimi’s “Spiderman” trilogy) takes the reigns here. The film’s main theme feels appropriate, as it blends a fun, upbeat tempo with some more ominous orchestration. My only problem with the soundtrack is its inability to stop playing. While it’s merely background music most of the time, on occasion it felt distracting, as it almost drowned out dialogue completely in certain scenes with an unnecessarily jumpy tempo and high volume. Most kids will likely look (hear?) past this, though.

If there has to be a winning quality to “Goosebumps,” it would have to be its special effects. The

The “scares” don’t go much further than a few expected jumpscare and some well designed monsters, so if you’re over the age of 12 and intend to lose sleep, you’ll be disappointed.



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA PICTURES

computer-generated aspects are outstanding. From the vicious snarling werewolf to the gelatinous pink blob and everything in between, the CGI here was some of the best I’ve seen this year. Even the giant preying mantis was meticulously designed to match its average-sized brethren. If this movie wins any awards, they’ll likely be in the visual effects category.

“Goosebumps” is a movie for kids. The “scares” don’t go much further than a few expected jumpscare and some well-designed monsters, so if you’re over the age of 12 and intend to lose sleep, you’ll be disappointed. On the other hand, there is a lot to enjoy here even if you have your GED and set your own bedtime. The snarky references to a feud between R.L. Stine and author Stephen King,

callbacks to the old Goosebumps books and the hilariously simple plot explanation given by Black are just a few aspects of the film that might bring some enjoyment to older audiences.

Ultimately, “Goosebumps” is a good movie. It may not be a seasoned film connoisseur’s first choice, but if you need a movie to take a younger sibling or relative to see, this wouldn’t be a bad choice. ■

CRIMSON PEAK // RATING: ★★★★★

DENISSE CERVANTES
Contributing Writer

Master monster-maker Guillermo del Toro has once again proven that he doesn’t need to make a horror movie to provide scares and entertainment. Labeled as a gothic romance piece, “Crimson Peak” is a beautiful blend of absolutely frightening ghosts and effects, gorgeous costumes and sets and decent to good acting.

The viewers are immediately thrust into the horrific world that the leading lady, Edith Cushing (Mia Wasikowska) lives in as she tells the story of how she saw her mother’s ghost when she was a young child. In all honesty, even though the design and effects of the ghost were absolutely spectacular, the opening felt somewhat abrupt as it only served the purpose of showing Edith’s late mother warning her about Crimson Peak. After that spooky scene, the viewers were introduced to Alan McMichael, (Charlie Hunnam), and Edith’s father, Carter Cushing (Jim Beaver), who rejects a proposed invention from Thomas Sharpe (Tom Hiddleston). Thomas ends up falling in love with Edith, to Carter’s disapproval. He then bribes Thomas and his sister Lucille (Jessica Chastain) to leave and break his daughter’s heart. Thomas agrees, but Carter

is brutally murdered, which opens Edith up to marriage.

Spookier things begin to happen as the film’s setting shifts from New York to the Sharpe mansion, which ends up being Crimson Peak, which is the exact place her mother warned her about. The rest of the film is spent showing the creative and unsettling ways del Toro can make a gothic romantic movie and Edith taking a little too long to discover the horrible truth about her husband, his mysterious sister and the manor they live in.

Del Toro is no stranger to making monsters. He’s been doing it for 30 years (i.e. Hellboy and Pan’s Labyrinth), so anybody who came to see creepy, yet jaw-droppingly gorgeous monsters and special effects will not be disappointed. In fact they’ll probably be more than impressed with how far del Toro has come with his designs and effects. I remember one certain scene with a red ghost that started off transparent but slowly turned into a tangible being with the face mutating as it did so. While most of the ghosts are done solely with CGI, it still feels like a del Toro production with his definable style.

The average moviegoer looking for a decent movie will enjoy the movie for its acting. Hiddleston and Chastain are the shining stars of the movie, and its appealing aesthetic makes it so that “Crimson Peak” is able to hold the viewer’s



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

attention in a good way. People who pay a little more attention to movies than the next guy will most likely find problems here and there. The story seemed to drag on at times and there were scenes that had no other point than to show off the ghosts in the movie, which

resulted in scenes beginning and ending in such an abrupt manner that it actually took me out of the movie one or two times. However, the film made up for that as it is a cinematographer’s dream. The contrasting lighting in certain scenes, and the sets themselves

were beyond perfect for the tone of the film and resulted in a gorgeous film inside and out.

“Crimson Peak” may not be the peak of del Toro’s work, but it’s definitely worth your 10 dollars to see it at least once while it’s still in theaters. ■

MUSIC REVIEW

NEON INDIAN, "VEGA INTL. NIGHT SCHOOL" //

RATING: ★★★★★

OSAMA KHAN
Contributing Writer

Welcome to a 1980s nightclub, where the glitchy music is enough to fry your brain, the epileptic onslaught of neon lights is enough to give you a seizure and the drug-fueled drinks will be good enough to keep you going until, well, you can't. Tonight's music will be sponsored by Neon Indian's new album "Vega Intl Night School." The name of the album is a reference to Neon Indian's other project titled "Vega," and this album is stepping in and combining the two, ending the moniker that they once were known for. Don't let that get you down though, as this double album is a raging non-stop retrospective homage to the 1980s that will keep you rocking until you realize you're getting late for school and hope that you'll be saved by the bell.

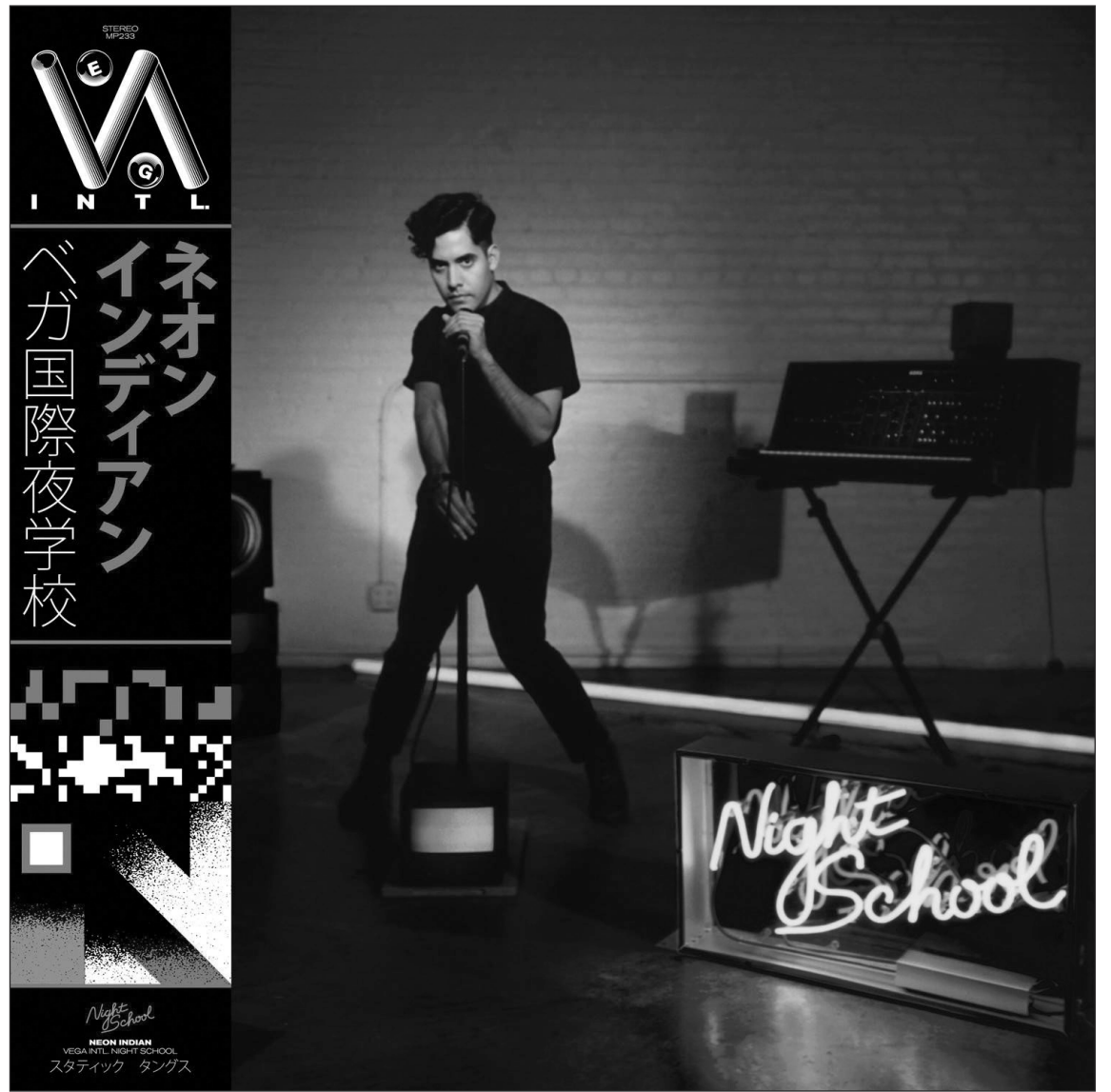
With past hit albums like "Era Extrana" and "Psychic Chasms," Neon Indian is known for making grooves so pleasing to the ear, you'll wonder how you've gone through life without previously discovering them. This album builds even further upon that feeling with really tight production that breathes new life into this obsession that pop music has had in the past 10 years of rehashing '80s era music into new wave media. The songs on this album are a blend of everything that made that era great: Michael Jackson, Madonna, early morning cartoons and "Miami Vice" vibes. Each song on this album is a pop hit in its own right, including songs like "Street Level," "Smut!," "Bozo" and "The Glitzy Hive."

These songs give a romantic flashback of the '80s where those

Reagan era problems just melt away and leave all the glitter, hairspray and glitchy 16-bit synths that defined that decade. Specifically on "The Glitzy Hive," respectively one of the grooviest songs on the album, lo-fi Michael Jackson-esque vocals combined with the clatter of cowbells and that Bee Gees inspired beat excite that ecstasy driven spirit of "Scarface" that has been lying dormant in you, waiting to be revived into a dancing machine. "Slumlord" and "Hit Parade" continue on with this disco-themed rave, reminding you that Daft Punk's old stuff is still cool enough to start a back alley dance party with all your friends, synthesizing the sounds of Blondie and Stevie Nicks to create a funky, smooth dance house mix.

"Slumlord's Re-lease" and "Techno Clique" change up the tempo and turn back time a little bit more into the disco era of the '70s. These songs add a nice variety to the middle of the album if you were getting bored of that '80s beach vice vibe. They turn up the tempo with heavy synths, borrowing sounds from the rave scene in 1970s England. They also layer these songs with intricate production reminiscent of Squarepusher and Aphex Twin, adding these small details in every song that require even the most attentive listener to put the album on repeat to be able to fully grasp the range of the sounds and the sights that are invoked upon hearing the songs.

The closing songs on the album, "61 Cygni Ave" and "News From the Sun (Live Bootleg)" wind down the album as if closing to a feel-good John Cusack movie. With crowds chanting and funky basslines, the closing song "News From the Sun (Live Bootleg),"



COURTESY OF MOM+POP MUSIC

ending the album with a nice drive off into a lo-fi sunset of electronic/dance goodness.

Even if you aren't a fan of electronic music or you've

become sick and tired of these rehashed '80s synths that seem to creep up into modern day radio, Neon Indian's new album will easily make you remember why

you loved the '80s in the first place. Every song will have you on that rainbow-pulsing dance floor moving like a pop star of the era.



Evelin Farias, M.A.Ed. '12
School Psychologist
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TELEVISION REVIEW

THE FLASH: FLASH OF TWO WORLDS // RATING: ★★★★★

ADRIAN GARCIA
Contributing Writer

“The Flash” came back with its season two premiere with solid footing while introducing a new threat, the evil speedster Zoom, for Team Flash. Now episode two, “Flash of Two Worlds” promises to bring a whole new concept to the universe “The Flash” is building.

As seen in the ending of its premiere episode, a stranger known as Jay Garrick (Teddy Sears) warns Team Flash that their world is in danger. It is revealed that he has actually come to Allen’s world from another Earth, a parallel world in another dimension dubbed as “Earth-2,” where he was The Flash instead of Barry Allen (Grant Gustin). In fact, Martin Stein (Victor Garber) proposes a whole new theory concerning this newfound parallel dimension. He theorizes that not only is there a parallel dimension where an Earth-2 exists, but that there is a whole new “multiverse” with many different worlds as same as Earth but in parallel dimensions.

He continues to say that every one of Team Flash can exist in these worlds dead or alive, or with entirely different lives. When the wormhole appears over Central City, it incidentally appeared in

Jay’s world and links both worlds. Injured and unable to move in midst of battling Zoom, Jay was forcefully taken by the wormhole’s gravity and got sucked into Earth-1. He warns that Zoom is now after The Flash of Earth-1, Allen himself. “The Flash” proposes a whole new concept for its audience to understand ripped straight from the comics, and the show succeeds in streamlining it, making it not too confusing for today’s modern audience.

But there are a few problems now that Garrick is in town. As he got sucked into Allen’s world, he lost his super speed powers in the process. He’s just a regular human being in Earth-1. And to add to that, a metahuman from Garrick’s world dubbed the Sand Demon has appeared in Central City causing havoc. Garrick is willing to help defeat the new enemy since he’s faced him before in his world, but will Allen accept this stranger’s plea?

It’s this type of a dilemma that made “Flash of Two Worlds” a stellar episode. The drama of trusting him or not added a nice tension because the audience is understanding him at the same time Team Flash is. Sears as Garrick fits right in within Team Flash. He fits the persona of a man who once also saved his own city with his super speed abilities but is now lost and alone in a new, mysterious world and is desperate

to save everybody before it’s too late. Gustin shows yet again a more different side than the positive Allen we saw in season one, adding a more hesitant element to the lead character. The tension between these two Flashes is a welcome sight to see on the show.

The subplot of the episode introduced a new character in Officer Patty Spivot (Shantel VanSanten), a young confident, fearless new officer in the Central City Police Department who is determined to be let in the Metahuman Task Force, a squad which is tasked in dealing with Metahumans. Joe West (Jesse L. Martin) is in charge and adamant about letting the new officer in. There is a real spark in VanSanten’s new character and she portrays her really well as the chemistry between West and Spivot is particularly strong, similar to a father-daughter relationship. Speaking of, Iris West (Candice Patton), daughter of Joe, has much more of a nuanced role so far this season. As being the former girlfriend of Eddie Thawne (Rick Cosnett) and long-lasting crush on Allen, her character has taken a step back considering all of what happened in the last few episodes of season one. And on the topic of the West family, we were briefly introduced to Mrs. West, a seemingly important character which we have never seen on the show. It seemed way too unnecessary for her to appear in this episode, as there is the danger of overflowing an episode with too many things. Her appearance would’ve been more suitable in another episode.

“The Flash” is already introducing very otherworldly concepts with the “multiverse,” often mentioned in the DC Comics. It is very bold and



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. TELEVISION

exciting for both those familiar and unfamiliar with the concept. The villain of this episode was a product of that concept, as Sand Demon was from Garrick’s world, but tricked our heroes with his normal doppelganger that exists in Allen’s world. It brought a clever concept that added more spice to the routine villain-of-the-week role. The eventual hesitant team up between Garrick and Allen in this episode led to some great moments as Garrick donned The Flash costume, albeit playing against the Sand Demon’s own strategy, as a doppelganger distraction in which Allen ultimately defeated the enemy with a newfound lightning throwing ability he learned with the mentoring of Garrick.

There was an interesting tidbit that can’t be ignored at the end of the episode. In Garrick’s world, there exists Harrison Wells (Tom

Cavanagh) well and alive as the founder of the very active S.T.A.R. Labs. As known last season in Earth-1, Harrison Wells has long been dead, with the evil Eobard Thawne from the future, or the Reverse Flash, disguised inside his body following the S.T.A.R. Labs’ explosion. Cavanagh as Wells was the absolute highlight of season one, so with his appearance we can only wonder what new mysterious element will be added to his excellent character.

Season one grew considerably better with almost every new episode, and now in its second episode, season two is promising to keep this going by introducing new, exciting concepts and developments within the Flash universe that gives so much exciting story potential for the future episodes to come. ■

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

UNDERTALE // RATING: ★★★★★

ROBERT LEES
Senior Staff Writer

For those of you who love breaking the mold and being your own person, bandwagons and the people who join them are probably the center of your derision, and often with good cause. Bandwagons have led to terrible things, from racism, to fascism to Donald Trump’s recent presidential campaign. But what if the bandwagon actually leads to somewhere good? Like to the land of scantily clad women and free beef jerky? You’d be a fool to not jump on.

Overdone metaphors aside, if you’re in touch with indie games, you’ve probably already heard of “Undertale.” While it has been out for almost a month at time of writing, it has only recently gained prominence, receiving recommendations from people all over the gaming community and currently the highest-rated PC game on Metacritic. I guess this review could be seen as me jumping on the bandwagon. However, I would like to let all of you know that I tried really hard to not like this game. Whenever someone sings the praises of absolutely anything, I feel it is almost human nature to try and prove them wrong, with this effect being amplified for an iconoclast like myself.

But no, this game won me over. Its childish charm, tight gameplay and impressive depth and wit warmed my icy heart. So yeah, “Undertale” is a bandwagon, but I’m jumping the fuck on.

Our story opens with a small child falling into a mountain and ending up in the world of monsters. After being taken in by a matronly goat-demon you must

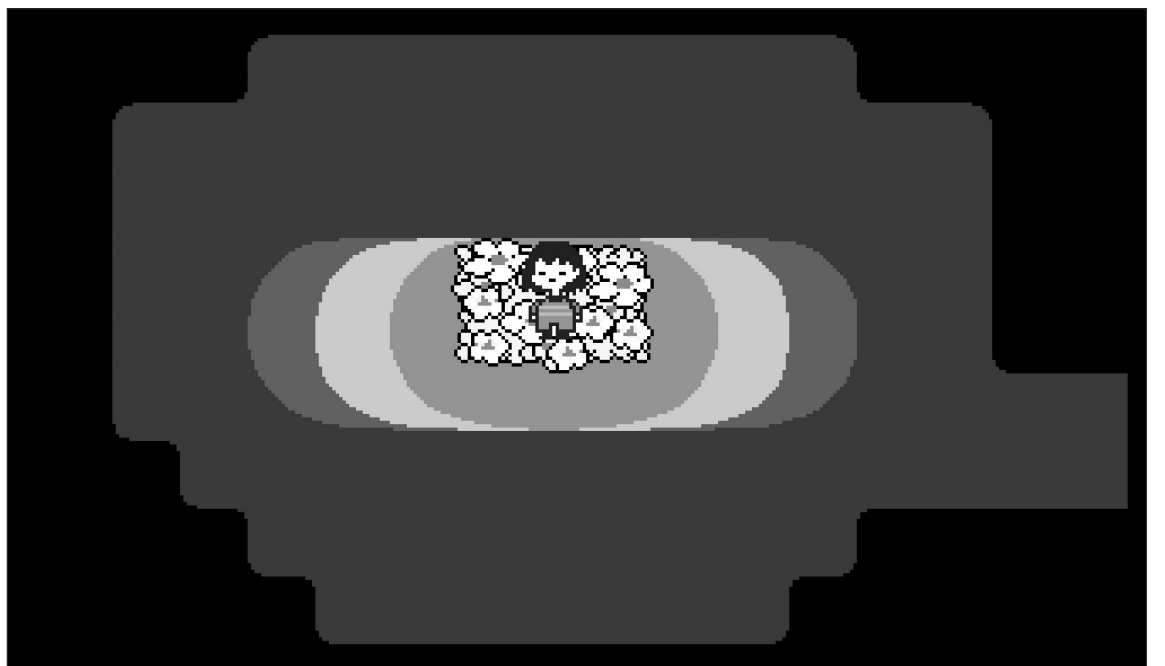
embark on a quest to return home to the surface, using the power of friendship to best the various boss monsters on your path if you’ve paid attention to the tutorial and using the power of murder if you’re a bastard.

The game, with its minimalist soundtrack, dialogue and color palette, does a fair bit of showing without telling, illustrating the world of monsters through still backgrounds and the occasional bit of flavor text imparted by some various creature or another.

I’m being a little stingy with the details, partially because I don’t want to ruin the surprise for any of you potential players and partially because any individual part of the story taken out of context would sound completely insane. An octopus-onion jumping out of a wading pool and explaining her opinions on modern music while you’re on the run from a spear-wielding hunter of humans makes perfect sense in the context of the game, but using that line while explaining the tenets of anything is ample grounds to get committed to an asylum.

I’m not finished playing at time of writing, likely due to the fact that “Undertale” is the game that gives you a massive world to explore with little direction. There’s no way of knowing if taking a particular path in a dungeon is going to continue the story or take you to a spider bake sale. I’m a sucker for emergent story and gameplay, and I probably would have finished if I hadn’t spent two hours petting snow dogs or gambling on snail races with a dapper ghost.

The gameplay, aside from walking around and clicking on things, mimics early ‘90s



COURTESY OF UNDERTALE

JRPGs, a la “Earthbound” and the early “Final Fantasy” games. Occasionally mobs will pop up during exploration, and the main puzzle of monster battles is figuring out the specific series of steps you must follow if you want to avoid playing as a monster serial killer. While it does get annoying having to have a sexy dance-off with a series of sentient jello molds for the 50th time, the mobs are varied enough that the gameplay avoided becoming tedious during my play through.

“Undertale” is not without its faults, and the minimalist user interface led to endless frustration in my first hour of play. I only figured out how to open the in-game menu while absentmindedly tapping my keyboard in the middle of figuring out a particularly devious room puzzle. Control issues aside, the game truly sparkles when the tutorial level is over

and you’re sent into the grand over world where most of the plot takes place. The characters and enemies all have their own hopes, dreams and wants, with each trying to make their way in the subterranean world.

The narrative dialog avoids the trap many RPGs fall into of being mired in severe melodrama, and I legitimately laughed during much of my time playing, once I stopped trying to rush through the opening dungeon and really let myself get sucked in. One scene that particularly stuck with me was trying to avoid being captured by a skeleton guardsman at the beginning of the second act, culminating in going on a date and debating the finer points of Italian cuisine. This, at its core, is the best aspect of “Undertale”: it knows the player is here to have fun, and avoids taking itself too seriously.

“Undertale” does have a moral

choice system, but it avoids being obtuse and makes sense in the context of the world. While I usually tend to see moral choice systems as a challenge to try to play as a cross between Ted Bundy and Lex Luthor, the childlike wonder of the game made me try to play as a legitimately good person, even during the 50-plus jello mold slog that is the first level.

If my ham-fisted attempts at extolling the virtues of “Undertale” haven’t convinced you to play yet, understand that I’m a man of limited talent and trying to explain something as nuanced as “Undertale” is certainly above my ability. The game is utterly unique, and I’m sure that even non-gamers can find something they love about it. Besides, it’s only \$10, which is a much better deal than paying \$60 or more for “Call of Duty 37” or whatever cash-in crap is dominating the market nowadays. ■

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IN RETROSPECT

HOW "LATE REGISTRATION" TOLD US ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT KANYE WEST

MYLES ANDREWS-DUVE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

For as otherworldly as his ability as a producer was, nobody wanted Kanye West to be a rapper. Yet, 'Ye's 2004 debut act, "College Dropout," served as an all-inclusive slap in the face for those who found his rap venture untenable. His lyricism was distinctly unique, the content was equally thought-provoking as it was humorous, and his overall persona was a much-needed relief for the hip-hop genre. The album was a resounding success, instantly imposing its belonging among the musical hallmarks of the '00s and ingratiating West into the sphere of rap's most acclaimed.

It was a debut so astoundingly rich and filled with promise that it led many to wonder how West could possibly do better on its follow-up.

Yet, just a year later, "Late Registration" arrived and pacified the pessimistic. West's follow-up album didn't just avoid the proverbial "sophomore slump" but "Late Reg.'s" all-encompassing mastery made the widely-acclaimed "Dropout" appear as a mere rough draft.

More than any other in West's collection, "Late Registration" is complete. And not only due to the inclusion of beautifully orchestrated classical backings (more on that in a minute) or the sheer display of command over a musical genre that was in dire need of a new voice. Beyond that, what this album completes is a depiction of West, the person.

The irony is quite amusing. The very man whose outward personality has proven a heatedly divisive subject among today's sphere of music and pop culture (he is either an extraordinarily egotistical brute or a complex, misunderstood soul, no in-between) provided a wholesome portrayal of himself on the album that ascended him to stardom.

And so, on the eve of the album's 10-year anniversary, we take a look back at how "Late Registration" offered clarity into the enigma that is 'Ye.

WE'RE PAINTINGS ... THE OIL DON'T DRY 'TIL WE DIE

Who is Kanye West?

Prior to "Late Registration's" release in 2005, many felt "College Dropout" had provided the clearest answer. He was a brash-with-a-backpack, producer-turned-rapper whose beats were incredibly unique, fun and soulful, but not much else.

Just when West had been placed in this box, he disintegrated it. After watching the listless "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," West grew enthralled with the lavishly orchestrated score and instantly sought out for its composer, the eccentric multi-instrumentalist Jon Brion.

After developing a relationship with Brion, West promptly assigned him as co-producer of "Late Registration."

At the time, Brion was about as far off the hip-hop radar as one could imagine. His most notable popular music works included a heavy involvement in the production of Portishead's hit album, "Dummy" as well as his aid in the evolution of Fiona Apple's calm cabaret on her debut album, "Tidal" to the grandiosity that was her widely-acclaimed follow up, "When the Pawn ..."

Yet, West's desire for "Late Registration" to be a cinematic

masterpiece overruled any notion that Brion's inexperience in the genre made him ill-fit.

"On your sophomore record, that's the ultimate time to not fuck with the formula, right?"

Brion told MTV in 2005. "And (West) gets me — a guy who has never made a hip-hop record in his life — and gives me half the reins? That is not an egomaniac."

The inclusion of Brion was a ground-breaking venture for creativity in hip-hop as a whole. Yet it more so served as the birth of West's transformative and envelope-pushing epoch, paving the way for later experimental works such as the retro, synthpop record "808's and Heartbreak" and the synth-crashing "Yeezus."

All throughout "Late Reg." Brion's influence can be heard distinctly. The 30-layered, cinematic dramatism that backs Brandy's vocals on "Bring Me Down" was almost entirely of Brion's doing as are the surly violins featured on the campy "Celebration."

The track "Gone" was originally a stripped-down and soulful "Dropout"-esque track until Brion encouraged West that the tumid, playful strings would be a fitting inclusion; and a few of the album's subtleties — such as the polyphonic keys on "Heard 'Em Say" — have Brion's fingerprints all over them.

West had widescreen visions for "Late Reg." — hence the eventual grand follow-up performance that was "Late Orchestration" — yet without Brion, the cinematic element that proves so crucial to the album would be rather airy.

GOD, HOW COULD YOU LET THIS HAPPEN?

Full disclosure: I am a firm believer in the legitimacy of Kanye West's proposed candidacy for the 2020 presidential race. Perhaps part of this belief is blindly influenced by my degenerate-level fandom, but for personal sake, I'd suggest it is because I have always been keenly aware that West's political ambitions have been rooted throughout his musical catalog.

On no album is this more prevalent than "Late Registration" where, rather than combatively discharging his views over the course of a song — a feature that finds commonplace among most conscious-based rap — Kanye tailors his strong racial, socio-economic and political views with inclusive tales of his personal experience.

He bemoans the income-based disparity of

proper medical care on "Roses," while evoking the emotions he held while beside his grandmother's deathbed. On "Heard 'Em Say," 'Ye laments the lack of opportunities afforded to black males while growing up in his hometown Chicago. And even the scathingly funny hit-single "Gold Digger" tells a deeper tale about American materialization as West depicts a relationship overtaken by lust and greed.

The highlight of this politically-driven content are the tracks "Drive Slow" and "Crack Music." Broken apart by a brief interlude from Common on the Gil Scott Heron homage, "My Way Home," these two tracks serve as a collective portrayal of West's ideologies on both a local and national scale.

"Drive" features the sulky, southern drawl of rappers Paul Wall and GLC to accentuate the song's plea for the youth to fight temptations of sex, drugs and money and simply enjoy their early years of life. While on the martial

"Crack Music," West shames political leaders for their role in the disintegration of the civil rights movement, blames them for perpetuating the false

notion of a post-racial society and accuses the U.S. government of fueling the crack epidemic throughout black America.

And just when you thought West's radical sentiments would end there, "Diamonds of Sierra Leone" takes on the global issue of child labor in Africa and its bloody diamond mining industry.

Granted, 'Ye's radical voice was sprinkled throughout "Dropout" — most notably on "Spaceship" and "Jesus Walks" — but on "Late Registration" we find him refraining from the subtlety. These aforementioned tracks eventually paved the way for later maximalist works such as "New Slaves" and "Black Skinhead" where West puts forth a more brash and merciless tone than that on "Late Reg."

"How we stop the Black Panthers? Ronald Reagan picked up an answer." - Kanye West, Crack Music

It isn't often that late registration ascends a college dropout to stardom but in some twisted fantasy, Kanye West arose.

CAN I TALK MY SHIT AGAIN?

What would a Kanye West album be without an appearance of that infamous ego of his? Thankfully, we don't have a damn clue.

Amidst the politically-charged content and self-reflection, "Late Reg." still boasts 'Ye's unapologetic bravado. "Touch the Sky" is as uplifting as its title may suggest. Using a slowed-down sample of Curtis Mayfield's groovy "Move on Up," a joyous West stops to reflect upon his ascension to that of a self-acclaimed "hip-hop legend" and offers a peek into his — at the time, growing — status as a fashion-forward artist.

On the aforementioned "Bring Me Down" 'Ye boasts, "They gon have to take my life before they take my drive" whilst touting his unparalleled self-sufficiency as an artist and going on to strip down those who previously bore wariness toward his potential.

On the Nas-featuring "We Major" (best described by Noisey's Craig Jenkins as an "eight-minute champagne toast") West sounds gratified as he brags about his arrival to success while pausing to celebrate on those who failed to make it out of a similarly poverty-ridden background.

Kanye West is a complex figure, but for those willing to listen, "Late Registration" offers a wholesome answer to the oft-asked question of who he truly is. And admittedly, there is no concrete definition.

Even when trying to subcategorize the album as I did above, a few key moments were left out: the tear-jerking ballad, "Hey Mama," which pays tribute to his mother and would later serve as a memorialization in the wake of her passing in 2007 and the mystical "Addiction" which unveils 'Ye's inner strife to resist his nagging, unethical desires.

No interpretation is cemented when it comes to Kanye West, but perhaps revisiting his most revealing album a decade later is the best way to reach some sort of conclusion. For as he fittingly put it in the fourth verse of "Gone": "I'm ahead of my time, sometimes years out / but the powers that be won't let me get my ideas out."

"How we stop the Black Panthers? Ronald Reagan picked up an answer." - Kanye West, Crack Music

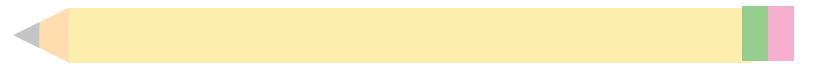
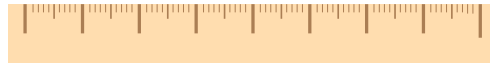
It isn't often that late registration ascends a college dropout to stardom but in some twisted fantasy, Kanye West arose.



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THE HIGHLANDER JOURNAL

READER
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FICTION & POETRY



American Progress

by Alexander Wilson Jr.

Black Lives Matter
 When these cops start shooting
 ALL these Black Lives shattered
 Black People can't have anything
 In a country that they were forced to give everything
 Once more,
 Black People can't have anything
 In a country that they were forced to give everything
 Lynched, Beaten, Dismembered, Killed, Ridiculed, Degraded, Disrespected,
 Dehumanized...
 It's a long list huh
 Makes you feel uncomfortable when you ponder on why America likes us dumb
 See, I believe, in American Progress
 Me and my comrades are fighting each day in America so poetry is my healing
 process
 These cops running around claiming they're the law, but act so lawless
 So I don't plan on staying quiet, I'm gonna speak the truth and be honest
 Progress in America to white people has already been achieved
 Because we have a Black Man in the White House so what else do we need
 All we do is complain about how we don't have stuff
 And white people turn the other cheek and say "Life's rough"
 My brothers and sisters we can't rely on our country no more
 I am just as American as the blonde-haired, blue-eyed white male that I walk by
 in the street but that kills America to its core
 Because this country was not made for us and never was supposed to be for us
 Ironic how our forefathers had the privilege to use the word "equality" when they
 were slaveowners
 America will brainwash us no more because with our minds we are the owners
 We will read the books they never included in our syllabus
 We will call them out on their dirty lies and continuous bullshit
 Let it ring true, like it did in 1492, that if you're black or brown- America isn't
 for you
 See, I believe, in American Progress
 How through all the trials we've been put through, we are still here today
 We will continue to populate and spread our greatness everyday
 But my people, my black, brown, yellow, red, blue and green beautiful people
 American Progress is recognizing the truth
 American Progress is not only attacking the head while forgetting the roots
 Our problems stem from America's unjust foundation
 On the corrupt lies that we promote liberty, justice, and equality for all in the
 nation
 See, I believe, in American Progress
 Where despite our varying skin tones and ethnicities we can all succeed
 Where ALL people have the right to choose their own destiny
 Where chains of restraint and oppression don't stop us from being free
 Once we embark on that day,
 American Progress will be achieved
 We're not there yet, but one day, we will be.

The Red Ball

by Diego Xocoyotzin Romero

I remember the red ball bouncing on the school yard asphalt always taking the same course past the jungle gym. I remember never kicking it anywhere else but there. I would spend the entire recess and lunch kicking the ball, chasing it, then kicking it back to where it previously was. Yet I had no interest in the ball itself. It was simply a means to an end for me, a method, an excuse to pass by the jungle gym so that I may pass near her. The girl in the yellow pigtails who chatted with her little entourage. For months I would kick the red ball past them or if I was feeling bold which to my memory only happened on two occasions would kick it towards them, and when one of them picked it up I would try to charmingly ask for it yet my request always came out meek and my tell-tale stutter would kick in. My face would then glow bright red in the otherwise gray school yard and upon being given the red ball I would mutter a small thanks and scamper away. At that point I would cease my flirtatious activities and hide of shame and embarrassment for a few days by an oak tree on the other side of the school yard. Yet my determination always won me over and I would return from exile to resume playing with my red ball.

Words were never exchanged between her and I, although once or twice as I perused my fickle wingman as it rolled away from me, I looked up and our eyes met. Yet this was short-lived for I would quickly avert my gaze and continued chasing my plaything with my short legs. My cheeks would grow hot with embarrassment as adrenaline pumped through my small body, causing my hands to tremble in the thin October fog. I would wonder as I ran, if by some miracle of God she would continue to stare at me after I had averted my gaze. The thought that her eyes may still look upon me caused me to walk as I thought James Bond did, with authority and confidence. I would puff my chest out as I approached the red ball and hold my head high. I would then pick it up in a slow motion as if I was in an action movie and her eyes were the camera that I played for. I would dress like James Dean, Orlando Bloom, or the Backstreet Boys, or whoever it was that I thought she would fawn over. I would try my hand at singing, drawing, running, and writing, anything that would make me stand out anything that would make me more than just the boy with the bouncy red ball. Yet in the end all I could do was continue to chase after it.

Every day for 158 days until the day she moved away I would bounce that red ball and every day at 12:00 I would return it to its small cage with its brothers and there it would wait for me to arrive the following day. Until on the 159th day it stayed in its small cage untouched, used up, tired, and dusty it had lost its daily playmate, just as I had lost my childish aspirations of love.

Touch

by Anuja Shukla

You have this age-old confidence about you,
 How not even a breeze can break you down.

You have this sharp way about you,
 It's like a disease trapped in a town.

I told you to come inside,
 What's mine is yours.

But you just shook your head,
 And played with your friends,
 And had the moon dance to your vision.

But that vision was corrupted,
 Like a bee stealing honey.

You have this way about you,
 That left me feeling.

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JIMMY LAI / HIGHLANDER

Mid-fielder Nerisse Bugho (no. 13) tries to keep possession of the ball away from two opposing players.

Women's soccer ends nine-game shutout streak in win over LBSU

JASON AHN
Staff Writer

OCT. 16, 2015

Highlanders 2 - 49ers 1

The UC Riverside women's soccer team continued to pave their way to a double-digit win season after their 2-1 victory over Big West foe, Long Beach State. The 49ers were 3-0 in conference play prior to the meeting. Going into Friday's match, UCR

and Long Beach State had similar records, as UCR stood at 8-5-0 overall and 2-1-0 in conference while the 49ers were 8-3-3 and 3-0-0.

The last time UCR went 3-0 in conference play was in 2011, which resulted in a conference title and an invitation to the NCAA Elite Eight. The Highlanders only need one more win to reach 10 total wins, which hasn't been accomplished since 2006.

Blanca Barrio scored both of UCR's goals on the evening, re-

cording five for the season and 16 points overall.

Barrio scored her first goal Friday in the 21st minute from outside the box. Brittany Mata was awarded the assist as Barrio curled the shot to the upper left corner of the goalpost. Not only did this goal give the Highlanders a 1-0 advantage, but it also ended Cal State Long Beach's nine-game shutout streak.

Barrio's second goal came early in the second half, from 25 yards out, with a solo shot

that went over McKeown. Long Beach would not score until the 70th minute as they were rewarded a penalty kick after UCR snagged a penalty in their box.

Long Beach's Ashton McKeown, who has been awarded four Big West Defensive Player of the Week titles this year, struggled to contain the Highlanders all night. This means she needed help from the offense. Yet despite LBSU having more opportunities to score — six of their 13 shots were on goal, compared

to three of UCR's seven — they were consistently unable to capitalize.

Perhaps this can be credited to Highlanders' goalkeeper, Elizabeth Silas, who stopped four shots compared to McKeown's one.

The star of the night was also the temporary villain, as Barrio was given a yellow card in the 85th minute of the game. However, UCR would hold the 49ers off for the remaining time and win the game. ■



JIMMY LAI / HIGHLANDER

Eric Gonzalez (no. 28) attempts to pass the ball under pressure from two defenders.

Men's soccer extends losing streak to four straight

ALEC HAROLD
Contributing Writer

OCT. 14, 2015

Anteaters 1 - Highlanders 0

The UC Riverside men's soccer team was on the road again this week, and this time they were up against Big West foe and fellow southern California rival, UC Irvine as the blue and gold looked to end their two-game skid.

Through the first half the Highlanders showed admirable effort, barely trailing the Anteaters in shots on goal, seven to nine. But when the half came to an end, neither team had scored, and the Highlanders' chances to end the two-game skid were in their sights.

This hope was dashed after two minutes into the second half, when UCR goalkeeper Ashkan Khosravi was given a red card and sent off. Subsequently, the Highlanders were forced to play with 10 men for the remaining 43 minutes of the game.

In the second half the Anteaters dominated the box score, with 11 shots on goal to the Highlanders' three. And in the 83rd minute, the Anteaters finally found the back of the net with a goal from Jamie Phillips who beat the Highlander defense for the only score of the contest.

OCT. 17, 2015

Matadors 1 - Highlanders 0

The UC Riverside men's soccer team was once again on the road for the fourth straight game this past Saturday, and despite a hard fought battle, the team dropped their fourth straight. This time to the Cal State Northridge Matadors, who, despite their mascot's reputation, let very little slip past them over the course of the game.

Early on, the Highlanders looked quite motivated after Wednesday's crushing loss, taking the first seven of the match's eight first-half shots as well as winning the corner kick battle four to zero. Yet despite their aggressive play, only two of the Highlanders' shots were on goal and CSUN goalkeeper Adam Hobbs turned both away.

The second half was more of the same as the Highlanders once again led the shots on goal column, eight to three. This effort once again fell flat, though, as in the 67th minute CSUN's leading goal score, Carlos Gonzales, found the back of the net for his fifth goal of the season, putting the score at 1-0, Matadors.

The Highlanders will look to get their second win in conference and their sixth on the year, when they take on UC Irvine at home this Wednesday at 7 p.m. ■

Women's cross country routinely dominates at Highlander Invitational, men disappoint

MYLES ANDREWS-DUVE
Senior Staff Writer

Over the years, UC Riverside cross country has proven most comfortable on its home course. At the UC Riverside Invitational held at (you guessed it) UC Riverside, the team has finished no worse than sixth place since 2005 and has earned three 1st place finishes in the process. The same holds for the team's own Highlander Invitational where, since the inaugural meet in 2012, the team has finished first on all but one occasion (where they placed 2nd overall).

Granted, the numbers above were solely drawn from the women's side. However, while the men haven't displayed an equal level of dominance as the women's squad, they have consistently had their best race of the year when treading along their own "backyard." Needless to say, Riverside meets have treated the Highlanders well over the years.

And this past Saturday was no different. For the women's team, that is.

The Highlander women saw a total of five runners finish

in the top 30 in the fourth annual Highlander Invitational with sophomores Faith Makau (17:17.63) and Weslie Totten (17:17.72) leading the way, finishing first and second overall, respectively; with Totten's time beating her previous personal record.

The rest of the top five wasn't too far behind with runners Dominique Dowell (13th), Briana Simmons (24th) and Emily Sanchez (27th) all clocking in around the 18-minute mark. The slowest finish for the team was junior Christina Shamirian's 20:13.20, placing her 65th overall.

Altogether, the women totaled 70 points to earn their third first-place finish in the tournament's four-year history and earned their first back-to-back title in that span as well. The next closest teams were San Diego State (81) and USC (87) to round out the top three.

After the success of the women early in the morning, the men's side had the opportunity to help UC Riverside walk away as Saturday's ultimate winner if able to engineer a dominant performance of their own. Though, to the surprise of many, they did not. Despite senior leader Cody

Jordan finishing first overall with a personal best of 17:43.8 and freshman Solomon Demeku-Ousman landing in fifth with a time of 18:06.63, the Highlanders finished fifth overall among the field of six with a total score of 90.

Aaron Nguyen (26th) was the next closest with a time of 18:46.41 while runners Garrett Hernandez (32nd), Carlos Lopez (33rd), John Green (41st) and Douglas Crasto (44th) rounded out the rest of the pack for the blue and gold.

The finish was a letdown for the Highlander men who were coming off a solid showing at the Stanford Invitational in September. Nevertheless, both sides move forward with their eyes set on a potential conference title at the upcoming Big West Conference Championships which will be held in Riverside on Saturday, October 31 at 9:15 a.m.

The men will be hard-pressed to pull out a title based on their overall lack of depth — which was clearly exhibited by Saturday's top-heavy finishes — but the women have a legitimate shot to come out on top that day and advance to compete for a regional championship come November. ■



AARON LAI / HIGHLANDER

Fourth-year Brianna Simmons pushes steadily ahead, as the finish line lies around the bend.

Despite strong first set, women's volleyball falls to UCSB

JASON AHN
Staff Writer

OCT. 18, 2015

Highlanders 3 - Gauchos 1

The UC Riverside volleyball team lost a faceoff on the road against UC Santa Barbara on Friday, 3-1.

To start the match, UCR took control and powered their way through the early set. It started with a close 6-4 lead over UCSB, and then a 10-5 lead, followed by a 13-6 score and then finally a 25-15 win. The Highlanders only had four errors in the first compared to UCSB's 10.

In the second set, UCR jumped out to a solid 8-4 lead, however, the Gauchos scored three in a row to cut the lead to one. There were several ties in this set, 13-13, 14-14, 16-16, 19-19, and then 20-20. Both teams fought each other off but UCSB would take the second set, with a final score of 25-20.

UCR would slow down in the third set, after leading early in the first two. They were behind for the entire duration of the third set. The Highlanders came back from a nine-point deficit, scoring six in a row, bringing it

to 16-19. Unfortunately, the Gauchos would take the set, 18-25.

The fourth and final set was more evenly matched. UCSB took three points early in the set, and eventually took a 10-point, 17-7 lead. The Highlanders showed their audacity by scoring six in a row bringing the game within three, but the Gauchos would end up scoring 25 and win the set.

The individual highlight for the Highlanders was Helena Peric, who lead both teams 14 kills, edging out UCSB's Phoebe Grunt who recorded 13.

After the loss, UCR currently has a 6-12 overall record and is 1-4 in conference. This is a huge improvement from last year's 2-26 overall and 0-16 conference record, yet their recent seven-game skid is quite concerning.

In the Big West conference, Hawai'i currently leads the league with seven wins and zero losses. UCR, meanwhile, sits in seventh place, with the same conference record as UCSB. UCR is two spots ahead of Cal State Fullerton who have lost all five of their conference games this year.

The Highlanders have their next match back home against UC Davis on Friday, October 23 at 7 p.m. ■



JASPERY GOH / HIGHLANDER

Helena Peric (no. 24) returns the ball by spiking it over the net, past two blockers.



Cristina Maietta (no. 10) attempts to return the ball.

SPORTS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

PREVIEW/PREDICTIONS FOR WEEK 3

OSAMA KHAN, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Champions League is well under way with week three upon us. And many fans across the globe are wondering what is to become of each team in their respective groups. As seems to be the case every year, the tournament has been quite unpredictable, with ridiculous upset victories and a rare four-way tie among Group B, leading a few teams to have unexpectedly high expectations.

NOTABLE INJURIES

To little surprise, there has been a rash of injuries throughout the Champions League thus far, here are a few of the most notable:

Sergio Kun Aguero, Striker, Manchester City:

Being already unable to play in previous league games due to concerns over a developing hamstring injury, Sergio Aguero has been closing out every game with less than a total of 10 minutes of game time. This, however, is going to be impossible, since that injury has fully developed and has caused him to be out for the next four weeks. On top of David Silva, Aleksander Kolarov and Gaël Clichy being out for a bit, the future of Man City seems uncertain.

Lionel Messi, Striker, FC Barcelona:

Spanish giants Barcelona have had their top player — one of the best in the world for that matter — Lionel Messi, put out on a knee injury for the next 3-4 weeks. With Iniesta and Messi out, the attacking side of Barcelona seems rocky and uncertain for the future.



KEY MATCHES/PREDICTIONS

(#) = Predicted goals scored

(2) Real Madrid v. (1) Paris Saint-Germain (Group A):

In arguably the most anticipated match of week three, these two teams will face off with some notable players not showing up on the pitch. Kareem Benzema, Luka Modric and most recently-injured Sergio Ramos will be missing from the starting squad as all of them are out with injuries. This doesn't seem like it'll dampen the competitiveness of Real Madrid in the slightest as the current top scorer of the league is the star of Madrid, Cristiano Ronaldo, who has five goals and a very aggressive 10 attempts on target. PSG will need to keep their defensive line strong if they want to stand a chance against the aggressive playstyle that Real Madrid has been offering as of late. Despite this, PSG will be a formidable opponent as star player Zlatan Ibrahimovic has been in top form lately, scoring two consecutive goals against Bastia. On top of this, Paris Saint Germain has had 10 consecutive wins in league matches and has won both of their opening games in the Champions League. Despite this victorious run in recent league games, with the current playstyle of Ronaldo and midfielders like Garreth Bale and James Rodriguez leading the pack, the offensive line will be in good hands. Marcelo along with an injured Ramos and Pepe will also be enough to hold back even the Zlatan. PSG will definitely put on a good show, but Real Madrid's relentless attacks will ultimately lead them to victory.

(1) Manchester United v. (0) Moskva (Group B):

With Range Rooney leading the pack, what could go wrong? Just kidding. But seriously, man. United has been in tip-top shape in the past couple months, earning victory after victory to nab them third place in the table of the English Premier League. Along with their recent victory of three goals to naught over Everton, Memphis Depay and Rooney seem to have it all figured out. It looks like it'll be a rough ride for Moskva. On the other hand, the proverbial hitmen from Russia have been dominating their league in the land of "The Reds," taking a recent three-goal victory over FC Ural. The real danger for Man. United lies in the forward line of Moscow. With Ahmed Musa and Seydou Doumbia taking charge, United's defense could crumble faster than the Soviet Union against these two. Although this may be the case, I think with Ashley Young and Bastian Schweinsteiger holding up the middle, United should be able to pull a victory over the Russians.

(1) Atletico Madrid v. (0) Astana (Group C):

Atletico have been holding up quite well despite having someone with a checkered past like Fernando Torres, former Liverpool star, taking the reins. Love him for his recent victories in Atletico or hate him for betraying Liverpool, Torres' recent performance in the Champions League has shown that he still has something to offer his team. Torres and Antoine Griezmann have been able to keep Atletico afloat, even claiming a draw against Spanish rivals, Real Madrid a couple of weeks ago. Astana, on the other hand, have been doing awful in the Champions League so far as they sit at the bottom of their table with one point. Even if they manage to beat Madrid, there is no hope for them to reach the top two of their table unless Madrid completely bombs the next couple of games. On the other hand, Atletico's win over Astana could place them at the top of their table or possibly cement the second slot above Galatasaray FC.

(2) Barcelona v. (0) BATE (Group E):

With Messi out of the picture, people have been wondering how Barcelona will fair throughout the rest of League. Filling his shoes seems impossible, but 19-year-old Munir El Haddidi has done an admirable job of taking his place. His footwork and speed has set him apart from other young strikers in the league and make him a true force to be reckoned with. Barcelona wouldn't swap out Lionel Messi for just any 19-year-old, but just because Messi is out, there is no reason to doubt the maelstrom that is FC Barcelona. With Neymar, Mascherano, Suarez and the rest of the all-star squad on the field, Barcelona shouldn't have any trouble against BATE. The Belarusian team recently has taken the top spot in their league, but even with such victories, the quality of the players in the Belarusian league isn't exactly on par with that of the Spanish league. They've done extremely well to make it this far, but with Barcelona playing a tight and fast paced game, BATE won't stand a chance.

(0) City v (2) Sevilla (Group D):

Although I am biased toward my favorite team (City for life), I honestly don't think they'll be able to pull it off this time. It's as if a curse has been placed on the Premier League leaders, as City has had countless injuries, with Aguero, Silva, Kompany, and many more going off the starting squad. On top of that, being placed into the group of death has not been boding well for City as they are currently placed third in the group. While they've been able to consistently keep a grasp on first place in the Premier League, the same cannot be said for their current play style in the Champions League. Hopefully, with the new additions of Raheem Sterling and Kevin De Bruyne, City will be able to stay strong and hold out but it seems like Sevilla will take this one. Sevilla isn't exactly the strongest opponent in the group, however, they've been doing decent in the league so far (as well having a hilarious goal against Eibar where Kevin Gameiro scored with his *ahem* nethers). I hope I'm wrong, but as it stands right now, I'm facing reality and predicting a loss for City.

(0) Chelsea v. (1) Kyviv (Group G):

All eyes are on Chelsea to be able to make a comeback in the tournament, as they've been performing under par thus far. Despite having a decent team comprised of Cesc Fabregas, John Terry, Radamel Falcao and Diego Costa, Chelsea hasn't been able to put up a good fight in the Premier League, currently standing at the 11th spot in the tables with no hope in the foreseeable future for them to climb into the top five, let alone the top three. Although they had a good run against Aston Villa with a win over two goals, Chelsea is in rocky shape as of now. Kyviv, on the other hand, have been holding their own this year, leading the top of the group with four points as well as dominating back home in the Ukrainian league to place 2nd thus far in the overall fixtures. Though Chelsea will put up a good fight, if recent games are any indication of the future, I think Kyviv will take this one and secure their spot at the top, leaving Chelsea to fall out of the group stages.

THIS YEAR'S GROUP OF DEATH

Group D: So, first, a little explanation of the group of death. With the way the drawings work for the UEFA Champions League, it turns out that every year there is a group that leaves a good amount of talented teams in one, highly-competitive group. This is deemed the group of death. The group usually has three or four equally good teams that leave the outcome of that

group the most uncertain, but at the same time, the most exciting. Manchester City this year has been unfortunate enough to be placed in this group with other clubs like Juventus, Sevilla and VfL Borussia. This is cause for concern, because despite Juventus losing their top three players over the summer transfers, they've been dominating with a stage-leading six

points, leaving Sevilla and City to duke it out for the second spot. Borussia seems to be that 4th team that's been unlucky enough to be thrown into the mix, saving the bottom spot for themselves with a depressing zero points. The future for this group seems uncertain, but let's hope that Aguero gets better and City rise to the challenge. ■