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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

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Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor **Jack Dindia** Lead News Editor

After over a month of negotiations between the Associated Students and University departments, library Late Night Study will be extended to operate from 1-3 a.m. on Sunday through Thursday, and will now open at 7 a.m. every day of the week.

In early September, the UC Santa Barbara Library quietly announced it would be closed from 1-8 a.m., as well as on all University holidays, starting at the beginning of this academic year. This decision was made as a part of UCSB's permanent budget reductions due to state and federal budget cuts, alongside rising operational costs. Students started a petition in response to the new hours, which garnered over 1,100 signatures.

of Understanding (MOU) signed between Associated Students (A.S.) and several campus entities, students have 24/7 access to study spaces in Phelps Hall (Room 1521) and the Humanities and Social Sciences Building (HSSB 1203).

The MOU is an agreement between the parties to facilitate the Late Night Study for the rest of the 2025-26 academic year and was signed by several A.S. members, the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, the UC Police Department (UCPD) and the UCSB Library.

According to the MOU, there will be a one-time transfer of \$20,000 from the A.S. Senate's unallocated funds to restore Late Night Study hours for the rest of the year. The remainder

of funds will be provided by other parties, and any unspent funds will be transferred back to the Senate. A.S. Internal Vice President and fourthyear history and global studies double major Enri Lala doesn't anticipate receiving any back.

According to Lala, it costs around \$60,000 to staff 24/7 Late Night Study hours, not including electricity and custodial staff. The additional Late Night Study hours will be staffed by student safety partners, student employees of UCPD who patrol the campus year-round, identifying safety hazards and assisting in emergency situations. Lala said the current arrangement of staffing will save "about \$12,000" in staffing costs.

When discussing budget reductions, library leadership conducted a cost-benefit analysis of library services and amenities to determine which resources were

most used. According to building occupancy data, patron activity is minimal during Late Night Study hours, except for Dead Week and Finals Week. Lala said that usage data will be analyzed throughout the year to routinely evaluate student needs.

The MOU states that, once full inquisitive funding is provided and received by the parties, UCPD will implement their staffing immediately. Representatives of parties will provide regular reports to the Senate on how A.S. funds have been utilized, including the disbursement of funds and how much remains at the end of each quarter.

Off-Campus Senator and thirdyear political science major Natalia Pascher stated the Senate did their best to "keep the fiscal impact in mind," including compromising with the library regarding reviewing the data on what times were most

utilized by students. Late Night Study will not extend to Friday and Saturday as according to Pascher, the library was "adamant" these days had "significantly less activity."

Lala and Pascher emphasized that the Association's goal is still to fully reinstate Late Night Study. Lala said he is "optimistic" about communication with the University going forward.

"Long term is a priority. We understand that with the current political climate and with the current economy, there are budget cuts and they will continue to probably squeeze and pinch the university for resources," Lala said. "[The MOU] reinstates late night study as soon as we have been able to get it done, and then it also ensures that we have time for long term discussion and [are] keeping an open line of communication with [the] campus."

# Department of Recreation promotes safety with Hallowheels



BLAKE ALLEN / DAILY NEXUS

#### Dylan Vo Staff Writer

UC Santa Barbara's Department of Recreation "Hallowheels," hosted Halloween-themed event, on Oct. 24. The event featured a roller skating rink, a silent disco, a movie screening and complimentary food as an alternative to Isla Vista parties.

The Department Recreation, in collaboration with the Department of Health & Wellness, Life of the Party, the Santa Barbara Independent, the Point Market Woodstock's Pizza. annually hosts Hallowheels to create a "safe" environment for UCSB students who celebrate Halloween.

Hallowheels, open only to UCSB students, offered free activities including roller skating, silent disco, a "Hotel Transylvania" movie screening, a photo booth, pumpkin decorating, cornhole, costume contests and food including pizza, candy and s'mores.

The Department Recreation's Assistant Director of Marketing & Creative Services, Amanda Hackelton, highlighted what she enjoyed the most about Hallowheels, such as attendees' unique costumes.

"I really like seeing everyone's costumes. I think people have some really creative costumes. feel like that's kind of a unique opportunity that we don't have year-round," Hackelton said.

Fourth-year financial MALLORY THAU / DAILY NEXUS

mathematics and statistics major Tiziano Bolanos said the event gave him an opportunity to try something new.

"I like the roller skating the most because I haven't done it before and it's fun. And they have the DI in there – shout out DJ Suze. The people that are working here, I think they're doing a good job," Bolanos said.

Second-year statistics and data science major Ryka Shekar shared a similar sentiment about the roller skating rink.

"I've done ice skating, but I've never done roller skating, so I wanted to see if the skills could transfer," Shekar said.

First-year biology major Kevin Gonzalez said he enjoyed the variety activities that were available during Hallowheels. appreciated the free food and the opportunity to go roller

"I'm glad I was able to [roller skate]. Just like dress-up, come here with some friends and stuff like that. And I'm looking forward to exploring what else I got, like the movie and the marshmallow and the s'mores," Gonzalez said.

First-year undeclared major Liv Weaver said she enjoyed the environment that the staff and attendees have created. She said that "everyone's got the vibes" and appreciated the variety of activities.

"They have all the stations I think roller skating is fun. I up, they have the movie up if anybody wants to watch it, so everything's already ready, and that's really good to see as well," Weaver said.



attendees in the audience.

Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor **Jack Dindia** Lead News Editor

The annual noise ordinance ahead of Halloween went into effect on Oct. 26. The Associated Students Office of the External Vice President for Local Affairs and other local entities hosted a town hall the previous Wednesday to hear questions and concerns

from residents. Every year, Isla Vista Foot Patrol (IVFP) enforces a noise ordinance from Oct. 26 to Nov. 4 to minimize the effects of a largescale Halloween celebration, including increased crime reports and littering. From 6 p.m. to 7 a.m., no amplified music or loud noises can be heard from 100 feet of each property. Town hall attendees primarily asked questions regarding the parameters and effect of the ordinance and law enforcement's priorities and protocol.

Panelists of the town hall answered questions through an anonymous Google Form and directly from attendees in the audience. The panel included IVFP Lieutenant Joe Schmidt, IVFP Community Resource Deputy Colby Carrell, UC Police Department (UCPD) Interim Chief of Police Matthew Bly and Isla Vista Community Services (IVCSD) District Director Katherine Carmichael. External Vice President for Local Affairs (EVPLA) and third-year political science major E.J. Raad moderated the town hall.

The first half of the panel was reserved for questions submitted electronically. When asked what the priorities of law enforcement were during Halloween, Schmidt answered that the IVFP and UCPD would be focusing on holding a "safe event" by sufficiently staffing police officers.

"There will be up staffing of deputy sheriffs and UCPD officers

in Isla Vista, in multiple teams to cover as much ground as possible, so we have enough resources to respond to calls for service and the anticipated increase in crowds."

Schmidt said. Bly also informed attendees of alternative Halloween events residents can participate in, in addition to UC Santa Barbara's "Hallowheels" event and a men's soccer game.

The next question was regarding the history of the noise ordinance on Halloween, which dates all the way back to the 1990s, when Halloween was an "extremely destructive event," according to

Schmidt. "Historically, there were numerous violent crimes, sexual assaults, cliff falls," Schmidt said. "I don't know the number of how many people have died, but I know there were fatalities in the duration of Halloween when it was unmanaged by the festival

ordinance." According to IVCSD General Manager Jonathan Abboud, who was present at the event, the ordinance was established in 1993. Daily Nexus coverage of the 1992 Halloween weekend states that 40,000 people were in Isla Vista on Halloween night. Over 1,000 people were arrested over the entire weekend and two people were in critical condition after falling from the Del Playa Drive cliffs. Yet, "the weekend was considered a success from a law enforcement standpoint," according to then-Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Public Information Officer Tim Gracey.

As far as how students are able to hold police accountable for not abusing their powers, Schmidt directed anyone who feels wronged by law enforcement to file a formal complaint through the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office (SBSO). Bly also directed students to utilize the UCPD Police Accountability Board, which serves as the primary go-between

for students and UCPD.

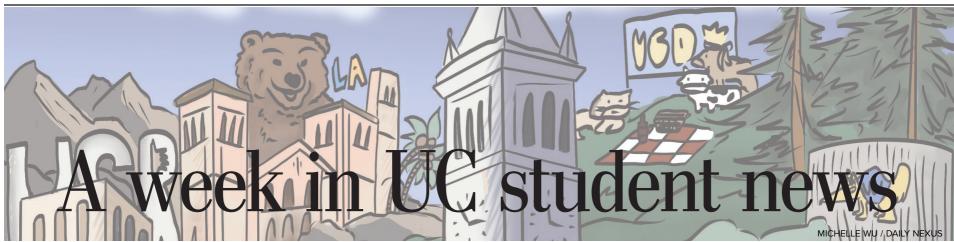
Regarding whether supports the claim that a noise ordinance decreases the number of medical incidents over the years, Schmidt clarified that he doesn't have that data. While he can't say with certainty how large the crowds currently get for Halloween, he said they used to have crowds of 30,000 to 40,000 people, and, "logically speaking," the medical calls have gone down

due to the lower turnout. Another attendee also asked if there is a better "feasible option" to allow I.V. residents to party during this weekend while simultaneously preventing outof-towners from "ruining it" for locals. Schmidt emphasized that non-locals don't have "the same love and respect for this amazing place," and that while he is open to suggestions, he doesn't see a "logistically possible way" to facilitate a normal weekend in I.V. while preventing out-of-towners from visiting.

"Some suggestions I've heard were 'Let's just seal off Isla Vista and only allow people who live here.' That's not logistically possible, nor is it constitutional. That would mean setting up roadblocks in Isla Vista, as it stands, is too porous. There's too many ways for people to get in. So it's just not a feasible option," Schmidt said. "I work at 6504 Trigo road, down the street there, Tuesday through Friday. If somebody has a better idea, I'm all

Multiple attendees whether or not restorative justice (RJ) will be in place during the ordinance, which is a program where students can get nonviolent misdemeanor charges removed from their record through taking classes and participating in community service. Carrell clarified that RJ will be canceled both Friday and Saturday within the ordinance, since violating the ordinance is "inherently against

Ordinance p.6



Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor

#### UC Davis research team advances cursor movement for people with paralysis

engineers, team Α of neuroscientists neurosurgeons at UC Davis discovered a way for the speech cortex of the brain to control a computer cursor, according to an Oct. 16 University of California press release.

Before this breakthrough, speech brain-computer interfaces (BCIs) were used to translate brain signals into synthesized speech, but it was "previously unknown" whether the ventral, speech or motor cortex could enable someone to use a computer via a neural cursor. According to the team's findings, which were

originally published in May, this ability is usually associated with the dorsal (arm and hand) motor cortex.

With these findings, future BCIs may allow a person with paralysis to control a computer using brain signals and is "proof that complex, multimodal BCIs are feasible," per the press release.

"There's a man with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) who can control his computer independently without someone else helping him for hours and hours every day. It's like this great event, and we might not have tried if we didn't have that prior research encouraging us to do that," Tyler Singer-Clark, a UC Davis biomedical engineering Ph.D. candidate and first author on the paper, said in the release.

**UCLA** releases federal

#### administration's proposed settlement

UC Los Angeles released the Trump administration's settlement demands regarding the University's alleged civil rights violations on Oct. 24. The demands were publicized after the UCLA Faculty Association and the Council of UC Faculty Associations won a lawsuit against the UC Regents last week over access to the settlement.

According to the Daily Bruin, President of the UCLA Faculty Association Anna Markowitz believes that making the settlement demands public will allow faculty to help oppose the settlement.

The demands include a nearly \$1.2 billion fine, a ban on overnight demonstrations and a ban on race and ethnicity-based scholarships, according to CNN. The federal administration presented

settlement to UCLA in August after it revoked \$584 million in grants over the summer.

"As stated previously, the proposed \$1.2 billion settlement payment alone would derail work that saves lives, grows our economy, and fortifies our national security," UC Office of the President spokesperson Omar Rodriguez told the Daily Bruin. "UC remains committed to protecting the mission, governance, and academic freedom of the University."

#### UC Merced celebrates 20th year of operation

The 2025-26 academic year marks UC Merced's 20th year in operation. UC Merced Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz reflected on the University's history at the 2025 State of the University address held on Oct. 22.

"[UC Merced's first chancellor,

Carol Tomlinson-Keasev] knew then, as I do now, that the people assembled to learn, to teach, to work and inquire at UC Merced have indeed been and remain categorically up to the task," Muñoz said at the event, according to the UC press release.

Muñoz highlighted several of the University's accomplishments, including an annual \$1 billion economic impact in Merced County, its advancement in national college rankings and its status as an R1 public research university.

During the event, Muñoz also announced that Keith Alley, "one of UC Merced's founding leaders," alongside his wife, Jill Alley, created an endowment for the University and pledged up to \$2 million for undergraduate research.



Jack Dindia Lead News Editor

#### UCSB Sustainability hosts 'Meditation Workshop: Creating a Soul Space'

UC Santa Barbara Sustainability is hosting a "Meditation Workshop: Creating a Soul Space" on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 4-5 p.m. at St. Michael's Community Garden.

meditative "This powerful practice is good for sorting through thoughts/emotions, calming the mind, and connecting to a safe space within yourself," the Shoreline description read.

All meditative experiences are welcome, including beginners and experts.

#### MultiCultural Center hosts 'Race Matters Series'

MultiCultural Center The (MCC) is hosting "Race Matters Series: Unlovable: Situationships, Sexism, and the Struggle for Real Connection" with Dr. Sabrina Strings on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5-7 p.m. at the MCC Theater and Lounge.

"In a world of dating apps, ghosting, and the so-called situationship, many-especially women and marginalized folks—are left questioning whether real love is still possible. In her groundbreaking book, The End of Love: Racism, Sexism and the Death of Romance, Dr. Strings reveals how the withholding of love has become a tool of control shaped by history and culture," the Shoreline description read.

The event is free for all students. Gaucho Gaming hosts 'Spooky Speedruns & Chills'

Gaucho Gaming is hosting "Spooky Speedruns & Chills" on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 7-9 p.m. at the Interactive Learning Pavilion Room 4105.

"Join us for a spooky night with Gaucho Gaming~! We will be running spooky horror game speedruns, casual freeplay, or join us just to hang out!" the Shoreline description read.

Snacks will be provided for attendees.

#### IHC hosts screening of 'The Conjuring: Last Rites'

The Interdisciplinary Humanities Center is hosting a screening of the film "The Conjuring: Last Rites" on Thursday, Oct. 30, from 8-10:30 p.m. at the Isla Vista Theater.

"Paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren take on one last terrifying case involving mysterious entities they must confront," the Shoreline description read.

The event is free for all students and \$5 for community members.

#### IVRPD hosts 'Halloween **Pumpkin Patch'**

Isla Vista Recreation and Parks District (IVRPD) is hosting its annual "Halloween Pumpkin Patch" on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 30 and 31, from 7-11 p.m. at Anisq'Oyo' Park.

'Celebrate the spooky season at Anisg'Oyo' Park on October 30th and 31st from 7 PM to 11 PM. This free, two-night event offers an immersive experience filled with pumpkins, costumes, games, and more!" the event's description read.

The event is free for all community members.

#### Department of Recreation hosts 'BIPOC Climbing Night'

The Department of Recreation is hosting "[Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC)] Climbing Night" on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 6-8 p.m. at the Recreation Center Climbing Wall.

"Join our climbing center staff for BIPOC Climbing Night! Enjoy a night of climbing and socializing at the UCSB climbing wall! This event is for anyone who wants to learn how to climb, as well as for anyone who already climbs and is looking for a fun night of socializing and beta swapping!" the Shoreline description read.

#### The event is free for all students. RHA hosts 'Global Glow'

Housing The Residential Association (RHA) is hosting Global Glow A Celebration of Traditions & Identity" on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Loma Pelona Center.

"Join us for an evening celebration of cultures and identities through vibrant music, crafts, and community from around the world! Experience the magic of Global Glow, where we'll blend global traditions with festive fall fun," the Shoreline description read.

The event will include a "Global Goodie Bar" with snacks and "World Halloween Trivia."

#### RHA hosts 'Fall Festival'

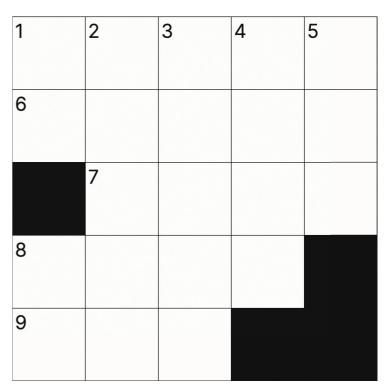
RHA is hosting a "Fall Festival" on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 3-6 p.m. at San Nicolas Lawn.

"Celebrate the Fall Quarter with us at RHA's Fall Festival--an afternoon full of cozy fall vibes, friendly competition, and sweet treats!" the Shoreline description read.

The event will include activities such as "Pumpkin Bowling," pumpkin painting, a pie-eating contest and apple dipping, as well as snacks and "seasonal goodies."

# The Daily Nexus Crosswor

**EVELYN TSANG / DAILY NEXUS** 



#### Sanchita Koppa Crossword Contributor

Across:

1. From the roots

6. To cut words short of direct meaning

7. A dosage, for short 8. UC Santa

Barbara department; how things grow, particularly in the ocean

9. UCSB department studying what you use to finish this crossword, abbr.

1. \_\_ Entertainment, South Korean entertainment company that led to the K-pop wave

2. "It's a sign of the \_ 3. "The \_\_\_ of my \_\_\_ is my friend"

4. UCSB department; "it's a small life after all"

5. Socioeconomic status, for

8. Between a single and an album



KAYLEE HEARTMAN / DAILY NEXUS



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# Senate discusses campus housing updates, bike enforcement plans

Wynne Bendell University News Editor Theodosia Terplan Reporter

The 76th Associated Students Senate heard updates on university housing developments and UC Police Department bike enforcement plans at its Oct. 22 meeting.

UC Santa Barbara has begun the first phase of a two-phase housing development project for undergraduate students. Housing, Dining & Auxiliary Enterprises Associate Vice Chancellor Willie Brown announced that construction has begun on the San Benito Student Housing project, which will provide 2,224 undergraduate students with apartment-style housing and is scheduled for completion in the

San Benito is replacing the Munger Hall housing project, previously part of the Mesa Verde housing proposal. In 2014, Berkshire Hathaway Vice Chairman Charles Munger proposed Munger Hall and pledged \$200 million to the plan, which was designed to house 4,536 single dorms on nine floors of the 11-story building. Many rooms did not have window access, so Munger proposed artificial LED panels to serve as virtual windows.

The lack of windows and density of the proposed dormitory sparked concern and drew national criticism, including comments from a campus architect who resigned over safety and design concerns. The University eventually abandoned the plan.

"We should have never gotten involved with Charlie Munger," Brown said. "That is costing us at least half a million dollars, maybe more, in terms of bad decisionmaking."

Despite UCSB only having space to promise first-year housing security, Brown is in favor of increasing the University's student population because it brings in more student fees and opportunities for development. He noted that the University has not been smart about its spending in the past and hopes that the University's new chancellor, Dennis Assanis, addresses the school's financial and housing problems in a "more collaborative

way." The university plans to add housing for 1,275 students on the east side of campus as part of the second phase of its housing project. UCSB has not yet begun construction on the East Campus Housing project, but plans to demolish the Santa Rosa Residence Hall at the end of the 2025-26 academic term, as well as open the new east-campus housing in the fall of 2028 according to Brown. He also said the University has the goal to convert Ortega Dining Commons into a 24-hour take-out

dining hall. Next, UC Police Department (UCPD) Corporal Ariel Bournes UCPD's Community shared Team's proposed Outreach solution to bicyclist and pedestrian collisions between the University Library and the Interactive Learning Pavilion. Bournes oversees the Community Outreach Team and introduced their focus on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). CPTED aims to encourage law abidance through environmental design, rather than more typical forms of enforcement, such as citations or arrests.

The city of Santa Barbara implemented pedlets, manufactured pedestrian walkways, as a form of CPTED, and Bournes suggested that UCSB could use pedlets as a temporary solution until the bike path, which will serve as the long-term solution, is completed.

"We're not necessarily going to be able to eliminate this issue as far as bicyclists and pedestrians intermingling, but we certainly can reduce the harm associated with it," Bournes said.

acknowledged Bournes that there are drawbacks to implementing pedlets, the most significant being how expensive they are for a temporary solution. Santa Barbara spent around \$528 thousand for each block of pedlets on State Street, and given UCSB's stricter safety and accessibility requirements, implementing them on campus would likely be more

Associated Students (A.S.) Off-Campus Senator and third-year economics and philosophy double major Noah Luken asked Bournes where he anticipated the funding would come from, and if that money would be better served if it went towards the bike path. Bournes admitted that he did not have an answer to that yet, as this plan is in its "beginning phase." He stressed the need for community collaboration in finding a solution and explained that UCPD will begin looking into details such as funding only after "logging the community's feedback."

First President Pro Tempore and second-year political science major Evan Sussman asked Bournes about UCPD's reaction to the recent crimes on campus. On Oct. 20, there was an attempted sexual assault in the grass area by the lagoon, along with anti-Black vandalism outside of the Arts Building. The Dean of Students addressed both incidents in a university-wide email on Oct. 22.

In response to the recent assault, the Chief of Police instructed the Community Outreach Team to design a new route that includes the lagoon area during the annual Lighting and Safety Walk, which addresses areas on campus that are dark or unsafe, and searches environmental solutions. Bournes said that as soon as he finishes designing the new route, he will email students to invite them to attend the walk.

Next, External Co-President Laura Snell and Vice President of Graduate Student Affairs (GSA) Patrick Tugwell reported they are in year two of restructuring GSA. They have plans to re-engage with different campus organizations, including the Senate, that they feel the GSA has not been connected with in previous years.

Snell explained that they have an increased budget this academic year, a majority of which will go to travel grants for research conferences and childcare grants for graduate student parents. They also have goals to request a

fee increase so they can hire staff. During public forum, fourth-year economics and environmental studies double major Leo Brown re-presented his initiative to put sustainable laundry detergent sheets in University laundry rooms in collaboration with an environmental justice startup Generation Conscious. The sheets would be offered to students for free and would begin as a pilot program partially funded by the Senate if passed. The project was referred to the advocacy committee.

Then, A.S. Attorney General and fifth-year economics and communication double major Taylor Iden suggested that the Senate write legislation that would make all Boards, Committees and Units (BCUs) follow Robert's Rules of Order - a guide for conducting meetings. This came from concerns over BCUs passing large amounts of money without taking attendance or recording votes during meetings.

Judicial Council (JC) chair and fourth-year political science and philosophy double major Josie Penix presented her summer project, the JC Bench Book, which lays out all the processes, procedures and rules of the JC. Penix said this project was inspired by the many "high-profile" cases the JC handled last spring that brought a lot of attention to their procedures.

Next, the Senate passed A Bill to Update Standing Policy 4 of Legal Code to codify that late additions to the Senate's agenda must be made aware to the Senate, and to remind senators to review all agenda points before the meetings, which was reported out of the liaison committee without amendments.

The Senate concluded by passing \$3600 in honoraria from Senate Unallocated to the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of hiring three additional caseworkers to have a "full bench" for each side of a trial.

# IVCSD implements I.V. parking compliance program

Iris Guo Community Outreach News Editor Elijah Obando Reporter

As part of an effort to address parking issues in Isla Vista, the Isla Vista Community Services District Board of Directors aims to implement a new parking compliance program in November, as discussed in an Oct. 28 meeting.

The plan is a continuation of Santa Barbara County's (SBC) efforts to establish a parking program in I.V., which was originally included in its I.V. Master Plan, passed in 2007 by the SBC Planning & Development department, which was known at the time as the SBC Planning Commission.

The plan's main objectives are to address health and safety concerns, solve mobility issues for pedestrians and disabled individuals and lower greenhouse gas emissions. To achieve this, it will enforce statewide parking regulations.

Parking has been a longstanding concern in I.V. due to high on-street parking occupancies. According to a previous presentation by Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD) General Manager Jonathan Abboud, several streets in I.V. regularly have 60-100% parking occupancy.

In order to gradually introduce the enforcement of parking, the IVCSD will unveil a parking compliance program mascot to the public that caters toward Gen Z according to Myah Mashhadialireza, IVCSD's Community Programs and Engagement director. The mascot, named Tina the Toad, serves to educate the I.V. community about parking laws in a "non-

"Tina is a toad who is sick of hopping around, looking for parking in Isla Vista. She cares about the safety of Isla Vista and wants you to totally care too,"

threatening" way.



The parking plan's main objectives are to address health and safety concerns, solve mobility issues and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Mashhadialireza said.

Campaigns with Tina the Toad will consist of tablings, banners and giveaways. They plan on having a banner above Pardall Tunnel featuring Tina so that students are reminded of the parking situation in I.V. Slips that are designed to appear as parking tickets with Tina the Toad will be placed on cars in I.V. with guidelines on safe and legal parking.

Sue Dixon, an I.V. resident for the last 40 years, expressed her concern for their own and others safety with the lack of parking enforcement.

"I personally have a lot of trouble with my driveway," Dixon said. "I don't feel safe pulling out because cars are parked so close in on it that I can't see what's coming.'

The plan includes parking alternatives, such as off-street parking exchanges with property owners that would promote onsite parking for potential residents. A list can be found on the IVCSD website's parking FAQ section.

In addition, the Isla Vista Cooperative offers complimentary membership as a way to enable I.V. residents to shop locally for groceries. This discourages the need to commute to grocery stores that are not in the I.V. area. However, if there is a need to drive, IVCSD promotes transportation alternatives such as the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) bus line and The Wave, a microtransit

service operated by the Santa Barbara MTD.

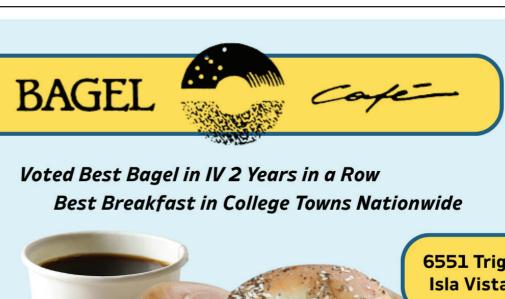
The IVCSD has been promoting alternative forms of transportation already.

"We've just been doing so much work on alternative transportation awareness that it'll just become a more and more regular part of our operations," Abboud said.

Once all technical parts are completed, the IVCSD will begin testing out enforcement through ticketing cars that are visibly not in compliance with established guidelines. However, in April, there will be a zerotolerance policy on any parked car not following regulations. Ticket prices have not been set at this

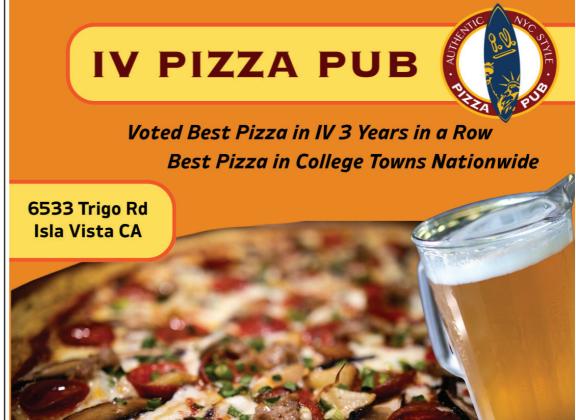
The IVCSD set a budget and secured funding for the plan between April and June, and the plan should be implemented by November based on a set timeline. According to Abboud, the plan will cost the IVCSD \$176,168 to operate for a year and would have to issue around one parking ticket per hour to earn revenue neutrality, or break even.

The program will be managed by three to five staff members including a project manager and parking ambassadors from the IVCSD's Public Works & Sustainability Department, who will be responsible for issuing tickets, customer service and community outreach on car alternatives.





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# Students bring Cachuma Café to Isla Vista



Cachuma Café has had several pop-ups around campus and I.V.

**Lucy Wellons** Staff Writer Noura Elkhatib Reporter

Cachuma Café is a new studentrun pop-up cafe where UC Santa Barbara students can have drinks such as the kulfi cold brew, tiramisu cold brew and the Cachuma sunrise while supporting the UCSB Rowing team and other organizations.

Shubham Shroff, founder of Cachuma Café and fourth-year statistics and data science and economics & accounting double major, said his idea to start the pop-up has been "brewing for a while now." It all started last winter quarter, when his roommate bought a brand new espresso machine. After experimenting with a variety of drinks for his friends and teammates, they encouraged him to start Cachuma Café.

Despite the support he received from his peers, starting the cafe was an initially daunting task for Shroff.

"All my friends really loved it, and they're like, 'You know what? You lowkey have something here, you should start a pop-up of your own, Shroff said. "I laughed it off at the time. I was like. 'I don't know, it just seems scary. I've never started my own business, so I don't know if I want to do all that.' But you know, the rest is history!"

Shroff spent the past summer planning and preparing the debut of his business, including creating a logo, an Instagram account, the drink menu and a website. He also chose the name, taking reference from Lake Cachuma, where the UCSB rowing team practices and where the initial proceeds from the events have gone. As a member of the rowing team, he felt that he wanted to give back to his

community. "The name Cachuma is based on Lake Cachuma, and it's personal to me, because that's where the rowing team practices every day. So I wanted to share that with the

students at UCSB," Shroff said.

Cachuma Café partners with Mayorga Coffee, a sustainably sourced organic coffee brand that imports beans from Latin America. Mayorga Coffee's mission is to empower underrepresented

farmers, and they supply all of the coffee beans for the small business.

"They actually sent us a five-pound bag for our first pop-up, and they were like, 'We'd love to keep working with you and your fundraisers in the future," Shroff said.

Their menu, which can be found on their Instagram, currently offers cold brews made from scratch. However, Shroff noted that he is looking to expand the menu to include matcha and espresso-based drinks. Since its launch, Cachuma Café has had two advertised pop-up events. The first occurred out of an apartment in Isla Vista, and the second was held at the Isla Vista Community Center as a part of the Mini Market Series hosted by Thriftopia I.V.

"For our first pop-up, which was friends and friends of friends, the tiramisu was definitely the most popular. But for the second one, we actually sold out of the kulfi cold brew in like an hour and a half, and we were there for four hours," Shroff

Although the profits have only been directed toward the rowing team, Shroff is looking to expand the business by collaborating with other clubs and student groups on campus. Cachuma Café's next pop-up will be in collaboration with Taara, a competitive Bollywood fusion dance team on campus.

Shroff highlighted the legal struggles in starting up the business. Cachuma Café obtained a permit to run the pop-up as a fundraiser but noted that, for the business to become more profitable in the future there would need to be more

paperwork involved. The city doesn't make it easy to find all of the forms and [get] all of these permits. So that was definitely the hardest part. I had to call so many different departments only to not get answers from anyone," Shroff said.

Shroff emphasized the role of his friends in the formation of the business and the community that he has been able to create with Cachuma Café.

"They're doing everything, like whatever I needed them to do. They'd be my baristas; if I needed any ingredients, if I needed people to come, they'd be there to do it ... It definitely wouldn't be possible without them," Shroff said.

# Game room opens in University Center thanks to student initiative

Dalia Puchalt Reporter

The University Center's brand new game room hosted its grand opening on Oct. 21. Now fully operational, this project is the result of a longstanding effort by select UC Santa Barbara students to introduce a space in the Hub where students can play games and socialize - all free of charge.

Game Room attendant and fourthyear communication major Amina Ahmed dubbed the ceremony "a success" with a turnout of over 100 students, a feat she attributed to efforts by University Center (UCen) staff in the weeks prior to the event. Ahmed noted that, since the room's opening, a steady community of returning visitors has emerged, and the sign-in sheets have been filled daily.

"I'm a part of the social media team here, and we were telling people upstairs and tabling for a couple [of] weeks before," Ahmed said. "We had posted a few TikToks about it and made a couple of flyers, so we had been advertising for a while before it opened."

Located adjacent to Panda Express in the Hub, the room features games such as pool, air hockey, pinball, shuffleboard, bumper pool and arcade-style video games. The room is free for all students with access cards and is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Fridays and 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

The new addition to the UCen is the result of a sustained student initiative dating back three years. In early 2022, a group of students came into UCen Director Louis Reynaud's office, noting that there were no activities in the UCen



The game room features games such as pool, air hockey, pinball, shuffleboard, bumper pool and arcade-style video games.

that could be accessed for free. Reynaud in October 2022 with renderings recalled that these students had specific criteria for the new space. "They suggested a 'game room/

arcade' where students could socialize, play games and blow off some steam and help them deal with the pressures of the everyday student. I told them I would find the space, but they would have to survey students to see if there was a 'real' interest," Reynaud said.

The resulting survey was a QR code questionnaire, which revealed that 92.8% of students surveyed were highly interested in the project. Participants could also request specific games. All were implemented, excluding foosball, which has been supplemented with a bumper pool table.

Prior to its renovation, the selected room in the Hub served only as a storage space for tables, chairs and electrical equipment. The group of students measured the space and used the survey data to design it accordingly, producing the current layout.

The proposal was presented to the UCen Governance Board (GB) of the room design and an initial requested budget of \$50,000. The GB unanimously voted to approve the game room and proceed with the project. According to Reynaud, the project was delayed for some time. The final quote for the game room was received in March 2024, and renovations - including new flooring, paint and lighting - were completed by May 2025. The game units were installed in the following months.

As a UCen staff member, Ahmed emphasized the role of student initiative and communication in executing these projects. "We're here to listen to concerns.

It might not happen immediately, but if you have something you want to happen [in the UCen], I would suggest advocating and letting the administration know because a lot of the time they're not really sure what students want," Ahmed said. "The game room came back because of student suggestions. [Admin] knew there was a demand for it."

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# American Indian and Indigenous Collective creates community spaces and resources

Iris Guo Community Outreach News Editor

At the American Indian and Indigenous Student Association Center, Indigenous or nativeidentifying students can find a community space and access resources.

The center is located in Room 107 of Building 434, directly next to Counseling & Psychological Services. The American Indian and Indigenous Student Association (AIISA) is part of the UC Santa Barbara American Indian & Indigenous Collective (AIIC), a space that connects Indigenous undergraduate students, graduate students and other community members collaborate and build community.

Julia Gore, a fourth-year economics and accounting major and AIISA's native families rapid rehousing coordinator, said that any student who is native or Indigenous-identifying, but doesn't necessarily have to be affiliated with a tribe, can find community at AIISA.

together "Our mission as a center is to provide a community and a comfortable environment, as well as a family to our native students here," Gore said. "We are trying to help students find a community as well as somewhere they can feel comfortable and accepted for who they are."

At AIISA, students can attend events including workshops and mixers. The six staff members provide access to resources in food security and housing. Additionally, AIISA works to journey to their current roles in educate the larger student body on native culture, history and presence.

"We're working to provide understanding and education for students in general on the land that UCSB is on, and how we can respect that as visitors," Gore said.

UCSB is located on the land of the Chumash people. which Gore said the AIIC has established a relationship with.

"As a community, we've always had a relationship with the local Chumash community members," Gore said. "In terms of how that started from time before, I have no idea, because it's a long-lasting relationship that has been established for over a decade."

One particular Chumash community member is Mia Lopez, who Gore describes as an "auntie" to members of

"She's always worked to take care of the AIISA students because she knows that there is a disconnect coming to a predominantly-white institution for Indigenous students," Gore said. "Especially being away from our communities and our culture and our families because it is different for all of us."

addition to AIISA, In the AIIC also supports the American Indian Indigenous Cultural Resource Center (AIICRC), which is a part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and serves as an additional space for resources through programming, advising and scholarships.

According to McKinley a fourth-year McPherson, sociology major and AIICRC peer mentor, both groups often collaborate and share the mission of "building a sense of community and closeness for students," but are not officially connected.

According to the UCSB Office of Budget & Planning, only around 1% of the student body identifies as American Indian or Alaskan Native.

McPherson said that one of the struggles of being a part of the Indigenous population on campus is that it sometimes feels "kind of heavy being Indigenous" due to "feeling pressure to represent our community."

Gore and McPherson are both pursuing a minor in American Indian and Indigenous studies. Both said taking courses for the minor contributed to their the AIISA and AIICRC.

'I decided to do the minor because I am in a tribe that's in Oklahoma, and I just wanted to get a little bit closer to my roots," Gore said. "One of my professors was Margaret McMurtrey, and in that class I was able to get exposed to more of the center and also AIISA and to be able to get more involved in knowing the resources that are here for students like me."

Additionally, Gore McPherson said that both groups share an overarching goal of conducting more outreach so that more Indigenous students on campus know about the resources available to them.

'We want everyone to feel seen, and I know native folks can be shy," McPherson said. "We just like meeting people where they are."



UCSB is located on the land of the Chumash people, which Julia Gore said the AIIC has established a relationship with.

# Daily Nexus Cluesearch

## Halloween Edition

Q 0 В Χ В C Ε Ε R N NS ΤE J H Y D V W N Y C B X U L F

**Andrew Wang** Games Editor

#### Clues

1. Orange plant night that gets carved

orange and yellow

3. What you say in October at the door to get candy

4. Subgenre of movies that are that is stopped by

popular in October garlic and stakes

5. What people

6. Another name 2. Little triangle for a ghost, also candy that is white, the name of the stores that pop up

> 7. A dead creature that loves brains

> 8. Α creature

9. A creature that wear on Halloween is stopped by silver



BROOKE POLLOCK / DAILY NEXUS

# Hindu YUVA hosts Diwali celebration on campus



During the event, conversation filled the air as students decorated diyas.

#### Sahasra Nistala Reporter

The UC Santa Barbara chapter of Hindu YUVA hosted a Diwali celebration on Oct. 23, a day after the completion of the holiday's five-day festival.

According to the Hindu American Foundation, in the Hindu tradition, Diwali is the celebration of the victory of good forces over evil, with traditions varying from region to region. Hindu YUVA (Youth for Unity, Virtues and Action) is an organization with chapters across North America that creates programming for college-age Hindus and provides them with a faithbased community. According to their website, they aim to "share the values and teachings

of Hindu Dharma," or the "Hindu way of life."

During the event, conversation filled the air as students decorated divas, small clay lamps that are lit on Diwali to symbolize the triumph of light over darkness. Attendees also listened to cultural music and snacked on samosas. Some club members noted that building a community around their cultural identity is very

important in their daily lives. "We try to do as many activities [as we can] to bring us closer to Hindu culture," third-year chemical engineering major and Vice President of Hindu YUVA at

UCSB Samruddhi Gulgunje said.

writing

and

Sareena

First-year

literature major

Kumar said that these events are helpful in a large school environment.

"You can find a good group of people who you can connect with through culture," Kumar said.

In addition to helping Hindu college students find a sense of community and belonging through shared traditions, Hindu YUVA also plays a role in broader Hindu acceptance. The organization works to "raise awareness about Hinduphobia in the US" and advocate for the protection of Hindu rights across the globe.

"You want to find your group of people – your little family - when you're so far away," first-year biochemistry major Shruthi Seluka said. "I thought it was pretty cool."

# UCSB groups host discussion on militarism and climate change

Maggie McGair Reporter

The Bren Environmental Justice Club and UC Santa Barbara Researchers Against War joined representatives from the international nonprofit Veterans for Peace on Oct. 20 to discuss the United States military industrial

complex and climate crisis. light of the release of Abby Martin's film "Earth's Greatest Enemy," and featured three speakers: Jim Rine, a U.S. army veteran representing Veterans for Peace, Summer Grav. an associate professor environmental studies at UCSB, and Crystal Kim, a fifth-year physics Ph.D. candidate representing UCSB Researchers Against War (R.A.W.). After presentations from each speaker, the event transitioned into an open discussion in which audience members shared their thoughts about the balance between national security and environmental consciousness.

With over 750 overseas military bases in at least 80 countries, the U.S. military is the largest in the world. The U.S. Department of Defense receives 56% of Congressional discretionary spending, amounting to \$872 billion in 2024, and accounts for 40% of world military spending.

According to the Climate and Community Project and the United Kingdom-based think tank Common Wealth, militaries across the world account for 5.5% of total global emissions. Accounting for at least three quarters of global military presence, the U.S armed forces are by far the largest contributor. In comparison, total civil aviation accounts for just 2% of emissions. This makes the U.S. military the single largest contributor to global climate

The U.S. military's environmental footprint encompasses more than simply carbon emissions. According to Martin's film, military testing and combat also affect natural habitats, cause displacement and impact air and water quality all across the globe.

The Bren Environmental Justice Club hosted a showing of "Earth's Greatest Enemy" at the Isla Vista Theater on Oct. 19. The investigative documentary addresses the environmental cost of the U.S. "military Empire."

Gray praised because it "flips the script" on carbon emissions. Martin suggests that rather than asking individual people to reduce their carbon footprint, people need to flip the blame on the military and the large corporations that benefit from congressional military funding for creating a system that perpetuates climate change.

"The issue is structural," Gray said.

Cindy Piester, a Veterans for Peace representative who also attended the event, applauded Martin for her commitment to exposing an institution that has long evaded accountability

for its environmental impact. an incredible,

groundbreaking film shows unprecedented, riveting footage ... with the idea of showing the population the realities of what the United States militarism and wars are doing to the ecosystem, the planet, the people and the climate," Piester said.

The talk-in also explored The talk-in was held in the implications of military funding in research — an issue that strikes close to home for UCSB students. According to R.A.W. Representative Kim, UCSB receives more funding from the top five private military contractors than any university in the UC system, with the majority going towards engineering research. Kim says that military funding is usually not explicitly for military technological innovation, but advancements from university research are integrated into military technology later on. Kim argues that this allows the military to covertly fund products, blurring the ethical line for researchers.

"What does [military funding] actually mean when so much of science research is funded by the military?" Kim

According to Kim, at least two products created by UCSB researchers are actively being used by the U.S. military. For example, the material science department created composites which are now integrated into F-35 fighter jets being sold to militaries around the world.

"So there's this direct link between research done here at this university to bombs being dropped in other countries," Kim said.

Kim also noted how state disinvestment in the UC system has led to an increase in alternative funding from military contractors.

At several universities such as Stanford University, UC Santa Cruz and UCSB, some researchers have signed pledges refusing to partake in military-funded research. However, these numbers are relatively small as only 36 pledges have been collected at UCSB, according to Kim. Kim says this is because this is a lot to ask of researchers:

'That's really cutting off a lot of [researcher's] options. And I think people are afraid of that," Kim said.

The event organizers reiterated the importance of having conversations about this topic. Lenaya-Aiden Gonzales, a second-year environmental science and management masters student and co-leader of the Bren Environmental Justice Club, encouraged UCSB students to keep being curious about this issue.

"I think you need to keep learning, keep questioning, keep understanding you're reading and fight the propaganda as hard as you can ... I grew up in a military family, and I'll always feel a certain way towards the military ... But my heart isn't closed to the fact that that might be a lot more complicated than just the good it's done for me and my family."



The investigative documentary addresses the environmental cost of

the U.S. "military Empire."

# UCSB music department brings keys to campus

Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor **Jack Dindia** Lead News Editor

On the Sunday evening before the school year began, David Holmes was unloading musical instruments for an upcoming performance when he heard someone nearby playing the piano. Holmes paused to appreciate the music and the impact that the Department of Music's "Keys on Campus" program is having on campus culture.

"There was a lady out there sitting at the piano, playing the most beautiful music," Holmes said. "I just kind of stood there listening. And it was beautiful."

If you've been on the UC Santa Barbara campus these past few weeks, you might've experienced situation on account of the Department of Music's pianos. According to Holmes, the chief administrative officer of the department, this program is part of a larger initiative to revitalize the music department with a "student

Holmes emphasized that the program was made possible through a team effort, which includes but is not limited to piano technician Ian Shafer and student assistants who help tune the pianos.

The planning began in early 2025, when the department conceived the idea to bring music to campus. They realized they had several pianos with condition issues that were no longer usable for their needs, but could still be

"Why not? I mean, what are we going to do, just push them into the dumpster? So what's the alternative? Let's get some life out of them. Let's get some playing out of them," Holmes said. "So it's a new thing, we're still learning as we go."

The pianos were placed on campus right before the start of the academic year and are located in several areas, including one in the Arbor walkway and two near the Music Building. According to Holmes, the team behind the program has been adjusting to unforeseen circumstances along the way, including weather.

"We caught unexpected rain and realized that we didn't have adequate covering for them. So the teams adjusted. They actually found a great cover, waterproof covers that are made for barbecues," Holmes, whose office sits near one of the pianos, said.

Holmes said that since starting his current role roughly six years ago, he's wanted to open the department's resources to students, including those outside of the major. He highlighted several examples of the music department pushing toward this goal, such as offering storage space to Pops Orchestra, a student-run organization, reconstructing a recording studio and allowing

non-music majors to use the department's harp.

"I tend to think of what we do here is we make music happen. We're here to make music happen. And who are the people that are here, students, right?" Holmes said. "You fit those things together, and you help that inform the direction you go."

pianos' remains in question, since they are ultimately exposed to the elements and have already served their purpose for the department. However, department committed to possibly expanding the program to other places on campus and offering music opportunities to students.

"The number of people using those has just been phenomenal. [There are] almost always people on them, and it just kind of says that people are screaming to have this," Holmes said. "I see people standing or deciding to just sit out there on the ledge over there by the [Multicultural Center], listening to the random person [playing the piano] that could be a grad student in engineering."



This program is part of a larger initiative to revitalize the music department with a "student focus."

## **ORDINANCE**

the ethos of restorative justice."

first attendee inquired into a safety tip in an Oct. 20 campus-wide email sent by UCSB Student Life. The email stated that students should "not carry any props with [their costumes]; officers will confiscate anything that could be potentially used as a weapon."

Schmidt acknowledged that, although the email didn't come from the IVFP, the tip was "vague" and that law enforcement was mainly focused on checking replica firearms instead of all props.

Another attendee asked how I.V. residents can support law enforcement and firefighters during the Halloween weekend. Bly said that voicing your opinion at events such as this one is

important and reminded the questions from the audience. The as much as possible." Bly also encouraged people to comply with law enforcement orders when ambulances are making their way through dense crowds.

Continued from p. 1

Carrell recommended that those hosting parties outside of the ordinance period be aware of who's at their house. He said that law enforcement can step in if someone refuses to leave your residence and, "as there's no major felonies occurring on your property, [officers are] gonna walk away the same way [they] came

Carmichael highlighted the Good Samaritan Law, which may protect someone who's helping a person in an emergency from civil liability if additional injury occurs

during the incident. She also Raad proceeded to take audience to "keep things local directed attendees to UCSB's Party Safety Tips.

> Another attendee asked what the protocol would be if law enforcement came across undocumented student when issuing citations, since identification is often collected during these incidents. Bly said that the student would receive a citation like any other student since a student's information can be "[verified] through other records checks."

Carrell also added that for "95%" of his contacts on an average Friday night, no one has identification on them. Those receiving the citation can show a picture of their ID on their phone or a California ID, which some undocumented individuals can obtain.



# 



# Wild Tea Leaf: your next matcha destination



The outside ambiance of Wild Tea Leaf makes for the perfect study spot.

#### Pihu Jain Paseo Nuevo complex) to be a great On The Menu Editor curator of matcha.

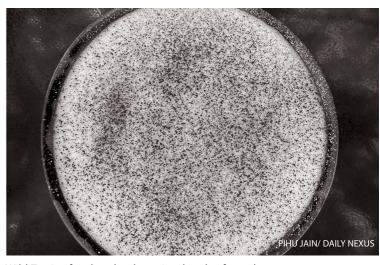
Matcha, a powdered green tea drink originating from Japan via China, has taken the internet by storm, making appearances in popular culture – just look up performative males if you haven't heard of them — and in every restaurant, cafe and food joint possible. If you've been to Freebirds recently, you'll see they have their own version of matcha now, as well (which I have yet to try, but am looking forward to). I myself discovered the drink two years ago, around the time I made my firstever trip to Kin Bakeshop here in Santa Barbara. While I found the drink too grassy for my tastes at first, I slowly grew to appreciate its earthy freshness. Now, two years into my matcha residency, I can say that I have developed a keen sense for good matcha and can somewhat differentiate between good matcha and its subpar counterparts. That's how I can, with decent confidence, proclaim Wild Tea Leaf (located in downtown Santa Barbara in the

An important thing to know about me is that I am a Paseo Nuevo Cinemas defender, and I especially love that they don't charge you extra for jalapeños with your popcorn (which I hope hasn't changed since I last visited). Perhaps, in my fervor to see the latest horror flick (last one I watched there was "Sinners," which I highly recommend), I never glanced the other way, for right across the theater is the impeccable Wild Tea Leaf teahouse. The Wild Tea Leaf teahouse's claim to fame is its wild, organic, fair-trade tea that hails from family farms and lacks pesticides and additives typically found in matcha.

After perusing the menu, I decided I wanted the novelty experience the teahouse offers, one of which is its bowls of matcha. While I do find \$10 to be a steep price, there is an appreciable amount of matcha in a bowl (took both me and my roommate to finish it) and I enjoyed the visceral experience of the bamboo bowl.

There's something about drinking from the bowl, unable to run away with your drink to Brandy Melville or the next best destination, which forces you to be wholly in the moment. Though I was swamped with work (as one tends to be nearing the middle of the quarter), I was able to put my worries aside and be in the here and now. While it was a bit too watery for my taste (I like a creamier, milkier matcha), it carried through in its matcha flavor. The powder on top and on the edges of the bowl added to the experience for me, especially as someone who now craves that grassier flavor. The matcha was made with oat milk, which you could taste a hint of in the drink, so I would also recommend trying to get a whole milk substitute for those like me that don't like the oat taste. Overall, Wild Tea Leaf excels in its presentation, ambience and, most importantly, in the authenticity of

If you're looking for your next authentic matcha fix, Wild Tea Leaf is the place to go!



Wild Tea Leaf makes the dreamiest bowls of matcha.

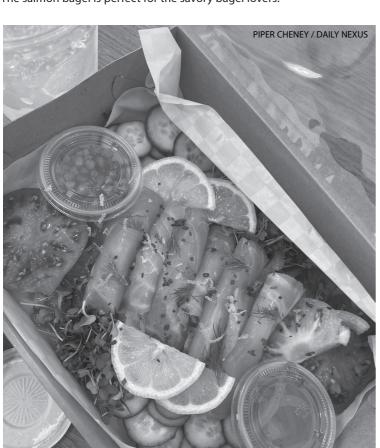


Bamboo bowls are the perfect drinking vessel for a grassy matcha.

# I <3 Mother Dough Bagels



The salmon bagel is perfect for the savory bagel lovers.



For those willing to spend an extra buck, order the lox box.

## **Piper Cheney** On The Menu Editor

I have officially found my favorite bagel shop in Santa Barbara. In the heart of downtown, a charming pink and green shop holds the delicacies. Mother Dough Bagels, located at 604 Santa Barbara Street, lures in locals with their homemade sourdough bagel, unlike any other I've tried.

At Mother Dough, every bagel starts with a 48-hour natural fermentation of sourdough. The process results in a hand-rolled, boiled and baked bagel with a thin, crispy exterior and a light. chewy crumb. They use organic flour, kosher sea salt, barley malt syrup, extra virgin olive oil and water — such simple ingredients making a one-of-a-kind bagel.

The Philippines-born and NYC-raised owner, Jennifer Gonzalez-Neely, brings a unique take to bagel flavors. Mother Dough introduces creative Asian flavors like furikake (seaweed and sesame) and offers intriguing schmears such as gochujang- and



My personal favorite is pictured here, the heirloom tomato bagel.

tobiko-flavored cream cheese. But if you're not a fan of that, don't worry, they also have the classics: everything, poppy seed, sea salt and sesame bagels. The spreads include garlic herb, sea salt and whipped honey butter. My favorite combinations as a Mother Dough vet are the gochujang cream cheese on a furikake bagel or, if you're in the mood for something sweet, the whipped honey butter cream cheese on a sea salt bagel.

If you're craving more than just a classic cream cheese and bagel, Mother Dough also offers fresh toppings to spice up your bagel. You can add avocado, tomato and/or lox to make an openfaced special bagel. The salmon bagel is soft and savory, and will fill you up until your next meal. The heirloom tomato bagel is my personal favorite. The thick, salty slices of tomato against the cold cream cheese of your choice (I like the garlic herb) is what I dream about eating for breakfast every

morning. A glass of iced coffee from Mother Dough also deserves all the praise. With housemade syrups ranging from toasted coconut to caramel miso, there's something for every coffee lover. If you come during fall, the maple sea salt syrup over an iced latte is a must-try. One glass will have you ready to conquer the day and pairs excellently with any of the Mother Dough bagels.

However, these bagels can be difficult to get your hands on. The shop is only open during the weekend: Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. On the weekends, you can expect to see a long line exiting out of the shop. You should plan to arrive early because the bagels sell out quickly, and there's nothing worse than your dream bagel being all sold out.

If you're in Santa Barbara and craving a bagel that's far from ordinary, Mother Dough is worth the stop. Chef-inspired, carefully crafted and rooted in local ambition, it's a refreshing take on a breakfast staple. And if you're a bagel enthusiast who knows what you're looking for, you're likely to appreciate the effort Mother Dough makes.

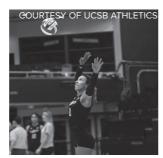


## **GAMES OF THE WEEK**



vs. UCI

The UC Santa Barbara men's soccer team played against UC Irvine on Saturday, Oct. 25. The final score was a draw of 0-0, making this the first season ever that the Gauchos tied seven matches.



**3-1** 

vs. UCR

The UC Santa Barbara women's vollevball team played against UC Riverside on Saturday, Oct. 25. Freshman outside hitter Gabi Martinez led the team with 18 kills and 15 digs.



2-0

vs. CSUN

The UC Santa Barbara women's soccer team played against California State University, Northridge on Thursday, Oct. 23. The Gauchos had a total of 15 shots.

# UCSB clinches with another shutout win

#### **Haiden Rogers** Sports Editor

The UC Santa Barbara men's soccer team played against State University, California Sacramento on Wednesday, Oct. 22. The Gauchos beat the Hornets 2-0, clinching them a spot in the Big West Championship tournament.

To start the match, the Hornets were set back in a defensively

took this as a sign to stay on the ball and attack. They did just that and more, controlling the ball for the majority of the match and creating multiple opportunities to score, totaling a whopping 25 shots in this

"The big change for them was they came out with five defenders, something we hadn't seen from them all vear, and with the five defenders you've got no choice but

really important to finally get that first goal, especially in the first half," UCSB Head Coach Tim Vom Steeg said.

The first goal from UCSB came at minute 26. Freshman forward Steinar Bjornsson found himself with the ball in space and fired a shot that snuck through the opposing goalkeeper's legs, putting the Gauchos up 1-0. UCSB continued to maintain possession on the goal to no avail until the whistle blew for halftime.

After the half, there were no changes in the tide of the game for UCSB. The next time the ball found the net came at minute 59 when graduate midfielder Thomas Noordegraaf played a pass to senior forward Nicolas Willumsen, who took a shot that found

the bottom corner of

the goal for his first

Gauchos.

made the score 2-0 in favor of the

The Gaucho defense held strong to close out the game for a final score of 2-0, making them undefeated in their last 10 matches. This was the Gauchos eighth shutout performance and fourth multi-goal performance this season.

The UC Santa Barbara men's soccer team is set to play Cal State



# Gauchos clinch Big West tournament spot on senior night

Haiden Rogers

Sports Editor The UC Santa Barbara women's soccer team had their senior night

dominant offensive performance. In the beginning of the first half, the Gauchos came out with

an aggressive game plan. This

matchup against UC Riverside

on Sunday, Oct. 26. The Gauchos

defeated the Highlanders 3-1 in a

paid off quickly in minute 13 when senior defender Camryn Sailor found the back of the net with assists from senior forward Haley Phillips and sophomore forward Isabella Ong. After this goal, the Gauchos kept the aggression, firing off multiple on-target shots that the Highlanders did well to defend. The rest of the first half was a battle of possession that UCSB took control of but were

unable to score. The halftime whistle blew with the Gauchos

To start the second half, the Highlanders came out strong and took the Gaucho defense by surprise. They leveled the score 1-1 in minute 50. UCSB was looking to respond immediately, and they did in minute 72 when junior midfielder Sophia

Moness scored with an assist

from Ong, her second of the day after assisting the first goal. The Gauchos then led with a 2-1 lead, and they showed no signs of slowing down.

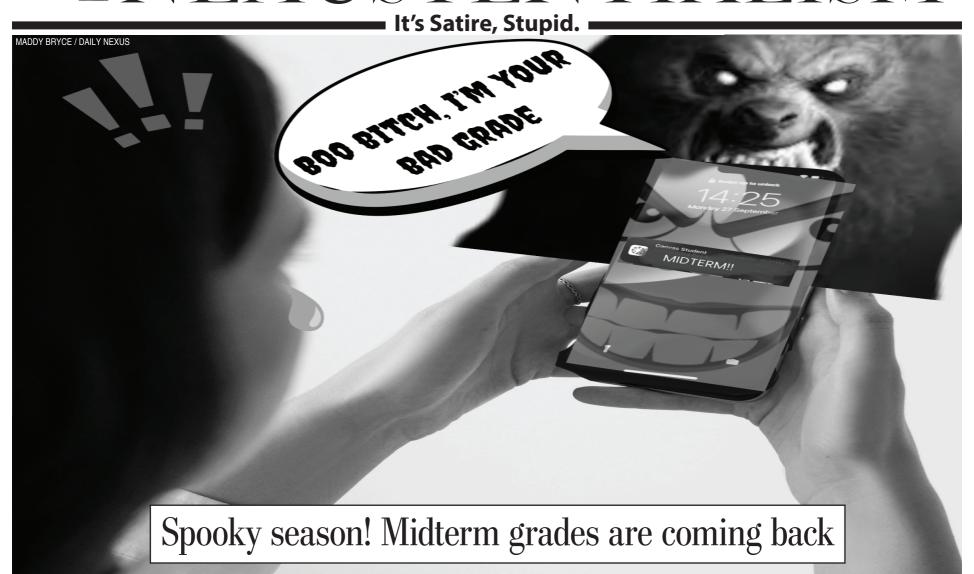
In minute 85, sophomore defender Mya Delaney scored with a header assisted by freshman forward Natalie Sheffey and sophomore midfielder Ava Dermott to make the final score The Gauchos dominated offensively and defensively in this match, as they finished the game with a total of 18 shots with 10 of those being on target, while the Highlanders had 5 with 2 on target. This stunning performance from UCSB clinches them a spot in the Big West tournament bracket.

UCSB will finish the season at UC San Diego on Thursday, Oct.



The Gauchos celebrate senior night with flowers and smiles

# NEXUSTENTIALISM



Serrano Ham Super Cooked

A sinister feel has settled over UC Santa Barbara, making chills run down the student body's back despite the 80-degree weather. Everywhere, faces are falling as the dreaded notification pops up on students' phones, letting them know that a new grade now sits in their class's Canvas page.

A new poll given to students waiting in the De La Guerra lunch line revealed that 67% of the student body views impending midterm grades as being scarier than "the threat of Chancellor Yang running them

over in Isla Vista, the thought that the Storke Tower bells will never stop ringing and the bike paths during the 2 p.m. rush combined."

Following the release of the first wave of midterm grades, survivors have gathered together to mourn their GPAs, finding solace in remembering their experiences. Thiago Montoya, a fifth-year home economics major, commented.

"When I looked at my grade, I got the biggest jump scare of my literal life. Like, it was unmatched by anything created by the entire horror movie industry," Montoya said.

While many students have

been suffering from the scares of midterms, other students have been focusing entirely on studying for their upcoming exams, sometimes to the point of complete cluelessness. Chrissy Wakeup, a third-year doomscrolling major, also commented.

"This whole time, I've been thinking that these Halloween decorations were just a visual representation of my GPA decomposing before my eyes," Wakeup said.

Indeed, it appears that the approach of Halloween has been greatly overshadowed by the grim news imparted by Canvas. All over campus, the faint

echoes of shrill screams and the ghost-like figures of students studying for eight hours straight have been a haunting indicator of the real spooky season. An anonymous user on YikYak, under the username milkyman61, provided some insight into the current mood of campus.

"Wtf. I was just trying to take a shit when someone did one of those screams you only hear in movies. They got a 13% on their midterm, which like, valid reaction, but also, why are you even checking that on the crapper. I exclusively check my grades when I am next to some tissues and my situationship is

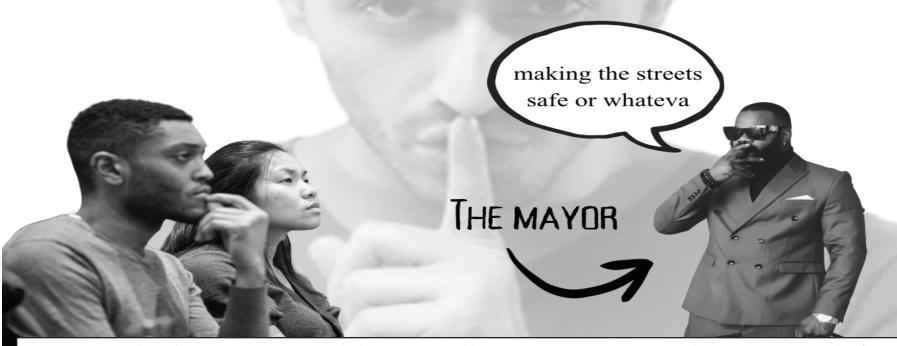
making me hot chocolate."

When asked if the university is going to address the emotional toil and fear that has overtaken the school, a representative only said, "We encourage students to take advantage of the resources offered here on campus, practice good studying habits and refrain from checking Canvas after 11 p.m. Also, please stop calling Canvas 'university-sanctioned psychological waterboarding."

Serrano Ham has also screamed after checking Canvas while on the toilet.

MADDY BRYCE / DAILY NEXUS

## SHUT THE FUCK UP -Cove, The halloween Noise oRaiNANCE



# Mayor declares martial law: Halloween noise ordinance indefinite

The Gentle Giant Silenced

With Halloween just around the corner, students at UC Santa Barbara were met with unfortunate news after a noise ordinance from Oct. 26 to Nov. 4 was announced for this holiday season. Music will not be allowed to be heard from the street, and students will not be allowed to congregate together in large groups. People were disappointed but unsurprised, as Halloween had been canceled many times before - but no one was expecting the surprising

follow-up news.

being extended indefinitely, according to Isla Vista Foot Patrol (IVFP) in a tweet posted a day after the original announcement.

"Party culture in Isla Vista has long been a hazard in terms of public safety," IVFP Commander Garrett TeSlaa announced. "We feel it's our duty as law enforcement to protect our residents and put an end to all these dangers. In addition, we will be introducing a 6 p.m. curfew to ensure these parties do not take place."

This announcement was met with outrage, especially among UCSB students. Many The noise ordinance is felt that their rights were being taken away, along with one of the main reasons they chose this school in the first

"It's like they're stripping us of our college experience," one freshman commented on the post. "I'm literally paying tens of thousands to go to a college I can't even have fun at."

Many were also disturbed by the 6 p.m. curfew, viewing it as unreasonably strict.

"A 6 p.m. curfew?" a senior student posted on Instagram. "I thought that this was a hilarious, high-quality Nexustentialism article at first. But it's real! What are they going to do next, set up security cameras on every

block and introduce armed guards patrolling the streets at night?"

Following announcement, the mayor of Santa Barbara, Randy Rowse, held a press conference on Sunday, Oct. 26th to outline his plans for what he envisioned as a more secure Isla Vista.

"In addition to the indefinite noise ordinance and the mandated curfew, we will be setting up security cameras on every block and introducing armed guards to patrol the streets at night, all to maintain

public safety," Rowse said. The mayor went on to unveil an ambitious infrastructure

plan: the construction of a

large, impassable barrier surrounding Isla Vista.

"This wall will begin at the cliffs and continue around the streets to ensure no residents accidentally wander off campus or, God forbid, into Goleta. We are building toward a safer, more contained community," Rowse said.

Many UCSB students are now in the process of transferring to other colleges.

The Gentle Giant Is transferring to UC Socially

# OPINION





# Argument in the office: To ghost or not to ghost

# GHOST RESPONSIBLY

Kira Logan Opinion Editor

An unsaved number lights up my phone for the sixth time in the past hour. It's currently 2:33 a.m. on a Thursday night turned Friday morning and I'm knee deep in blankets and pillows on my couch with my roommates.

"Yo u tey a?" is plastered across my phone, something I can only translate as a drunken attempt for "Yo, you awake?" My eyes roll as I put my phone in between the cushions, my own embodiment of "out of sight, out of mind."

I wake up in the morning to three more texts from the same unsaved number. My mind already mentally checked out from the conversation and the random person whose connection to my life I can't place, I decide to not respond. This isn't the first time, either — call me unempathetic, that's fine. I believe that in certain circumstances, silence is

kinder than the performance of politeness. It's not always my job to soften the blow on the inevitable, and I don't think it's a crime for me to be a bit picky about who I spend my time talking to.

When I fall, I fall hard – as I'm sure the endless articles about love and loss reflect. So, when someone who I deem not worthy to my conversation starters (aka very nuanced would-you-rather questions) peers into my life, I have the prerogative to not respond. I don't think it's hurtful or offensive to require someone to meet my standards before I let them into the corners of my heart. And besides, it takes a lot of energy for me to respond to someone when I have hundreds of pages of readings to do for class.

It's equally as offensive to drunk text me for a hookup as it is for me to not respond to said text. If you believe that I am someone who will put up with half-assed effort in an attempt

to share a meaningless night together, then you deserve the silence that follows.

My past situationships don't deserve closure in one final text, just to have the upper hand and say they ghosted me. We love pretending that closure is noble when, in my personal experience, most times it's just performative.

However, just like everything else, context matters. Chronic ghosters who disappear midlong term relationships or friendships owe more than a "Sorry, I wasn't on my phone!" text. Ghosting after a level of emotional intimacy becomes cruel, and we've all been on the other side of it. My level of ghosting is just cutting to the chase and skipping the fluff of responding to careless texts.

And maybe ghosting feels harsh because the reality check is that we aren't entitled to each other's unlimited time and attention. Not everyone owes a detailed explanation to their thought process, and sure that

hurts our egos a bit, but it's valid nonetheless.

I also believe we've become attached to buzzwords we see on social media. Me not responding to a drunk text or taking an extra few days to respond to my hometown friends isn't necessarily ghosting — I'm just taking my time. In a culture with such an emphasis for rapid, constant communication, sometimes it's okay to naturally let something fizzle out. It's not malicious, it's accurate.

So, saying I'm "pro-ghosting" might sound flawed out of context: I too have been at someone's beck and call, begging them to provide me with the same amount of care for my heart as I have for theirs. However, dragging every single person through the theatrics of a pseudo "breakup" conversation just to clear your psyche isn't always the right answer. Explaining yourself to every single romantic situation that emotionally you're

entangled with is almost worse than ghosting: it's humiliating for the other person! Closure doesn't always close the door in the way you hope it would.

MALLORY THAU / DAILY NEXUS

I'm willing to back up ghosting's cause in the name of efficiency, despite ghosting being cruel in certain situations. This argument is not advertising to switch platforms to Snapchat and leave your eight-month situationship on read (been there), but rather a general reminder that no one is immediately entitled to your time, attention and most importantly: your response.

Ghosting isn't necessarily ideal or noble, but it's not evil either. It's an imperfect response in a deeply imperfect dating world and with an "always on" social culture around us. Let's stop villainizing the ghoster and instead learn to read subliminal messages.

Kira Logan can be seen responding, "Sorry, I was in the shower!" to a text sent two weeks ago.

## THE IRONY OF GHOSTING

Lucy Dixon Opinion Editor

It's the end of August, and I'm sitting in my childhood bedroom. The drawing you made me for Christmas — a portrait of our shared favorite artist — looms on the wall above my bed as my thumb hovers carefully over the send button. The text box holds the five words I've been thinking all summer: "Did I do something wrong?"

graduated from high school on a warm evening in May. The ceremony was long but sentimental. I felt pretty in my dress, and the band was playing Taylor Swift as you hugged me on the baseball field. We said our goodbyes to the rest of our class and hopped into your Jeep, where we'd spent many a lunch period hiding from the rest of our friends. The two of us were equally thrilled to leave the sweltering heat of our hometown in the fall, and the summer felt full

of opportunity. You got a job at our second-favorite local coffee chain and my dad was taking me to Europe in a few weeks. I promised to send pictures, and you promised to reply.

In June, I sent you photos of the Trevi Fountain and a Spotify link to a song I thought you'd like. You recounted something funny your dog did and sent me a short story you'd written about a wistful summer in Maine. When I got back into town we took sunset drives and listened to The Beatles at obscene volumes. We drank coffee and wandered around bookstores. Before long, it was your turn to leave town. You sent me pictures of the sea and rants about your family. I sent you videos of me and my guitar. Eventually, at some point that I can't currently recall, you stopped responding.

In July I texted you a picture from another trip I'd taken. It was a photo of a big blue house on a sunny day, the reallife mansion from one of our favorite movies. Maybe you'd just missed my last few texts.

Radio silence. I caved and texted you again a few days later: "How are you?" to no avail.

I went through something akin to the stages of grief. At first, I was confused — what could I have possibly done to cause this? What happened that I missed? Then I was devastated, because how could you throw away what was, at one point, the most important friendship in my life without so much as a text? And then, I got angry.

I'm an incredibly docile person — it takes a lot to make me mad. But August brought with it a deep, inner rage I didn't even know I was capable of. It was like there was molten lava in my veins, and at each reminder of your presence I was brought closer to a rolling boil. I un-added you on BeReal because it hurt just looking at your face. I posted the angry lyrics of a Fiona Apple song on my Instagram story because I

needed you to know that you hurt me. And finally, because I couldn't stand it anymore, I wrote that text: "Did I do something wrong?"

something wrong?"
You responded with a list

of all the things I had done wrong over the course of our friendship. From forgetting to text to posting those lyrics to "Paper Bag." I'm not going to write this and deny I did anything wrong. I definitely could have sent you a few more texts that summer, and I probably shouldn't have posted that particular song. But people make mistakes — especially young, emotionally volatile teenage people.

I apologized for everything I'd done (or more accurately, hadn't done) that summer. I told you that I wished you had communicated these things earlier. You apologized for letting it all pile up. We went back to a semi-normal but perhaps more distant state, and in September we both went off to school.

That was three years ago. We still text here and there, and over the holidays we'll grab a cup of coffee at our second-favorite local coffee chain. I like to think that we've forgiven each other for our young and emotionally volatile ways. But the truth is that it's never been the same. Because when you ghost someone, you establish that you do not respect them enough to give them closure. And I don't think I've ever gotten that out of my head.

I'm not sure why they call it "ghosting," but it sure seems ironic. Because sometimes it feels like you haunt me. I see you everywhere. In the yellow glow of a European street lamp and on a crisp autumn morning, when I put my Carole King record on my roommate's player. I see you on my wall, where the drawing you made me still hangs all these years later. It's torn at the edges now, but it's still beautiful.

Lucy Dixon is sentimental by chance, a writer by choice.







UC Santa Barbara's Associated Students Program Board hosted YG and Freddie Gibbs at their annual Delirium concert.

#### Kaavya Saini DEI Chair

Oct. 25, hundreds of students flocked to the Thunderdome for Delirium, the annual Halloween weekend concert organized by the Associated Students Program Board, to see Indiana-born rapper Freddie Gibbs and West Coast hip-hop icon YG perform.

Students chatted eagerly as lines extended all the way to Student Health by 8 p.m. A steady stream of ticket-buyers snagged last-minute entries at the ticket office, and many students came dressed in Halloween costumes ranging from winged bees to headbandadorned devils.

Before the show began, thirdyear sociology and anthropology double major Andrea Zapata expressed her excitement for YG's performance as a longtime listener.

"I've been listening to him since like freshman year of high school, so to see him in my third year of college is pretty exciting," Zapata said.

Zapata also praised the Associated Students Program Board's (ASPB) track record of artist selections for past events, including Delirium and

Extravaganza. "I like how they pick a lot of rappers, a lot of interesting different kind[s] of artists that usually aren't seen on college campuses," Zapata said.

In contrast, fourth-year economics & accounting major Aylin Haskollar was most eager to see opener Freddie Gibbs, stating that she had "just discovered him" but preferred his sound.

"His music is more like the type of music I listen to compared to YG," Haskollar said. "But I'm also curious about YG."

As students filed in before the artists took the stage, the Thunderdome pulsed with bass-heavy tracks - A\$AP Rocky's "Fashion Killa" and Kendrick Lamar's "Bitch, Don't Kill My Vibe" among them -

with the crowd waving their hands and singing along.

A little after 9 p.m., ASPB Special Events Coordinator Sariya Dyson took the stage to ask if the crowd was excited for the concert, which was met with a large cheer. The anticipation surged as students chanted, "Freddie! Freddie!" with their hands raised toward the stage.

Fourth-year statistics and data science and Spanish double major Sophie Strozier said it was this collective energy that made Delirium worth attending.

"I love seeing when people are fans and really dedicated to [the artists] - that's what makes me want to keep listening and learn more about the artist," Strozier said. "I just think the energy of the crowd will be really good because everyone's very excited, and these are really good artists."

The impatient students didn't have to wait much longer as Gibbs hit the stage around 9:15 p.m., striding out in a

bright orange karateuniform style shouting, and "Santa Barbara, what's up!" launched He straight into "1985," psychedelicrock infused track produced by The Alchemist, setting the tone with razorsharp delivery that reverberated through the Thunderdome.

From there, Gibbs through fan favorites like "God Is Perfect" and "Scottie Beam." Between songs, he cracked jokes with the audience - "I got a lot of songs, but I ain't got a lot of time" – before referencing his latest studio album "Alfredo 2," which dropped this summer on July 25.

"If you fuck with that Alfredo 2 shit, make some

Students threw up middle fingers and shouted along to YG's

playful calland-response -"Fuck who?" as an American flag visual flashed behind

him on screen.

Gibbs said amidst cheers from the crowd.

Students swayed to "Baby \$hit" and "Shangri La," with some passionately mouthing every lyric while others soaked in the performance from behind the barricade. The rapper's fiery presence kept the crowd engaged, even though some in the pit seemed subdued. Bathed in fog and flashing lights, Gibbs ended on a high note with "Ensalada (feat. Anderson .Paak)" before exiting the stage around 9:56 p.m. to roaring applause, leaving the venue buzzing with sweat, bass and anticipation for YG's arrival.

After Gibbs' set, ASPB staff handed out cups of water to dehydrated concertgoers. The energy noticeably dipped during a lengthy pause of around 35 minutes, with some filtering toward the exits until the lights suddenly cut out at 10:33 p.m.

the crowd. After a brief warning for strobe lights and intense visual effects, the sudden beat drop of synth-heavy track "BPT" sent the crowd into a frenzy, screaming, "Westside! Westside! Westside!" YG as

commanded the stage. Dressed head-to-toe in black, the Compton rapper moved effortlessly across the stage, feeding

> as he ran through hits like "I Just Wanna Party," "Twist My Fingaz" and "Fuck

It Up." The arena erupted for "FDT," also known as "Fuck Donald Trump." Students threw up middle fingers and shouted along to YG's playful calland-response -"Fuck who?" – as an American flag flashed visual behind him on screen. Hundreds

of voices joined him in the infamous chant, shaking the walls of the Thunderdome.

The energy spiked again for Blueface's "Thotiana (Remix)," on which YG is featured, with students rapping the TikTok viral verse in unison: "Bust down, Thotiana / I wanna see you bust down / Pick it up, now break that shit down / Speed it up, then slow that shit down."

From there, YG kept the momentum rolling through "Go Loko," "Toot It and Boot It" and "BIG BANK," throwing up the occasional heart sign to the exhilarated crowd.

"Make sure y'all get home safe, get fucked up, enjoy y'all night - happy motherfucking Halloween," said YG before exiting the stage at 11:25 p.m.

As the crowd slowly spilled out into the crisp Isla Vista night, laughter and lyrics still carried across campus.

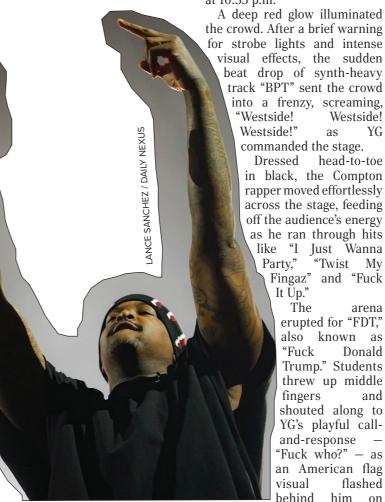
First-year pre-biology major Kiara Salcedo said YG's set stood out most. "My favorite part was

when YG played 'Fuck Donald Trump," she said with a smile.

For Richard Nguyen, a firstvear economics and film and media studies double major, Delirium was a spontaneous but rewarding find for the friend group.

"I was looking for something to do this Saturday night, and then I saw this on Instagram," Nguyen said. "So I was like, 'Wait yo, let's all go out to this." He added that YG was his favorite part of the night, recognizing several songs, including "Slide," a track by H.E.R. featuring YG.

Coming off London rapper Fakemink's rowdy show in the University Center Hub on Oct. 16, Delirium 2025 continues ASPB's streak of bold, crowd-pulling bookings that draw both loyal fans and curious newcomers. From Freddie Gibbs' precision bars to YG's unapologetic charisma, Delirium 2025 once again that when the Thunderdome lights go down, UCSB knows how to bring it back to life.



YG during his performace of "FDT."



Rapper Freddie Gibbs opened for West Coast hip hop artist YG in the Thunderdome, raising the energy in the crowd.

LANCE SANCHEZ / DAILY NEXUS



The student-only event brought out a crowd of Gauchos who spent their Saturday night enjoying live music instead of battling the weekend chaos of Del Playa Drive.

# SCIENCE & TECH



# Built by students, powered by the sun: Engineers Without Borders bring solar-powered table to UCSB



Students working on the solar table project.

#### **Anusha Singh** Editor in Chief

What started as a packet of old blueprints has now turned into a fully functioning solar-powered table on UC Santa Barbara's campus — the result of two years of persistence, problem-solving and student-led collaboration through Engineers Without Borders.

The solar table project, designed and assembled by members of UCSB's Engineers Without Borders (EWB) local team, now sits in front of the Chemistry Building, ready to provide renewable energy and shaded seating for students passing through. For the people who built it, the table represents not just an engineering success but the culmination of teamwork and a belief that students can leave a lasting mark on their campus.

"The best outcome of this project was that around 40 engineers and non-engineers that were part of EWB got hands-on experience with both fabrication and assembly of a real product that helps bring positive change to UCSB's campus," Alec Perkins, fourth-year mechanical engineering major and machining lead for the project, said. "They actually saw physical results and the work that they put in come to fruition, creating a device that will hopefully be on campus for at least 10 years."

The project began in fall of 2023, when EWB members came across an old capstone packet outlining instructions for building a solarpowered table. The following spring, the team received two donated solar panels – given specifically to support

the project — and began reimagining how to turn the basic blueprint into a more powerful, durable and campusready installation.

"This was based on a previous capstone project," Arjun Gunda, a fourth-year mechanical engineering major and the project's design lead and manager, said. "We had found a packet, and it basically detailed out all the instructions for making a solar table, but it was extremely simplified, and it was done with a small team with a small time frame. So we were like, 'How can we take this existing model and make it so that it can contain more power, supply more power and be a refurbished, campusimplementable model?"

The team began planning the project nearly two years ago during their sophomore year, dividing responsibilities among design, fabrication and administrative outreach. But turning a student idea into a permanent campus installation came with complications.

"When this started, I was kind of thinking to myself, 'What is this process going to look like?' and then I quickly realized, there was no process," David Bogdanovic, fourthyear mechanical engineering major and the team's administrative liaison, said. "Campus leadership isn't really used to students reaching out to them about projects."

The team applied for and received three Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities grants, as well as funding from the Green Initiative Fund. Beyond securing money, the students had to meet the technical and safety standards required for any permanent structure on campus — a daunting task for a group still learning how to design and build at scale.

"None of us had really built or designed anything of significance at that point in time," Gunda said. "A big challenge was actually getting the project management laid out and seeing what aspects of this project we needed to designate more people and more time to. And with assembly, we didn't have any designated place to assemble, so we just did it in our backyard."

That Isla Vista backyard — shared by Gunda and Bogdanovic - became the hub for most of the project's hands-on work. Over this past summer, a small group of about six students and mentors met there daily to fabricate and assemble the final components.

Much of the machining and fabrication happened under the guidance of mentors. The team enlisted the help of Kyle Luker, machine shop manager for the UCSB chemistry department, to manufacture parts and help them refine their designs.

"He is such a great resource. He is a lifesaver when it comes to fabrication because we had never worked out the actual requirements on drawings to give to a machinist," Perkins said. "Having him as a mentor was like no other. We couldn't have done it without him."

Another mentor, Marc Osborn, who advises EWB's local team, helped the group refine the table's design and improve its electrical efficiency.

"Marc completely rewired the electronics and transformed our system into a high-functioning outlet setup connected efficiently to the solar panels," Gunda said. "He restructured everything for us, which was a great learning experience and showed how vital mentorship can be. Between Marc and Kyle, I think the biggest takeaway for future projects was knowing which mentors can guide us through different aspects of the process."

For Bogdanovic, the project's greatest lesson came from leading a team that was learning on the go.

"When I started. I imagined having a group of about 10 people who already knew what they were doing," he said. "But I think the whole mission of EWB and what we built our club around is giving people the opportunity to learn — where people can buy into the project from start to finish and learn the skills along the way. None of us really knew what we were doing at first, but that's how all projects start. Seeing everyone grow and learn together turned what I thought would be a setback into something really rewarding."

By the first week of September, after two years of work, the table was installed on campus. It takes in 400 watts of solar power at peak sunlight and stores 1,280 watt-hours of capacity - roughly enough to charge 80 iPhones. The table provides DC and AC outlets, as well as USB-C and USB-A ports, making it a functional space for students to study and recharge their devices outdoors.

"In order to get things on campus made by students, you have to be extremely persistent," Perkins said. "There are many students who begin projects that just fizzle out ... this is a case where there was significant management and team effort ... It takes some great [advocacy] and persistence in order to get something like this to actually happen."

That team effort, he added, was what carried the project across the finish line.

"What this club showed me especially was that a project that seemed absolutely too massive for me to ever finish got carried to the finish line because I could rely on my fellow engineers to keep pushing and keep motivating me," Perkins said.

Gunda said the project's completion also marked a turning point for the club itself.

"At the time when I joined [the local team] my freshman year, we were a group of three people. We had no resources and didn't really know anything. The local team didn't really have any claim to fame other than creek cleanups or volunteering events. But I would say this project was one of the main reasons the team has grown to what it is now at our peak, we had about 50 people on our team," Gunda said.

The solar table has already sparked new ideas within EWB. Younger members have begun drafting their own list of campus projects – practical, visible ways to make sustainability part of everyday student life.

"It was great to see how many people were passionate about this project," Bogdanovic said. "The biggest thing I learned is that if you're consistent and have a clear vision, you can make things happen."

With the table now up and running, that lesson is already being passed on not as a blueprint, but as proof of what students can build when they're given the chance.



The new solar table sits in front of Chemistry Building, ready for use.

# A guide to gift card scams

#### Rebecca Raymond Staff Writer

You feel your phone vibrate as you hurry to the office, already running a few minutes late. It's an email from your boss:

Hello,

One of our clients is visiting us in the office today; we need a gift card to give them as a "thank you." It's urgent as they'll be leaving soon. Could you pick up a few \$100 Apple gift cards and send me the codes? I'll reimburse you later."

From anyone else, you would hesitate and procrastinate until you come up with an alternative that doesn't demand you to spend hundreds of dollars out of pocket. But all you can think about is how your boss will see you - diligent, dependable, responsive - if you carry out their instructions to the letter.

Unfortunately, that message was not actually from your boss. Once you send the codes, the cyber attacker instantly redeems the gift cards and all your hard-earned money is gone. When you arrive at work and realize your boss never actually required you to get a gift card, you attribute it to some misunderstanding. No harm done, right? That is, until you check the card's balance and discover that it's empty.

This may seem like a rare mishap. but gift card scams are becoming increasingly common. In 2023, \$217 million were lost to gift card scams, and this figure continues to rise. Gift card scams come in various forms; some involve the attacker pre-recording the pin number of gift

cards already in stores so that they can immediately obtain the money as soon as the buyer activates it. Other attack methods may involve a request for payment via gift cards from someone impersonating a boss who needs a favor, or a government

AV#9)A\$

Gift card

[;\*^)]};\*^;\*)?

official demanding payment. To evoke urgency, attackers often exploit human instinct to help and please superiors. Consequently, a young intern eager to prove themselves and to make a good impression is the perfect victim - and this pattern has been seen in scams affecting students at UC Santa Barbara.

Audra Hanlon, a recent graduate of financial mathematics & statistics at UCSB, had been working at a large retail company for two summers, having recently gotten a promotion. She received an email from a scammer who first tried to gain her trust by impersonating her CEO and congratulating Hanlon for her hard work and for getting her promotion. "From the initial email, you couldn't see anything weird at all," Hanlon

said. "The company was not so big that getting an email like that would be unusual."

When Hanlon replied back, expressing her gratitude, the email was immediately followed up with a request urging Hanlon to purchase gift cards from the company. This seemed suspicious and she clicked on the domain of the address to reveal one with random numbers and letters, which immediately alerted Hanlon to the scam.

"It can feel very exciting and rewarding to get an email from someone higher up," Hanlon said. "But it's always important to check the domain of the email and be cautious about that, because your excitement at being acknowledged can overpower your awareness about checking for possible scams."

Isabel Stice, a fourth-year environmental studies double economics major, experienced a similar scam attempt while working for an environmental nonprofit. The company would often give small, sponsored gifts to people that contributed generous donations. It was a small group five workers and four interns - so when Stice received a text from her boss asking her to pick a few things up at the shops, she didn't think twice.

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\*ATO I \* # ERICA JOHNSON \ DAILY NEXUS

When the sender specified that she needed to get gift cards from retailers like Sephora, Stice grew suspicious, as these brands did not fit with the company's mission of supporting local, smallscale businesses. Following her suspicions, Stice looked up her boss's phone number in a group chat and found that it was completely different. Stice blocked the number and immediately called her boss who confirmed the message was fake.

"I was so overwhelmed," Stice said as she describes how easy it was to initially believe the scam. "As an intern, all you want to do is impress your boss and show them you have a good work ethic." The scammer had mimicked her boss's tone perfectly. "It included 'please'

and 'thank you," Stice recalled. "It wasn't super direct or intimidating, it was very kind, which is in line with who my boss is."

Resisting this scam demands more than noticing grammatical errors or ignoring unknown senders - it requires presence of mind, questioning whether requests from someone you know seem reasonable and proactively verifying them when concern arises.

Guidance extends to all purchases of gift cards. It's advised to inspect gift cards before buying them, ensuring that the protective stickers are intact and that the pin number at the back is not already showing. Buying gift cards from online auction sites carries higher risk of fraud, so it's advisable to buy gift cards directly from trusted stores.

College campuses provide a prime target for gift card scams involving requests from a supervisor or professor. Students are advised to examine the sender's information and check that it matches previous records. When receiving an unusual request, it is vital that you contact the sender directly to confirm before proceeding with the request.

"Vigilance is your best defense," Jackson Muhirwe, chief information security officer and director of information assurance at UCSB, said. "Always pause and verify any unexpected request for money or personal data, regardless of the sender. Treat every unsolicited email as suspicious, remembering the simple rule: if the offer seems too good to be true, it is likely a scam. By committing to this principle of 'verify, then click,' we can collectively defeat these scams."



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🕨 Opinión: El amor en tiempos de 🟓 🍃 Instagram

Sofia Benitez Editora de Copia

La tecnología, y en especial una de sus manifestaciones más influyentes: las redes sociales, han llegado a cambiarlo todo.

Nos abren un mundo de posibilidades para conocer personas de distintas partes del mundo.

Si bien esto ha traído numerosas ventajas a nuestra vida diariacomo mantenernos en contacto con amigos y familiares a larga distancia o poder comunicarnos forma inmediata cualquier persona—, también ha transformado la manera en que nos enamoramos.

En los últimos años se ha normalizado el uso de las redes sociales y las aplicaciones de citas como medios para encontrar a nuestra "alma gemela".

Hemos pasado de las típicas historias de amor que solíamos escuchar de nuestros padres; "Tu papá y yo nos conocimos porque era mi vecino", "Conocí · a tu mamá en una reunión de la preparatoria", "Nos presentó un amigo", a nuevas versiones que quizá escuchen las futuras generaciones: "Tu papá me dio match en Tinder", "Tu mamá me respondió una story en Instagram", o "Tu papá me mandó solicitud en Facebook".

Esto no es necesariamente algo malo; pero sí demuestra cómo hemos perdido cierta conexión humana y cómo se ha normalizado el uso de la tecnología como el principal medio para interactuar con los

Este cambio resalta el nuevo papel que las redes sociales ocupan en nuestra sociedad y los fenómenos que generan en nuestros comportamientos.

Las redes no solo nos permiten conocer a más personas, sino que también pueden distorsionar nuestras expectativas desensibilizarnos frente al valor real de las conexiones humanas.

quiero decir que navamos vuelto más superficiales, pero este acceso ilimitado a tantas opciones nos ha hecho más exigentes y, quizá, nos ha despegado de la realidad

al momento de buscar el amor.

Hoy en día, muchas personas dan demasiada importancia a la imagen que proyectan en su perfil: el chico musculoso que nunca falta al gimnasio, la chica que siempre luce perfecta, el joven que presume una vida llena de lujos o la chica que aparenta ser siempre feliz y rodeada de amigos.

Sin embargo, muchos de estos

alter egos digitales no reflejan quiénes somos realmente, sino versión idealizada u deseamos

mostrar mundo.

Creemos conocer una persona tan solo por la

muestra en sus redes sociales, sin detenernos a pensar que lo que vemos es solo una pequeña parte, cuidadosamente seleccionada, de su vida. Este fenómeno ha moldeado la forma en que percibimos las relaciones: pensamos que no debemos conformarnos porque hay tantas personas "interesantes" en línea y tantas posibilidades al alcance de un clic.

Entonces, ¿para qué ir a una segunda cita si la primera no fue perfecta? Después de todo, siempre hay "más peces en el mar", o mejor dicho, en Instagram.

Vivimos comparando

parece mejor, creyendo que el pasto siempre es más verde del otro lado, sin darnos cuenta de que esa búsqueda incesante nos aleja de la autenticidad y de las conexiones reales.

Incluso se ha dado el fenómeno de las parejas que buscan seguir tendencias en redes sociales como una forma de comprobar una foto o historia sobre el otro, se considera una ofensa o señal de desamor.

Lo mismo ocurre con modas más recientes, como regalar flores amarillas en septiembre, organizar una petición "buchona" con letras gigantes y caminos de pétalos de rosa, o colocar la inicial de la pareja en la biografía del perfil. Si alguno de estos gestos

> sentimientos la calidad vínculo. De este modo, el

> > para

público, tendencias

observar su perfil o sus historias. Uno se enamora

de una persona cuando se toma el tiempo de comprenderla: cuando la escucha hablar con pasión sobre lo que ama, cuando ríe, cuando está triste, motivada o muestra tal como es.

o el lugar que visitó en vacaciones.

Al final, el amor auténtico no se construve con likes, sino con momentos compartidos, con miradas sinceras y con la capacidad de ver y aceptar al otro



debe mostrarse y vivirse una relación.

En lugar de valorar la autenticidad y la intimidad, muchas parejas sienten presión por demostrar públicamente su afecto, como si el amor necesita validarse a través de "likes", comentarios o publicaciones.

Cualquier acto que no se ajuste a este modelo idealizado suele interpretarse como falta de interes o de estuerzo.

Esto se refleja en tendencias virales como el "día del novio" o el "día de la novia", donde si alguno buscando constantemente lo que de los involucrados no publica digitales y la aprobación ajena. Otro factor que ha cambiado

CORTESÍA DE SHUTTERSHOCK

la percepción de las relaciones amorosas son los TikTok's de los llamados "gurús del amor", creadores de contenido que hablan desde su propia perspectiva y presentan sus verdades opiniones como universales.

Estos influencers suelen generalizar comportamientos y actitudes de todo un género -ya sea hombres o mujeres-, ofreciendo "consejos" que muchas veces simplifican en

exceso la complejidad de las

Promueven la idea de que existe

relaciones humanas.

una receta única para el amor, como si bastara seguir ciertos pasos o cumplir determinadas reglas para garantizar el éxito sentimental.

Sin embargo, ignoran que cada persona ama y desea ser amada de manera distinta, y que no todas las parejas funcionan bajo los mismos patrones.

Este tipo de contenido contribuye a la creación de estereotipos emocionales, donde se idealiza un modelo de relación "perfecta" y se desvaloriza cualquier vínculo que no encaje en esas expectativas.

En lugar de fomentar la comprensión y la empatía, muchos de estos mensajes generan confusión, inseguridad y comparaciones constantes, alejándonos de una visión más realista, humana y diversa del

El amor debería vivirse fuera de las redes sociales, en un espacio más auténtico y presente.

Las comparaciones constantes y los consejos superficiales de los llamados "expertos en el amor" han hecho que muchas personas se olviden de lo esencial: el amor no se demuestra con publicaciones, sino con atención, empatía y presencia real.

Deberíamos volver a valorar la interacción humana genuina, esa que no necesita filtros ni validación externa, porque conocer verdaderamente a alguien va mucho más allá de

enojada, cuando simplemente se No por la calidad de sus fotos, la música que elige para su historia,

en su forma más humana.

# Como Tik Tok está modelando nuestro estilo de vida sin que nos demos cuenta

TODAY!

hollistervision.com

Alué Otiura Benitez **Escritora** 

Tik Tok llegó a nuestras vidas como una simple app para pasar el rato. Al principio eran solo bailes, retos, videos divertidos y canciones nuevas. Pero poco a poco se convirtió en algo mucho más grande: una plataforma influye directamente como pensamos, nos vestimos, comemos y hasta cómo nos sentimos con nosotros mismos.

TikTok y otras plataformas de vídeos cortos estimulan intensamente el sistema de recompensa del cerebro al ofrecer gratificación instantánea mediante contenido visual impredecible altamente entretenido, lo que provoca liberaciones repetidas de dopamina o activaciones frecuentes del circuito de recompensa.

Este bombardeo constante de estímulos puede afectar negativamente la capacidad de atención, reducir la tolerancia al aburrimiento, dificultar la concentración en tareas más largas o lentas y generar una continua.

Además, estudios recientes han demostrado que el uso problemático de Tik Tok se asocia con síntomas de ansiedad, depresión y alteraciones del sueño. Especialmente en jóvenes, quienes son más vulnerables al impacto psicológico de la comparación social, la exposición constante a cuerpos, estilos de vida o estéticas idealizadas y el aislamiento digital. Aunque

no puede afirmarse que TikTok por sí solo cause depresión, sí puede agravar estados emocionales frágiles a través de distintos mecanismos como la comparación constante con vidas idealizadas y desplazar actividades esenciales como descanso. Afectando el equilibrio emocional, la lectura, la socialización real o el contacto con uno mismo, lo que en conjunto puede dañar el bienestar mental a largo plazo.

Más allá de los efectos neurológicos y emocionales, Tik Tok también afecta nuestra manera de relacionarnos con el tiempo, la productividad y la identidad personal.

Su formato breve nos acostumbra consumir a información en segundos, lo que puede generar la ilusión de estar aprendiendo mucho cuando en realidad solo estamos acumulando fragmentos desconectados. Este tipo de consumo rápido puede afectar nuestra paciencia y capacidad de profundizar, incluso en hábitos académicos o laborales.

Además, al construir una dependencia a la estimulación versión editada de nosotros mismos, siempre activos, creativos y felices, la aplicación refuerza una cultura de rendimiento constante donde el valor personal se mide en vistas, likes y seguidores.

Así lo que empezó como entretenimiento se convierte en una forma de autoevaluación pública que puede impactar en nuestra autoestima y en la manera en que entendemos quienes somos.

