DAILY NEXUS

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PETA protests Raising Cane's opening in Goleta



OLIVE THOMPSON / DAILY NEXUS

The line for the Cane's opening wrapped around the parking lot in the plaza, with some people having arrived the night prior.

Olive Thompson
Reporter

Demonstrators from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals protested the new Raising Cane's location on Hollister Avenue in Goleta on Oct. 12.

With more than a hundred attendees, voices of protesters from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) could be heard shouting. Six protesters stood on the sidewalk outside the parking lot holding signs and doing a physical demonstration, which involved one woman covered in fake blood shackled by the ankles while another protester was dressed as a butcher.

According to PETA Senior Campaigner Mason Melito, this was intended to visually replicate the slaughter methods of some of the meat suppliers of Raising Cane's. Melito said that PETA tries to attend all Raising Cane's grand openings across the country, with the goal of spreading awareness of the living conditions for factory-farmed chickens and slaughterhouse practices, as well to get a vegan option on the menu.

"We've had some success today; some people have come over to talk to us about our messages, and there have been cameras on us all morning," Melito said. "The goal is to make people think before they eat: If you wouldn't deep fry a dog then why is it ok to deep fry a chicken?"

The rest of the demonstrators were local volunteers, including Ana Papakhian, who said, "We are here for animals, people and our planet." Similar protests have occurred at other openings around the country, including one at a new Cane's location in Oregon a few weeks ago.

For many, the protest did not have much of an effect on the festivities. The grand opening included a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a raffle for passes to gain free Cane's for a year, gifts for the first hundred purchases and more. Attendees could be seen dancing and smiling as the raffle tickets were drawn, and a big cheer went up as the doors opened about half an hour early.

The line for opening wrapped around the parking lot in the plaza, with some people having arrived the night prior. At the front of the line were Dos Pueblos High School juniors Rex Blevins and Oliver Reynolds, who said they had been outside the restaurant since approximately 9 p.m. Sunday.

Students from both UC Santa Barbara and local Goleta high schools said that the Cane's opening will help to fill a gap in the community for affordable, convenient food options. Blevins, who was first in line and one of the 20 raffle winners, was excited about what the location would bring to the area.

"It'll be a really great hangout spot, and we will have an option other than In-N-Out. I'm really excited for chicken," Blevins said.

The Hollister Village Plaza location is the first to open in the greater Santa Barbara area, with the nearest existing location nearly 50 miles away in Oxnard. UCSB students Kaitlin Lewis, a fourth-year sociology major, and Fatoumata Kéré, fourth-year communication major, explained that for students without cars, the existing fast food options in Goleta were inconvenient, so this opening was exciting.

"Most of the options are across the highway," they said. "Having Cane's here means there's something easy for people to get with friends or while waiting for the bus."



OLIVE THOMPSON / DAILY NEXUS

For many, the PETA protest did not have much of an effect on the festivities. The grand opening included a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a raffle drawing.

UCSB professor sues UC Regents, alleges gender-based discrimination

Iris Guo
Editor-in-Chief

Edwina Barvosa, a professor of social and political theory in UC Santa Barbara's Department of Feminist Studies, has filed a lawsuit against the University of California Regents for alleged gender-based discrimination and unequal pay.

According to Barvosa's lawsuit, UCSB administrators discriminated against her based on gender throughout her tenure at UCSB. She alleges that the University has paid her significantly less than similarly situated male faculty, obstructed her academic advancement, subjected her to harassment and retaliated against her for reporting discriminatory practices. Barvosa also works as affiliated faculty in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies and the Department of Political Science, and has been at UCSB since 1998.

The initial lawsuit was filed in June 2026 against the UC Regents and multiple named defendants — including UC President James B. Milliken and Chancellor Dennis Assanis — as well as unidentified defendants. However, Barvosa later filed an amended complaint against only the UC Regents and unidentified defendants on Aug. 31.

Barvosa's allegations of unequal pay were based on her compensation relative to a male colleague identified only as "Professor Y." According to the lawsuit, Professor Y joined UCSB's faculty in 2006 — eight years after Barvosa — and "Barvosa has about a decade of work experience more than Professor Y." In addition, it claims that although both professors performed similar work, Barvosa has been paid approximately $2,957,526 "less than Professor Y in base salary over the years" they have both worked at UCSB.

The lawsuit details that despite "astonishing similarities" in Barvosa and Professor Y's background and experience in academia, "Professor Y has been rapidly promoted over the years" while not being held to the same standards for career advancement "that Dr. Barvosa and other female faculty have been held to." It also describes how Professor Y's published works are not of "the same level" as Barvosa's publications.

In order to address these perceived discrepancies, Barvosa contacted the executive dean of the UCSB College of Letters and Science at the time. According to the lawsuit, the executive dean acknowledged Barvosa was underpaid but subsequently denied her a raise and promotion to full professor, citing her failure to meet certain academic requirements. However, the lawsuit alleges that Professor Y had previously been promoted to full professor despite not meeting those same standards.

The lawsuit alleges that the treatment that Barvosa faced is not a lone occurrence, and that the UC system and UCSB "has intentionally engaged in a pattern and practice of discriminating against women."

In addition to alleged pay disparities, the lawsuit details multiple instances in which Barvosa reported discriminatory practices to UCSB administrators. In October 2018, Barvosa submitted a written complaint to then-Department of Feminist Studies Chair Laury Oaks, alleging that the department lacked consistent standards for compensation and promotion reviews. According to the lawsuit, these inconsistencies disproportionately affected underrepresented minority faculty.

Barvosa continued to raise concerns about the department's personnel review practices throughout the following years. Between 2020 and 2022, she submitted multiple written complaints and verbally communicated her grievances to university administrators.

Beyond unequal pay, Barvosa alleges that UCSB administrators retaliated against her for reporting discriminatory practices, "punitively" assigning her "major bureaucratic work" and obstructing her academic research.

In April 2021, Barvosa applied for the MacArthur Foundation UC Endowed Chair position, a prestigious academic appointment that can significantly advance a faculty member's career, according to the lawsuit. She was denied the position in June 2021, with the University instead offering it to Professor Y. However, the lawsuit claims that Barvosa was "equally or more qualified" for the position.

Barvosa also alleges that UCSB obstructed her research opportunities. In June 2023, UCSB's Office of Research withheld approval for her participation in a University of Texas research position, citing alleged plagiarism in her research proposal. The lawsuit claims this accusation was "baseless" and damaged her professional reputation.



COURTESY OF EDWINA BARVOSA

Edwina Barvosa has been teaching at UCSB since 1998 and is a professor of social and political theory in the Department of Feminist Studies.

The complaint also details Barvosa's 2025-26 merit review, during which she was denied academic advancement and a salary increase despite unanimous support from her department. Although the Department of Feminist Studies had voted 9-0 in favor of Barvosa's "advancement from Professor IV to Professor V and recommended a corresponding salary increase," the Academic Senate Committee on Academic Personnel recommended that she receive neither advancement nor a raise, citing deficiencies in research and teaching.

Barvosa also alleges that these conflicting recommendations reflect inconsistent standards in UCSB's merit-review process and that the committee's decision was influenced by individuals who had previously demonstrated hostility toward her complaints.

In addition to alleged financial and professional consequences, Barvosa's lawsuit claims that she suffered significant physical and emotional harm as a result of her treatment at UCSB, including a stress-induced heart attack in December 2024 which she claims arose due to the "strains of her unequal working conditions."

Barvosa is seeking compensation for lost wages, employment benefits, emotional distress and other damages. Her amended complaint outlines five causes of action, including violations of California's Equal Pay Act, discrimination, harassment and whistleblower retaliation.

UCSB Media Spokesperson Kiki Reyes declined to comment, citing pending litigation.

A week in UC student news



MICHELLE WU / DAILY NEXUS

Wynne Bendel
Lead News Editor

UC Berkeley freshman discovers three dwarf galaxies

UC Berkeley first-year astrophysics major Julian Shapiro reported discovering three dwarf galaxies in his solo-authored study published Oct. 6.

Shapiro reported finding small isolated galaxies that have stopped forming stars, a phenomenon which is extremely rare as gas is a fuel needed to create new stars. While isolated galaxies can create stars, those positioned close to giant galaxies are drained of their star-forming gas. However, the galaxies Shapiro discovered are both isolated and have stopped making stars.

According to the Daily Californian, Shapiro argued that these dwarf galaxies were once flung past their giant neighbor galaxy and that stripped away the smaller galaxies' gas.

Shapiro is currently working with UC Berkeley's Distinguished Professor of Astronomy Alex Filippenko in trying to resolve the "Hubble tension." While the majority of his research is independent, he credits his high school teacher Ryan Brennan for mentoring him in the code and physics used in his research.

Shapiro was recently awarded $25,000 from the 2026 Davidson Fellowship for his research. Last year he won the National Young Astronomer award, and at 15, he became the youngest discoverer of new planetary nebulae and supernova remnants.

UC Los Angeles students walkout against sexual assault

Hundreds of UC Los Angeles students participated in a national walkout against sexual assault alongside over 200 campuses on Oct. 8.

The national walkout was organized after an alleged gang rape at Cornell University in October 2024, which recently came to light after a former student, Jane Doe, filed a lawsuit against seven members of the Chi Phi fraternity. The accused men faced a variety of consequences; some were expelled and suspended while others only had to complete sexual assault prevention training and write reflective essays.

The organizers of UCLA's walkout outlined a list of demands that included a review of UCLA and the University of California Police Department's policies for reporting and investigating sexual assault and harrassment. They also called for an additional sexual harassment training for fraternities, increased funding for the Campus Assault Resources and Education program, among others.

Governor Newsom's executive order accelerates independent AI oversight, creates kill switch

California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order that directs the California Government Operations Agency to work with experts to develop recommendations for artificial intelligence (AI) safety legislation by Nov. 16.

The executive order lists four requirements for the safety legislation, which includes the requirement that all large frontier developers embed designated independent verification organizations on site to conduct periodic audits and evaluations. It also requires that the safety frameworks AI companies are required to file be independently verified. It asks for an updated definition of critical safety incidents to include a range of "loss-of-control" incidents.

Additionally, the order requires the creation of a "kill switch" for frontier models, with the efficacy of the switch verified on an ongoing basis by an independent verification organization.

According to Newsom, this order comes after inaction from the federal government in regulating AI development.

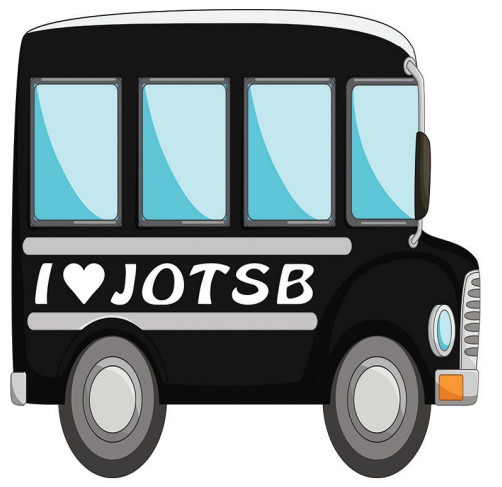
"WHEREAS, absent federal action—which unfortunately is not forthcoming due to a failure of leadership by the President and Congressional leaders—California will continue to lead by taking action to swiftly implement our existing laws around AI security and risks and develop a roadmap for further strengthening our nation-leading laws to respond to these newly emerging risks," the order states.

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Students Supporting Israel, local Jewish organizations hold third vigil remembering victims of Oct. 7 attack

Wynne Bendell
Lead News Editor

On Oct. 7, nearly 100 students and community members gathered on the Storke Tower lawn and held candles in remembrance of the lives lost from the attack on Israel by the militant group Hamas in 2023. For the third anniversary of the attack, Students Supporting Israel, the Santa Barbara Hillel and other groups hosted a vigil consisting of eulogies, songs and speeches.

On Oct. 7, 2023, the Palestinian militant group Hamas attacked Israel, killing an estimated 1,200 people and taking 251 hostages. Following the attacks, Israel significantly heightened its military operations in the Gaza Strip. In the past three years, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) have killed a confirmed 73,000 people in an ongoing genocide of the Palestinians, though some outlets claim the deathtoll is underreported.

Starting around 7 p.m., Students Supporting Israel (SSI) member and third-year history of policy, law and governance major Romi Riss began by thanking some of the vigil's organizers, including the Chabad and UC Santa Barbara's Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity chapter. She went on to state the purpose of the vigil was to remember the lives of Israelis lost, not their deaths.

"Tonight, we come together to remember them, not only for how they died, but for how they lived, as children, parents, siblings, friends and people who were deeply loved," Riss said. "We are here to hold their memory together and to make a space for the grief that is still carried by so many. By being here, by saying their names and telling their stories, we refuse to let their lives be reduced to a single day."

Throughout the evening, members of SSI told the stories of specific individuals and families that were killed on Oct. 7. Before the next speaker shared a poem of one of the hostages, she shared how Oct. 7 personally impacted her during her freshman year.

"In the first two weeks of college, my whole world stopped and a piece of me was left back in freshman year. I was brushing my teeth the night of Oct. 6, about to go to sleep, when my phone blew up and my second home was under attack. We lost many brothers and sisters that day, and ever since then, nothing has been the same for Jewish people everywhere," the speaker said.

Another speaker told the story of the Kutz family who were killed by Hamas the night of Oct. 7. The mother and father, Livnat and Aviv, along with their three children Rotem, Yonatan and Yiftach were found deceased together in bed.

"There was something incredibly difficult about trying to comprehend the loss of an entire family, five individual lives, but also everything they shared with one another — the dinners, the jokes, the arguments, the celebrations, the ordinary moments that make a family a family," the speaker said.

Next, an SSI member sang the song "Shum Davar Lo Yifga Bi" which translates from Hebrew to "Nothing Will Hurt Me." The song was written by IDF Lieutenant Erez Shtark. The song recently gained attention after a video of Amit Mann — an Israeli paramedic — singing the song was found on her phone, recorded weeks before she was killed on Oct. 7.

Before convening the vigil where attendees joined SSI at the Hillel for dinner, the entire crowd joined together in singing "Imagine" by John Lennon.

In an interview with the Daily Nexus, SSI Secretary and fourth-year biology major Justin Shirazian noted feeling responsible to continue hosting these vigils to make sure the lives lost on Oct. 7 continue to be memorialized.

"I think it's a collective feeling that if we stop doing these vigils, people are going to forget what happened," Shirazian said. "You know, it's the same reason we have Holocaust Remembrance Day, same reason we have all these different events, all these holidays, national holidays, so that people don't forget what happened, and I feel like responsibility falls on us students to make sure that student body remembers, and we put on these vigils to help our community mourn."

SSI member and fourth-year sociology major Corelle Gabay said that she feels that antisemitism at UCSB has drastically decreased over the past three years, revealing she was victim to several antisemetic attacks in previous years.

"To see where we are now from where we were three years ago, right after Oct. 7 happened, two weeks into my freshman year and I was terrified," Gabay said. "I had gotten yelled at, spit at, cussed at for just being Jewish, and it wasn't really even about Israel anymore. It was about me being Jewish. I think that now the climate has gone a lot better, and that it has definitely, definitely gone better. But I still think that we have a lot of work to do."

Shirazian said that the organization feels very supported by University administration, noting that several administrators were in attendance of the vigil, including Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Mike Miller and Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Life Suzanne Perkin.

"They're very ready to help us whenever needed. Just now we had UCPD. We told UCPD previously that this thing was going on. They were like 100% we will be there, we will protect you, we will support you," Shirazian said. "And that sentiment was also seen with admin. They were like, talk to UCPD, make sure they're there. Like we're here for you. A lot of admin was actually here tonight, so that was incredible."

When asked about Israel's genocide of the Palestinians and how the Palestinian lives lost since Oct. 7 fit into conversations within SSI, multiple members said they are only focusing on mourning, "regardless of politics, regardless of anything like that, regardless of different opinions."

"I don't think this is about that. Truly, I think this is about Oct. 7, and I think this is a tragedy that should be mourned regardless of a political affiliation," Shirazian said. "I don't think it's about politics. I don't think it's about [United Nations] ... decrees. I think it's about mourning the lives here, remembering them and sticking to that."

Several groups at UCSB, including Students for Justice in Palestine, Jewish Voice for Peace and Academics for Justice in Palestine have called on UCSB to divest from Israel and United States weapons manufacturers. When asked how SSI feels about calls for divestment, Shirazian again said that the day was "not about politics."

"If people are upset that we're mourning our dead, then that's another issue. We're here to mourn our dead. We're not here to push and adjourn on anyone. We are here for us, and that's all I have to say about that," Shirazian said.



SHENGYU ZHANG / DAILY NEXUS

An SSI member sang the song "Shum Davar Lo Yifga Bi" which translates from Hebrew to "Nothing Will Hurt Me."

Students for Justice in Palestine fundraised this summer to help victims of genocide

Wynne Bendell
Lead News Editor

This article's source chose to remain anonymous and is referred to as a representative.

UC Santa Barbara's Students for Justice in Palestine chapter has spent the past summer working on two fundraising campaigns to help Palestinians gain access to higher education and clean drinking water.

Israel established itself as a sovereign state in May 1948, displacing an estimated 700,000 Palestinians from their homes between 1947 to 1949. This event is known as "al-Nakba," which translates to "the catastrophe" in Arabic. Palestine has remained under Israeli occupation since.

On Oct. 7, 2023, the Palestinian militant group Hamas attacked Israel, killing an estimated 1,200 people and taking 251 hostages. In the three years since the attack, Israel has committed a genocide of the Palestinians, killing a confirmed 73,000 people, while some outlets claim the death toll is underreported.

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) has hundreds of chapters on campuses around the nation, calling for a free Palestine and an end of the genocide. In an interview with the Daily Nexus, an SJP representative said that the group uses Palestine to show how the struggles of the Global South are connected to United States foreign policy.

"Students for Justice in Palestine is a really intersectional line of work that uses Palestine as the compass to intersect with various different struggles situated in the Global South and here domestically in the United States," the representative said.

They went on to emphasize that they believe many U.S. institutions are complicit in the genocide, including the University of California (UC) system.

"[It is] to shed light on the U.S. foreign policies and how that affects students domestically in the United States, and how our tuition dollars and how UCs and institutions across the United States are heavily invested in genocide, in occupation, and how our the military industrial complex is connected and so heavily entrenched in Israel's occupation of Palestine, and SJP's role in that is sort of combating it, shedding light on it and connecting it with various different struggles across the world," the representative said.

For years, SJP chapters across the UC have called for the UC Board of Regents to divest from weapons manufacturers which supply the Israel Defense Forces with weapons. According to the SJP representative, that remains a central goal of the organization.

"This is a UC-wide call for divestment, and that still remains a really strong primary mission for national SJP, to be entirely removed from weapons manufacturing and violence and occupation and genocide, and to ensure that our access to education isn't being equated to destroying another person's access to education elsewhere," the representative said.

This summer, SJP fundraised $17,500 for a teenager in Palestine who has recently been accepted to a university in France. The legal battle for evacuation out of Palestine is still ongoing, but the organization hopes their fundraising efforts can help the teen access higher education.



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

This summer SJP fundraised $17,500 for a teenager in Palestine who has recently been accepted to a university in France.

"I think that there are a million different ways every single day that even myself am reminded of all the ways that I get to enjoy privilege. I reckon that a lot of people feel very similar to me, that [it's important] using your privilege to champion the struggles of others who don't receive those same luxuries as us," the representative said.

The representative emphasized the important role student activists have played in fighting a history of global inequality.

"We tend to think of ourselves as powerless, but we're really not. If you think about when these moments of momentum happen, I think about during the Vietnam protests and during like [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] protests and the encampments that happened on campus, I think about how it's typically in these university settings that it's usually students who are on the forefront of making change, in terms of U.S. policy," the representative said.

Another major fundraising event SJP conducted this summer is to help combat Gaza's water crisis. The organization has partnered with the Anfiqou Foundation to help provide clean drinking water and medical supplies to Palestinians in the displacement camps of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip.

In the midst of a three-year-long genocide and over 75 years of occupation, clean water has become a scarce resource for Palestinians living in Gaza. According to the United Nations (UN), over 1.3 million people in Gaza have access to less than six liters of water per day for drinking and cooking, while the humanitarian standard for minimum water access is 15 liters per day. The UN has also reported that Gaza's water access has been "weaponised and severely undermined by the Israeli authorities since October 2023."

"Through our connection to Anfiqou, we were able to supply people in Gaza with water and other medical supplies, which I can't even emphasize enough how much of a serious need that is," the representative said.

The representative emphasized that SJP wants UCSB students to understand that conflicts, genocides and wars across the world do impact their lives, and draws direct connections to the material conditions of those living in the U.S. to those living in countries with humanitarian crises.

"I think understanding that nothing exists in any part of the world within a vacuum. Everything is a symbiotic relationship," the representative said. "That the luxury that we receive here, and all the infinite sort of privileges that we have that are completely endless. The fact that I can turn on my water in my kitchen and I have a home and I can walk to school. All these privileges come, I understand, at the expense of how the United States and Israel takes away all those privileges from the rest of the world and the Global South at large."

Senate establishes permanent student safety committee, discusses funding concerns

Elijah Obando
University News Editor

The 77th Associated Students Senate established a permanent student safety committee under the Office of the President at its Oct. 7 meeting, formalizing ongoing efforts to address student safety concerns at UC Santa Barbara.

After being referred to the Advocacy Committee, the Senate unanimously passed the bill to establish a student safety committee, building upon the work the temporary committee established last year.

According to the legislation, the committee will coordinate monthly public meetings with the UC Police Department, Isla Vista Foot Patrol (IVFP) and campus administrators. Its responsibilities will pertain to addressing student safety concerns, including theft, assault, bicycle safety and video monitoring.

The committee will be made up of at least seven voting members, including the Office of the External Vice President for Local Affairs' Police Liaison, and several non-voting members along with one career staff member appointed by Associated Students (A.S.) Executive Director Sean Lieberman.

External reports

During External Reports, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Life Suzanne Perkin highlighted that the University will be piloting a new safety app, "SafeZone," with hopes for it to go live in spring quarter.

SafeZone, which is used globally by over 40 universities, will allow students to request emergency assistance and share their locations with campus personnel. Discussions surrounding the app's implementation began last spring, with the temporary student safety committee involved in its planning.

Senator and second-year physics major Alec GeoSimonian asked Perkin whether the University has plans to echo A.S.'s statement regarding Flock cameras, which condemned their use around the Santa Barbara area.

"I wanted to ask if the University has any plans to make a similar statement surrounding these cameras given the attention that they've been receiving in the media, especially in regards to undocumented people, and the fact that we have a camera right outside Santa Catalina [Residence Hall] where a lot of international students reside," GeoSimonian said.

Perkin said she was unaware of any plans but emphasized that the University does not use Flock cameras and would pass along the suggestion for a formal statement on behalf of the Senate.

Committee reports

During the committee reports, Senate Finance Committee Vice Chair and fourth-year economics and accounting major Faizaan Chunawala reported allocating around $65,000 of its $136,000 fall-quarter budget within the first two weeks.

Chunawala explained that 48% of the budget has gone toward fulfilling requests from several Boards, Committees and Units (BCUs) and sports teams at their previous meeting.

"The funds are going fast, so first come, first serve," Chunawala said. "We are doing our best to — not cut, but emphasize to groups to find other forms of fundraising before they come to us. And then also when they [do] come to us, making sure they're looking at different quotes and finding ways to make [their requests] as cheap as possible."

The reduction in budget comes alongside A.S. discussions over expenses within the association. Internal Vice President and fourth-year sociology and psychological & brain sciences double major Victoria Ly urged senators to be mindful of the financial impact of the bills and resolutions passed — highlighting that they are permanent.

"We've been going through the bills and resolutions pretty quickly, which is one: good for our time, but two: a lot of these are going to be implemented in legal code permanently and will affect future generations of [the] Senate and the association," Ly said. "Some groups that are more project based, more of their funds are being used toward people working than actual projects, so that's something to consider."

Ly emphasized that creating new positions can create recurring financial obligations through honoraria. She cautioned that growing personnel expenses could reduce the amount of funding available and potentially make raising student fees unavoidable.


SHENGYU ZHANG / DAILY NEXUS

After being referred to the advocacy committee, the Senate unanimously passed the bill to establish a student safety committee.

Legislation passed

The Senate passed a resolution "Assuring the Safety and Welfare of All Students," which states that A.S. is committed to protecting UCSB students and condemns "all forms of violent, physical, and sexual harassment and assault."

Next, the Senate also passed a bill to update the University of California in Isla Vista Legal Code to include new positions for a treasurer, executive assistant and an additional board member.

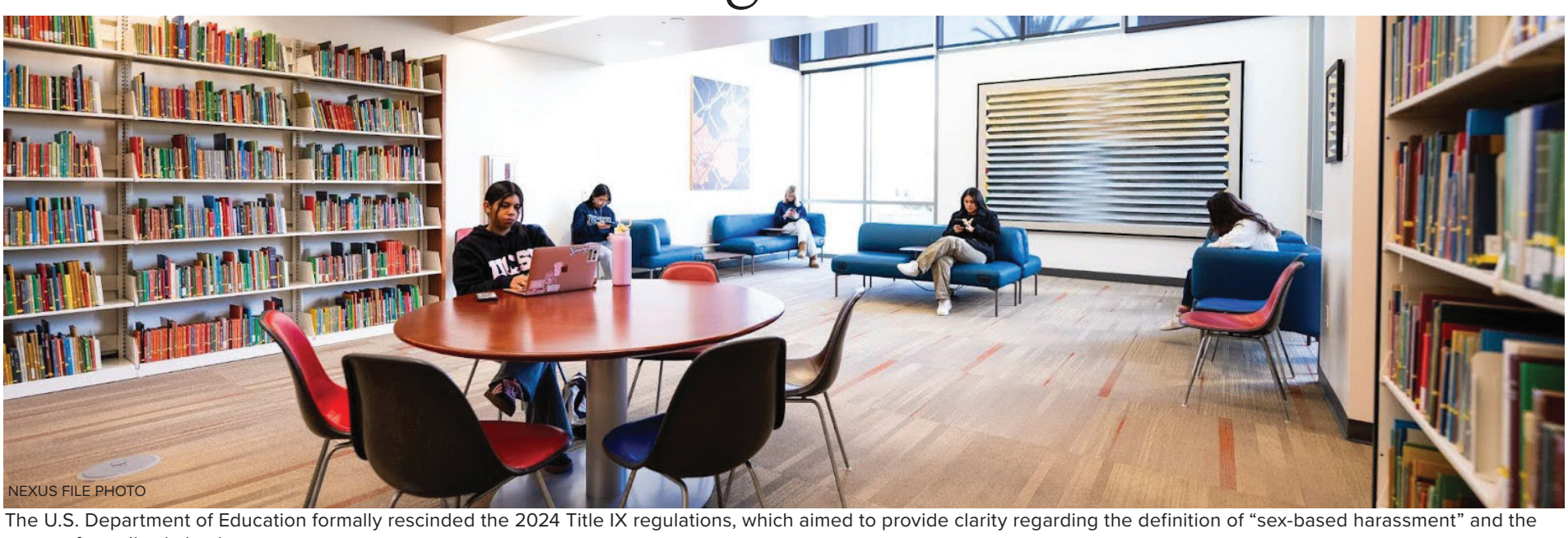
The Senate passed a bill that institutionalizes the Isla Vista Farmer's Market program in the Office of the External Vice President For Local Affairs Legal Code; it will also establish three positions: a director, vendor outreach coordinator and marketing coordinator. According to the legislation, the bill is aimed at supporting the "longevity" of the program.

Legislation proposed

Several bills were introduced and referred to different committees for further review. A bill to establish an Alumni & Donor Relations Committee under the Office of the President was referred to the Liaison Committee.

The senate also referred a bill to update the Black Women's Health Collaborative's legal code to the Liaison Committee. The bill would change the spelling of Women to "Womyn" to reflect what "their founders wanted." The bill would also add a senator on their non-voting membership.

U.S. Department of Education rescinded 2024 Title IX regulations


NEXUS FILE PHOTO

The U.S. Department of Education formally rescinded the 2024 Title IX regulations, which aimed to provide clarity regarding the definition of "sex-based harassment" and the scope of sex discrimination.

Julia Sanabria
Community Outreach Editor

The U.S. Department of Education formally rescinded the 2024 Title IX regulations, which aimed to provide clarity regarding the definition of "sex-based harassment" and the scope of sex discrimination, including not discriminating based on sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. The department is doing this without a public notice and comment period.

The Office of the Vice Chancellor's Division of Student Affairs sent out an email on Oct. 6 addressing the recent development. The email showed support for the affected communities and reminded the campus that the federal government's decision is not aligned with UC Santa Barbara's Principles of Community.

"Federal policy may change, but our commitment to the LGBTQIA+ members of our community does not. You belong here, and we remain committed to protecting your dignity, supporting your well-being, and ensuring your full participation in campus life," the email read.

They also reminded students that both California law and University of California policy prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

The original 1972 Title IX states that "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

In May 2020, under President Donald Trump's administration, new Title IX regulations were released and intended to clarify sexual harassment as a form of sex discrimination, remove inconsistency during investigations, ensure fairness for both parties during due process proceedings and require schools to provide supportive measures for both parties.

In 2021, Biden signed an executive order instructing then Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to propose policy changes that would expand Title IX protections.

In 2024, under the Biden administration, new regulations replaced the 2020 rules. These regulations strengthened protections of LGBTQIA+ individuals and changed procedures for investigating sexual assault and violence claims.

As shown, over time, the definition has expanded. Title IX began with allowing and enforcing girls' rights to participate in school sports, then expanded to include rectifying issues of sexual harassment and violence on campus and finally identifying that sexual orientation and gender identity rights count under the broad Title IX purpose of gender inclusivity.

This evolution has led to intense conflict between various administrations regarding how Title IX should be carried out. Many of these debates are mainly centering around transgender rights.

"The Biden Administration's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) pushed schools across the country to illegally allow males to intrude into women's sports and intimate facilities, and it investigated school staff for using incorrect pronouns or failing to ask students to declare a preferred gender. The Trump Administration has rescinded these agreements," the U.S. Department of Education website reads.

UCSB Student Affairs reminded students of the various campus resources, such as the UCSB Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, available to them for support.

The University of California Office of the President (UCOP) provided a statement to the Daily Nexus regarding uncertainty surrounding this recent development. In the statement, they mentioned how the University's Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy should still mainly align with the new changes.

"The University of California is committed to providing educational opportunities, programs and services free from discrimination and harassment. UC policy expressly prohibits discrimination and harassment based on sex (including sexual violence and sexual harassment), sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression and related retaliation," Rachel Zaentz, Senior Director of Strategic and Critical Communications for UCOP, stated. "The University's Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy (SVSH Policy) and related procedures were adopted to comply with the 2020 Title IX rule. Since the 2026 Title IX rule primarily restores the 2020 rule, and UC has continued to implement the SVSH policy consistent with it, we do not anticipate changes but are carefully reviewing the 2026 rule."



UCSB Basic Needs unable to offer Technology Grant, cites lack of funding



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

The UCSB Basic Needs Technology Support Program continues to offer other loan-based resources out to students in need of temporary devices.

Ramona Jacobson
Reporter

UC Santa Barbara's Basic Needs program, a campus initiative which assists students in accessing resources for daily life and academics, is currently unable to offer its Basic Needs Technology Grant due to lack of funding.

The Basic Needs Technology Grant, administered in partnership with UCSB's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, was a need-based award intended to help students cover technology expenses and access key technological resources to support their academic career. The grant provided up to $500 in funds for students with demonstrated financial need for the purpose of purchasing or repairing a laptop or tablet.

According to Rebecca Segundo, the senior director for Basic Needs and state-funded programs, the grant is no longer being offered because its funding was exhausted at the end of the 2025-26 academic year. Subsequently, the Basic Needs program has not been able to identify an additional source of funding. Over the past four years, she said, the grant was primarily funded by the Student Fee Advisory Committee.

In an email statement to the Daily Nexus, Segundo expressed that she hopes the grant may return and that Basic Needs is currently looking into how to reinstate it.

"We hope this grant will return, as it provided students with autonomy in identifying and purchasing a laptop that best suited their needs [and] coursework in order for them to be academically successful and make progress toward their degree," Segundo said. "The Basic Needs team is exploring options to expand our program to include financial resources again in the future."

Third-year political science major Camila Guizar was surprised and disappointed to hear about the loss of the grant. She had received support from it in the past and has several friends and classmates who also benefited from it during their time at UCSB.

Guizar applied for the grant during her first year at UCSB because many of her classes required the use of an iPad in order to complete coursework, but she could not afford the significant expense at that time.

"I was really trying to pay off just my tuition, so getting a new device was just not affordable for me at all," Guizar said.

Because of this experience, Guizar feels that this grant provided a valuable opportunity for her and recalled that the grant was in high demand.

"I have a lot of friends who also told me about the grant, and when I was applying, everyone was telling me, 'You have to be on it, it fills up really quickly and there's a lot of applicants for it,'" she said.

Segundo said that students in financial need, and especially those without a functional device for schoolwork, are expected to be most impacted by loss of the grant. She expects a rise in demand for loan-based support from the Basic Needs Technology Program. Additionally, she believes that more students will be likely to use the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships' Cost of Attendance Appeal — a formal request filed by a UCSB student to increase their financial aid budget if their educational expenses are higher than the standard estimated budget — to access funding to purchase technology.

Guizar shared that she is worried that a significant number of UCSB students will be negatively impacted by the loss of the grant.

"In the past, I really needed that money, and a lot of my friends did too," she said. "There's so many other people in that position that I was that won't even have that as an option, and college is expensive."

She recognizes that there are other grants in existence at UCSB that may be able to help students afford these expenses but feels that funding and resources are often limited.

"A lot of my friends who work at Basic Needs or in financial aid tell me every year there's less and less funding," she said. "I feel like we pay so much for this school. Why are they taking away resources that genuinely help students get their education like this?"

Segundo said that while the grant was a useful resource for students, the Basic Needs program offers additional support to students through various alternatives.

"The UCSB Basic Needs Technology Support Program continues to offer other loan-based resources out to students in need of temporary devices, including loaner iPads available to undergraduates for up to one quarter through a partnership with Associated Students, advanced laptops available for one quarter through a partnership with Graduate Student Association and Chromebooks available for both graduate and undergraduate students for up to a 30 day period," Segundo said.

C.A.R.E. hosts Ribbons for Relationship Violence Awareness

Salome Harris
Reporter
Isabella Terranova
Reporter

The Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education office hosted Ribbons for Relationship Violence on Oct. 10. Students participated in crafting purple ribbons and learning about relationship violence to commemorate Relationship Violence Awareness Month.

Ribbons for Relationship Violence is coordinated by UC Santa Barbara alum Stephanie Raya. She serves as the Interpersonal Violence Prevention Specialist for both the Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education (C.A.R.E.) office and the Health & Wellness office.

The C.A.R.E. office supports survivors of relationship violence, sexual assault, stalking and harassment. They are able to connect students with resources on and off campus, including state-certified advocates.

"We are confidential ... We're not associated with Title IX or [the] University of California Police Department," Raya stated.

The event began with C.A.R.E.'s goals to encourage "capable leaders," create "active bystanders" and help destigmatize discussions about relationship violence. Raya expressed how the recent alleged Chi Phi rape case at Cornell University makes this event, and the effort to raise awareness about relationship violence, all the more important.

Those in attendance fashioned small purple ribbons, the symbol of Relationship Violence Awareness Month. These will be available on campus at the Student Resource Building and University Center.

"This way, we're asking students to do the work with us, not just listen and learn but rather help us actually make an impact on the community," Raya said.

As the students crafted, Raya delivered a presentation about the characteristics of a harmful relationship and the history behind Relationship Violence Awareness Month. The presentation also contained information on how to intervene in a potentially dangerous situation using the "three Ds" to bystander intervention: direct, delegate and distract.

Another topic of conversation was the perceived barrier that often stifles survivors from coming forward.

"A lot of folks don't fully realize the barriers that exist on why someone may not want to leave a relationship ... there's a lot of shame still in our community, where I think a lot of survivors feel uncomfortable sharing their experiences and feel like they did something to deserve that harm," Raya mentioned.

C.A.R.E. advocates stressed the message that "we all deserve healthy love" and highlighted how to support a loved one who is experiencing an unhealthy relationship. They also notified students of C.A.R.E.'s 24/7 confidential phone line, which can be found on the UCSB C.A.R.E. website, as well as on the back of student access cards.

This event offered an hour of community service to groups on campus that require it, such as sororities. With the turnout being lower than expected, Raya expressed her desire to reach more students.

"My hope is for them to be more engaged in these conversations," she said.

Daniel Recinos, a third-year psychological & brain sciences major, said his experience at the event was positive.

"I always love doing arts and crafts, especially doing something that I know is going to have an impact on a lot of students here on campus — it's special to me," he said.


ISABELLA TERRANOVA / DAILY NEXUS

The event began with C.A.R.E.'s goals to encourage "capable leaders," create "active bystanders" and help destigmatize discussions about relationship violence.



Associated Students hosts second annual Kick-Off Fair

Dylan Vo
Staff Writer

Associated Students hosted its second annual Kick-Off Fair to introduce students to the resources it offers on Oct. 9. The free event on the Annex Lawn included free Sam's To Go sandwiches, a petting zoo, a photo booth and tabling from multiple organizations.

Associated Students (A.S.) hosts its Kick-Off Fair annually to educate students on the services and opportunities that it provides. The fair also sought to advocate for marginalized groups and uphold their success by reaching out and recruiting different communities.

The fair featured a petting zoo, courtesy of the A.S. Commission on Student Well Being, free Sandwiches from Sam's To Go and a photo booth. Tablers at the event included Raíces de mi Tierra, The Bottom Line, KCSB and the A.S. Bike Committee, Food Bank, Program Board, Office of the Student Advocate (OSA), Transfer Student Alliance, Global Gaucho Commission and the Community Financial Fund.

The event was spearheaded by A.S. President and fourth-year political science major E.J. Raad, who was in charge of booking the space, reserving tables and chairs, ordering the food, assembling A.S. to table and marketing. Raad expressed gratitude for the turnout at the event.

"You see them interacting with tables, talking to the people in A.S. and learning about it. It's a really good turnout, so I think it's going really great," Raad said.

A.S. External Vice President for Statewide Affairs and third-year biology major Jasmine Hsieh stated that the location of the fair and petting zoo were what interested her the most.

"I think the place is very strategic, putting it on this walkway. A lot of students are passing through," Hsieh said. "The petting zoo seems very fun. Did not get to see the pig, but he seemed cute."

Second-year history major and OSA Director of Public Interest Isabella Le enjoyed introducing students to resources OSA provides.



SHENGYU ZHANG / DAILY NEXUS

The fair featured a petting zoo where students could interact with goats, pigs and ducks.

"We've been able to talk to a lot of people who haven't previously heard about OSA and really spread the word about who we are and what we do as an organization," Le said.

Meanwhile, second-year political science major and OSA External Deputy Chief of Staff Anushka Kumaran enjoyed the community-building experience of the fair.

"We've been not only talking to other students who aren't part of A.S. but just other A.S. orgs," Kaumaran said. "We've been going to tables, filming content with them and speaking with them. I think that's what A.S. is all about."



UCSB Parking Information

Halloween 2026

- **Registered UCSB Students** with an Annual Night & Weekend parking permit can park in designated lots on campus beginning at 9am on Friday, October 30th until 7:30am on Monday, November 2nd
- Designated lots for night and weekend holders are in Structure 22, and Mesa 18. All other campus lots are subject to closure.
- **Apply/purchase online by going to tps.ucsb.edu/epermits.** Permit verification can take up to three days, so purchase by October 22nd.

No Overnight Visitor Parking is allowed on the UCSB Campus on Friday October 30th and Saturday October 31st

$52.50 – valid through June 30, 2027.

One permit per registered student; vehicle must be linked to permit.

TPS

Order online today!
Deadline to order is Oct 22nd!

OPINION

DRUNK CIGARETTES DON'T COUNT



COURTESY OF DYLAN HUNTER

Dylan Hunter
Opinion Editor

I smoked my first drunk cigarette standing outside of a party while waiting for my group of friends to finish using the bathroom. My friend handed me a single out of a pack of American Spirit Blues as I set up my post, leaning against the wall in a passageway between two houses. The breeze blew at an angle where the fire from the lighter burned my thumb as I tried to line the tip of the cigarette up with the flame. I took a solid pull and blew the smoke up in the air as a small gesture of courtesy for those walking past, and I remember thinking that the puff left hanging in the sky vaguely resembled the shape of the Milky Way Galaxy.

Cigarettes are not necessarily my vice of choice, especially not while sober. The drag of a cigarette feels like a punch to the back of my throat and the light buzz isn't something that is worth the initial attack. The lingering smell isn't my preferred scent, nor is the light cough or raspy voice you are rewarded with after you're done. The risk to reward ratio just isn't there for me personally, but I don't mean to belabor points that we have all learned in every drug awareness campaign on the planet — I just mean to say that the last thing I thought I would thoroughly enjoy was a cigarette.

When the nicotine that night found its way into my bloodstream, it was like I miraculously understood why there is such a negative gravity surrounding cigarettes — it felt amazing. I could suddenly grasp why someone would purposefully shave off years of their life for such a fleeting feeling. I felt relaxed yet alert, fully free to enjoy the passing of my own thoughts, no matter how loud the music around me was. But with this pleasure came its close companion: guilt. The single most dangerous habit to develop was sitting in between my index and middle fingers, crawling its way through my heart and into my brain — and I was enjoying it.


COURTESY OF NARINEH MADIKIANS

A lot of the social justification for smoking cigarettes that I have encountered in the wild all stem from the same passive, fatalistic ideology. The future is dark and unknown, and the act of smoking provides a familiar glow. Artificial intelligence and short-form media will turn our brains into mush anyway, and microplastics will seep deeper and deeper into our blood regardless of how you spend your time. In the face of such uncertainty, what is the harm in lighting up every now and then, or all the time? It's not like smoking, or any habit of its nature, requires justification. But for something that is so objectively bad for you, I feel it's only right to have a lighthearted mantra that warrants participating.

What appeals to me the most about cigarettes, though, is the culture surrounding them. Sitting on a balcony passing a dart back and forth in the middle of a light conversation, dropping the filter to the ground and stomping as if it was a period to a run-on sentence. Bumming one off of a stranger, trusting them enough to hold an open flame to your lips and wasting time on a sidewalk while watching the events of a night out pass in front of you. No matter how chaotic a night can become, there is always a calm within the storm waiting for you, so long as you're okay with the health complications that come after. Having a pack of cigarettes in my pocket puts me in a position to have even a chance at moments like these, and I believe that these moments are simply worth sacrificing your health for. The cigarettes smoked at times like these simply don't count — they are perfectly healthy pockets of time that all the credible health companies are conveniently unable to account for.


COURTESY OF NARINEH MADIKIANS

I don't mean to sit in the privilege of good health and shamelessly glorify a habit that has ruined the lives of many. Cigarettes are harmful to yourself and those around you, and there is no argument in the world that can refute that. There are poisons everywhere in life. It's just unfortunate that many of them taste and feel really good — but that is nothing to feel guilty over. I would never blame Eve for eating the forbidden fruit, nor would I want her to live her life in regret. There are decisions that you make that are damaging, but life is too complex to get caught up in moral trivia. Maybe, then, some actions just shouldn't count.

Drunk cigarettes not counting doesn't represent an inebriated lapse in judgement or a careless whisper to excuse a poor decision. To me, it's the conscious embrace of a meaningful moment when it is given to you, outside of the judgement or regret that you might feel for participating in it. We are given limited time on this earth, and we spend lifetimes counting and reflecting on our actions. The freedom to move without judgement is something you can spend your entire life searching for — I just happened to find it in a repurposed Altoids tin.

That night, after my friends washed their hands and stepped back outside to meet me, I dropped the butt to the ground and stepped on its sparks. That moment existed outside of the natural flow of time that evening, outside the typical moral and clinical rules that govern what is right and what is not. A guilty pleasure is pleasure after all, and to deny that would be to deny what makes the so-called "cold and indifferent" universe strangely considerate.

Dylan Hunter wants you to know that cigarettes are dangerous (when they count).

VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THE OPINION PAGE DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE *DAILY NEXUS* OR UCSB. OPINIONS ARE SUBMITTED PRIMARILY BY STUDENTS.

HOROSCOPES

The signs as regrettable drunk decisions

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 19
Texting your ex

TAURUS
APRIL 20 - MAY 20
Trying to pet a raccoon

GEMINI
MAY 21 - JUNE 20
Doordashing expensive food

CANCER
JUNE 21 - JULY 22
Skinny dipping in the ocean

LEO
JULY 23 - AUGUST 22
Doing an on-street interview

VIRGO
AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22
Crashing a Lime scooter

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22
Having that last shot

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21
Getting into a fight with your roomate

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21
Getting a tattoo

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19
Butt-dialing your mom

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18
Ordering the uber on your account knowing your roomate might get sick...

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20
Deciding someone's front yard is a public bathroom

SPORTS

Men's Soccer claims Blue-Green Rivalry with 3-1 win over Cal Poly

Arianna Doan
Sports Editor

In front of 11,183 fans at Harder Stadium, UC Santa Barbara Men's Soccer defeated California Polytechnic State University 3-1 on Saturday night, scoring 3 first-half goals to secure the Blue-Green Rivalry series and earn bragging rights over a longtime rival.

The Gauchos entered the match looking for revenge after losing to the Mustangs in their first meeting of the season in late September. Santa Barbara responded with its strongest performance in recent weeks, extending its unbeaten streak to four matches and securing the rivalry series by a total score of 4-3. The crowd was the largest at an NCAA men's soccer match this season.

Santa Barbara wasted little time establishing control, opening the scoring in the 18th minute. After the Gauchos took possession in midfield, sophomore midfielder Jack Middleton flicked the ball to senior forward Donovan Sessoms, who played it ahead to sophomore midfielder Steinar Bjornsson. Despite being knocked down by a defender, Bjornsson recovered and finished past the goalkeeper to give the Gauchos a 1-0 lead.

Five minutes later, Santa Barbara doubled its advantage. Junior forward Zac Siebenlist brought down a long pass and held off a defender before playing the ball to Bjornsson on the right wing. Bjornsson sent a cross into the penalty area, where Siebenlist arrived to guide the ball into the net for his first goal of the season.

The Gauchos continued to create chances, while sophomore goalkeeper Owen Beninga kept Cal Poly from finding a way back into the match. Beninga made consecutive saves in the 25th and 28th minutes, first stopping a shot to his right before rushing off his line to deny a Mustang attacker in a one-on-one opportunity.

Santa Barbara added a third goal in the 39th minute to take a commanding lead into halftime. Middleton lifted a pass over the Cal Poly defense, finding senior midfielder Kaden Standish in stride. Standish timed his run to stay onside before striking a left-footed volley into the net, capping off a dominant first half for the Gauchos.

Despite the three-goal cushion, Santa Barbara still had to up its defense in the second half. Although Cal Poly threatened in the 70th minute, Beninga made another save before senior defender Calle Mollerberg cleared the follow-up attempt near the goal line to preserve the Gauchos' advantage.

The Mustangs eventually broke through in the 85th minute, scoring off a rebound after Beninga stopped a long-range shot. The goal cut the deficit to two, but Cal Poly could not build on the momentum, as Santa Barbara held on for the 3-1 victory.

For head coach Tim Vom Steeg, the performance came at an important moment for a team looking to regain confidence.

"When you're not playing well and you're maybe struggling with some confidence, to play a team like Cal Poly is not a great game for you to regain your confidence," Vom Steeg said. "But not surprising, you know, you put a bunch of people in the stands, you turn the lights on and it's Harder Stadium, and some of the magic just came back tonight."

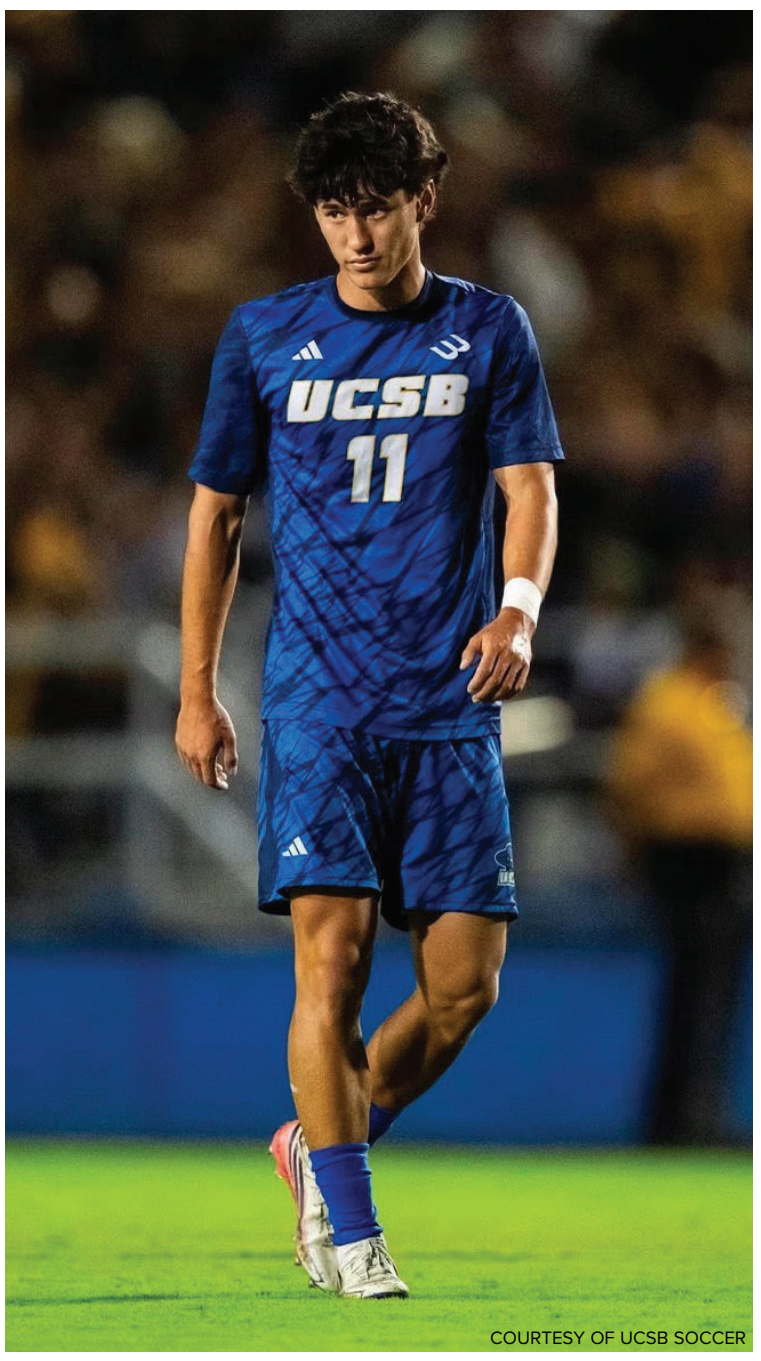
The night also marked a celebration of the program's history. As part of Alumni Weekend and the 60th season of UCSB men's soccer, the Gauchos honored members of their 2006 NCAA national championship team at halftime, marking the 20th anniversary of the title. Vom Steeg said approximately 17 to 18 members of the championship team returned to campus for the occasion, including some who had not visited in two decades.

Siebenlist, who grew up in San Luis Obispo, said scoring against his hometown team made the goal particularly meaningful.

"There's been a lot of individual goals this season for our team, and I think that one was not so much individual, and obviously I was on the end of that ball, but I couldn't have done it at all without Steinar getting that ball to me," Siebenlist said.

The victory gives Santa Barbara momentum heading into its next stretch of road games. The Gauchos will travel to Spokane, Washington, to face Gonzaga University on Wednesday, Oct. 14, before returning to Big West play against California State University, Fullerton on Saturday, Oct. 17.

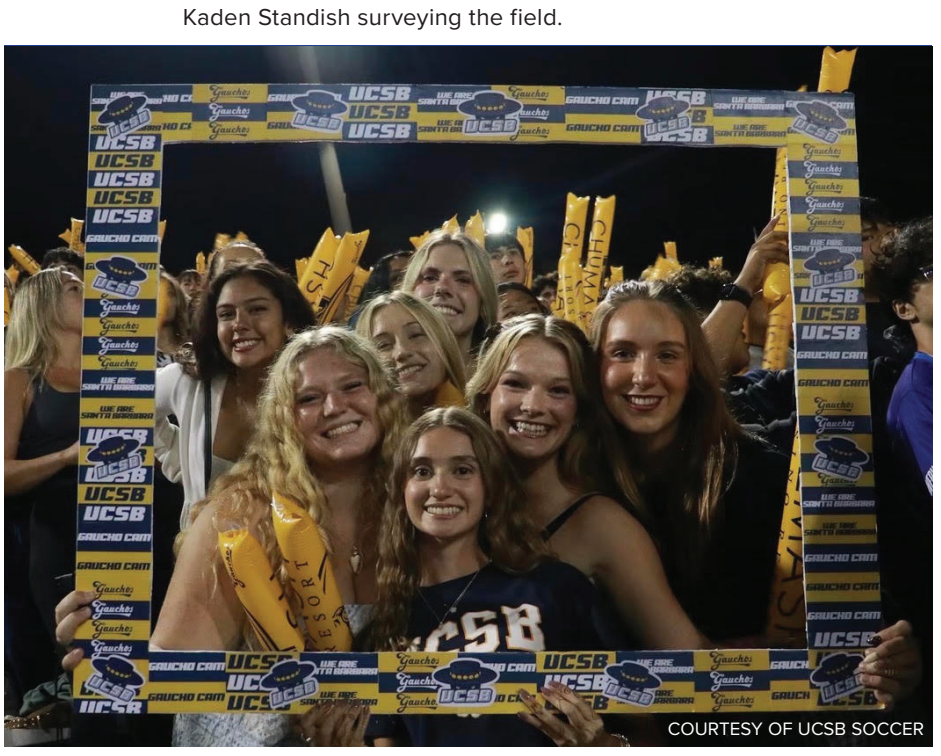
Santa Barbara's next home match is scheduled for Oct. 21 against California Baptist University.



COURTESY OF UCSB SOCCER
Kaden Standish surveying the field.



COURTESY OF UCSB SOCCER
UCSB alumni returned to campus to enjoy the game.



COURTESY OF UCSB SOCCER
Over 11,000 fans were in attendance at the game.

Martinez's career-high 28 kills not enough as Gauchos drop two



COURTESY OF UCSB VOLLEYBALL
Gabi Martinez celebrates after a point.

Izabella Nickerson
Asst. Sports Editor

UC Santa Barbara Women's Volleyball (8-9, 4-2 Big West) broke their four-match winning streak in the Big West Conference and dropped both road matches this weekend, falling 1-3 to California State University, Long Beach and 2-3 to California State University, Fullerton.

The Gauchos traveled to Long Beach on Friday, Oct 9. Starting with a strong opening position, they took the first set 25-23, but lost the next three sets to the Beach at 18-25, 19-25 and 18-25 again.

Despite the loss, several Gauchos reached double digits, including sophomore outside hitter Gabi Martinez, who delivered 13 kills and 13 digs from the court, and junior outside hitter Sophia Wendlick, who reached 11 kills.

The Gauchos then traveled to Fullerton to compete against the Titans on Saturday, Oct. 10, where Martinez delivered a career-high from the court with 28 kills, tying for the most kills in the conference so far this season. The Gauchos had not lost to the Titans since 2012, marking Fullerton's first conference win of the season.

Exchanging points to begin the first set, with Fullerton leading 8-5, the Gauchos rallied back to tie at 8-8 and 11-11. The Titans then established a four-point lead at 20-16; however, a six-point run by the Gauchos propelled them ahead again at 22-21. It was a tight battle until the end when senior middle blocker Sandrea Thomas delivered a solo block, and Martinez closed the set with an ace.

Pushing forward, the Gauchos took the second set 25-19 with another six straight points that pushed them from a 15-15 tie to a 21-15 lead. Finishing it off, Wendlick delivered a kill, ending the set at 25-19.

Up 2-0, the match was not over yet when the Titans began to make their comeback, claiming the third set at 25-19. The Titans then took the fourth set, leading 20-12 and closing the match at 25-19.

Tied 2-2, the Gauchos headed into the fifth set hoping to pull out the win. Tied at 6-6, the Gauchos led at 10-7 and 13-10 points away from victory when the Titans sent five consecutive points back, claiming the match at 15-13.

Regardless of the loss, several Gauchos were persistent from the net, with several career highs set against the Titans. Martinez hit her career-high with 28 kills, Thomas hit 10 and sophomore opposite Avery Gibbs hit 7 kills.

Head Coach Michael Henchy expressed disappointment with the results of this weekend's matches.

"We left opportunities unturned this week, and while the pain of regret is strong currently, we have full control over what we do next," he said.

The Gauchos are only six matches into the Big West for the season, giving them ample opportunities to showcase their strengths on the court.

"We have the chance to do something great, and we won't let that pass us by without a fight," Henchy concluded.

With a couple of days to recover, the Gauchos will come home to take on UC Riverside on Friday, Oct. 16, and California Baptist University on Saturday, Oct. 17.

COLUMNISTS



What we keep wearing:

Colored tights

Arna Churiwala
Fashionista

There are only so many ways to wear a black miniskirt before you start to think that your wardrobe has become a uniform. However, tights are a solution to what might feel like a monotonous outfit. Add an oversized sweater, ballet flats and a pair of tights, and you have a fall outfit. Add cherry red tights, and suddenly you have a personality.

Fall dressing can get a little repetitive. We reach for the same black, brown and grey pieces, hoping that a slightly different cardigan will somehow make us stand out, all the while keeping us warm.

Enter colored tights: the easiest way to make your legs the most interesting part of your outfit. They are practical, playful and dramatic enough to make a perfectly ordinary Tuesday feel like an occasion. And at UCSB, where the temperature rarely dips below 60 degrees, they offer a way to participate in fall fashion without dressing like we live in a snow globe.

Colored tights originally gained traction in the late '60s and '70s. British designer Mary Quant paired her youthful minidresses with opaque tights in shades like scarlet, mustard and plum. The look was practical, but also challenged the more conservative expectations surrounding women's clothing. With the help of model Twiggy, whose wide-eyed look became synonymous with the decade's mod style, colorful hosiery became associated with youth and rebellion.

This continued when they came back into fashion in the mid-2000s Tumblr twee era, a style that has been creeping back into closets throughout the indie sleaze revival of the 2020s.

In other words, women have been making their legs a topic of conversation in the world of style for decades. Colored tights have since developed a number of personalities. They can be punk, preppy, romantic or even ridiculous, depending on the shade and what you pair them with.

Red tights, in particular, have enjoyed a fashion revival, appearing in recent seasons alongside the broader return of statement hosiery. ELLE reported colorful tights across fall 2026 runways, from tomato red at Marc Jacobs to seafoam green at Chanel and vivid cobalt at Simone Bellotti. Apparently, designers have decided that the most overlooked part of an outfit can steal the show.

Red is the obvious starting point. Cherry-red tights paired with a black minidress and ballet flats can make the most simple outfit feel both classy and fun. They carry a certain Blair Waldorf energy: polished and slightly theatrical. Waldorf practically made colored tights part of the Constance Billard uniform on "Gossip Girl," proving that a little hosiery can go a long way toward looking academically successful, even if your actual academic performance is another story.

For anyone who would rather not look like they are about to scheme their way into a Manhattan socialite's inner circle, burgundy and plum offer a subtler alternative. They bring warmth to an outfit without demanding quite so much attention. Pair them with a brown skirt, a grey sweater or loafers and you have a fall look that feels fit for a cozy dinner party or wine Wednesday.

Then there are the pastels. Baby pink, pistachio green and pale blue tights lean into the coquette aesthetic, especially with Mary Janes, lace-trimmed skirts or short white dresses. They are sweet, girlish and committed to the bit — which I think is part of the fun. Fashion does not always have to be serious!

Of course, the trick is knowing how to style them without looking like you accidentally wandered into a costume department. The easiest approach is to let the tights do the talking. Keep the rest of your outfit relatively simple and monotone. Red tights with a black skirt and black flats create a deliberate sandwich effect. Meanwhile, pink tights with a grey outfit offer a softer, ballerina-esque effect.

And there is no need to reserve the trend for miniskirts. Colored tights can work beneath mini shorts, peeking out under a long skirt or paired with a simple dress and oversized jacket. Sheer versions give a more understated wash of color, while opaque tights make a strong statement.

For our perpetually transitional California weather, they can also be a useful alternative to bare legs once the evenings get colder — without requiring a full commitment to sweaters, coats and the general inconvenience of actual winter.

The appeal of colored tights, though, goes beyond their ability to make an outfit look styled. They are a reminder that getting dressed can be playful. We spend so much time trying to find our personal style, as if it is a fixed destination we should eventually arrive at. But an outfit can be different every day. You can be preppy on Monday, romantic on Wednesday and eccentric on Friday. Sometimes, all it takes is changing the color of your stockings.

So if your fall wardrobe is beginning to look suspiciously like everyone else's, consider giving your legs something to contribute. You do not need a new coat, a new pair of boots or an entirely new aesthetic. The black miniskirt can stay. Just let the tights have a little fun.

Arna Churiwala believes legs can be the most chic body part.



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. TELEVISION

COURTESY OF LILY-ROSE DEPP

put me on aux:

Free music and free air



Siobhan Stewart
Beat Reporter

Music and fresh air. Something you don't see very often.

My friend and I were heading across Madrid to meet up with some friends when we stumbled onto an open concert. Bright blue lasers cut through the dark, a full band tore into a song on a full production stage and the buzzing crowd pulled us in. Flashlights were held up and the screen behind the artist was playing calm, ethereal montages. His piano skills paired with his strong voice carried an echo of heartbreak and bittersweet hope. He was a young man singing in Spanish, and though I couldn't understand the words, I felt every one of them. He communicated beyond words.

The square swayed as one — teenagers, grandparents and families all folded into the same sound. Groups of young adults sang the lyrics in unison. Grandparents who had likely just stumbled onto the scene moved gently to the rhythm. Little kids sat perched high on their parents' shoulders, taking it all in. Some sang every word, some simply soaked in the atmosphere and it didn't matter which.

Everyone was part of the music. Music doesn't just play, it connects. It is more than sound coming out of a speaker. It is emotion and feeling passing from one person to another. The energy caught and spread, binding strangers into one shared experience instead of a room full of individual listeners.

Beyond the beautiful mix of ages all connected in one wondrous moment, what struck me was the space between people. In America, concerts of any genre, whether house, country, reggae, indie or rap, are all insanely crowded. Reaching the front is nearly impossible, and even if you never make it to the barrier, breathing is not an option.

We were both shocked by how much fresh air we had to ourselves. Our first guess was that the artist simply wasn't that famous. So, of course, we looked him up. His name is Íñigo Quintero, a popular Spanish singer and songwriter with over 4.7 million monthly listeners on Spotify. In 2023, he reached number one on the Spotify Global chart, the first solo Spanish artist to do so, and in 2024, he earned a nomination for Best New Artist at the 25th Annual Latin Grammys. Clearly, this was no unknown act, which left the question lingering: Why was there so much space?

Maybe the show being free and held in a public square gave people more freedom to move. However, every free concert I've been to back home has been packed, with people elbowing for the best view. Free concerts at this level are rare in America, and the few that happen are jammed with people. Even rare pop-ups like Daniel Caesar, who posts the locations of his free concerts just before the beginning of his performance, still somehow seems to fill to the max.

So why was there so much space here? Maybe it's because free concerts in Madrid aren't rare. When I looked it up, I found that Spanish cities host countless free public concerts, especially around festivals and holidays, funded by the local government for anyone who wants to show up. If another one is always around the corner, nobody treats it like their one shot, so nobody fights like it's life or death. It is somewhere you can simply relax and take the music in, with none of the pre-show anxiety.

At most American concerts, there's the anxiety over pre-sale tickets, checking prices and planning months in advance. Once you're finally at the show, there's the urge to record everything, to get the perfect shot for your Instagram story. But maybe that urge is what gets in the way. The reason you came begins to blur. Are you there to watch them perform, to sing along with your friends and soak up the whole experience? Or are you there to capture it all on camera, to look back later at footage of a night you barely felt? In the end, it's just a video you could have watched on someone else's phone.

I'm not saying I haven't done the same. Sometimes when I rewatch my concert videos, I can't remember how the moment felt because I was so busy filming it so I could keep it forever. But at this random, public concert, listening to an artist I have never heard of before, I had no urge to search for my phone to record. I was listening, feeling and experiencing along with the crowd. I remember how I felt that night because I was in the present.

Part of that was the way he offered it. The stage, the lasers, the band: it was all there, but none of it felt like a performance staged for profit. It felt generous, like he wanted to share his music and create an experience for others. I left Sol that night wondering why that kind of concert feels so rare back home. We pay, we plan, we push and somewhere in all of it, we lose the point.

However, the real luxury wasn't that it was free, it was that nothing stood between us and the music, no price, no screen — just space to feel.

Siobhan believes concerts should be experienced, not just attended.



COURTESY OF CONCERTY

Íñigo Quintero is a popular Spanish singer and songwriter with over 4.7 million monthly listeners on Spotify.

NEXUSTENTIALISM

It's Satire, Stupid.

MADELINE BRYCE / DAILY NEXUS



Aliens (maybe) invade Isla Vista!

Ina Pickle
UFO

On Saturday, Oct. 10, UC Santa Barbara's student population was rendered completely shocked by what is believed to have been an extraterrestrial event, featuring a fiery streak blazing through the starlit sky.

Around 12:45 a.m., students began sharing personal accounts of the incident online. At first glance, it might have been a shooting star, but the surrounding hellish red glow signified it as something much more sinister. The Daily Nexus has launched an investigation into this major event.

A photo included below depicts the unidentified flying object (UFO), captured by a curious student and posted on their Instagram with the caption "WTFFFF." Other notable reactions include a Reddit post from user @bb.booty, which was titled "OMG I almost got abducted by aliens!!!!"

"I cannot even omg, yknow how sometimes ppl ask like the icebreaker question have u ever had a near-death experience, and before tonight like I always said no BUT thennnn ... okok lemme set the scene for y'all I was walking back from ur typical IV night when I see a f*cking alien spaceship in the f*cking sky!!! like how is that even possible ??? and I know I wasn't tripping bc I ran out of shrooms like last weekend and I lit only had like 3 gummies bro," @bb.booty's post reads.

While the credibility of user @bb.booty report is left in question under the influence of psychoactive substances, other fully sober students share similar questions and concerns.

Searches including keywords "space," "aliens" and "extraterrestrial" have skyrocketed — no pun intended. The mystery of the hurtling object has left UCSB's students not only perplexed and desperately searching for answers on the internet but also fearing for their lives.

Second-year biology major Rafael Ramirez-Lopez shared his thoughts on what happened.

"I was just so scared when I saw that thing in the sky. I thought we were all done for, either blasted to bits by a rock from space or invaded by some alien species," Ramirez-Lopez said. "I'm sorry I'm getting too nervous talking about this."

First-year psychology major Lily Daniels, who did not witness the event, claims to be equally traumatized for reasons unrelated to aliens.

"It felt like my whole building shook, and I live in FT on the 11th floor. I thought I was either going to die in an earthquake or my roommate brought another guy home," Daniels said.

In light of this frightening astronomic event, UCSB's student body has experienced a polarization. One group pursues a rational train of inquiry, for example researching the recent activities by companies like SpaceX that could provide an explanation. The other side has been claiming more supernatural forces are at play, even daring to theorize there are otherworldly lifeforms in our ranks.

We spoke to one such conspiracy theorist, fourth-year film and media studies major Evan Guggenheim who wore a tinfoil hat throughout the entirety of the interview.

"They're here with us now – we all have to be really careful. I think they got my barista – she looked at me really weird when I ordered my coffee this morning," Guggenheim said. "Only an alien posing as a human could act that way towards a customer."

When we questioned Guggenheim on his unique hat, he refused to comment.

Ina Pickle recommends walking in zig zags to avoid getting beamed up.

MADELINE BRYCE / DAILY NEXUS



British student freaks out over being mistaken for Australian again

Charlie A. Newsance
Culturally sensitive

'G'Day' was almost 'G'Night' for an anonymous student from the United Kingdom studying abroad at UC Santa Barbara who made a figurative and literal splash in response to a miscommunication about their home being down under.

The student's identity must remain anonymous at this time due to pending charges. The student will be referred to as "Samuel" for the sake of this report.

The first few weeks of UCSB's fall quarter began pleasantly, with students getting into the routine of classes, making friends and joining clubs, all while soaking up the rays at the beach.

An incident spiraled out of control from what was thought to be a pleasant interaction with a fellow student who Samuel considered a tentative friend. In response to the current heatwave baking Santa Barbara County, the student had jovially inquired about what it was like to grow up in Australia, leaving the alleged Aussie perplexed. According to Samuel, this is far from the first occasion they have been mistaken for an Australian.

"I thought it couldn't get worse than the first time someone asked if I was from Australia. It was bad enough that I was in Britain talking to some other British bloke when he asked. I thought goin' overseas would at least make things a bit betta," Samuel said.

Upon realizing that their accent had been mistaken for Australian, when in fact their blood was a concentrate of Yorkshire Gold, Samuel had seemingly one course of action.

The morning of Oct. 12, Samuel took 250 boxes of tea from an array of British tea brands: PG Tips, Yorkshire Gold, Twinings, Tetley, along with others, and steeped them in the lagoon as a public display of their patriotism to the Crown.

As other students caught a whiff of the spectacle and learned of the underlying story, they were faced with a delicate dilemma.

"No one wanted to be the one to tell them, I mean come on. Recreating the Boston Tea Party? Not the best way to show love for England," one passerby commented.

Upon uncovering that the large majority of onlooking students drew more threads between the historic rebellion with Great Britain of 1773, and not their own devotion to their home country, they were decidedly dejected, with the demonstration falling apart soon after.

Currently, Samuel is under mild investigation of endangering the wildlife residing within the lagoon.

"I actually thought it gave the water a nice flavor," Fishbert, a lagoon resident, testified.

When asked for any last comments, Samuel had only this to say:

"My only crime was loving my country."

When asked whether that country was America or Australia, Samuel added one more thing:

"Bloody* hell!"

*The use of the word "bloody" was questioned as potential grounds for being Australian, however when asked, Samuel simply launched into another string of curses, none of which helped prove their case.

Charlie A. Newsance is currently in the hospital after drinking lagoon-flavored tea.

MADELINE BRYCE / DAILY NEXUS



Struck by love: Freshman bike collisions lead to romance

Mikaela St. James
So Lonely

It's the beginning of fall quarter here at UC Santa Barbara, and the freshmen are looking for their first college romances. Many have installed Tinder and other dating apps for the first time, while others have been on the hunt for love at every party they attend.

However, there seems to be a type of meet-cute that the freshmen have come across that's both unexpected and a little dangerous. At the start of the year, many freshmen get around campus using their bikes, but not knowing how to ride them leads to lots of accidents.

Bike collisions are usually seen as something to avoid, but these freshmen have discovered that these "accidents" are a chance to meet people and develop romantic feelings.

First-year economics major Sally Ulrich attested to how this dynamic unfolds.

"I accidentally hit the cyclist in front of me in the bike path, and instead of getting mad at me, he asked for my phone number and other personal information. I think he's going to take me out soon!" Ulrich said.

Love hasn't just happened between cyclists. Students trying to walk to their classes on time have also shared their experiences of being stricken (or literally struck) by love.

Matthew Resler, a first-year political science major, is one such student.

"On the first day of classes, I was running late when a bike ran me over. The pain in my leg was killing me. But when I saw the girl who did it, I thought the pain was like a sign from the god of love or something. It hurts to walk, but I think it was worth it," Resler shared.

After hearing about these surprising romantic encounters, some first-years have made it their mission to get into a bike collision.

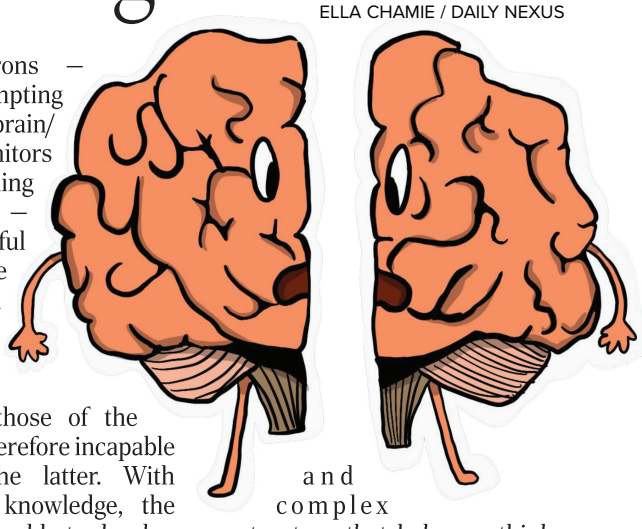
"When I heard the stories of people finding love through bike accidents, I knew what I had to do," first-year computer science major Jacob Crosby said. "Every time I walk in the bike lane, I stop and hope to be crushed by my future lover. I might sound crazy, but I'm so fucking desperate. I need to be touched. I crave love. I've almost been hit a couple of times though, so I think this method is actually going to work!"

With the rise of bike collision romances happening to freshmen, we should all learn from them and purposefully get into bike accidents ourselves if we want to find love.

Mikaela St. James plans to get into a bike collision in the name of love.

SCIENCE & TECH

Simply Stated: Researchers discover that the human brain is two separate organs



ELLA CHAMIE / DAILY NEXUS

Sahasra Nistala
Reporter

For centuries, it has been accepted in neuroscience, medicine and common understanding that the human brain is a single organ. In fact, theories about the structure and function of the brain began as early as 335 B.C. Earlier this year, however, researchers at Stanford Medicine published their findings on a groundbreaking discovery: the brain is two separate organs.

Stanford graduate students Carolyn "C" Dundes and Rayyan Jokhai, advised by associate professor of developmental biology Kyle Loh, led an investigation into brain formation during embryonic development. While studying developing mouse embryos, they identified two different types of cells bound to form entirely different portions of the brain: the forebrain, midbrain and hindbrain.

The forebrain and midbrain are responsible for higher-order thinking, decision-making and processing sensory inputs, while the hindbrain regulates motor coordination and essential processes such as breathing and heart rate. It was found that the forebrain and midbrain originate from progenitor cells — cells that can differentiate into multiple specialized cell types — that express the OTX2 gene, while the hindbrain evolved from cells that express the GBX-2 gene. These genes inhibit each other's expression, forming a sharp boundary between the functions of these separate brain regions.

Over millions of years, these two systems evolved separately before joining together to form what we know to be the human brain. Dundes and Jokhai also found that this double-origin brain is present in multiple different species, from chickens to acorn worms.

This new discovery has great implications for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases — especially ones that impact the brain stem, like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), which tend to significantly reduce patient life expectancy. Previously, research on these conditions had been hindered by the fact that scientists were struggling to create hindbrain neurons in the lab.

This study revealed that the previous methods of creating hindbrain neurons — likely, attempting to coax forebrain/midbrain progenitors into becoming hindbrain cells — were unsuccessful because forebrain and midbrain progenitors are fundamentally different from those of the hindbrain and therefore incapable of becoming the latter. With this newfound knowledge, the researchers were able to develop functional hindbrain motor neurons from human pluripotent stem cells for the first time, carving out massive potential for research on treatments for neurodegenerative diseases.

The human brain is an amazing and complex structure that helps us think, create and innovate while keeping us alive behind the scenes. The next time you're making a difficult decision or struggling to wrap your head around something, just know that you have two brains to help you out.

What Canvas knows about you: Who controls the privacy that students never had?



LUNA PLUMMER / DAILY NEXUS

Sophia Demoe
Reporter

Every time you message a TA, ask for extra time on an exam or turn in a late assignment, Canvas records it. These databases include personal information like student names, ID numbers and email addresses, as well as billions of direct messages exchanged between students and faculty. We assume it's all private.

In May 2026, the cybercriminal group ShinyHunters hacked Instructure, the company behind Canvas, and stole roughly 275 million records from about 8,800 institutions. The same day, the University of California (UC) Office of the President ordered all campuses to block or redirect Canvas until the site was secure. It wasn't until May 11 — four days after the initial cyberattack — that the site was fully restored to all UC locations, leaving students unable to work toward their assignments and course pages in the middle of spring quarter.

ShinyHunters used a "pay-or-leak" model, which means that they threatened to publish the stolen data unless Instructure paid a ransom. Instructure paid and got "shred logs" in exchange, which are supposed to prove that the stolen data was deleted. Still, this wasn't ShinyHunters' first rodeo. After a 2024 breach of education software company PowerSchool, the group went after individual victims even though the company had already paid. With a past history of taking the money and keeping the data, experts are far from sure that the shred logs tell anything.

According to Bryan Vorndran, a former head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Cyber Division, the stolen data became a "treasure trove for cyber criminals." A combination of names, IDs and private messages allows cybercriminals to conduct spear phishing, a targeted scam where hackers use real details to create fraudulent emails that appear legitimate.

Our data was stolen, but was it ever private in the first place? Evidence says no.

Canvas is only one of the providers that holds sensitive student information. School districts across the country also pay for tools like GoGuardian, Securly and Gaggle, which are constantly scanning student emails, documents and browsing history. Instead of simply storing who we are, these providers track our actions, such as what students search, write and click.

The rules that were meant to protect us either don't apply to us, or were written for a different time.

COURTESY OF DASHBOARD ICONS

Educational software providers make money in two main ways: through contracts worth millions of dollars with the school district and the data itself.

While these companies often claim that they don't "sell" student data, court cases suggest the line can be blurry.

In a class action lawsuit over the college-planning platform Naviance, students alleged that hidden analytics software recorded their keystrokes and private messages to counselors and passed them to Google and Microsoft. PowerSchool, Naviance's owner, paid a $17.25 million settlement to resolve the case. In Kansas, students sued their school district due to their usage of Gaggle after it had deleted their work without any prior warning, including a college essay that mentioned mental health. The school district ended up dropping Gaggle, but then quietly switched to a nearly identical tool without a public vote on the matter.

The law has not caught up yet. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the primary federal student privacy law, hasn't been fully updated since 1974. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) dates to 1998, and its 2025 revision failed to clarify whether a school is allowed to consent to data collection in the place of a parent. Additionally, COPPA applies solely to children under 13, and although there's a proposal in Congress to raise that age to 17, the policy doesn't apply to college students currently. Even though FERPA does, advocates claim that its definition of "education records" is "far too narrow" to cover the new browsing histories and behavioral data companies collect today.

The rules that were meant to protect us either don't apply to us, or were written for a different time.

Students can't opt out either. At UC Santa Barbara, Canvas is where we access course material, turn in assignments, message professors and request accommodations — activities which the platform is keeping track of — and there is no alternative.

Universities choose the platform and sign the contract. We just receive a login to sign in with, and have no say in how our data is collected and used. Until laws like FERPA and COPPA catch up with the times, we should no longer question whether our data is privately stored, but rather the implications of who is allowed to keep it.

Daily Nexus La Vista

LA VISTA

Navi Pillay, la sudafricana ganadora del premio Nobel de la Paz



CORTESIA DE MS. MAGAZINE

Alue Otiura
Editora para La Vista

El 9 de octubre de 2026, Navi Pillay recibió el Premio Nobel de la Paz por su contribución a la promoción de la paz y el derecho internacional.

Su reconocimiento se relaciona con varios aspectos fundamentales de su trayectoria: La defensa de los derechos humanos: ha trabajado durante décadas para proteger a las personas que sufren discriminación, persecución y violencia.

La lucha contra la impunidad: ha contribuido al desarrollo de mecanismos jurídicos para investigar y juzgar delitos graves, como el genocidio y los crímenes de lesa humanidad.

La protección de las víctimas: su trabajo ayudó a reconocer la gravedad de la violencia sexual durante los conflictos y la necesidad de que estos delitos reciban una respuesta judicial.

El fortalecimiento de la justicia internacional: ha defendido la idea de que los responsables de crímenes graves deben rendir cuentas, independientemente de su poder político o militar.

El premio reconoce la importancia de su trayectoria y el papel de la justicia en la construcción de una paz duradera.

Navanethem "Navi" Pillay es una jurista sudafricana nacida el 23 de septiembre de 1941 en Durban, Sudáfrica. Es reconocida internacionalmente por su lucha contra la discriminación racial, la defensa de los derechos humanos y su trabajo para combatir la impunidad por crímenes graves. Su trayectoria demuestra cómo el compromiso con la justicia puede contribuir a transformar la sociedad.

Pillay creció durante el apartheid, un sistema de segregación racial que discriminaba a la población negra y a otros grupos en Sudáfrica. A pesar de las dificultades que enfrentaban las mujeres y las personas racializadas, decidió estudiar Derecho y dedicar su carrera a defender a quienes sufrían injusticias. En 1967 abrió su propio despacho jurídico y defendió a personas perseguidas por motivos políticos y raciales.

Con el paso de los años, su trabajo la llevó a ocupar cargos importantes, como jueza del Tribunal Penal Internacional para Ruanda y alta comisionada de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos entre 2008 y 2014.

Uno de los principales objetivos de Navi Pillay ha sido garantizar que todas las personas reciban un trato justo, independientemente de su origen, género o posición social.

Durante el apartheid, utilizó sus conocimientos jurídicos para defender a personas cuyos derechos eran vulnerados por las autoridades.

Además de luchar contra la discriminación racial, Pillay ha trabajado por la igualdad de género y la protección de las mujeres frente a la violencia.

Considera que los derechos humanos deben respetarse en todas las sociedades y que ningún gobierno debería utilizar las leyes para justificar abusos o perseguir a determinados grupos.

Su trabajo también se ha centrado en la importancia de investigar las violaciones de derechos humanos y conseguir que los responsables respondan ante la justicia.

Para ella, combatir la impunidad es fundamental para construir sociedades más seguras y evitar que las atrocidades se repitan.

Una de las etapas más importantes de su carrera comenzó en 1995, cuando se incorporó al Tribunal Penal Internacional para Ruanda.

Posteriormente, entre 1999 y 2003, ejerció como presidenta de este tribunal.

La institución fue creada para juzgar a los responsables de graves crímenes cometidos durante el genocidio de Ruanda de 1994, en el que cientos de miles de personas fueron asesinadas, principalmente tutsis, además de hutus moderados y otras víctimas.

Durante su trabajo en el tribunal, Pillay contribuyó al desarrollo del derecho penal internacional, especialmente en relación con los delitos de violencia sexual y genocidio.

Uno de los casos más destacados fue el de Jean-Paul Akayesu, un antiguo alcalde ruandés. En 1998, el tribunal estableció un precedente histórico al reconocer que la violación y otras formas de violencia sexual podían constituir actos de genocidio cuando se cumplían los requisitos jurídicos correspondientes.

Esta decisión fue muy importante porque ayudó a reconocer que la violencia sexual cometida durante los conflictos armados puede formar parte de estrategias destinadas a destruir a una comunidad.

También fortaleció la protección jurídica de las víctimas y sentó las bases para futuros procesos internacionales.

En 2008, Navi Pillay fue nombrada alta comisionada de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos, cargo que ocupó hasta 2014.

En esta función, tuvo la responsabilidad de promover y proteger los derechos fundamentales en diferentes partes del mundo. Durante su mandato, defendió la necesidad de investigar los abusos, proteger a las minorías y garantizar que los gobiernos respetaran las normas internacionales.

También destacó la importancia de escuchar a las víctimas y apoyar a las organizaciones que trabajan para denunciar las injusticias.

Posteriormente, continuó participando en iniciativas internacionales relacionadas con los derechos humanos. Entre 2021 y 2025 presidió una comisión de investigación de las Naciones Unidas sobre el territorio palestino ocupado, incluida Jerusalén Oriental, e Israel.

Su trayectoria en estas instituciones refleja su compromiso con la idea de que todas las personas deben contar con protección jurídica y que las violaciones graves de los derechos humanos deben investigarse con rigor.

La paz no significa solamente que no existan guerras. También implica que las personas puedan vivir con dignidad, sin temor a ser perseguidas, discriminadas o sometidas a violencia. Por eso, la defensa de los derechos humanos y el cumplimiento de las leyes internacionales son esenciales para evitar nuevos conflictos.

La vida de Navi Pillay es un ejemplo de perseverancia, valentía y compromiso social.

A pesar de crecer en una sociedad marcada por la desigualdad racial, consiguió convertirse en una figura destacada del derecho internacional y utilizar su profesión para defender a las personas más vulnerables.

Su trayectoria también demuestra que la justicia requiere instituciones independientes, leyes que protejan a todos y personas dispuestas a denunciar los abusos, incluso cuando hacerlo resulta difícil.

Además, su trabajo ha contribuido a que la comunidad internacional preste mayor atención a los crímenes cometidos durante los conflictos armados y a los derechos de las mujeres y las minorías.

Su historia puede inspirar a las nuevas generaciones a participar en la construcción de sociedades más justas, ya sea mediante el Derecho, la educación, el activismo o la defensa de los derechos fundamentales.

En conclusión, Navi Pillay es una figura importante en la lucha por la justicia y los derechos humanos.

Desde su trabajo como abogada contra el apartheid hasta su participación en tribunales internacionales y en las Naciones Unidas, ha dedicado su vida a combatir la discriminación y promover la responsabilidad por los crímenes graves.

El Premio Nobel de la Paz de 2026 reconoce su contribución a la promoción de la paz y el derecho internacional.

Su trayectoria nos recuerda que la justicia no solo consiste en castigar a quienes cometen delitos, sino también en proteger a las víctimas, prevenir nuevas injusticias y garantizar la igualdad ante la ley.

La principal enseñanza de Navi Pillay es que no puede existir una paz verdadera sin justicia, respeto por la dignidad humana y protección de los derechos de todas las personas.

Su legado demuestra que una persona comprometida con estos valores puede contribuir de manera significativa a construir un mundo más justo y pacífico.

Nuestra 'América'

Jeannie Gutierrez Rubi
Editora para La Vista

Cuando estaba en la secundaria, me tocó leer Nuestra América, de José Martí, el legendario revolucionario cubano. En aquel entonces, entendí su ensayo como una crítica al imperialismo de su época. Pero al volver a leerlo ahora para una de mis clases de historia, me encontré pensando en una pregunta mucho más profunda. ¿Qué es ser un americano? ¿Quién es americano? ¿Cuál es nuestra América?

Como hija de inmigrantes hondureños, crecí entendiendo que ser americano era simplemente ser nacido en los Estados Unidos. ¿Pero quién decidió que América significaba únicamente los Estados Unidos? ¿Y quién decide quién tiene derecho a sentirse parte de ella?

Hoy en día vemos en las noticias que han deportado a inmigrantes que no han cometido un delito, padres atacados por inmigración en las escuelas de sus hijos y en sus sitios de trabajo, niños abandonados frente a un juez de inmigración, y hasta ciudadanos indígenas detenidos por agentes migratorios en las tierras donde sus pueblos y ancestros habían vivido durante siglos. Personas que hablan español, que tienen otros apellidos, que son de color café o que no encajan en la imagen tradicional del 'americano' son tratadas como si tuvieran que justificar su existencia en los Estados Unidos. ¿Cómo podemos hablar de libertad e igualdad cuando todavía condicionamos la pertenencia de una persona a su origen o apariencia?

Al releer el ensayo, me doy cuenta que el desprecio hacia las naciones latinoamericanas y su gente sigue vigente y más pertinente que antes. Quizás el problema nunca fue solamente el imperialismo sino también la idea de que una cultura, una lengua o una identidad puede considerarse superior a las demás.

América no es los Estados Unidos. América es América Latina, el Caribe, Suramérica y los pueblos indígenas que habitaron estas tierras mucho antes de que existieran las fronteras y muros de hoy. Sin embargo, seguimos actuando como si pertenecer a 'América' fuera un privilegio que algunos pueden conceder y otros deben ganarse.

Quizás ser americano no debería significar encajar en una imagen determinada, sino reconocer que nuestra diversidad no nos hace menos parte de este continente. La verdadera pregunta no es quién merece llamarse americano, sino ¿por qué permitimos que un país tenga el poder de decidirlo para los demás?

No tengo la respuesta, pero siento que las palabras de Martí se han hecho más relevantes hoy más que nunca: "Estos tiempos no son para acostarse con el pañuelo en la cabeza, sino con las armas en la almohada, como los varones de Juan de Castellanos: las armas del juicio, que vencen a las otras. Trincheras de ideas valen más que trincheras de piedra."

ON THE MENU

Why have one pet when you can have billions?

Francesca Gasparini
On The Menu Editor

Although my four housemates and I would love nothing more than to raise a furry companion in the confines of our two bedroom Isla Vista apartment, we unfortunately do not have an ounce of square footage to spare or the bandwidth for our collective histamine reaction. In an attempt to fulfill our house pet desire without getting kicked off our lease or running the risk of anaphylactic shock, I took the liberty of driving the six hours from the Bay Area down to Isla Vista with my labrador-sized pickling jar of kombucha on my lap.

I see my SCOBY — in other words my symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast — as the quintessential compromise; we have a living, respirating community of microorganisms that we get to see grow and thrive in the perfect alcove between the top of our refrigerator and the ceiling. Why have one pet when you can have billions?

I like to think of my kombucha as a shared endeavor amongst my housemates and I, but to my surprise the slimy, discolored pellicle is more unpalatable to others than I expected. Despite their aversion to getting down and dirty in the jar, carefully extracting yeast strands and sediment from the mother batch, I can always count on my friends to be my resident taste testers.

I am still at a relatively early stage in my relationship with my SCOBY and all it has to offer, but I can confidently say that I am growing quickly attached. Despite advice from my vetted kombucha connoisseur cousin advising me that I don't need to keep the pellicle between batches, I just can't seem to part with the growing life raft of teeming bacteria and yeast that blankets the top of my brew. For those who may not be familiar with all this fermentation jargon, a SCOBY is the collection of microorganisms swimming around in my kombucha that form a pellicle as a byproduct: a gelatinous cellulose disc on the surface of your tea that protects it from airborne contaminants and anchors acetic acid bacteria at the liquid's surface where the oxygen concentration is the highest. Technically speaking, you don't need to keep the blob fish-adjacent mass between batches. The bacteria present in the starter liquid — the reserve of kombucha taken from the previous batch — is enough to introduce bacteria into the next batch and will prompt the growth of a new protective layer. Nevertheless, I have to admit, I get excited to see my pellicle grow layer by layer as I feed it.

Whether you preserve your pellicle or not, your kombucha will still be bursting with life if you satiate it well. Unlike its yeasty distant cousin, the sourdough starter — whom I've had many qualms with in the past — your kombucha is not a high maintenance ordeal. All it takes is a batching day every two weeks or so where you keep about 2 cups of the previous batch and feed it a tea concentrate, some sugar and water before putting it right back up on the shelf.

Batching day is where the fun resides. Kombucha flavors have begun to come to me like daydreams in my time between batches. Experimenting with different fruits, herbs and aromatics is an addictive guessing game that normally yields a delicious result. Some favorites I've made so far include a nectarine mint, strawberry basil, raspberry kiwi and a mango coconut lime. Recently, I've started incorporating chia seeds for an element of texture and fiber, and I hope to try basil seeds soon to see how they fare. On the agenda is a passionfruit mango ginger and blueberry vanilla, amongst many others I'm sure. I can't go to a thrift store anymore without checking their glassware section for clamp top bottles in order to expand by flavor variability. It's safe to say I'm hooked.

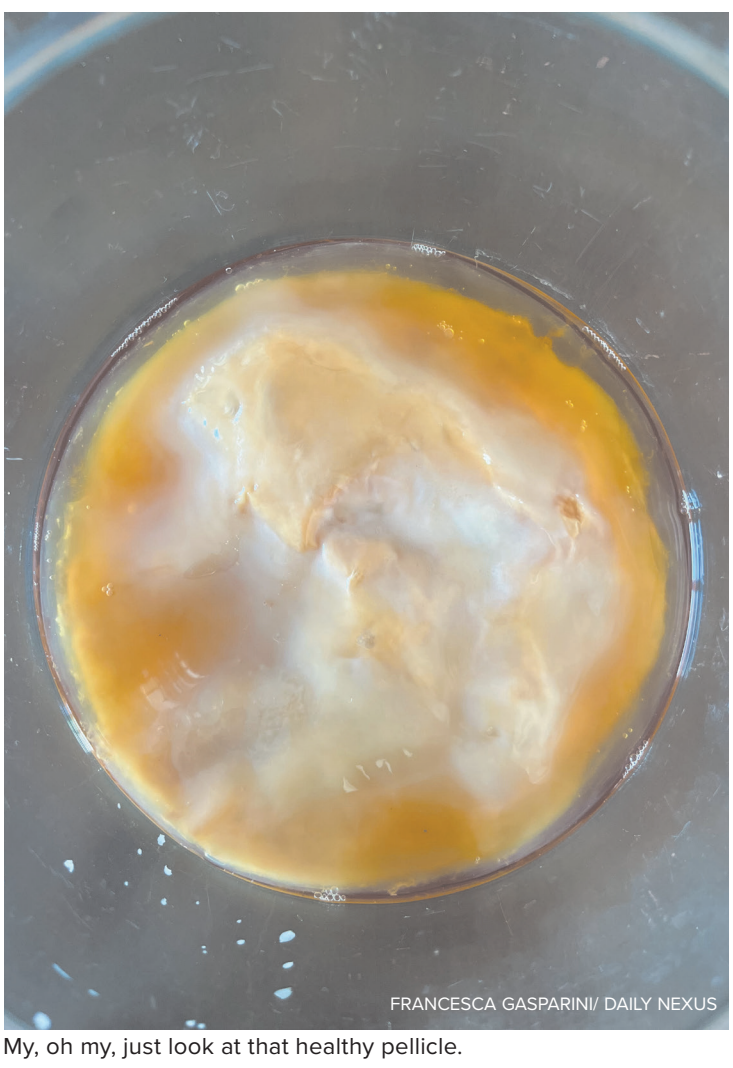


FRANCESCA GASPARINI/ DAILY NEXUS
By experimenting with different fruits and aromatics, kombucha can be customized with a variety of fun flavors that not only taste good, but are gut healthy.

If you're not already persuaded to start making your own kombucha, there is also the obvious plus side of a somewhat free reserve of the beverage in your fridge at all times. I can't believe I once regularly paid four to five dollars for just one bottle. Next time you're tempted, buy the raw, unflavored kombucha right off the shelf and bring it home. You can make your very own SCOBY from store-bought kombucha and get the ultimate bang for your buck. I could go on and on about this elixir's anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and digestion-supporting affects, but just know your gut will thank you.

There's nothing quite like the champagne pop that accompanies the opening of a new bottle — the audible evidence of life inside your housemade kombucha — just be sure not to aim it at your neighbors window as this reflects poorly on your household, as I've learned.


FRANCESCA GASPARINI/ DAILY NEXUS
The mother batch in all her glory.


FRANCESCA GASPARINI/ DAILY NEXUS
My, oh my, just look at that healthy pellicle.



ARTSWEEK

"THIS ONE GOES OUT TO TIM": BEHIND CREATURES OF THE NIGHT'S QUARTERLY PRODUCTION OF "THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW"

Carly Rattner
Staff Writer

Creatures of the Night's annual production of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at UC Santa Barbara returns Friday, Oct. 16., with a new shadow cast and features a tribute to Tim Curry — who starred in the iconic 1975 film adaptation — an addition that follows the news of his passing in August.

Third-year writing and literature major Hadley Simmons and third-year psychological & brain sciences major Shai Molendyk — the production company's co-presidents for the year — are directing this quarter's show and will take a more traditional approach to the cult classic for this Halloween season. According to the pair, the quarterly production of the show has been a UCSB "tradition" since at least the 1980s.

"'The Rocky Horror [Picture Show]' originally came out in 1975, and it was a box office flop, and no one really liked it," Simmons said. The original film developed a cult-like fanbase, which led to shadow casts acting out the movie scenes as it played.

For Creatures of the Night, the film's long history at UCSB makes this quarter's production especially meaningful. Following the news of Curry's passing, the club is using this year's performance to celebrate his legacy.

"This is going to be the Tim Curry tribute show," Simmons said. "We're gonna do it the way Tim would have wanted ... This one goes out to Tim!"

The tribute takes center stage through fourth-year mathematics major Eden Sylvester, who will portray Curry's iconic character, Dr. Frank-N-Furter. For Sylvester, the role has been an opportunity to embrace the character's unique personality.

"Frank, he's everything," she said. "So big, loud, commanding and so sexual ... I love it, he's perfect!"

Simmons expressed their appreciation for Sylvester and her portrayal of the character.

"[Sylvester] is pretty much Tim Curry reincarnated," they said. "[The audience] is going to have a really special performance of Tim Curry from her."

Sylvester shared what it's been like trying to prepare for the role and replicate Curry's iconic expressions.

"His faces are amazing!" she said. "I hold up my mirror and work on my faces to try to match his and do my own as well."

For Sylvester, playing Frank-N-Furter has been a way of honoring Curry's legacy. "He saw the project through so many years and shaped it as much as the director and writer Richard O'Brien," she said. "I hope he is looking down from Transsexual, Transylvania through the little operated camera and having a hell of a time."

During their rehearsals, Sylvester animatedly portrayed Frank-N-Furter's reaction when revealing his creation of Rocky in "The Sword of Damocles," showing Dr. Frank-N-Furter's love for the creature.

"I'm so excited for 'The Sword of Damocles,'" Evan Griffith, a fourth-year philosophy major who is playing Brad, said. "The unveiling of Rocky is so insanely camp!"

Simmons also revealed one the most anticipated elements for the upcoming show.

"We're doing a human chair this year, which is when Frank-N-Furter sits down at the first chorus of 'Sweet Transvestite,'" they said. "It's going to be a great shot."

The number is also a highlight for Mia Bento, a fourth-year environmental studies major who is playing Rocky.

"That's my favorite part of the whole show and Eden just kills it every time," she said.

Griffith also expressed his appreciation for Sylvester and the dynamic his character has with Frank-N-Furter.

"It's really great working with the cast," he said.

"Eden as Frank[-N-Furter] is really fun because Brad is so insecure, and it's so fun to play off of [her] and everyone."

While Frank-N-Furter commands the spotlight, the Transylvanians will bring "Sweet Transvestite" to life. Third-year film and media studies major Solei Corazon explained how it has been to be a part of these group scenes.

"My favorite part about being a Transylvanian is that it is a group thing," she said. "I don't have to get too nervous being my own character and just get to build off each other's energy."

Yumalai Duran, second-year sociology student who will portray Magenta, explained that her favorite part about her role is "just goofing around when no one is looking at [her and Riff Raff.]"

Nick Ferrara, second-year film and media studies and art double major who is portraying Riff Raff, spoke about his love of the song "The Time Warp."

"['The Time Warp'] is such a classic and people love it," he said. "The dance is so simple that even if you haven't seen the movie before and you're in the audience you can [follow the directions in the song.]"

Stella Kirby, a first-year biology major, expressed how much fun she has with her character Columbia, who she feels "similar to."

"She's energetic, and I'm energetic. I love that I get to just be myself but really amp it up," Kirby said.

The energy of the performance expands beyond the performers. Simmons encouraged audiences to participate in the show's interactive nature.

"Going to Rocky Horror [Picture Show] is a collective experience, whether you're in the audience or on stage you are basically in the show," they said.

Simmons also explained the culture of callouts during the show. Callouts are when audience members playfully yell things at characters that relate to the scene that is playing.

"We have a giant Google Doc of all of the callouts that are known and have been used in the past," they said. "And the really fun thing is that you can yell anything at the screen and make it your own special callout!"

Sylvester said that she is excited to hear new callouts.

"My dream is to hear an audience member shout out a callout I've never heard before!"

During rehearsals, the cast members and co-presidents practiced familiar callouts, shooting them at specific moments of the film. One in particular was directed toward Rocky, saying "if you're happy and you know it, bang your bars!" By using this callout the audience can poke fun at Rocky's superficial character when he bangs his hands on bars.

Chiara McKay, second-year political science major at Santa Barbara City College, is playing Janet and shared how excited she is for audiences to see her character.

"Janet gets to do everything," she said, explaining how Janet has two distinctly different sides of her character. "I'm really excited for 'Touch-A-Touch-A-Touch-A-Touch Me' because that is such a big moment for Janet and I am excited to do it in front of [an audience.]"

Viewers can also look forward to other interactive aspects of the show besides just callouts. Corazon said that before the show even begins, the audience will be able to interact with characters.

"[The Transylvanians] are going to interact with the audience when they come into the house," she said. "There's also a part where we dance in the aisles and I think that's going to be very fun!"

Additionally, during most songs, cast members will run up and down the aisles, giving audiences a closer look at Sylvester's impressive facial expressions.

The club's tribute to Curry is part of a broader tradition sustained by the people who contribute to "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" shadow cast. Molendyk said that students that are interested in participating in the cast and crew for future productions can join no matter their previous experience.

"We welcome every single person that wants to be a part of it, even to just be a part of our crew," she said. "We host open auditions at the beginning of each quarter."

In fact, Griffith had never done theater prior to joining the Creature of the Nights' production.

"I had never been a theater kid at all," he said. "I was super shy in that regard. But, I [just] let my inner theater kid out."

Students can find more information about the upcoming production and future shows on Instagram @rockyhorrorucsb.


COURTESY OF CREATURES OF THE NIGHT
Eden Sylvester is revealing her chararcter Dr. Frank-N-Furter's creation, mimicking Frankenstein.

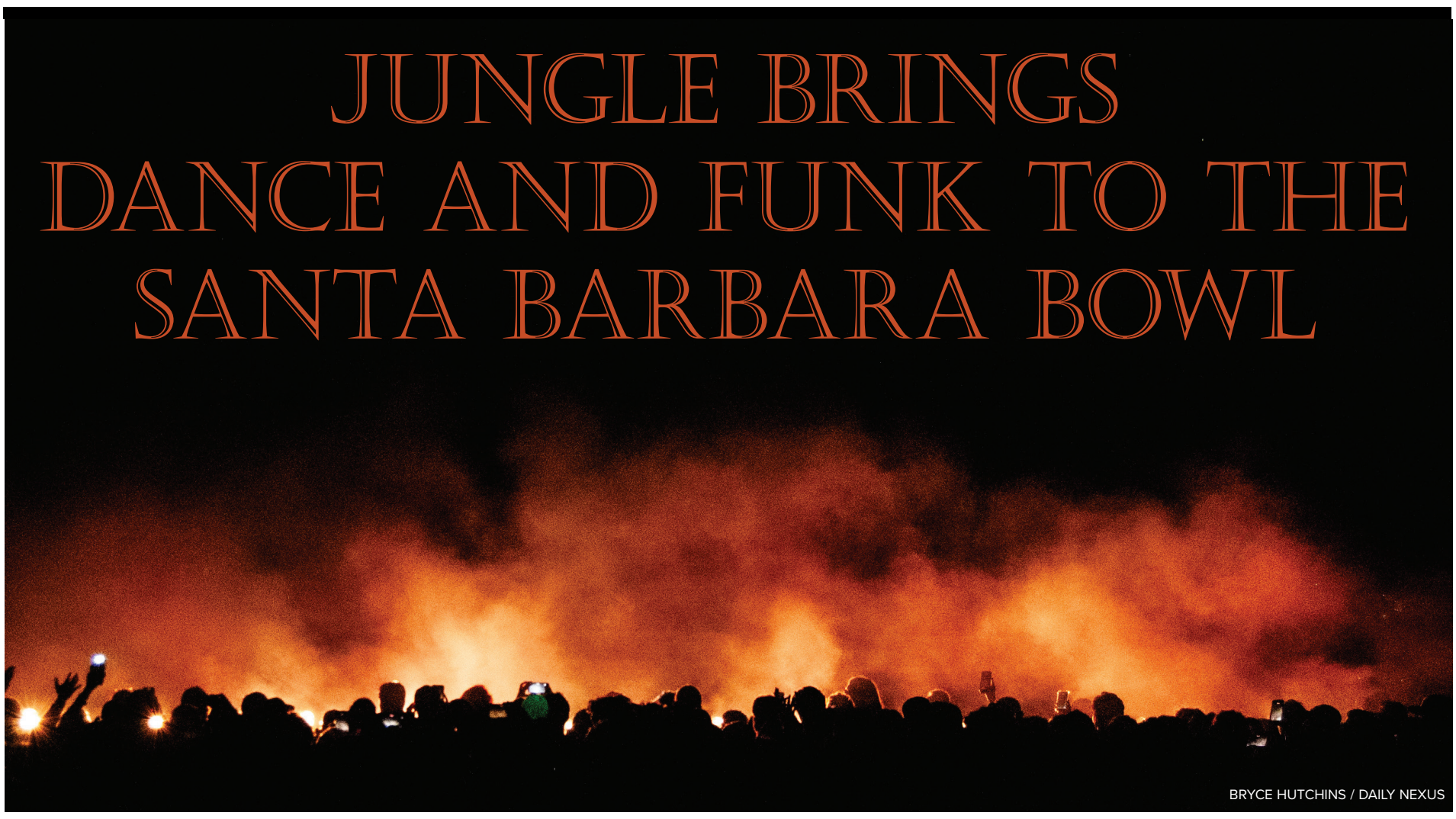

COURTESY OF CREATURES OF THE NIGHT
Mia Bento is being unraveled as Rocky for the first time by Yumalai Duran and Stella Kirby.


COURTESY OF CREATURES OF THE NIGHT
Evan Griffith and Chiara McKay stand watching Frank-N-Furter and Janet.


COURTESY OF CREATURES OF THE NIGHT
The Transylvanians rehearse their moves during the scene where Rocky is revealed.

ARTSWEEK

JUNGLE BRINGS DANCE AND FUNK TO THE SANTA BARBARA BOWL



BRYCE HUTCHINS / DAILY NEXUS

Montse Romero
Reporter

London-based electronic-disco band Jungle brought funk and dance to the Santa Barbara Bowl as one of the stops on their Sunshine World Tour.

Before Jungle took the stage, retro pop-rock band RIO KOSTA opened the concert — playing a few of their songs such as "Ancients," "My Dreams" and "Follow the River." As the sun set, RIO KOSTA captured the feeling of the perfectly warm Friday night with their groovy disco-funk music.

As more people arrived at the Bowl, it seemed as if the crowd coordinated the overall vibe of their outfits — consisting of cozy, disco-esc outfits that brought a positive and welcoming environment to the amphitheater.

As the light began to cut out, the crowd began to yell and call out for Jungle. Then golden lights came on as the band ran in, and the crowd shouted with excitement and joy, opening the set with the song "Smile." Their stage presence was able to get audience members up from their seats, and they began to dance and sway their hands.

The band was eccentric, and it was as if audience members could feel their aura from the light and their golden monochromatic costumes. Although each outfit had the same vibe, they all perfectly demonstrated each band member's personality and ambience. Lead singer and guitarist Lydia Kitto wore a glittery, bell-sleeve top with matching trousers, instrumental keyboardist Tom McFarland wore a cream shirt that matched his trousers and guitarist Josh Lloyd-Watson wore a brown leather jacket.

Each song transitioned perfectly to the next one as lights flashed and changed from gold to white, embodying each melody's vibe perfectly. Songs such as "The Heat," "Beat 54 (All Good Now)," "Heavy, California," and famously "Back On 74." The band members danced to the beat and synchronized their moves. The crowd danced along; no one was found sitting down and no phones were in sight — the music was enough to get up and move along the beat.

At times, the band called out to the crowd — referring to everyone as "Barbara" — thanking the crowd and the city for being so welcoming, even congratulating a couple that recently got engaged.

Finally, Jungle perfectly concluded the warm, groovy night with the last song on their setlist, "Busy Earnin'."

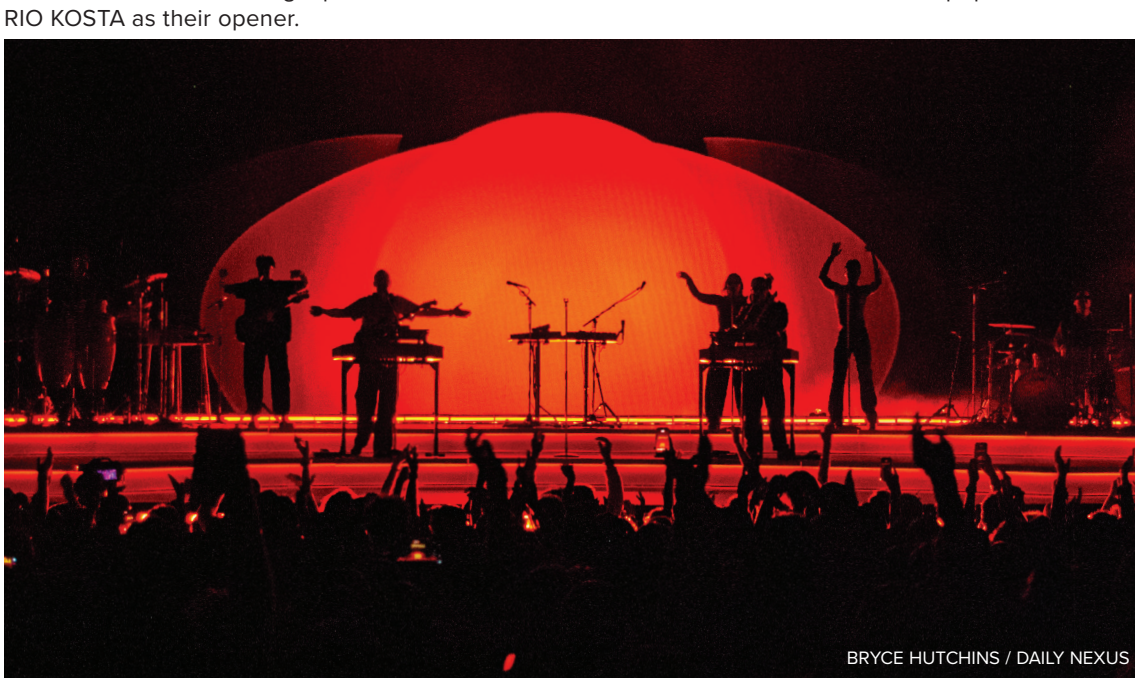
Each band member brought their best, and so did the crowd. The night ended with a nostalgic and euphoric atmosphere.

Jungle performing in the Bowl seems like a match made in heaven: The combination of their disco-tech music with Santa Barbara's warm, beachy vibrancy created an unforgettable night.



BRYCE HUTCHINS / DAILY NEXUS

Electronic-disco band Jungle performed at the Santa Barbara Bowl on Oct. 9 with retro pop-rock band RIO KOSTA as their opener.



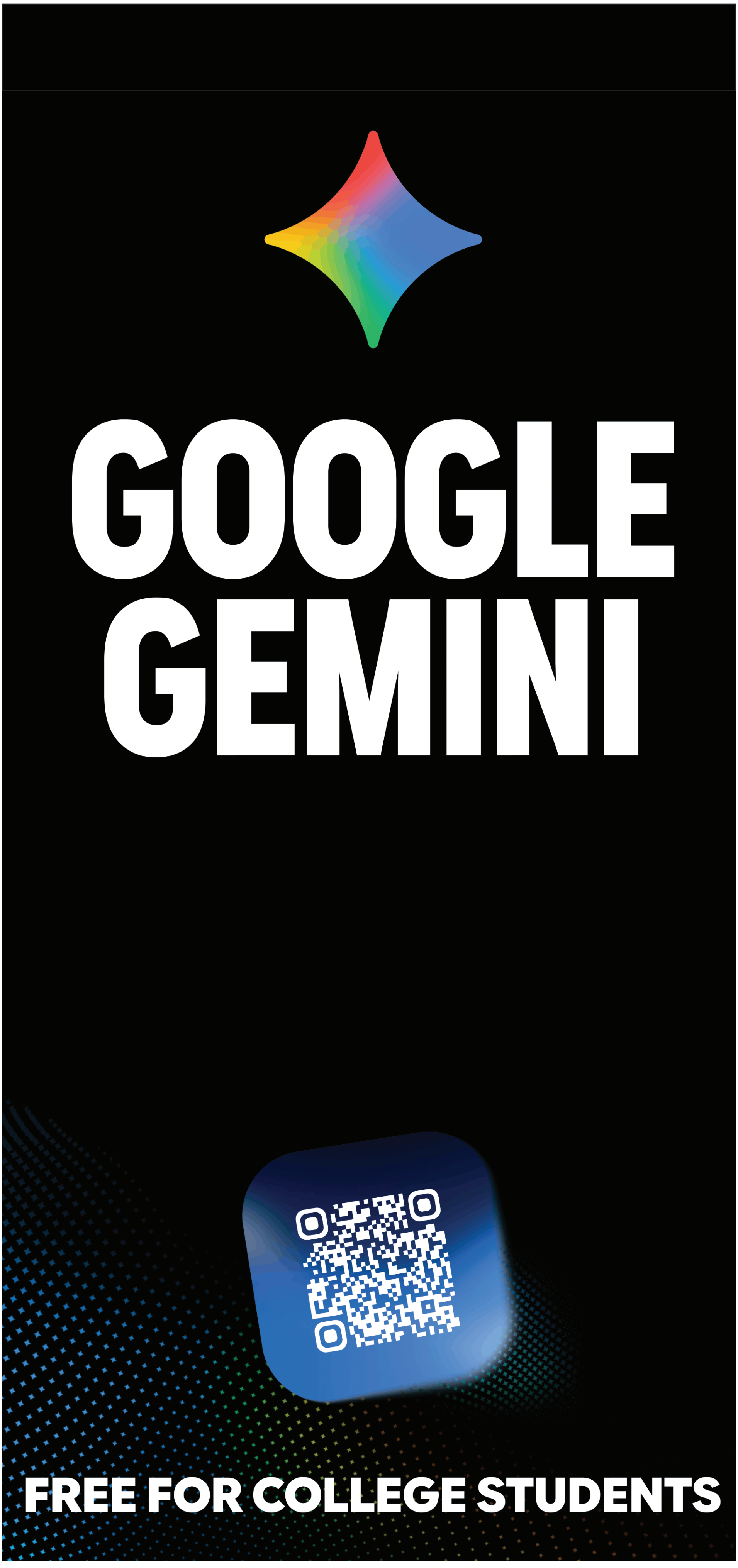
BRYCE HUTCHINS / DAILY NEXUS

Jungle performed an unforgetable show with eccentic energy throughout the night. Their lighting captured the warmth of the amphitheater perfectly.



BRYCE HUTCHINS / DAILY NEXUS

Jungle is currently on their Sunshine World Tour after the release of their latest album "Sunshine." They performed "The Heat," "Heavy, California," "Back On 74" and more.


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