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Alcalá

April 1999, Vol. 15, Issue 7

A newsletter for the employees
of the University of San Diego

View

New System to Make ID Card More Valuable

By Jill Wagner

If all goes according to plan, by January 2000 the USD ID card will be more than just a plastic card with a pretty face.

Students in residence halls with keycard access will use the same card for opening their door as they do for buying lunch in the deli. An employee using the new campus card can stop by the bookstore to pick up a birthday gift or a roll of film then grab a soda from the vending machine before returning to the office.

Copying services, library privileges, cash plus accounts and meal plans will be services accessible through one card. Campus

officials hope the flexibility of a new card system will eliminate the need to carry a lot of cash or always have the checkbook handy.

Current ID card holders will visit a central office to have all the necessary information encoded onto their card by a new system of machines.

"What we set out to do eight to nine months ago was create a one-stop center for students, faculty, staff and administrators who use all these services," says **Paul Bissonnette**, vice president for finance and administration.

The end result of months of committee work, visits to other campuses with similar card systems and efforts to cut down costs associated with such a change is a plan to create a Campus Card Office (CCO) in the Hughes Administration Center.

The centralization of all the card services into one office will require reorganization in several departments, however, no positions will be eliminated. The CCO manager, to be named in a few weeks, will be someone

currently working within the finance and administration division. The CCO staff will be filled out by employees who currently handle card operations in departments such as dining and parking services.

Final go-ahead for the campus card came from the president and vice presidents in March when they OK'd a plan to relocate the telephone operators and turn the telecommunications business offices in Hughes Center 210 into the CCO. The

"What we set out to do eight to nine months ago was create a one-stop center for students, faculty, staff and administrators who use all these services."

operators will move one floor down to the public safety offices alongside the dis-

patchers to create a communications center. The student telephone billing operations will be folded into the campus card office.

Office remodeling will start immediately, with the hope of having the moves finalized by fall.

The reorganization plan helped the Campus Card Project Team keep costs low — the biggest expense will be the hardware to encode and read the new cards — and win approval for the changeover. Headed by Business Analyst **Larry Gardepie**, the project started to take shape last year when a new meal plan system was being researched because the existing system is not Y2K compliant. The team proposed switching to a new system all at once if hardware had to be purchased for the meal plan anyway.

Team members included **Susan Bugbee**, registrar's office; **Dave Epstein**, public safety; **Pam Gray**, public relations; **Rick Hagan**, housing and residence life; **Kathleen Johnson**, accounting; **John McCloskey**, bursar's office; **Karen Reed**, special projects; **Barbara Ritchie**, academic computing; **Judy**

(Continued on page four)

Challenging Injustice

The 10th Annual Social Issues Conference is set for April 15-16. The topic this year is Challenging Injustice: Empowering Communities, and features keynote speaker **Morris Dees** at 7 p.m., April 15, in Shiley Theatre. Dees is a civil rights lawyer and founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The conference's second day kicks off with keynote speaker **Rachel Ortiz** at 9:30 a.m., April 16, in the Hahn University Center Forum. Ortiz is executive director of the Barrio Station, a Chicano youth service organization.

For more information, call the Office of Community Service-Learning at ext. 4798.

ACE is the Place for Kids

This summer USD will host an American Computer Experience (ACE) camp for children ages 7-16. Campers have the option of living on campus for the week or coming for the day. ACE is offering a 25 percent discount to employee families. For an ACE brochure or more information about the computer camp, call **Kathi Spittel** at ext. 4623.

University Ministry Events

Daily Masses at Founders Chapel, 7 a.m., Monday through Saturday; 12:10 p.m., Monday through Friday; and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Sunday Masses at Founders Chapel, 7 and 9 p.m.

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Benefits Brief

Summer Dependent Care:

According to the IRS, only a select group of summer camps are eligible for reimbursement through the employee's dependent care reimbursement account. The sponsor must be a licensed day care provider such as the YMCA, the Boys Club or the Jewish Community Center. Please check with camp sponsors to see if they qualify under these guidelines.

Health Net Mail Order

Prescriptions: The mail order rate for Health Net prescriptions is \$5 for generic and \$10 for brand name drugs. A one month co-payment will be applied for a three month prescription. If you have been charged a different rate, please call **Vicki** at ext. 8764 or **Esther** at ext. 8762.

Tuition Remission: Students who add or delete units during the semester should contact **Esther** at ext. 8762 for instructions on how to correct their original request.

Late Entrants to Kaiser and Health Net:

You must provide a certificate of coverage from your previous health insurance company if you are a late entrant to a USD health insurance plan. (A late entrant is someone who is entering the plan outside the open enrollment period.) Please keep in mind that only a change in family status will allow you to modify your insurance coverage during the year. All other changes must be made during the next open enrollment period.

USD Employee Walking Club:

In response to over 300 employees who expressed an interest in a walking club, the USD Employee Walking Club has been founded. The group meets Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at noon on West Point Field. Call **Perla Bleisch** at ext. 2540 to get on the group's distribution list. Literature on walking and fitness is available in WH218.

— Debbie Anderson

Electrician by Day, Rancher by ... Morning

By John Titchen

Jeff Hardick is just one of those guys that looks like he belongs outside.

At a shade over 6-foot-5, the USD electrician has thick, broad hands and shoulders and makes a room seem small. Which works out well because Hardick instead spends most of his time outside.

"I'd rather be outside than anywhere else, that's for sure," concedes Hardick with a hearty chuckle during a recent lunchbreak in front of Maher Hall.

The 50-year-old Hardick is in his sixth year as an electrician at Alcalá Park after spending much of his life working for himself. He and fellow electricians **Terri Miller** and **Jim Crawley** install transformers and handle all the wiring work on campus. Hardick says he enjoys his work at USD because he has a chance to meet people in different departments and because he doesn't spend all his time inside.

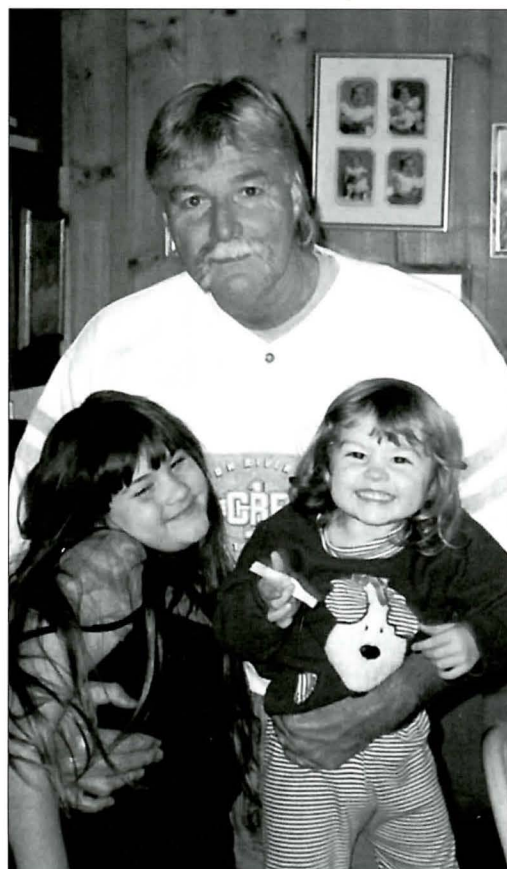
"We go all over campus," says Hardick. "I love the atmosphere, the people I'm working with, everything. It's just a fun place to come to work."

And as much fun as Hardick has at work, he also likes going home. Four years ago, he fulfilled a lifelong dream when he bought a ranch in Descanso, an hour's commute east on Interstate 8. Last year, he had a herd of 500 cattle and rose every morning at 4 to feed and water them before heading to work at USD.

"I had always wanted a ranch," says Hardick, a San Diego native and Grossmont High School graduate. "I grew up in El Cajon and Lakeside and I have always been around horses. And I figured a ranch would be a great place to have a family. I spend as much time with my kids as I can."

The fair-haired electrician and his wife of 17 years, Denise, have two girls. Taylor, 8, often helps her dad with the ranch work in the early morning. In a true sign of the couple's love for the natural world, 2-year-old Haley is named after the comet.

Hardick's cattle are the result of a contract with the local cattlemen's association, which leases his land and gives him a herd to tend. Hardick doesn't actually own the cattle, but he shares in the profits and gets a good percentage of the market rates. His work could push him closer to the top of the



Jeff Hardick loves being dad to Taylor (left) and Haley.

list this year and he might get a bigger herd, perhaps as many as 750.

Every morning, he puts out hay and makes sure the cows have enough water. He also has to pay attention to their grazing area and periodically moves them around so they have enough natural vegetation to eat.

"You have to get up early in the ranching business," says Hardick, "but I kind of always have. It was the same when I was working for myself in construction and as an electrical contractor — you get used to working all the time. It's just the nature of the job."

When he isn't helping refine and improve the electrical situation at Alcalá Park or tending to his cattle, Hardick spends a lot of time with his wife and daughters. He rides horses regularly with Denise and Taylor and says he will soon show Haley the ropes.

"I don't know why I waited so long to have kids," says Hardick with a laugh. "I really like what I am doing, the work I am doing and I especially like spending time with my family."

Anniversary Update

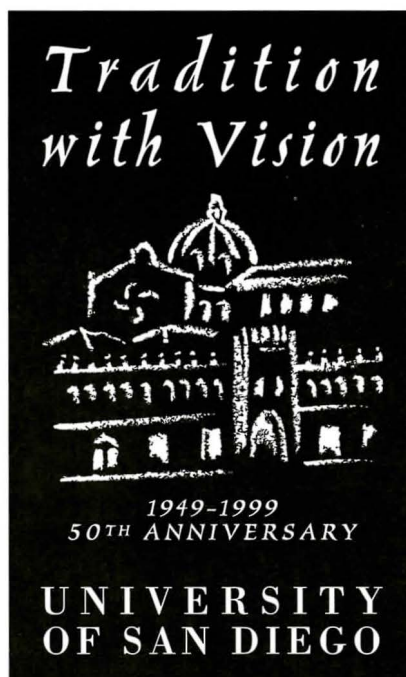
Happy Birthday to Us

Sometimes celebrations of a landmark year, like the one USD is commemorating in 1999, should be formal and properly nostalgic. And other times, plain old party hats, noisemakers and confetti set just the right mood.

This year's Employee Appreciation Picnic, the first 50th anniversary event open to all employees, is going to be one big birthday bash. Set for June 25, the details are being secretly plotted by a merry band of picnic planners, which includes some of the more notorious pranksters on campus.

Of course, there will be the usual free food and drink, rousing relay competition between vice presidential divisions and bestowing of the employee and administrator of the year awards. But don't be surprised if you're asked to don a blindfold and play pin the tail on the donkey. Or challenged to best your co-workers in a cut-throat cake eating contest.

Check upcoming issues of the *Alcalá View* for the annual picnic-related trivia contest. Meanwhile, plan vacations for any other



week in the summer because this is one party you won't want to skip.

A Festival for All

Summer 'tis the season for street fairs and community festivals all across the county,
(Continued on page four)

Get Your Tickets Here

The Staff Employees Association is the group to look to when planning your spring and summer outings.

For All You Legomaniacs

Discount tickets to Southern California's newest theme park, Legoland, are on sale through the SEA beginning in early April. Adult admission, regularly \$32, is \$27 and a child's ticket, regularly \$25, is on sale for \$21.

Yolanda Castro, chair of the SEA social committee, visited Legoland in a special pre-opening day event and surprised herself by how much fun she had.

"The park is designed for kids ages 2 to 12, but I tell you what, I had a ball," she says.

Tickets will be available year-round by contacting Castro at ext. 4520.

And For All You Baseball Fanatics

The SEA's annual trip to Qualcomm Stadium for a Padres game and the KGB

Sky Show is scheduled for June 18. The National League Champion Padres take on the Pittsburgh Pirates that night in a 7:05 game, which is followed by San Diego's biggest fireworks extravaganza of the year.

Watch the campus mail later this month for a flier with more details. The SEA bought 300 seats in the view level, but get your tickets quick, they sell out fast.

Nominate the Boss

It's time to start thinking of all those reasons you respect and admire your supervisor – and if they are many, go for it and nominate him or her for Administrator of the Year. Nomination forms will be sent to staff employees through campus mail. Return the forms to the SEA by April 28.

Employee Award News

At the March meeting, SEA representatives were informed that the nomination process for Staff Employee of the Year has changed.

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University Ministry Events

(Continued from page one)

Bible Study, 12:10 to 12:50 p.m., every Tuesday, Warren Hall 201.

For more information about university ministry events, call ext. 4735.

New Hires and Promotions

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the USD community:

Martin Chavez, deli; **Douglas Gilbert**, Copley Library; **Mark Jones**, public safety; **Paul Landi**, building maintenance; **Dolores Lopez**, legal clinic; **Andres Ramirez**, main dining; **Leticia Valero**, child development center; **Chin Wu**, main dining; **M. Bentley**, Copley Library; **Donald Kirson**, disability services; and **Joseph Passaretti Jr.**, School of Nursing.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted or whose jobs were reclassified:

Gabriel Aguilar, casual worker 2; **Oscar Hernandez**, casual worker 2; **Alison Rowan**, assistant director of annual funds; and **Debra Solis**, casual worker 2.

Passages

Retired

Marilyn Hiskett, administrative assistant 2 in advancement services, on Jan. 29, after eight years.

Adoption

Kathy Gaydos, assistant systems and processing manager in undergraduate admissions, and her husband, Wayne, adopted a 7-year-old daughter, Tiffany Alexandra, on Feb. 19.

Deaths

A.C. "Bud" Davis, father of **Calista Davis**, manager of employment and employee recognition in human resources, on Feb. 18.

Maria Angelita Church, mother of **Melody Tran** and sister of **Socorro Ellis**, both who work in general services, in February.

Ira Morihara, a second year student, on March 15.

Plan for the Future

Employees are invited to a free estate planning seminar. Learn whether you need a will, living trust or advanced estate plan. Lunch will be provided at the session on Thursday, April 22, from noon to 1 p.m. The program will be repeated on Friday, April 23. Reservations are required. Please call the Office of Planned Giving at ext. 4523.

Classifieds

Looking for a place to stay.

A male visiting scholar from the law school is looking for a place to stay April 10-30. He prefers walking distance or easy bus access to USD. Contact **Laura Ginella** at ext. 4587.

Cat seeking owner. Affectionate, young, long-haired beauty queen black and white cat seeks sensitive, loving new owner. Call **Mary Jane Tiernan** at ext. 4524.

Psst...

Bits and Pieces from the Readers

Shattered kiosk windows? Here's the skinny. The West Entrance kiosk sliding doors were shattered in early March when vandals struck. The culprits were acting with no apparent motive other than pure vandalism, as far as public safety officials have discovered.

Alcalá View

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Anniversary Update

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and this year USD will host its own mid-summer fete.

The community event (stay-tuned for a more lively name) will invite friends and neighbors from around San Diego to join USD students, faculty, staff, and administrators in a day-long 50th anniversary celebration. A Friday evening variety show — set for 8 p.m., July 30, in Shiley Theatre — will kick-off the event.

On Saturday, July 31, activities for the entire family include a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, vendor booths and cultural entertainment. Story-telling in several different languages, sponsored by the School of Education and the Office of Community Service-Learning, will be hosted in courtyards throughout campus. The U.S. Marine Corps Band will perform that day and a repeat performance of the variety show is scheduled for 8 p.m. in Shiley Theatre.

Tickets for the variety show will range from \$10 to \$15. A registration fee for the basketball tournament is required and all other events are free. For more information, contact **Pam Gray**, director of community and government relations, at ext. 4659 or e-mail her at grayp@is.acusd.edu.

Anniversaries O-rama

The institution as a whole may be 50 years old, but not all the parts of USD as we know it today were around in 1949.

The Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, for example, opened its doors in 1974 and a 25th anniversary celebration is being planned for Nov. 6. The youngster in our midst, the Manchester Family Child Development Center, turns 10 this year and

invites the campus to join in a party from 4 to 6 p.m., June 15.

Want to Know More?

A 50th anniversary Web site (<http://alumni.acusd.edu/50th>) is updated weekly with event information and photos from celebrations already taken place. Also, keep reading here each month for 50th happenings.

ID Card

(Continued from page one)

Sanchez, human resources; **Tim Shaffer**, administrative data processing; **Rudy Spano**, dining services; **Ed Starkey**, Copley Library; **Chuck Waldie**, law school; and **LeRoy Weber**, university services.

Future uses for the card could include paying for parking tickets, library fines or transcript fees, and swiping it through a timekeeping card reader rather than punching a clock.

SEA

(Continued from page three)

Only those employees nominated for an exceptional award or bonus increase through the performance management program will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award. The nominations for both awards must occur in the same year.

Previously, staff members were nominated by their supervisors for the Employee of the Year award regardless of other recognition received.



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