Vista: February 6, 2020

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Act of intolerance

White supremacist stickers put up on campus during Intersession

According to the Anti-Defamation League, the Patriot Front is currently active in the U.S., and manifestos associated with the group make it clear that the group considers non-white citizens to be "non-American."

Jesse Magaña, a senior and a senator in the Associated Student Government and the Co-Chair of the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (M.E.Ch.A), was present when the morning these stickers were placed around campus. "I walked out of Saints Hall, noticed that there were Pi Alpha Epsilon officers all around campus, and instantly knew that something was going on," Magaña said. Magaña received the email alerting the campus community of the incident once he had gotten to his car, and was saddened, but not surprised by the news. "When I saw them looking at and peeling off stickers, I figured it had something to do with a hate group," Magaña said, adding, "Unfortunately this type of incident isn’t rare and is actually happening on college campuses across America, which is very unfortunate but true."

Magaña sees this problem as going beyond the USD campus. "While investigating this event, Chief Miyashiro reached out to San Diego State University to see if their campus had experienced something like this," Magaña said. The stickers bore the logo of a known white supremacist group which formed in 2017, breaking off from another known white supremacist group, Vanguard America, soon after the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, South Carolina.

The stickers were taken down, and USD Public Safety Chief James Miyashiro indicated that the incident an "act of intolerance." The stickers were placed in the areas of the Shirley Center for Science & Technology, Manchester Hall, Saints Tekakwitha & Serra Hall, and Copley Library. In the email, the office of Public Safety indicated that the stickers were taken down, and that "subjects were in the process of being identified by Public Safety and local law enforcement." These subjects were seen on campus surveillance video putting up the stickers. USD Public Safety Chief James Miyashiro does not believe the subjects are USD students, considering they were seen on video entering and exiting campus directly before and after placing the stickers. The stickers bore the logo of a group, The Patriot Front, a known white supremacist group which formed in 2017, breaking off from another known white supremacist group, Vanguard America, soon after the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, South Carolina. The Patriot Front founder and leader James Allsup had just resigned from the group as of Dec. 1, 2019, the Defender reported.

The West Coast Conference troubles for USD

San Diego men’s basketball remains winless at home against WCC

The University of San Diego Toreros came into the matchup last Thursday against the University of San Francisco Dons (USF) losing six of their last seven games and have yet to defeat a West Coast Conference (WCC) opponent at home. San Francisco came into the game winning four of their last five games.

The biggest reason for USD’s lack of success was the four starters they lost due to graduation last spring, Isaiah Pineiro, Isaiah Wright, Olin Carter III, and Tyler Williams all left to continue playing professionally, both internationally and in the U.S.

There were roughly 1,600 fans in attendance to watch the Toreros host the University of San Francisco Dons on Thursday night. The fans were treated to an intense first half by both teams as it seemed to be a gritty-and-grind defensive matchup. The first half didn’t showcase much scoring as both teams couldn’t find their rhythm on offense. It took USF exactly four minutes to get their first points on the board as the Toreros’ defense forced two straight shot-clock violations. USD’s defense came out very aggressive early on as they were determined to keep the Dons from scoring. Although the defense came to play, the Toreros weren’t able to get any shots to fall on offense. Redshirt-junior guard Braun Hartfeld got the scoring started for USD and the Toreros actually jumped out to an early 8-2 advantage after five minutes of play. Then, with just under 10 minutes to play in the half, the Dons slowly got their rhythm going and came back to take a 13-12 lead after a three-point shot made by senior forward Remu Saunderson. The Toreros would not lead again for the rest of the game.

What kept the Toreros in the game for the most part, besides their aggression on defense, was the foulds called on the Dons. Toward the end of the first half, the Dons had over 10 fouls to allow the Toreros to be in the bonus, meaning extra free throw attempts. USD went 8-10 on the line in the first half. The first half ended with a five-point lead for the Dons, 27-22 in a very low-scoring game. The Toreros only made seven of their 27 attempts from the floor. The West Coast Conference troubles for USD

The last Associated Student Government (ASG) Senate meeting was centered around one thing: the spring budget. On Dec. 18, the senators met in Solomon Hall to review allocations made by the ASG Budget Committee, and decide whether to approve those allocations as they stood. However, the presentation of the lump sum allocations by Budget Committee Chair George Saundersen was met with uncertain silence by most of the senate.

The Budget Committee, with approval from the senate, has roughly $81.2 million to allocate annually among student centers, the Torero Program Board, and ASG funding initiatives. After the fall semester, there was just over $66,000 to distribute among the three divisions.

Through the Budget Committee spends an extended period of time and effort combing through proposals from each of the divisions, they still need ASG’s final approval to move forward in finalizing and creating specifications for the budget. This process requires the senators to be familiar with the structure of the proposed budget, meaning they should review the budget beforehand.

This proved difficult for a number of reasons. Firstly, the senators only received a detailed version of the budget, revised in the spring budget.
Intolerance from Page 1

anything similar. He discovered that the same type of stickers were found around their campus during the fall semester.

Considering the incident occurred over the Intersession break, some students are not aware the stickers are present on campus even took place on campus. Senior Davis Luanaa, a student worker in the United Front Multicultural Center learned of the incident during their interview with The USD Vista.

“I’m shocked,” Luanaa said. “I’m shocked that it happened and I am also shocked that I didn’t know about it.”

Luanaa also noted hearing about the event made her feel unsafe, but what was more concerning was her lack of knowledge about the event.

“He said that this happened, but I wish it was a bigger deal because as a brown student on this campus it is triggering to hear about, and I wish I knew more,” Luanaa said.

According to Chief Miyashiro, there has been no further progress in identifying and apprehending the people who did this.

“They haven’t been able to make any headway, and after arrests, we did put UCSB on alert so that if anything happens on their campus they could actually work together,” Miyashiro stated.

Miyashiro also clarified that while he, and the rest of the Public Safety Department understood the severe social implications of the act, there are legal differences between an “act of intolerance” and a “hate crime” that they must abide by.

“If an act has discriminatory implications on the basis of gender, sexuality, etc., but does not amount to a crime, then it is an act of intolerance,” explained Miyashiro. “Since these stickers peeled off with no lasting damage, it did not amount to vandalism.”

Cory Gooding, Ph.D., a professor in the political science and international relations department was also disheartened when he received the email notifying him of the incident during Intersession.

Sadly, this is not the first time something like this has happened on this campus,” he said. Gooding also added, “What worries me is how this will affect students going forward, especially considering that some students on this campus are going to bear the brunt of this burden a lot more than others.”

Gooding’s concerns spoke to the fact that USD has historically had, and statistically does have, an overwhelmingly white student population. In the aftermath of events like the one on Jan. 15, students of color, like Meghna and stipulation for one budget item. substrate of the act, may feel the disproportionate racial make-up of this campus even more than ever.

Although USD still has a majority white student body, with 50% of students in fall of 2019 identifying as white according to a mandated report by the Department of Education, this percentage has decreased in recent years. As a result, more diverse, we as a community, and especially students, are going to have to think about how we choose to be welcoming to all campus members.”

If campus community members encounter any stickers on campus, they are encouraged to report them to USD Public Safety so that they can be taken down.
Coronavirus scare in SD
USD Student Health Center keeps students up to date on the developing situation

Senior Daisy Nutter acknowledged the severity of the virus, and highlighted the racism it has fueled.

"While the coronavirus is a serious international health issue, and people from all countries should work to prevent the spread of it, I think people are using the fact that it originated in China to be both racist and xenophobic."

-Sophomore Chelsea Dunlevy

Asst. News Editor

Everyone has heard the casual coronavirus jokes and distant reports of cases across the globe, but the risk and consequences of this world outbreak are potentially serious and extreme. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a world health emergency on Jan. 30. Wuhan, China is the origin of the outbreak, and is currently in the process of constructing new hospitals to maintain their ability to treat patients. Over 25 countries have now confirmed cases.

The Center for Disease Control reports that carriers of this strain of coronavirus (2019-nCoV) will likely show symptoms as early as two days and as late as 14 days, and those symptoms mirror those of the common cold. The family of coronaviruses are classified as respiratory illnesses which spread through close contact, such as sneezing or coughing on someone.

However, the CDC maintains that much is still being discovered about this strain of coronavirus. Considering the uncertainty of this situation, the United States government has decided to extract some American citizens from Wuhan, China and quarantine them upon entry back into the U.S.

Sophomore Chelsea Dunlevy believes some people may be overreacting to the virus.

"I think the coronavirus has a lot of confusion and fear around it," said Dunlevy. "I've heard people talk about it with racially charged sentiments that I haven't seen with other viruses ... from what I've seen on the media, it is portrayed as this fast-acting killer disease, and I don't think it helps to have USD send several emails and hand out flyers about it ... I think people need to take a step back and see the actual impact of the virus rather than buying into what the media portrays it as."

As a virus, the disease cannot be treated with antibiotics, and doctors still have not found an adequate prevention method, treatment, or a cure to the coronavirus. Seven strains of the virus have been found in humans, and research on the virus dates back to the 1960s. There is no absolute source determined to this point, though certain reports suspect either bats or local seafood markets. Over 400 deaths from the virus have been confirmed in China, among over 20,000 confirmed cases.

Sophomore Jack Townsend expressed his thoughts about the coronavirus.

"In some ways it feels so distant from us, as if it's a fictional opening to a plague movie," Townsend said. "Even though it's pretty real."

Reuters' polls show that there are currently over 350,000 Chinese students studying in the U.S. and over 10,000 American students studying in China. San Diego is an area that attracts a lot of immigration and study from international students, especially Asian students, so USD currently has around 185 international students on campus. USD has had one suspected case of the international student body. USD currently has around 185 international students on campus from China.

The USD Health Center sent out an email report on the situation to alert USD students: "There are currently no known exposures to the Coronavirus in San Diego or on the USD campus. As with any health alert, the university is proactively working with campus partners, as well as local and state resources, to monitor the situation and to protect the health and well-being of the USD community."

Concerning the possible quarantining of USD students in-dorm, the USD Health Center referred to the Department of Health and Human Services as were released in a Feb. 1 report from the USD Health Center.

"Effective 5 p.m. February 2, 2020, the U.S. has new travel restrictions and required monitoring. There will be a temporary ban on entry for foreign nationals who have been to China in the past 14 days. American citizens returning from Hubei in the past 14 days will be subject to health screening and up to 14 days of mandatory quarantine. American citizens returning from mainland China in the past 14 days will be subject to health screening and up to 14 days of monitored self isolation."

Similar warning notices were put in multiple common areas around campus to alert students of the severity of the virus. The U.S. has 11 confirmed cases, six of which are in the state of California. San Diego has had one suspected patient, but the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that the test came back negative on Wednesday, Jan. 30.

Senior Daisy Nutter acknowledged the severity of the virus, and highlighted the racism it has fueled.

"While the coronavirus is a serious international health issue, and people from all countries should work to prevent the spread of it, I think people are using the fact that it originated in China to be both racist and xenophobic. I have heard of an instance where a Chinese man died from a heart attack because nobody wanted to give him CPR for fear of contracting the virus (in Sydney, Australia)," Nutter said. "You can stay healthy without indulging in racist and xenophobic tendencies."

If students have concerns or questions about the ongoing coronavirus situation, or if they believe they have any symptoms, the Student Health Center is located in Maher 140 and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
The USVista

February 6, 2020

The impeachment trial of President Trump is showing the holes in our democracy

Baylyne Brunetti
Contributor

On Jan. 15, 2020 the U.S. House of Representatives sent articles of impeachment to the U.S. Senate for the impeachment trial for President Donald Trump. In the sunshine of San Diego, it can be hard to care about the cold world of Washington, D.C. and those in it. It is even harder to get students who already dislike politics politically involved in this impeachment. The allegations against Trump are detrimental to our democracy and have placed our system of checks and balances into the limelight. No matter our side of the party and balances into the limelight. No matter our side of the party, we should have subscribed to what is going on because this impeachment could easily become the largest political issue of this decade. These violations of presidential power have plagued the executive office.

When we look at the impeachment of President Clinton, we see some partisan lines being drawn in the sand, but we also see a pledge to a fair trial in the senate. In December 1998, regarding the impeachment of President Bill Clinton, the Senate of San Diego failed to approve the proposed impeachment regarding “abuse of power” by a large margin, 97-4. Furthermore, the Republican house also rejected a finding of lying under oath by President Clinton, a charge the civil deposition of Paula Jones — by a 229-205 vote. Although there were divisions during the Clinton impeachment trial, the Republicans still displayed integrity in the manner with which they handled the impeachment process. This is not to say that party lines did not exist, but it does say something about the integrity that used to be a core tenant of political office.

Regardless, some Republicans in the current senate show a strange loyalty to President Trump. There is no straightforward rationale for the extreme allegiance to President Trump by Republicans.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi after passage of articles of impeachment. Credit: Wikimedia Commons

On Feb. 9, the San Diego Legion will kick off their third Major League Rugby (MLR) season at Torero Stadium. A month later, on Mar. 7, San Diego Loyal SC will kick off their first United Soccer League (USL) season, also at Torero Stadium. In total, the University of San Diego will play host to 12 professional sports games over the course of this semester. Those hosting duties, while giving USD students easy access to pro sports, will undoubtedly pose some serious challenges for the university.

If USD students are looking for local sports teams to support, it does not get much more local than on our own campus, and both teams are worth getting excited about. The San Diego Legion are an established powerhouse in MLR, reaching the championship in both of the league’s first two seasons. The Legion hosted the best regular-season record in last year’s competition, winning 12 of their 16 games before falling to the Seattle Seawolves in the final — a matchup which is blossoming into a serious rivalry.

In preparing for this season, the Legion signed Ma’a Nona, a two-time Rugby World Cup winner for New Zealand — one of 57 Legion players with international rugby experience. Nona and the Legion open their season with a championship rematch against the Seawolves on Feb. 9. Crucially, tickets start at $18 apiece for all Legion matches. Rugby fan or not, the Legion deliver 80 minutes of good sport for less than a $20 bill, right here at Alcalá Park.

Nona’s Legion are not the only team which will bring international icons to Torero Stadium this spring. San Diego Loyal SC head coach Landon Donovan is a legend of American soccer, holding the U.S. men’s national team record for goals scored with 37. While Loyal SC is something of an unknown value in terms of how the team will play, they will at the very least play host to some talented competition.

On Mar. 28, Loyal SC will welcome the Club Tijuana across the border for a friendly match. A week later, defending USL champions Real Salt Lake will play in Torero Stadium.

The bottom line is this: with Torero Stadium playing host to both the Legion and Loyal SC, students get the chance to get a taste of a pair of international icons — one trying to bring a title to San Diego at the end of an illustrious career, and the other taking his six steps as a coach after making his name as a player. It is a chance students should take, even if they have never seen a rugby game in their life, and even if soccer is not their favorite thing in the world to watch. When else will two professional sports teams play within walking distance of your house? Whether, 12 games in a little less than 15 weeks come at a cost. Both rugby and soccer games can take a toll on the playing surface — a surface that USD is likely tasked with maintaining this spring. Keeping Torero Stadium’s natural grass field in good condition, while not impossible, will be a tough test for the university, especially on the two weekends when Loyal SC plays Saturday and the Legion take the same field the next day. As trivial as the condition of the grass may seem, stadiums have been penalized for their players’ playing surface in the past, and a well-kept field can even be a point of pride for teams. Ultimately, the field will not need to be perfect — it likely will not be — but it would be in USD’s interest to have the field in a good condition.

No matter how torn-up the field at Torero Stadium may get, keeping it in shape will not be the biggest challenge of hosting teams on campus. That would be parking. In 2019, the Legion averaged just over 3,000 fans per game, and the average attendance for USL games was under 4,500. So it would be fair to assume that Loyal and Legion games will bring anywhere from around 5,000 to a capacity crowd of 8,000 people onto USD’s campus. And most of those people will need a place to park. On a campus which is already struggling for parking without an influx of cars, that has a high potential to create logistical issues for fans, staff, and possibly inconvenience students.

While the university has done a commendable job to handle the issue of parking in the Legion’s first two seasons playing on campus, it remains to be seen if they can scale up and manage the increased demand if either team manage one this spring.

The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of The USVista staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.
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REMEMBERING KOBE BRYANT

ON JAN. 26, A HELICOPTER CRASH IN CALABASAS, CALIFORNIA TOOK THE LIVES OF ALL EIGHT PASSENGERS AND THE PILOT OF THE PLANE. THE DEADLY CRASH DEEPLY MOVED MANY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIANS, AS PASSENGERS SUCH AS WORLD-RENOVATED BASKETBALL STAR KOBE BRYANT AND ORANGE COAST COLLEGE BASEBALL COACH JOHN ALTOBELLI HAVE BEEN INFLUENTIAL FIGURES IN THE CALIFORNIA SPORTS WORLD FOR DECADES.

Gianna Bryant was an aspiring basketball player who hoped to follow in the footsteps of her father and play professionally. Bryant was known to share with her father many of the traits that made him successful, namely his drive and natural athletic ability, so much so that she went by the nickname “Mambacita,” a play on Bryant’s famous nickname of “Black Mamba.”

John Altobelli greatly impacted the sports world of Orange County as the head baseball coach at Orange Coast College, a position he had held for almost three decades. Altobelli helped raise funds and grow the baseball program at OCC, supporting his players and motivating them to succeed.

Keri Altobelli was a beloved wife and mother to her three children, always attending family members’ athletic events and showing her support. She was also known to be a kind and considerate individual by those in her community.

Alyssa Altobelli was an avid basketball player and beloved by her community. She played basketball not only at Horace Ensign Intermediate School, where her basketball jersey has been retired in commemoration, but also at the Mamba Sports Academy, where she played with Gianna Bryant.

Christina Mauser was an assistant coach at the Mamba Sports Academy, and was known as being a firm — yet ultimately supportive and caring — teacher and role model for the girls she coached.

Michael Armstead, Senior
"Kobe to me was much more than a hooper — he was someone I looked up to as a role model. His character and drive to be the best person he could be, on and off the court, was something that I admired and respected heavily. Being a kid that wanted to be a professional athlete, hearing someone, who was one of the best professional athletes in the world, continuously speak on discipline and how important the little things are was something that I always looked up to. He's just an inspiration to me as both a basketball player and as a human being."

Marcus Robinson, First Year
"Me and a couple of my friends were getting up some shots in the gym. So, imagine hearing about one of the greatest basketball players of all time’s death while I’m doing what he did best."

Ara Zobayan was an instrument-certified pilot, and was flying the helicopter on the day of the crash. Neighbors Robert Sapia and Angie LaPorte remembered him as a friendly and passionate individual, and coworker Jared Yochim noted that Zobayan’s pleasant demeanor made him a popular pilot to fly with.

Sarah Chester was known as a caring and enthusiastic mother and member of her community. While an avid and involved supporter of her daughter’s basketball career, Chester herself had always been passionate about sports, playing on the school volleyball team during her time at Whittier College.

Payton Chester was a devoted basketball player, and played at the Mamba Sports Academy with Gianna Bryant and Alyssa Altobelli. She was described by those who knew her as a positive and kind individual.

Kobe Bryant’s death impacted countless sports enthusiasts and athletes, many of whom cited him as a role model and source of inspiration. Toreros share what Bryant meant to them and how he shaped the way they engage with sports.

Lauren Rivers, Senior
“For me, Kobe embodied what it meant to be ‘more than an athlete.’ He was always one of those legends that I thought was invincible, leaving me extremely distraught over the death of him and his daughter Gigi. Whether you loved him or hated him as a fan, you had to respect his commitment to the game, to his family and to the people around him.”

Ryan Ferron, Junior
“This really hurts as a sports fan for more than just Kobe. Seeing the future that Gigi and her teammates had in women’s basketball was inspiring to so many her age, and Coach Altobelli was so transcendent in baseball over the decades. I had the pleasure of working with his son JJ, so it hurts a little bit more knowing that he lost his father.”

Triston Martinez, First Year
“I was really shocked. It didn’t seem real, especially the fact that his daughter was with him. It’s saddening to realize that not only did it impact people that knew Kobe, but it impacted people like me. I wasn’t that big of a Kobe fan, but he’s a legend. Even for me it was really hard.”

Patrick Larson, First Year
“Kobe Bryant was basically my childhood basketball star. At first I kind of didn’t believe it. I thought it was a joke. Realizing what actually happened was very tragic and it really broke my heart. I wasn’t a Lakers fan, but just the superstar that Kobe was, the Mamba mentality that he had, is something that I’ve always looked up to. He’s just an inspiration to me as both a basketball player and as a human being.”

Spread by Alee Pingol/ The USD Vista; Content by Tyler Pugmire and Catherine Silvey/ The USD Vista
Dining Services implements reusable to-go boxes in the SLP to improve sustainability

Catherine Silvey Feature Editor
Mayella Vasquez Asst. Feature Editor

University of San Diego students dining at the Student Life Pavilion (SLP) this spring have started to notice green reusable containers take the place of familiar paper to-go boxes. Following initiatives such as replacing plastic straws with paper alternatives and developing more vegetarian options in campus eateries, the plastic containers are the latest attempt by Dining Services to make the University of San Diego a more eco-friendly campus.

USD Dining Services sent out an email halfway through the first week of school explaining that the green boxes were part of a new environmentally green program by the name of Ozzi.

The Ozzi cycle begins with students dining at the Student Life Pavilion (SLP). They are to be returned to the Ozzi kiosk at the SLP. According to the Ozzi website, the O2GO containers are made from 100% sourced BPA-free plastic and are 100% recyclable. Additionally, the containers are quite durable – they are both leak-resistant and scratch-resistant, making them a sturdier and higher-quality alternative to disposable to-go boxes. Many students, including junior Sydney Kitlowski, were initially taken aback and curious about the reason for this change.

"After coming back from abroad, I was surprised to see the changes that have been made to the to-go boxes at the SLP," Kitlowski said. "I believe this is a good way to help the environment, but I am unsure of the effectiveness of the program."

Assistant Director of Operations for Dining Services Charles Ramos explained that the idea to implement Ozzi came from within Dining Services as a way to combat wastefulness and promote sustainability.

"Auxiliary Services is self-funded," Ramos said. "Implementing Ozzi containers was an own attempt to contribute to USD's goals for sustainability."

While determination to make student dining more environmentally conscious primarily motivated the enforcement of Ozzi, Ramos also cited a desire to follow California waste management regulations imposed on large institutions.

"In addition to contributing to waste reduction at USD, these containers are an effort to comply with California state law," Ramos said.

According to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery website, all state agencies and large state facilities must divert at least 50% of their solid waste from disposal facilities. Entities can increase their diversion rate by reducing the creation of solid waste.

While the Ozzi program is a promising initiative, the underlying concern of students simply taking plates home and never returning them instead of paying for the Ozzi box deposit remains. Ramos addressed this, noting that students using the Ozzi system is much preferred by Dining Services than them taking plates home.

"There is more accountability with these containers," Ramos said. "Ideally containers will be taken to the dorms rather than plates."

Junior Chelsea Dalgado agreed with Ramos, noting that the boxes had the power to create a more environmentally-conscious dining experience.

"I think the Ozzi box is a great initiative because the regular to-go boxes are quite wasteful," Dalgado said. "I think it’s a really cool initiative to make our campus more sustainable," Turney said. "I'm really excited to start using them."

While the Ozzi boxes certainly present a change in routine for students, the hope of Dining Services is that students will embrace the sustainable initiative by participating in the Ozzi program.

The Ozzi coin can either be used to get another Ozzi box or to receive a refund. Celina Tabor/The USD Vista

Sophomore Grace Turney expressed enthusiasm in regard to the new program and its focus on environmentalism.

"I think it’s a really cool initiative to make our campus more sustainable," Turney said. "I’m really excited to start using them."

The Ozzi boxes are made of recyclable material and are microwavable. Catherine Silvey/The USD Vista

The Ozzi boxes are made of recyclable material and are microwavable. Catherine Silvey/The USD Vista
USD senior’s short film debut

San Diego Black Film Festival features a short film by USD senior Cameron Record

Cameron Record spends every Thursday in front of a camera, anchoring for that week’s episode of USDtv. But his true passions lie behind the camera.

Record, a senior at the University of San Diego, has always been interested in the film industry. He would come up with stories in his head, but just recently, he started to write them down. And as the station manager of USDtv, he has developed a skillset with cameras, audio, and editing. He found inspiration after watching Jordan Peele’s film “Us” in theaters. Armed with an idea, no actors, and a budget of zero dollars, Record set out to create “Our Little Secret.”

The short film, Record’s first, came together over the course of summer 2019. He taught himself how to write a script and plan scenes before enlisting the help of his roommate David Tolbert. Tolbert, a senior at USD, stars in the short film as a star football player who isn’t a fan of the spotlight — the character was based on former Duke basketball player and No. 1 overall pick in the 2019 NBA draft, Zion Williamson. Record said, “As a football player himself, Tolbert found some similarities between himself and the role he was playing. I’m not really into that much publicity.” Tolbert said, “I don’t like talking to strangers that much. But when I’m with my friends, I’m very open. I laugh a lot, I talk a lot, I joke a lot.”

And while Tolbert doesn’t consider himself a professional actor, a variety of factors, including his football career at USD, helped him prepare for the role. “Sports and acting is actually a pretty good parallel,” Tolbert said. “You get used to people looking at you, you get used to performing, entertainment-wise, and then the interviewing part.”

The film’s plot revolves around a high-profile college athlete who is coerced into taking his neighbor’s good fortune in order to keep his deepest and darkest secret, a secret. Tolbert is also an identical twin in real life, and without one of his professors, Record didn’t get nervous typically, he said. But after releasing his film, he couldn’t do anything to calm his nerves besides turn his phone off.

“You work so hard to put something together in your head, and you’re kind of vulnerable,” Record said. “You put it together and people don’t get it. That’s just part of the process. Not everybody likes what you’re gonna put out there.”

The film ends on a vague note, but by watching it carefully, the main character’s secret is unveiled. Both Record and Tolbert recommend rewatching it if viewers don’t understand the first time. “For anybody that doesn’t get the film, watch it again,” Record said. “Watch it like you would in the theatre. No distractions, no phones, nobody else.”

Creating a short film requires heavy commitment. And for Record, a full-time college student with two jobs on the side, finding the time is difficult. However, his passion for the craft left him itching to create films, despite his crowded schedule. “The number one thing on my mind throughout the day is film,” Record said. “I want to watch movies. I want to make a film. I want to get better at filmmaking.” He hopes to take his filmmaking to the next level and into his career. Record has three other scripts in the works, and is currently deciding whether he wants to attend film school after graduation in May. Record’s short film will also be screened in the UCs at a later date.
A Bite of San Diego dives into a few of the most convenient lunch spots by campus

Shelby Todd
Asst. A&C Editor

With classes back in session for the spring semester, students who prefer to eat off campus will once again be looking for a place to grab food during breaks. Luckily, USD’s campus is surrounded by great options for students to grab a quick lunch in between classes. This week’s edition of A Bite of San Diego will highlight some of the best options for affordable and tasty eats near campus.

Urbane Cafe

Urbane Cafe is known for both their sandwiches and salads. They use a variety of fresh and exciting ingredients like quinoa, goat cheese, and sundried tomatoes to keep their lunchtime options exciting.

Kiko's Place

Kiko’s Place is a popular food truck parked down the street from USD on Friars Road, and is a great lunch spot for any seafood lovers. Kiko’s menu features tacos, quesadillas, and burritos filled with fish varieties, shrimp, and even octopus. Prices at Kiko’s range from $3.75 to $6.90 for tacos and $7.75 to $10 for burritos and quesadillas. Kiko’s also offers a special for their OG Fish Taco for $2.50 or $6.75 for the burrito or quesadilla version. Daily specials such as three for $5 tacos on Tuesdays are also featured on the menu. Kiko’s Place does not accept card payment, but takes cash or Venmo. Easily identifiable, this popular food truck is located just down the hill from campus with plenty of spaces. The truck typically opens between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m., staying open until 8 p.m. every night of the week. Kiko’s is a great place for lunch to go, but for those looking to eat in, there is a table to stand and eat.

Buta Japanese Ramen

Buta Japanese Ramen is a popular spot for students and local employees on their lunch breaks, so be prepared for crowds during lunch hours. Urbane is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. The parking lot offers plenty of spaces, but they can get filled quickly during the lunch rush.

Located just down the hill in the Shops at Arrive Mission Valley, Urbane Cafe is a perfect place to go for a lunch break in between classes. Urbane’s menu consists mainly of sandwiches, ranging in price from $8.25 to $10.75, and salads, from $8.50 to $10.95. Their menu also includes nutritious choices that are perfect for students looking for a healthy lunchtime option. The portions are large and made with a variety of fresh ingredients, like ahi tuna and mozzarella. Drinks and sides, like their popular cookies, are available to add to any meal. At the counter, you can order to-go or sit and eat at one of the inside or outside seating areas. This is a popular spot for students and local employees on their lunch breaks, so be prepared for crowds during lunch hours. Urbane is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. The parking lot offers plenty of spaces, but they can get filled quickly during the lunch rush.

For those looking to eat in, there is a table to stand and eat. Urbane Cafe is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and is closed on Mondays.

Pita Pit

Pita Pit is conveniently located just a few doors down from Urbane Cafe in the Shops at Arrive Mission Valley. This lunch spot offers both classic and artisan pita sandwiches in a wide variety of flavors to satisfy any customer’s tastes. Some of these pita flavors include the Boom Boom Black Bean, Thai Chicken, or Gyro. Prices for pita wraps start at $6.99 for a small and $8.99 for a regular. Their menu also includes Beyond Meat options and gluten-free wraps for customers with dietary restrictions. Pita Pit prides itself on serving fresh food to its customers, and is a healthy alternative to fast food when you’re in need of something quick.

Buta Japanese Ramen
5301 Linda Vista Road #103, San Diego, CA 92110

A relatively new addition to the Morena restaurant scene is Buta Japanese Ramen. This eatery offers appetizers like edamame ($4.90) and gyoza ($5). Their ramen selection includes options like Crazy Garlic ($10), Golden Curry ($9.50), and Spicy Red Buta Garlic ($10), Golden Curry ($10), and Spicy Red Buta ($12). The appetizer and ramen offerings also include vegetarian and vegan options. Buta Japanese Ramen also serves specialty tea drinks to finish off the meal. Located in the popular Ford Trolley Plaza that houses Ballast Point Brewery, parking can be tight, and restaurants can be busy during lunch hours. However, if you want to avoid the crowds, Buta Japanese Ramen offers an online ordering service for pickup orders. If you are looking for a more unique sandwich experience, Pita Pit is conveniently located just a few doors down from Urbane Cafe in the Shops at Arrive Mission Valley. This lunch spot offers both classic and artisan pita sandwiches in a wide variety of flavors to satisfy any customer’s tastes. Some of these pita flavors include the Boom Boom Black Bean, Thai Chicken, or Gyro. Prices for pita wraps start at $6.99 for a small and $8.99 for a regular. Their menu also includes Beyond Meat options and gluten-free wraps for customers with dietary restrictions. Pita Pit prides itself on serving fresh food to its customers, and is a healthy alternative to fast food when you’re in need of something quick.
USD slips up against USF
Second half surge helps the Dons defeat the struggling Toreros

Basketball From Page 1

Not only were the Toreros dominant on the defensive side of the ball, but the Dons were as well. USF’s defense was aggressive all night, as they held USD to a low 29.6% field goal percentage and an extremely low 8.3 three-point percentage — which is USD’s season low. The Toreros finished the game making only one three-point attempt. They went 1-12 in the game.

The Dons had a little extra height advantage that seemed to help them when it mattered. “I thought they played bigger around the rim,” senior forward Alex Floresca said. “They had big Jimbo (Lull) around the rim, so that helps. Their guards are very athletic to get back in front of the ball but at the end of the day, we just have to convert.”

The second half was all San Francisco as their lead got bigger and bigger. USD looked phased on offense as they kept turning the ball over. The Toreros turned the ball over 16 times but forced 15 turnovers from the Dons as well. USD scored 12 points off turnovers to the USF’s nine. The Dons extended their lead to 20 points with about six minutes left to play.

Playing well on defense is what motivates the Toreros. “That’s what we do, we hang our hat on defense,” Floresca said. “We are a very defensive-minded team and I thought we played defense very well tonight. We guarded them well by forcing them to take tough shots.”

The Toreros weren’t able to come back from the large deficit and the final score was 69-44. Hartfield had a team-high 11 points for the Toreros and hit the only three-point shot on the night for USD.

Senior guard Braun Hartfield led the way for the Toreros with a team-high 11 points and eight rebounds. Junior forward James Jean-Marie contributed with eight points.

Junior guard Braun Hartfield leads the way for the Toreros with a team-high 11 points and eight rebounds. Junior forward James Jean-Marie contributed with eight points.

The USD ViSTa

Second half surge helps the Dons defeat the struggling Toreros

Junior guard Braun Hartfield led the way for the Toreros with a team-high 11 points and eight rebounds. Junior forward James Jean-Marie contributed with eight points.

**INTERSESSION BASKETBALL RESULTS**

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The next home game for the Toreros is against Saint Mary’s College on Thursday, Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. in the JCP. Tickets are free for all USD students. The game will be aired on ESPNU as well as streamed via WCC sports.
Catching up on USD sports

Men’s rugby and tennis saw success over Intersession break

Chris Spiering
Sports Editor

On Nov. 20, 2019 the USD men’s rugby team participated in the Rugby City Championship Tournament, which was designed to showcase the best rugby teams in San Diego County. After two early victories for the Toreros, they earned the top seed in the tournament and defeated Point Loma Nazarene University 24-12 to win the championship. USD defeated University of California, San Diego (UCSD) 17-14 in game one and defeated San Diego Mesa College 46-5 in game two. This is the team’s second championship victory since the creation of the tournament, but first since 2016.

Fowards Ty Helfrich and Wyatt Darien were consistent throughout the tournament and were big reasons for the success. Darren Seward was named tournament Most Valuable Player (MVP) after he dominated in each game.

“No player had a bigger impact than tournament MVP Darren Seward,” Assistant coach Scott Classen said. “Seward bounced off tackles all day and was immense on defense. Seward showed off his versatility, and showed up elsewhere but the score sheet.”

On Dec. 12, 2019, USD played against cross-town rival San Diego State University (SDSU) and came out on top with a victory.

“The was a big win and we won by quite a substantial amount,” sophomore forward Nick Classen said. “That was the kind of game that we are now becoming more and more of a force to be reckoned with.”

The new season started as they will play six total games. USD plays their games on Manchester Field and will have three home games this season. The Toreros opened the season against Arizona State University (ASU) and lost 43-19. USD traveled to Tempe, Arizona where they had the daunting task of playing a tough ASU opponent. The Sun Devils are traditionally one of the best teams in the country.

The Toreros’ strong defense is a major reason for their early success. “Our defense is definitely a major reason for their early success. It seemed all hope was lost after that moment,” senior Joel Gamerov said.

The Toreros did just that up one point to nothing, the first position. At second, the Toreros had redshirt junior Nico Borter and first year Marvin Schaber. And after a hard-fought second set, the first year brought home the victory winning 6-4 and scoring the fourth point for the Toreros.

Toreros. After a heartbreaking loss against UCF, the Toreros were able to come back swing, defeating SDSU 4-0. The Toreros are looking ahead to their next contest against Washington on Sunday.

“We have set the bar high so that we can achieve what we want to achieve,” redshirt junior Joel Gamerov said.

The Toreros did just that when they defeated the Huskies 4-3 in a highly competitive contest on Sunday. San Diego advances to 3-1 overall and will look to defend their undefeated home record.

Maria Watters
Asst. Sports Editor

As the eyes of the world turn toward Melbourne for the 2020 Australian open, the USD men’s tennis team swept WCC rival SDSU 4-0 last Sunday. Not only did the Toreros win every finished match, the men lost only one set across all nine courts.

The Toreros’ doubles-head coach Ryan Keckley prides himself on his team’s preparedness and ability to bounce back from tough losses.

“We were inches away from getting that win,” Keckley said. “To have to regroup in less than twenty-four hours, put our emotions aside and prepare for a match like San Diego State at nine thirty in the morning, it’s cold, there were 4,400 spectators and our team just looked at each other and said this is what we have to get done.”

The Sunday’s contest kicked off with the doubles matches. In collegiate tennis, three doubles matches are played to determine which team receives the first point. Despite not having senior All American, Gui Osorio, due to injuries, the Toreros put forth a strong lineup with senior Joel Gamerov and junior August Holmgren, leading the team at the first position. At second, the Toreros had redshirt junior Nico Borter and first year Marvin Schaber. And after a hard-fought second set, the first year brought home the victory winning 6-4 and scoring the fourth point for the Toreros.

Borter and Schaber were the first to finish, making quick work of their opponents senior Rafael Gonzalez Almazan and junior Jan Kirchhoff in a decisive 6-0 victory. Gamerov and Homgren followed suit by defeating junior Ignacio Martinez and junior Aaro Pollanen, 6-3 to clinch the doubles point for the Toreros.

Up one point to nothing, the Toreros entered the singles round with confidence and momentum. Holmgren led the Toreros at one with Gamerov at two, Sharma at three, Norfeldt at four, Borter at five, and Schaber at six. Because USD won the doubles point, the Toreros only needed three more victories to win overall. Gamerov finished first by defeating Pollanen 6-2, 6-1, putting the Toreros up 2-0 overall. Borter finished soon after with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over senior Arnaud Restifo.

The Toreros were up 3-0, but Homgren, Sharma, and Norfeldt barely won their first sets, and were battling through the second. It seemed all hope for a 4-0 victory fell on first year Marvin Schaber. Schaber won the first set against Almazan 6-2. And after a hard-fought second set, the first year brought home the victory winning 6-4 and scoring the fourth point for the Toreros.

The team is always looking to add more players to the team and encourages students to come try out.

“We would love to have more and more people come play rugby,” Classen said. “It’s a phenomenal sport and it’s super fun. It’s a great way to get out and exercise and meet a great group of people.”

USD hosts Long Beach State on Feb. 22, Claremont College on Feb. 29, and then MirafCosta College on March 14.