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USD Vista

USD News

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### Vista: March 12, 2020

University of San Diego

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# TheUSD VISTA

◆ The Official Student Newspaper of the University of San Diego since 1968 ◆

## SAS and other programs canceled

### Students asked to come home due to coronavirus



Students on Semester at Sea socializing by the on-board pool. All students will disembark in South Africa to fly home.

Photo courtesy of Max Escutia

**Mikaela Foehr**  
News Editor

Junior Kayla Cayan started her semester at John Cabot University in Rome with 25 students in each of her classes. Now, due to the rapid spread and fear of coronavirus strain COVID-19 in Italy, seats in class have become increasingly empty and attendance has dropped to about five students per class.

According to the New York Times (NYT), at the time of print, Italy had 10,149 cases of COVID-19, the second largest outbreak behind China. Considering the fast-paced nature of the spread, Italy has elected to close all schools, from elementary to university, at least until March 15, according to NYT. The Prime Minister of Italy, Giuseppe Conte, issued an "I Stay Home" decree on March 9, effectively placing the entire nation under lockdown.

In response to the school closures, movement restrictions, and the severe outbreak, some American universities, including the University of San Diego, are choosing to bring their students home from abroad. According to Lissette Martinez, the Senior Director of Media Communications for the university, USD has been

monitoring the Center of Disease Control's (CDC) travel guidelines and decided to ask students to come home from areas where CDC travel warnings were at a level three travel health notice.

"USD had students studying in Italy and last week we requested they return home as soon as possible for their safety and well-being," Martinez said.

Although unfortunate, Martinez stated that the students will be able to continue their international studies through online coursework. However, communicating this information to students proved difficult.

Initially, students in Italy were told that it was mandatory for them to leave Italy and return home, but another email later that day stated that the choice to come home or not was placed on the students.

Cayan was determined to get the most out of her semester, despite the severe outbreak in Italy and the widespread fear that came with it.

"I think personally, I wasn't too worried but I know that it affected a lot of other students," Cayan said. "I think it kind of created a mass hysteria within the campus. The unknown was scaring a lot of people."

Cayan has a unique

perspective on the COVID-19 virus, largely because of the pre-med classes she has been taking.

"I just happen to be a little bit more informed on the background of coronavirus, and the symptoms and how to prevent it and the fact that the seasonal flu happens to impact more people," Cayan said. "But for other students or other people who might not know these things, I can see how it might be a lot scarier for them."

After receiving USD's recommendation to return home, Cayan deliberated for a week over whether to leave Italy. She eventually decided to return home on March 17, but because flights to the U.S. are now difficult to book from Italy, Cayan must depart from Madrid, Spain.

On the other side of the world, USD students on Semester at Sea (SAS) have also had their experiences affected by the COVID-19 virus. The Spring 2020 Semester at Sea route was intended to port in a number of Southeast Asian countries, but that plan has since been abandoned. This semester's SAS class will now end their voyage in South Africa and have to make their way home from there. This change in plans came after many

See COVID-19, Page 2

## Overtime loss

### Toreros lose WCC championship

**Chris Spiering**  
Sports Editor

which propelled them into the NCAA Tournament.

University of San Diego women's basketball was defeated by the Portland Pilots in the final seconds of the WCC Championship game on Tuesday, 64-63.

USD women's basketball advanced to the WCC Title after defeating the Pepperdine University Waves in the semi-finals Monday night. San Diego managed to grab 29 defensive rebounds en route to their 15 point victory, 59-44.

USD got out to an early 17-11 lead on Monday in the first quarter and never looked back from there. They never once lost the lead and their efforts on defense solidified the impressive win.

Junior guard Myah Pace finished with a game-high 19 points and six rebounds in 38 minutes. Senior center Leticia Soares also ended with 19 points and grabbed five rebounds.

The Toreros were set to play in the WCC Title game for the first time since 2009, where they lost to Gonzaga. USD won the title last in 2008 after defeating Gonzaga,

The WCC Title game started off well for the Toreros as USD jumped out to an early six-point lead. Portland would find a way back into the game as the first quarter ended with USD up 12-11.

The Pilots would manage to score 17 points in the second, holding USD to 13 points as Portland had a 28-25 lead going into halftime.

The Torero offense came alive in the third quarter as they scored 18 points. It was back-and-forth the entire way to the finish as both offenses kept scoring. There were a ton of lead changes as both teams knew the WCC Title was at stake.

The Toreros had a chance to win the game at the end of the fourth quarter as there were less than five seconds on the clock. The score was even at 58 and USD had the ball. The ball was inbounded to Pace, but she was immediately called for an offensive charge. The game would then go to overtime where it was a battle to the finish.

San Diego found another See WCC, Page 12



The Toreros huddle up during the WCC championship match.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

## Stress management

See center spread on pages 6-7

### STRESS MANAGEMENT

IT'S MODERN LIFE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, MEANS THAT STUDENTS ACROSS CAMPUS ARE FACING TESTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PROJECTS WORTH SIGNIFICANT CHUNKS OF THEIR GRADE. SUCH HEAVY COURSE LOADS CREATE PRESSURE TO PERFORM WELL, RESULTING IN MANY STUDENTS FEELING STRESSED AND OVERWHELMED.

**#1** ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY NYU AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENTS IDENTIFY STRESS AS THE NUMBER ONE IMPEDIMENT TO ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STRESS, 80% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS EXPERIENCE FREQUENT STRESS.

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL COLLEGE HEALTH ASSESSMENT, ONLY 1.9% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING NO STRESS IN THE PAST YEAR.

### HOW STRESS WORKS

CHRONIC STRESS PUTS US IN A CONSTANT STATE OF INCREASED PHYSICAL WHICH COULD CAUSE TOO MUCH WEAR AND TEAR ON THE BODY.

"ONCE OUR STRESS HORMONES ARE RELEASED, THERE IS NOT MUCH WE CAN DO ABOUT IT. IT WILL TAKE ABOUT 40 MINUTES FOR THE STRESS HORMONE TO RETURN BACK TO BASELINE, BUT KNOWING THIS CAN BE HELPFUL... WE KNOW THE HORMONES WILL RETURN TO BASELINE, BUT IT WILL TAKE A LITTLE TIME."

"SOME WAYS TO PREVENT STRESS OR DEAL WITH CURRENT STRESSORS INCLUDE EXERCISING, SOCIALIZING WITH FRIENDS, MEDITATING, AND MAKING A PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE STRESSOR."

**STUDENT ADVICE:**

NAME: DANICA SILAN  
GRADE: SENIOR  
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY AND MUSIC  
"ONE THING THAT ALWAYS HELPS ME IS TAKING A SECOND TO BREATHE. TAKE A STEP BACK TO SEE WHAT IS URGENT AND WHAT CAN WAIT A LITTLE LONGER. ONCE YOU HAVE THE ORDER YOU WANT TO TACKLE ALL OF YOUR THINGS, MAKE A PRIORITY LIST WITH DEADLINES SO YOU HAVE A TANGIBLE WAY TO CHECK THINGS OFF YOUR PROcrastinate. AT THE END OF THE DAY, ALWAYS SCHEDULE AN HOUR OF SELF-CARE TIME TO BRING OUT THE BUBBLE BATH, THE FACE MASKS, AND NETFLIX."

NAME: WILLIAM SINGH  
GRADE: JUNIOR  
MAJOR: ACCOUNTING  
"TAKING BREAKS DEFINITELY HELPS ME. I LIKE TO WORK OUT BECAUSE IT FREES MY MIND FROM ALL THE WORKS I HAVE TO DO—THE GYM IS DEFINITELY A STRESS RELIEVER."

NAME: ALEXA PEREZ  
GRADE: SENIOR  
MAJOR: BIO-CHEMISTRY  
"TO RELIEVE STRESS, DO YOGA, MAKE SURE TO EAT HEALTHY, AND STAY HYDRATED. GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP BEFORE A STRESSFUL DAY REALLY HELPS."

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# NEWS

## Abroad experiences cut short

*Students in Italy and on Semester at Sea face an end to their semester abroad*

### COVID-19 from Page 1

route alterations throughout their short trip. After a stop in Vietnam, the ship had to stay at sea for two weeks. This was in response to a cancellation of ports in Malaysia, India, and the Seychelles.

Lexi Crea, a junior student on the ship, is disappointed in the experience, but maintains that it was beneficial to see the four countries they did visit.

"This is such a sad abroad experience," Crea said. "I'm so happy I got to a few countries, but everyone just feels like we got so much taken from us."

Crea also emphasized that the effects of COVID-19 are serious, and that people should both take the threat of it seriously and be thankful for personal health.

"Overall, it has taught me a lot about being flexible, and being very grateful for my health," Crea said.

Anna Nguyen, another junior on Semester at Sea, shared Crea's thoughts on the difficulties of the journey, but emphasized the impact that misinformation can have on people.

"In Vietnam, the Chinese students were denied entry

despite not being in China during the time of the outbreak, and this would have been true in India and Malaysia too," Nguyen said. "They were on the ship for one month during this time and some students blamed China and, indirectly, the Chinese students for the rerouting of the ship."

Nguyen, as a leader of the Asian, Asian-American, and Allies club on the ship, helped to put on an informative talk about COVID-19 and its xenophobic implications, which eased some fears aboard the ship. Nguyen has also been disappointed with the communication from USD administrators to the Semester at Sea students.

"I wish USD reached out to us more, because we've had little to no contact with (administrators) without being the first to initiate conversation," Nguyen said. "It's kind of crazy how much it feels like we are on our own sometimes."

Prematurely ending study abroad experiences comes with significant financial costs and difficult travel logistics for the students and their families. According to Crea, some SAS students hope to be compensated in some way, either for the

expensive flights home from South Africa, or for the severely shortened abroad experience.

According to recent email updates, the USD administration is monitoring the evolving situation closely and has designated various members of the campus staff to be part of a

immune systems, largely among the elderly. While this may be the case, the CDC recommends that everyone, regardless of age or location, take the spread seriously and continue to take necessary precautions. These precautions include refraining from traveling to countries with

***"This is such a sad abroad experience, I'm so happy I got to a few countries, but everyone just feels like we got so much taken from us."***

**- Lexi Crea**



Students dealt with many impromptu route changes due to COVID-19 concerns.

Photo courtesy of Max Escutia

COVID-19 Action Team, as well as creating a website dedicated to keeping campus members updated on the outbreak.

The International Center also sent an email extending the study abroad application deadline to April 1 in light of the outbreak. The office also recommends students who are considering going abroad to register for Fall 2020 classes at USD, along with submitting the application.

Deaths resulting from COVID-19, at the time of print, have remained concentrated in demographics with weaker

serious outbreaks, staying home and out of contact with people if flu symptoms arise, and being extremely conscious of hand washing and all other traditional flu preventatives.

If students have further questions about COVID-19 or believe that they may be exhibiting symptoms of the virus, they are encouraged to contact the Student Health Center at (619) 260-4595. Students can also go to USD's COVID-19 website for updated campus information, procedures, and policies in respect to the virus.

## The election field dwindles

*Super Tuesday results leave Biden and Sanders as the only remaining candidates*

**Althea Ulin**  
Asst. News Editor

Going into Super Tuesday, some voters expected success for Senator Bernie Sanders, the leading progressive candidate for the Democrats. However, as candidates Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar dropped from the race and endorsed Former Vice President Joe Biden on the eve of Super Tuesday, delegates opened up for the taking.

Following the early primaries, Biden's campaign seemed to be losing steam, but had a strong comeback in South Carolina and on Super Tuesday. Biden has now taken the delegate count lead since Tuesday, with a total of 809 delegates according to the New York Times delegate count. This is a 155-delegate lead over Senator Sanders, who has a total of 654 delegates as of 8:30 p.m. March 10.

Super Tuesday is the largest single day of primary elections in the campaign calendar with 14 states casting their votes. Of the states that voted, 11 states favored Biden. However, Sanders won in California, the largest State that voted on Super Tuesday, with a near 10% lead.

After significant Super Tuesday losses, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg dropped out of the race and

endorsed Biden as the only major moderate candidate left in the race. March 5 brought an end to Senator Elizabeth Warren's campaign, leaving Sanders as the only progressive candidate in the running.

While polls currently show that Biden leads in black and older voters, two of the most critical voter groups, Sanders has two major strongholds backing his campaign: Latino voters and young voters, as evident in his California turnout. Sanders continues to claim that his campaign will produce large voter turnout in the younger generation, but that has not been the case. His campaign statements include, "What we need is a new politics that brings working-class people into our political movement, which brings young people into our political movement, and which in November will create the highest voter turnout in American political history."

With distinct voter bases, the next primary decisions depend on which groups will come out to vote. Statistically, most of the remaining primary states look like Biden victories, and Biden's voter base is more reliable to come out on voting day. Adding to this statistical advantage, Biden's campaign has been flooded with endorsements while Sanders' has faced criticisms by

some Democratic establishment leaders.

An important question that Democrats are asking themselves this election cycle is "who will beat President Trump?" In a September poll conducted by FiveThirtyEight, voters listed this question as their top concern. FiveThirtyEight pollsters drew a conclusion that showed electability as impossible to predict as polls cannot be fully accurate forecasting results.

Value alignment and platform consistency are the most important candidate characteristics for junior Zia Yurchuck.

"I initially supported a candidate who I felt aligned with my values and was also charismatic and generably likeable," Yurchuck said. "And I decided to vote for the candidate that was consistent in their platforms."

In the U.S., there are six traditional "swing states" that have the potential of voting for either party. These include: Arizona, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Often, these states end up being the deciding factor in presidential races.

According to the New York Times polls and data, Biden polls better than Sanders or Trump, including in national polls. Of

the entire electorate, roughly one third of voters "will definitely" vote for Trump and another third "will definitely vote for the democratic candidate." Of the remaining third, half of those will "most likely" vote along their party line, leaving 15% of the population as "persuadable" voters in the coming eight months.

Primaries are continuing to be held in states across the country, and between in-person, mail, and absentee ballots, it takes time for the votes to be accurately counted. To secure the nomination, 1,991 delegates need to be won by either Biden or Sanders, and until then, the Democratic nominee will not be decided.

### DEMOCRAT DELEGATE COUNT

As of 8:30 p.m. March 10



809

**Former Vice President  
Joe Biden**



654

**Vermont Senator  
Bernie Sanders**

**1,991 DELEGATES ARE NEEDED  
TO SECURE THE NOMINATION**



# Jaywalking on Linda Vista

**RAs in the UTAs say those who cross illegally will be ticketed for jaywalking**

**Mikaela Foehr**  
News Editor

Linda Vista Road is long, fast, and has very few legal places to cross. It is common to see people darting across the street during all hours of the day, whether it is to get to class, get to a bus stop, or to go home. The prevalence of jaywalking around campus has led the University of San Diego's Public Safety Department to begin to enforce jaywalking laws more strictly.

On Feb. 18, Resident Assistants in the University Terrace Apartments (UTAs) communicated to their residents that "Pedestrians who cross the street without using the crosswalk at the West or main campus entrances will be ticketed for jaywalking."

students to walk up the hill to the crosswalk at the Pacific Ridge and USD intersection. Adding to this slight inconvenience is the presence of a staircase to campus that lies on the other side of the street, apparently only accessible by walking from the top or bottom of the hill without jaywalking.

Another common jaywalking area is the stretch of road between the Alcalá Vista Apartments and the East campus entrance. In that stretch, there are no crosswalks except on the opposite sides of the intersections that bookend the stretch. This is also an especially dangerous jaywalking area because it has a blind corner at the entrance to the Alcalá Vista Apartments.

Junior Caitlin Bowen is a UTA resident who sees people jaywalking daily, but is personally



Students crossing Linda Vista Road at the main entrance intersection into the University of San Diego.

Mikaela Foehr/The USD Vista

**"I know a lot of people who speed down that hill so the risk just isn't worth it for me."**

**- Caitlin Bowen**

The UTAs are an on-campus living space located just west of the Pacific Ridge Apartment complex across Linda Vista Road. There is not a crosswalk connecting the UTAs to USD directly, requiring

opposed to the action.

"I know a lot of people who speed down that hill so the risk isn't worth it for me," Bowen said. "I see a lot of people jaywalking from the UTAs to campus and I

am always nervous that a driver will be distracted and not see them until it is too late."

Bowen believes that a crosswalk could potentially be a safer alternative, but still worries that driver speeds are too fast to make it a safe option.

Jaywalking across Linda Vista Road is a dangerous task, considering the speed limit of 40 mph and that the road has a few

blind corners. Additionally, in the final two months of 2019, Linda Vista Road saw five pedestrian accidents, with one serious one accident involving a USD student. Although these accidents did occur in designated crosswalks, they illustrate the dangers of the road.

Jaywalking fines begin at a base of \$25, but can rise quickly with additional ticketing fines,

potentially getting as high as \$250. Although jaywalking may be convenient, it is important to consider the potential costs it poses.

The USD Vista did reach out to the Public Safety Department to learn what their plan of action was in respect to jaywalking issues. However, no statement was received from them by the time of print.

## Coachella postponed

**Celina Tebor**  
Associate Editor

Organizers of Coachella and Stagecoach announced Tuesday afternoon that they have postponed the music festivals in response to the rise of global coronavirus cases.

Other music festivals such as Ultra Music Festival in Miami, Florida and South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas have already been canceled amid the virus concerns.

Coachella was originally scheduled for the weekends of April 10-12 and April 17-19. It will be rescheduled to the weekends of October 9-11 and 16-18. Likewise, Stagecoach will be now be held during the weekend of October 23-25 rather than its original April 24-26 weekend.

There are 167 cases of the coronavirus in California and two deaths at the time of publication, according to The New York Times. Almost 20,000 people have signed a change.org petition asking for

Coachella's cancellation due to COVID-19.

Junior Nicholas Roferos bought his Coachella ticket back in November and had already secured housing for the first week of the music festival. He spent \$200 personally for an Airbnb that would have hosted 13 people in total.

He was upset that the music

"I think it was wise for them to do, especially considering a gathering of 100,000 people in close proximity is just not wise to have, especially with a virus going around," Roferos said. "I think they made the right decision. I think it will just upset a lot of people."

Ultra Music Festival in Miami will not offer any refunds after

**"I think they made the right decision. I think it will just upset a lot of people."**

**- Nicholas Roferos**

festival would be postponed, but understands why the decision was made.

"Initially, I was upset because it's something I've been looking forward to," Roferos said. "Safety wise, it makes the most sense to me so it makes sense why they're doing that."

Ultimately, he believes Coachella made the right decision in postponing the music festival.

its cancellation amid coronavirus concerns, but Roferos hopes Coachella will take a different route, though he plans to attend Coachella during its postponed date.

"I think they should give people a lot of options for a full refund because a lot of artists won't be able to attend the festival (in October), so they're not giving what was promised," Roferos said.

## UCSD moves classes online

Starting in Spring Quarter, all lecture and discussion courses at the University of California San Diego will be delivered remotely, according to UC San Diego's News Center. This will mainly involve offering conventional courses via online teaching and learning tools.

For the last week of Winter Quarter, courses are continuing to meet in person, but instructors will no longer use attendance-based points in their grading. Housing and dining services will continue normal operations.

## Change.org petition

Over 3,000 people have signed a petition on change.org calling for the University of San Diego to change courses to online due to the spread of COVID-19 at the time of publication.

The petition was started on March 8 by an unknown USD student. The petition reads, "We kindly propose making all our courses online to feel secure in the safety of our homes."

At the time of publication, the University of San Diego has had no response to the change.org petition.

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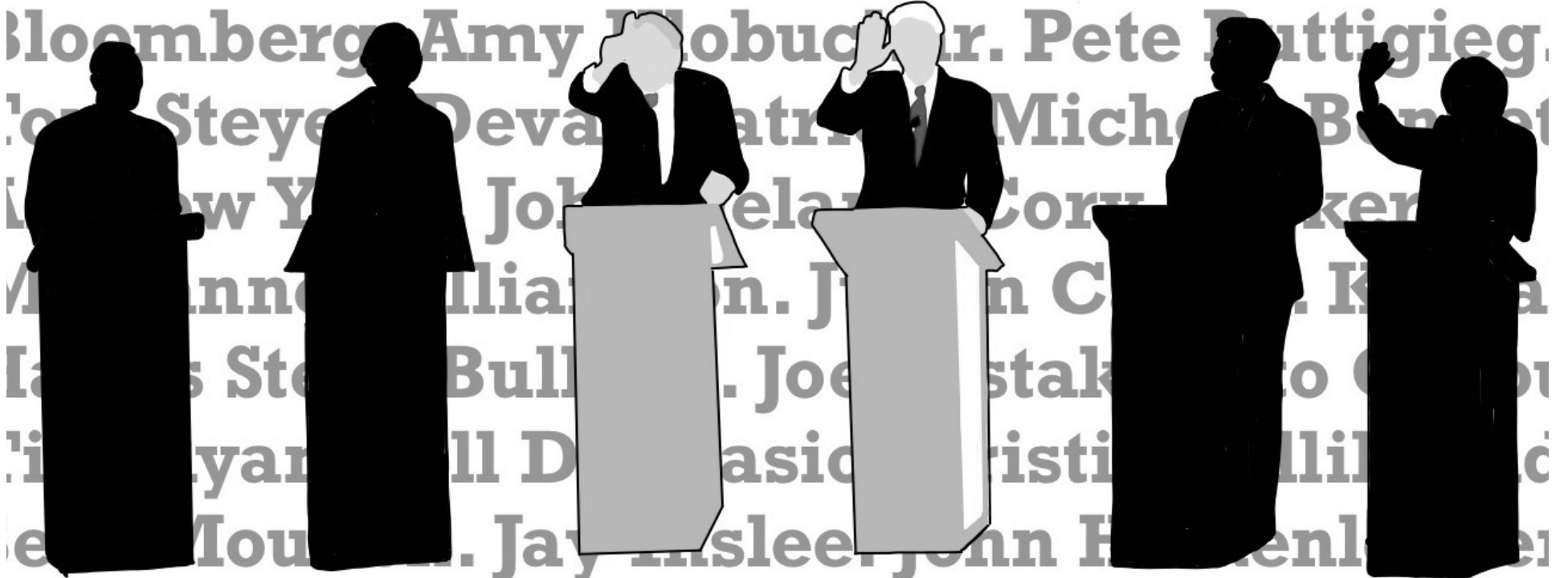
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# OPINION

## Plenty of race left to run

*After casting their ballots, Californians can still impact primary race*



### Bernie Sanders. Joe Biden.

And then there were two. At one point, there were 28 contenders in the Democratic primary race. Only Sanders and Biden will take the stage for the next debate in Arizona on March 15.

**Eric Boose**  
Opinion Editor

The stage at the Democratic primary debate in Arizona will look much emptier than the one only two weeks ago in South Carolina. Instead of seven candidates, there will be only two in front of the moderators on Sunday — Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders and former Vice President Joe Biden. They are the last two Democratic candidates with a shot at the nomination, the last two serious contenders standing. While Tulsi Gabbard is technically still in the race, she has won only two delegates, compared to Sanders and Biden's totals, which both clear 600 with ease.

Even with only two real contenders left standing, the race is far from over. The majority of delegates available in the primary election are dished out after Super Tuesday, with 37 states and territories holding elections

or caucuses after the busiest day of the primaries. Although California has held its primary, Californians can and should still make an impact in the primary race. There is no doubt that the 2020 presidential election will be a crucial point for our country's future, but before that, the 2020 Democratic primary will be a crucial point for the party's future.

The two remaining candidates represent two different visions for the Democratic party. Biden, already endorsed by Klobuchar, Bloomberg, and Buttigieg, represents the moderate, centrist, or establishment wing of the party — those who want a president to reunify a divided country through a modest, statesman-like approach which looks to build on the successes of the Obama administration. Sanders, on the other hand, champions the progressive wing of the party, calling for a political revolution, seeking to massively overhaul the way government serves its

citizens.

As Super Tuesday came and went, Sanders and Biden's fellow contenders bowed out, leaving the dichotomy now presented to Democratic voters. Billionaire investor Tom Steyer had more or less picked up where Washington Governor Jay Inslee left off in running a climate-focused campaign, so his departure following the South Carolina primary almost certainly returned climate change to its status on the back burner during this election. South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar both dropped out before Super Tuesday, placing the moderates' banner firmly in Biden's hands.

That left four of the seven candidates who debated in South Carolina in the race on Super Tuesday — Biden, Sanders, Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, and billionaire and former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg. Biden won big,

claiming the majority of available delegates, thanks to wins in 10 of the 13 states participating in Super Tuesday. Sanders won the other three states.

While Bloomberg did win one Super Tuesday race, in the territory of American Samoa, he dropped out the next day, having spent around \$500 million to earn only 61 delegates. Following a disappointing Super Tuesday which saw her come third in her home state, Warren departed the race, leaving Sanders as the lone progressive. As of March 10, Warren has not endorsed a candidate.

As former candidates and party elites have begun lining up behind their preferred candidate, it is time for particularly impassioned supporters who have already cast their ballots to do the same. Thanks to cell phones and social media, Biden and Sanders supporters in California can help the campaign in states which are yet to hold their primaries. That

Audrey Garrett/The USD Vista campaigning can be as simple as calling an undecided friend or family member voting in another state, or it can be something as full-fledged as volunteering for either campaign, reaching out to potential voters on behalf of a candidate in the lead-up to an election or caucus.

Political action and participation in American democracy has long extended beyond the ballot box. It has just been a matter of who is willing to go the distance to take that action and further participate. This election, like all elections, is an opportunity to make your voice heard by doing more than just voting, by being part of a campaign. Both Biden and Sanders are going to be in this race until one is the Democratic nominee for President, and if you love either one of them, or either one of their platforms, you have every right and opportunity to run this race with them, right up to the end.

### What's next? Important days coming up in the Democratic primary

**March 17**

Primaries in Florida, Illinois, and Ohio highlight a day with five states and a total of 577 delegates up for grabs.

**April 28**

With 460 available delegates between them, New York and Pennsylvania are key primaries on a day when a candidate could lock up the nomination.

**July 13-16**

The Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee. By July 16, we will know the official Democratic candidates for president and vice president.

The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of *The USD Vista* staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.



# Contempt of the Court

*President Trump and Senate Minority Leader take turns throwing barbs at Justices*



The Supreme Court, while part of the judicial branch of government, has largely remained a non-partisan institution, and even refers to Congress and the White House as “the political branches,” in contrast to that nature.

## Baylyne Brunetti Contributor

Throughout American history, there have been presidents who have shown contempt for the Supreme Court of the United States. There have been feathers ruffled and snarky comments directed at decisions throughout the interactions between the executive and judicial branch, but there has never been anything as outlandish as President Trump’s interactions with the Supreme Court. Presidents have not gone out of their way to target individual justices. This behavior has geared us toward an even higher rhetoric of disrespect and sexism from the executive office.

In a tweet late last month, President Trump claimed that Justices Sonya Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg were biased against him and should recuse themselves from all Trump-related cases. This is not the rhetoric that should be displayed against justices sitting on the highest court in the nation. It is a blatant disrespect toward yet another government institution.

First and foremost, in Justice Sotomayor’s dissent in *Department of Homeland Security v. New York*, she never once directly criticized President Trump. Sotomayor dissented in the dispute over a Trump administration regulation that would make it more difficult for immigrants who use public benefits, Medicaid, housing and other non-cash assistance, from obtaining green cards. Sotomayor also observed that the conservative majority’s pattern “has benefited one litigant over all others.” She is referencing that the conservative majority is displaying a pattern that is siding with the Trump administration in a majority of cases. In her dissent, Sotomayor wrote, “It is hard to say what is more troubling: that the Government would seek this extraordinary relief seemingly as a matter of course, or that the Court would grant it.”

She added that when the administration wins, it often

swiftly returns. “The Government wants more,” Sotomayor notes, “Claiming one emergency after another, the Government has recently sought stays in an unprecedented number of cases, demanding immediate attention and consuming limited Court resources in each. And with each successive application, of course, its cries of urgency ring

Law, called attention to the pattern of behavior that Sotomayor was criticizing in a November 2019 paper in the *Harvard Law Review*. He found that Trump’s solicitor general sought emergency stays in 20 cases in the first 2 ½ years of Trump’s term, including six to stop nationwide injunctions against bans on travel from certain majority-Muslim countries and

frowned upon for the justices to express partisan opinions. But, President Trump has latched onto the comment to further degrade her mind, her character, and her decisions on the court. Just add Justice Ginsburg and Sotomayor to President Trump’s list of Twitter attacks as his Twitter fingers further degrade our political institutions.

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

senator, especially the Senate Minority Leader should be calling out Supreme Court justices by name, even if the intent was to protect a woman’s right to choose. The difference however, is the apology and clarification that followed suit.

I will, however, call out the hypocrisy that stemmed from the comments made by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. In response to Schumer’s address on the senate floor, McConnell went on a massive rant criticizing Democrats. McConnell called Schumer’s comments “astonishingly reckless and completely irresponsible,” claiming Schumer “threatened two associate justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. Period.” Where was McConnell’s criticism of President Trump when he called Justices Sotomayor and Ginsburg by name, calling for them to recuse themselves for doing their job?

Ultimately, it is very rare for justices to recuse themselves from cases, let alone from all cases involving a certain person. It happens when there is an immense conflict of interest, not when a justice has made a comment about the president before he was even in office. President Trump does not get to demand judicial recusal because of a comment, or a respectful dissent. This is another strong-arming Trump tactic to prevent two liberal justices from hearing cases that affect him. We should be very concerned about the lack of respect geared at two high-powered women by Trump. High-profile cases are on the line in the upcoming judicial docket and it would be obtuse to not draw a link between attacks on the justices of the court and the abortion cases about to be argued before them. The fact of the matter is, no sitting president, senator, representative or elected official should be criticizing the Supreme Court justices by name. The court is meant to be a non-partisan institution and should remain so as they continue to interpret our constitutional qualms.

**“Sotomayor accuses GOP appointed Justices of being biased in favor of Trump.’ @IngramAngle @FoxNews This is a terrible thing to say. Trying to ‘shame’ some into voting her way? She never criticized Justice Ginsberg when she called me a ‘faker’. Both should recuse themselves on all Trump, or Trump related, matters!”**

**-President Donald Trump, on Twitter**

**“I want to tell you, Gorsuch; I want to tell you, Kavanaugh: You have released the whirlwind, and you will pay the price. You won’t know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions.”**

**-Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, speaking at a reproductive rights rally**

increasingly hollow.”

Justice Sotomayor is not wrong. The Trump administration, in its almost four years in power, has brought an unprecedented amount of “emergency” cases to the high court, even though the government presents almost no convincing evidence of an emergency. Historically, the government has jumped over lower courts to appeal to the Supreme Court on rare occasions to block adverse rulings before they are fully litigated.

The Trump administration, however, has done so with considerable success and increased regularity, particularly in immigration-related cases. Stephen I. Vladeck, a professor at the University of Texas School of

three involving Trump’s policy barring transgender Americans from serving in the military. By comparison, in all 16 years of the Barack Obama and George W. Bush administrations, the solicitors general filed a total of eight stay applications. The Trump administration, in its usual fashion, continues on an unprecedented path with little respect to any political institution.

In regards to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, President Trump has held a derision toward her since his campaign in 2016. Justice Ginsburg commented on how President Trump was inconsistent and she did not see him as a viable candidate. She then apologized after her comments went public since it is

However, the president has not been the only person singling out justices in a divisive tone. Last week, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer spoke at a protest on the steps of the Supreme Court in regards to an abortion case that the court is scheduled to hear. Schumer stated that conservative Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh would “pay the price” if they restricted abortion rights. The next day, he went onto the senate floor to apologize for the way his statement was interpreted, and he was referring to a “political price” to pay. It would be hypocritical of me to not criticize Schumer for his commentary directed at the court. Schumer acted in a very Trump-like fashion and no sitting

**The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of *The USD Vista* staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.**



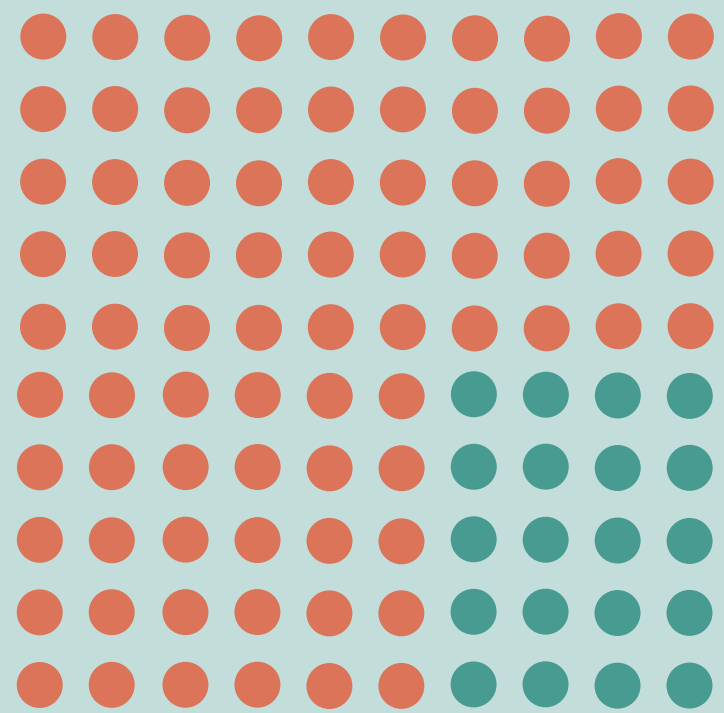
# STRESS MANAGEMENT

IT'S MIDTERM SEASON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, MEANING THAT STUDENTS ACROSS CAMPUS ARE FACING TESTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PROJECTS WORTH SIZABLE CHUNKS OF THEIR GRADE. SUCH HEAVY COURSE LOADS CREATE PRESSURE TO PERFORM WELL, RESULTING IN MANY STUDENTS FEELING STRESSED AND OVERWHELMED.

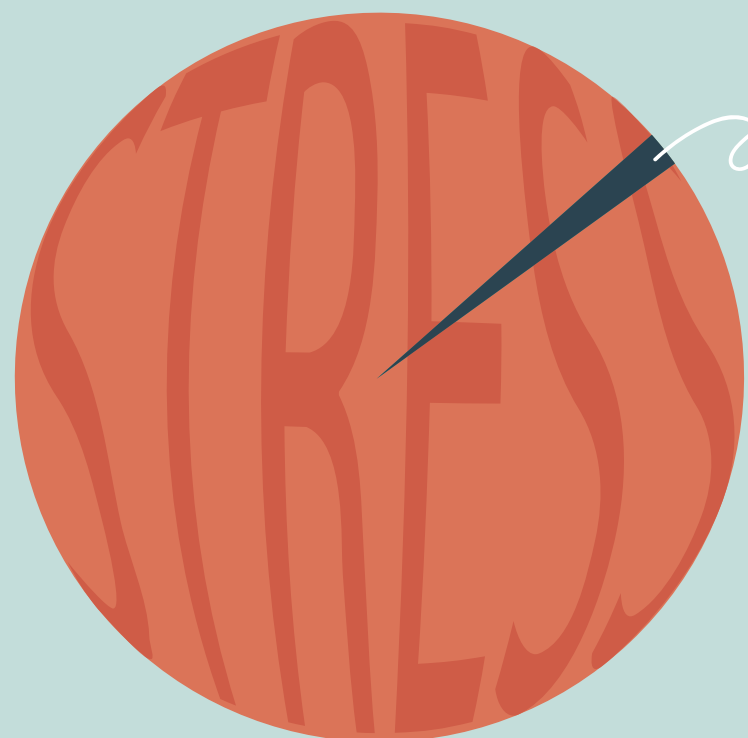
# #1

**ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY NYU, AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENTS IDENTIFY STRESS AS THE NUMBER ONE IMPEDIMENT TO ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.**

**60% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS REPORT HAVING FELT SO STRESSED THEY COULDN'T GET THEIR WORK DONE ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS.**



**According to the American Institute of Stress, 80% of college students experience frequent stress.**



**ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL COLLEGE HEALTH ASSESSMENT, ONLY 1.6% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING NO STRESS IN THE PAST YEAR.**

## STUDENT ADVICE:

**NAME:** DANICA SILAN

**GRADE:** SENIOR

**MAJOR:** PSYCHOLOGY AND MUSIC

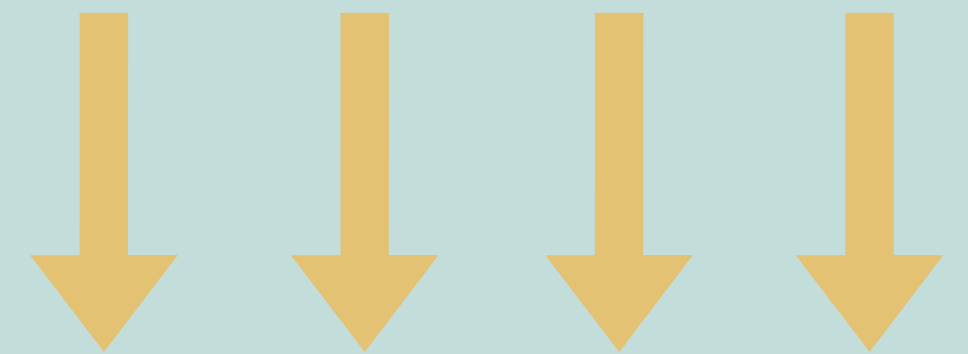
"ONE THING THAT ALWAYS HELPS ME IS TAKING A SECOND TO BREATHE. TAKE A STEP BACK TO SEE WHAT IS URGENT AND WHAT CAN WAIT A LITTLE LONGER. ONCE YOU HAVE THE ORDER YOU WANT TO TACKLE ALL OF YOUR TASKS IN, MAKE A PRIORITY LIST WITH DEADLINES SO YOU HAVE A TANGIBLE WAY TO CHECK THINGS OFF. DON'T PROCRASTINATE. AT THE END OF THE DAY, ALWAYS SCHEDULE AN HOUR OF SELF-CARE TIME TO BREAK OUT THE BUBBLE BATH, THE FACE MASKS, AND NETFLIX."

## HOW STRESS WORKS

-Veronica Galvan, Ph. D.

"CHRONIC STRESS PUTS US IN A CONSTANT STATE OF INCREASED AROUSAL WHICH COULD CAUSE TOO MUCH WEAR AND TEAR ON THE BODY."

"ONCE OUR STRESS HORMONES ARE RELEASED, THERE IS NOT MUCH WE CAN DO ABOUT IT. IT WILL TAKE ABOUT 40 MINUTES FOR THE STRESS HORMONE TO RETURN BACK TO BASELINE. BUT KNOWING THIS CAN BE HELPFUL — WE KNOW THE HORMONES WILL RETURN TO BASELINE, BUT IT WILL TAKE A LITTLE TIME."



"SOME WAYS TO PREVENT STRESS OR DEAL WITH CURRENT STRESSORS INCLUDE EXERCISING, SOCIALIZING WITH FRIENDS, MEDITATING, AND MAKING A PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE STRESSOR."

**NAME:** NEELAM SINGH

**GRADE:** JUNIOR

**MAJOR:** ACCOUNTING

"TAKING BREAKS DEFINITELY HELPS ME. I LIKE TO WORK OUT BECAUSE IT FREES MY MIND FROM ALL THE WORK I HAVE TO DO — THE GYM IS DEFINITELY A STRESS RELIEVER."

**NAME:** ALEXA PEREZ

**GRADE:** JUNIOR

**MAJOR:** BIOCHEMISTRY

"TO RELIEVE STRESS, I DO YOGA, MAKE SURE TO EAT HEALTHY, AND STAY HYDRATED. GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP BEFORE A STRESSFUL DAY REALLY HELPS."



## FEATURE

# Alumna fights climate change

*Jessica Tishue seeks to reduce plastic waste with her edible containers and utensils*

Mayella Vasquez  
Asst. Feature Editor

Jessica Tishue, a University of San Diego alumna from the class of 2011, is an entrepreneur dedicated to solving the problem of this generation's "grab-and-go culture" with her revolutionary invention — edible containers and utensils infused with flavor.

From a young age, Tishue recalls that she was taught by her parents to be independent and has always been someone who moves to the beat of her own drum. Tishue named her French grandmother as a formative figure in her upbringing, noting that her grandmother's resilience in the face of adversity inspired Tishue's determination and passion in her future career.

"My grandmother is my role model," Tishue said. "She was a part of the French Underground, so she helped protect the Jews from the Nazis. 'C'est la vie,' she always said, when things went wrong."

Tishue discovered her natural talent for entrepreneurship as an undergraduate student at USD, where she started creating a

new marketing formula. After repeated testing, she was able to share her formula with her peers and later used her savvy in the field of digital marketing to teach courses to senior executives about staying competitive online.

Tishue graduated from USD in 2011, taking on a job at a digital marketing agency. After a few months, she realized that she needed to pursue her own goals and dreams, leaving her job to start her own marketing agency and first company, Disruptive Marketing LLC.

While Disruptive Marketing LLC has been successful, Tishue sought more in her career as an innovator and entrepreneur. Since 2011, Tishue had been developing an idea to manufacture edible utensils and containers, an idea that led her to create Bliss Foods.

"I started building prototypes," Tishue said. "They consistently got better, and are finally becoming a company. This is the hardest thing I have ever done."

Bliss Foods is a zero-waste company that aims to inspire one billion people to go plastic free. Their innovative products and

ideas include edible superfood cups, bowls, and cutlery that come in sweet and savory flavors, such as mocha-flavored coffee cups. These products can also keep their form for approximately 14 to 15 hours.

According to the organization Earth Day, 16 billion disposable coffee cups are used every year. As a result of their plastic lining, most coffee cups are difficult to recycle and end up in landfills for decades. Disposable cups also create thousands of tons of carbon dioxide every year, contributing to overall global warming. Tishue shared that she has closely researched the harmful effect disposable products have on the environment and is determined to help find a solution.

"I spend a lot of time on this stuff," Tishue said. "We need to do something."

Tishue finds time in her busy schedule to stay involved at USD, volunteering and mentoring students. Tishue recently shared her story at the Half-Time Retreat, a collaboration between University Ministry and the Career Development Center to help sophomores



Tishue remains involved with the campus community, acting as a mentor to students.

Photo courtesy of Jessica Tishue

find and discern career choices they are passionate about.

Besides her business goals, Tishue plans to study quantum physics and Chinese medicine. In the future, she would also like to be a philanthropist and help end world hunger.

In the meantime, Tishue aspires to live everyday by her definition of success.

"Success is about using your energy and talents to better humanity," Tishue said. "It's about being happy and going to bed and thinking that it was a great day."

Despite her high energy levels and determination to reach her goals, Tishue admits that owning and running her own company can be exhausting.

"This company is so much work, but this is my life purpose," Tishue said. "Live everyday like it's your last, enjoy life — savor its sweetness, its colors and textures. Let things go, open your mouth and trust your gut."

Tishue asserts that she has found fulfillment in life by pursuing her passion and encourages Toreros to do the same.

I CAME TO DEVELOP MY  
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I FOUND MY PURPOSE  
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# ARTS & CULTURE

## Senior Spotlight: Matt Hickman

*Well-known USD videographer tells The USD Vista how he got his start in filming*

Lizzy Jennings  
A&C Editor

Known throughout the USD community for his stunning Instagram and popular travel YouTube videos, senior Matt Hickman has been steadily growing and improving his videography skills. With videos that feature his time on Semester at Sea as well as other USD students and San Diego itself, this senior has been able to capture his experience as an undergrad through his videos.

Originally from Portland, Oregon, Hickman is a Computer Science major. Though he enjoys school and his major, his real passion for videography arose his first year.

"I got a camera for high school graduation but didn't really use it until the end of my freshman year," Hickman said. "I was getting bored at school and wanted to pick up a new hobby, so I started messing around and taking some photos."

He cites his friendship with another senior student, Dane Mui, as the real start for this passion. Hickman began taking primarily photos for about a year, focusing on developing his knowledge of photography with help from Mui.

As time went on, Hickman started seeing more and more travel videos online that drew his attention. With a few trips on the horizon, Hickman decided that videography, especially travel videos, were going to be the next step in developing this passion he had acquired. It was through filming these trips that he realized how this hobby

had gone from a fun pastime to something he truly loved.

"Each video is a chance for you to wow the audience, to tell a story, and to make them feel something," Hickman said.

Hickman also says he enjoys shooting people in his videos, rather than just landscapes or objects, as he finds them more interesting. He has been able to travel to some amazing locations to record: his favorite place to film so far has been either Bali or the Bahamas.

Now, in his last year at USD, when he's not studying, he works on developing his company, entitled Flickman Media. Having come a far way from his first year, Hickman has now transformed his hobby into a lucrative side job. Last summer he began networking — reaching out to local companies and individuals to make promotional videos and build his portfolio. Over time, this turned into paid work which is how Flickman Media came into existence.

"Today I still create videos for clients while going to school and will go dump all my energy into that as soon as I graduate," Hickman said. "My dream is to build up Flickman Media and create commercials and narrative pieces for the rest of my life."

On this journey to transform his hobby into a post-graduation career, Hickman, along with two other USD seniors Karl Rassmuesen and Wyatt Ernst, entered the Red Bull Can You Make It competition. In this competition, teams of college students across the world make application videos explaining how they would be able to travel



Matt Hickman stands in front of the Taj Mahal in India, showcasing one of his trips where he practices his photography skills.

Photo courtesy of Matt Hickman

around the world using only Red Bull as currency. Hickman and his team were consistently one of the top U.S. teams, and last Monday they received an email informing them that they had been selected by a panel

of judges to represent the U.S. in the competition. Though the competition was originally scheduled for this summer, it has been postponed until September due to the coronavirus concerns. This hasn't stopped Hickman

and his team, however.

"We are still planning on going over there and bringing back a victory," Hickman said. "It has been an awesome experience so far and we can't wait to see what happens next."



USD senior Matt Hickman spends his free time practicing his videography and photography skills. He has traveled across the world, and plans to participate in the Red Bull Can You Make It competition in September.

Photo courtesy of Matt Hickman



# Celebrating St. Patrick's Day

*San Diego offers a variety of events to celebrate the Irish holiday*

Lizzy Jennings  
A&C Editor

As a holiday celebrated by nearly everyone, regardless of their cultural identity, St. Patrick's Day has become a day of festivities for all who wish to enjoy. The origins of this holiday are religious, as the Christians deemed March 17 the feast day for Saint Patrick, celebrating his life and the role he played in bringing Christianity to Ireland. However, as time has carried on, the holiday has incurred a more secular following and represents the celebration of Irish culture globally.

However, in light of the spread of coronavirus, many places have been forced to cancel their St. Patrick's Day celebrations. U.S. cities such as New Orleans, Seattle, and Boston

have canceled St. Patrick's Day events and parades. Even in Ireland, festivities are being put on hold due to the fears of the illness spreading through major crowds, and even Dublin's massive annual St. Patrick's Day parade has been canceled as a precaution, in the hopes of containing the spread of the virus.

Luckily, here in San Diego there are no plans to stop the holiday festivities at this time.

This article outlines some of the best ways to get in the holiday spirit, as many restaurants and venues across San Diego are hosting events to celebrate.

Be sure to keep an eye out for other local St. Patrick's Day celebrations at your favorite bar or restaurant, or enjoy the ones we have highlighted.

Though many think of



Friendly Sons of St. Patrick perform at the annual San Diego St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2019.

Photo courtesy of Nathan Rupert/Flickr



A dancer celebrates San Diego's St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2019.

Photo courtesy of Nathan Rupert/Flickr

St. Patrick's Day as a holiday of drinking and eating, those who enjoy fitness can enjoy this holiday in a more active way as well.

On March 14 there will be the St. Patrick's Day 10K Run with the 2-4 Mile Run/Walk for those who would prefer a more casual, athletic outing. The course runs through the scenic and famed Mission Bay Park, and there will be prizes and t-shirts for all contestants. The entry price is \$45 for adults and \$20 for children under 12.

That same day just across the city, the 40th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held in Balboa

Park. With no entry cost or ticket requirements, this event is a great way to celebrate the holiday without having to worry about spending any money.

Claiming to be the "biggest St. Patrick's day west of the Mississippi," this celebration draws nearly 30,000 attendees and has over 120 entries walking the route. The parade begins at 10:30 a.m. and will be followed by the Irish festival which also takes place in Balboa Park, featuring food, craft, and drink tents for attendees who wish to experience the joys of the Irish culture.

Finally, for Toreros 21 and

up, there will be the St. Patrick's Day Shamrock celebration in the Gaslamp Quarter. Hailed as one of the biggest block parties in San Diego, this celebration will be transforming the Gaslamp into a massive celebration of Celtic culture, live music, and green beer.

Interestingly, all the proceeds of this event go to the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation, which hopes to preserve historical buildings in downtown San Diego. This block party is a great way to enjoy the St. Patrick's Day holiday while benefiting the history of San Diego itself.

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## SPORTS

## Spring break tennis success

Women's tennis beats No. 22 USC, Washington State, and Santa Clara over break

Maria Watters  
Asst. Sports Editor

The University of San Diego women's tennis team (5-3) dominated their opponents throughout the month of February. The Toreros entered spring break week with a four-match win streak during which they defeated No. 22 USC for the first time in history, 4-1. Additionally, their top doubles team, made up of All-American sophomore Solymar Colling and first year Helena Francati, earned WCC doubles players of the week on Feb. 25.

With so many matches in such a short time, spring break was a major test for the Toreros.

"We knew it would be an important week for our team," Colling said. "But we just wanted to do our best and take it one match at a time."

For the first match of their packed spring break schedule, the Toreros faced the 8-2 Washington State Cougars at home.

Despite defeating the Cougars on three of the last four meetings between the two teams, the Toreros were prepared for a battle.

The doubles lineup for USD has been fairly consistent throughout this season with Francati and Colling on court one, followed by redshirt junior Maria Tyrina and senior Gemma Garcia, with first year Elizabeth Goldsmith and senior Kati Kukaras rounding it out for the Toreros. The Cougars presented an equally strong lineup for

doubles lead by sophomore Hikaru Sato and junior Michaela Bayerlova, with senior Melisa Ates and sophomore Yang Lee behind them, and senior Jovana Knezevic and first year Pang Jittakoat.

Court two was the first to finish with Lee and Ates defeating Tyrina and Garcia 6-2, giving WSU the lead 1-0. But the Toreros quickly tied the score with Goldsmith and Kukaras' victory over Knezevic and Jittakoat 6-2.

The fight for the doubles point would come down to court one. And after a hard-fought match, Colling and Francati emerged victorious, defeating Sato and Bayerlova 6-4, clinching the doubles point for USD.

With the overall score 1-0 in favor of the Toreros, the two teams moved on to the singles matchups. But despite losing the doubles point, the Cougars grabbed the first two singles matches with Jittakoat defeating Tyrina 6-1, 7-5, and Lee defeating Kukaras 6-0, 6-4. WSU had taken the lead, 2-1.

Garcia finished next, defeating sophomore Savanna Ly-Nguyen 6-4, 6-4, tying the score 2-2. But the Cougars took back the lead with Bayerlova's victory over Colling 6-4, 6-4.

Down 2-3, one more loss would secure USD's defeat. But Francati's 6-3, 6-4 victory over Ates kept the Toreros alive.

Tied at 3-3, the contest would be decided on court two. After losing the first set 4-6, the nationally ranked 124 first

year, Goldsmith, battled back to win the second 6-1. And after a dominating 6-0 performance in the third, Goldsmith clinched the victory for USD 4-3.

Despite the pressure of having the match on the line, the first year was able to seal the deal for the Toreros.

"I wanted to win for the team so badly that I completely zoned out all of my surroundings and focused on my match," Goldsmith said. "After I won the last point my body filled with excitement and happiness because I was so glad that I was able to win for my team."

The Toreros' first match of the spring break stretch extended their winning streak to six matches and secured their undefeated record for the month of February.

But the USD women had little time to celebrate their hard-earned victory as they would be facing the 5-5 UC Santa Barbara Gauchos just two days later on Sunday, March 1.

Entering the match, the 32 ranked Toreros brought the same doubles lineup to face the UCSB's sophomore Anastasia Goncharova and senior Dominika Paterova, senior Amit Lev Ari and junior Lise Sentenac, and sophomore Tiffany Lagarde and senior Juliana Valero.

Though the Toreros have been very successful in doubles throughout the season, the Gauchos were able to clinch the doubles point in back-to-back victories 6-3, 6-3.

Down 0-1 overall, USD would have to win four of the six

singles matches to come out the victors.

Goldsmith made quick work of Lagarde, securing the first singles victory for the Toreros 6-2, 6-0. But Goncharova's 6-1, 6-4 win over Tyrina prevented USD from taking the lead.

Still down 1-2, back-to-back victories by Francati (6-2, 7-6) and Colling (6-2, 2-6, 6-4) put the Toreros ahead 3-2, and one more victory on one of the remaining courts would clinch the win for USD.

But after a grueling three-set match, Kukaras fell to Valero 6-2, 0-6, 6-3, tying the overall score. Once again, the contest would be decided on a single court. This time, it was court three where Garcia and Paterova were locked in an intense back-and-forth battle. After three sets and thirty-four games, Paterova defeated Garcia 5-7, 6-4, 7-5, earning the Gauchos a 4-3 victory.

The incredible four-hour match resulted in the Toreros' first loss in six matches and brought their spring break record to 1-1.

Coming off the tough loss, the Toreros looked to the WCC matchup against the 4-3 Santa Clara Broncos at home to end their spring break run with a winning record.

The Broncos brought a strong doubles lineup to face the Toreros, starting with senior Maddie Pothoff and junior Katya Tabachnik at one, senior Madison Clarke and junior Elvena Gevargiz at two, with sophomore Jamie Schroer and

senior Caitlyn Frankel at three.

Kukaras and Goldsmith finished first on court three, beating Schroer and Frankel 6-4. But the Toreros were unable to earn the doubles point as both Tyrina and Garcia, and Colling and Francati were 3-6 on court two and one, respectively.

Having lost the doubles point, the Toreros would once again have to rely on the singles matches to secure the win. They did just that.

The Toreros won the first three singles matches starting with Kukaras dominating over first year Giulia Hayer, winning 6-0, 6-0. Tyrina followed suit, defeating Schroer 6-2, 6-2.

Finally, Francati defeated Tabachnik 6-1, 6-4, bringing the overall score to 3-1 in favor of the Toreros.

The Broncos were able to snatch a victory with Gevargiz's 7-6, 6-1 victory over Garcia. However, Colling closed out the match by defeating Pothoff 6-4, 6-1, and clinched the 4-2 victory for USD.

After the spring break stretch, the USD women's tennis team won two of their three matches and improved to 7-4 on the season.

The Toreros are proud of their performance over spring break, but are looking forward to their next opponents.

"We had tough opponents during the first weekend of spring break," assistant coach Nadia Abdala said. "After a solid week of training and regrouping, we are looking forward to playing SDSU and USF next week."



As a junior, Kati Kukaras registered a 16-9 overall record, 10-7 dual match record, and 5-0 WCC record in singles. She also won 18 straight doubles matches with Gemma Garcia last season.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics



# San Diego falls short in OT

Women's basketball loses to the Portland Pilots 64-63 in WCC Championship game

## WCC from Page 1

chance to win the game, but the wide open three-point shot by redshirt-sophomore guard Erica Martinsen was just off the mark, and the Pilots stormed the court in celebratory fashion.

Prior to the WCC tournament, the Toreros celebrated four seniors before the 62-58 victory over Pepperdine University Saturday, Feb. 29. The emotions were high for the Toreros as they knew they needed to defeat the Waves in order to clinch a triple-bye for the WCC Tournament.

USD improved to 19-10 (13-5 WCC) and Pepperdine fell to 15-14 (8-10 WCC) to finish the regular season. San Diego secured that triple-bye and was the No. 2 seed behind No. 1 Gonzaga to start the tournament.

The game against the Waves started out as an offensive clinic for both teams as the shots fell early. Pepperdine hit three of their first four shots of the game and redshirt-junior guard Jordyn Edwards started the game going 3-3 with seven points for the Toreros.

Pace and Edwards both showed their aggression to score as they combined to tally the first 12 points for USD.

The fourth quarter was definitely one for the books as both teams brought their all, down to the final seconds. Soares was the focal point for USD in the fourth quarter, as most of the offense involved her standing near the basket, grabbing rebounds, and making layups.

It was a nail-biter as the final few minutes started to wind down. Senior forward Patricia Brossman nailed a late three pointer to tie the game at 53-53. The next possession, Brossman scored another layup to take the lead 55-53 with under three



The Toreros celebrate as a team after advancing to the WCC Championship game for the first time since 2009, after defeating Pepperdine University.

Photo courtesy of USD Athletics

minutes to play.

The senior knew that her time playing in the Jenny Craig Pavilion (JCP) was coming to an end. She wanted to make sure they came out with a win.

"I just felt like it was my last time playing in the Jenny," Brossman said. "I got to step up and try to use the opportunities to score when I can."

After the Waves regained the lead 58-55, there were just a few minutes left for USD to win the game. Pace and Edwards both hit clutch three-pointers in the final minute of the game to secure the 62-58 victory. The Toreros held Pepperdine to just eight points in the fourth quarter as they shot 3-12, shooting a below-average 25%.

Senior guard Madison Pollock expressed her joy after the hard-fought victory.

"We wanted it more," Pollock said. "The work that we put in —

in preseason and all season — paid off for tonight and this one just felt great."

Pace finished the game with a team-high 15 points and four rebounds, four assists, and two steals in the game. With her second steal of the game in the final 25 seconds, Pace is now the single-season record holder for steals, surpassing Maya Hood who set the mark in 2015.

Edwards ended with 13 points, six rebounds, and five assists. Soares finished with 14 points, five rebounds, and two steals off the bench.

It was a thrilling victory for San Diego and head coach Cindy Fisher couldn't be happier with the way it ended.

"It is completely what our year has been," Fisher said. "Our defense just created some easy offense for us at the end of the game and our press just really bothered them. It was a great

game all along and (Pepperdine) took that little lead and I was trying to decide on when to use that big press ... and it just worked."

The four seniors who were honored before the game were guards Ana Ramos and Madison Pollock, center Leticia Soares, and forward Patricia Brossman. Coach Fisher talked about her best moments with her seniors.

"They all have big personalities," Fisher said. "They all just brought so much to USD — not just on the basketball court — but academically. They are all stellar and to have that diversity was so great for our team."

Brossman shared what she will miss the most about playing basketball at USD.

"I'll miss the team," Brossman said. "The celebration upon positivity, our teammates celebrate like

crazy when we score. The team is there and we all support each other and it was so fun to play with them and to play for each other."

The team had just one goal in mind when competing for the WCC Tournament.

"Cutting down nets," Brossman and Pollock said. "We talk about it every year but our goal this year was being in the top three, and now we're No. 2. We're going to the semi-finals and it's now just one step at a time."

The 2020 season did not end the way the Toreros had hoped. Although, the team won 20 games, after winning just nine last season. USD was picked to finish eighth in the WCC standings and ended up finishing in second place. The Toreros wait to find out if they will advance the NCAA Tournament.

+

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