



THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN

BERKELEY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1871

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AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

FIRE

'A mammoth of change'

Firefighters brace for life amid climate change, burnout

BY MAXINE MOULY | SENIOR STAFF
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California — a land of promise cropping with supposed overnight successes — has long held an allure for buzzing personalities and social pariahs. Millions flocked to the Golden State throughout the 20th century, some touting its blissful Mediterranean climate as a panacea for the stresses of daily life.

But in chasing the sun, humans have increasingly encroached on nature, settling in wildfire prone areas. Combined with a history of fire suppression and anthropogenic spark ignitions, these ingredients form a recipe for cataclysmic wildfires as the world continues roasting under climate change (see Europe).

"In the Bay Area, the vast majority of fires are human caused," said Scott Stephens, UC Berkeley professor of wildland fire science. "Many of our ecosystems — the oak woodlands and the mixed evergreen forest — have profoundly changed in the last 200 years plus and (have become) more vulnerable to severe fire

behavior."

Fire is integral to maintaining California's ecosystems as the state's seasonally dry climate naturally creates an abundance of dry fuel that primes the terrain for wildfires, according to Brandon Collins, campus environmental science, policy and management adjunct professor.

While the fire season typically lasts about four months, that period is lengthening as climate change is fueling more dryness through a lack of precipitation and increased heat. Blazes have scorched through southern California in December and run amok in the mountains during November, making it increasingly difficult to place bounds on the wildfire season, Collins said.

Given the lower temperatures and higher relative humidity of the fall and winter, the Bay Area experiences a break in fire activity for several months, Collins noted. But Californians are no strangers to the vicissitudes wrought by climate change and the drought over



LISI LUDWIG | FILE

Due to the effects of climate change, many firefighters are anticipating difficulties in fighting fires that may be more intense than historical fires. For example, the fire season is lengthening in California due to dryness.

the last two years has sparked uncertainty and angst over the fate of this year's fire season, and those to come.

"This drought is something that's always on our mind from a fire behavior standpoint," Stephens said. "Hopefully we get out of this maybe next year, but of course, we don't know.

Fighting fire with fire

On July 13, 2021, the Dixie Fire emerged in the Central Valley, burning more than 960,000 acres across five counties.

One year later, climbing to the peak of Mount Hough overlooking the fire's footprints, Stephens said he could not see a trace of land untouched by

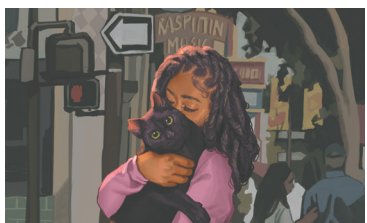
the disaster. With a high severity fire like this one that killed thousands upon thousands of acres of trees, the vegetation will likely never return to its original state as a forest, Stephens lamented.

"What are we leaving to our grandkids?" Stephens

WILDFIRE PAGE 6

READ MORE

Help stray cats find love, homes



ANGELA BI | STAFF

SEE PAGE 5 Berkeley animal shelters are facing an influx of stray cats, leading to increased spread of disease.

SF 49ers on way to training camp



ALEXANDER JONES | CREATIVE COMMONS

SEE BACK With the preseason less than a month away, the 49ers are gearing up for the climax of their offseason program.

Guide to green grocery shopping



NICK QUINLAN | SENIOR STAFF

SEE ONLINE Want to reinvent your grocery shopping this summer? Looking for more sustainable cleaning supplies? Take some steps to change your meal game and keep food waste at bay! Consider this a go-to guide for green summer shopping.

UC

UC regents talk enrollment, admissions

BY THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN NEWS STAFF
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The UC Board of Regents kicked off its first day of meetings Wednesday at UCSF Mission Bay to discuss topics including climate change goals, budgeting and the recent Supreme Court overturning of Roe v. Wade.

The day began with a full board meeting, which included about an hour of public comment. Stakeholders were given the opportunity to address various issues online and in person, including campus decarbonization and access to affordable healthcare for UC workers.

Among the speakers was UC Berkeley senior James Weichert, university affairs chair for the UC Student Association, who expressed his concerns about how the Roe v. Wade decision

would impact UC students.

"I strongly urge the regents to act quickly to safeguard access to abortions for all UC students," Weichert said at the meeting. "In particular, I want to draw attention to out-of-state students, who may now face legal prosecution in their home state for seeking reproductive healthcare services here in California."

During the Public Engagement and Development Committee meeting, the board discussed community service and engagement programs involving the University of California.

Charles Nies, vice chancellor for student affairs at UC Merced, presented positive results from the 2020-22 UC Merced pilot program of the #Californians-ForAll College Corps. According to Nies, the program aims to open debt-free pathways for UC students by providing them with



KAVYA GUPTA | SENIOR STAFF

During its first day of meetings Wednesday, the UC regents addressed the overturning of Roe v. Wade, enrollment funding and admission policies.

meaningful work in education, food security or climate justice.

The Finance and Capital Strategies Committee unanimously approved the interim financing for the construction of The Gateway, campus's new

academic building.

While the construction remains in campus's budget, Chancellor Carol Christ advocated for an increase in funding

REGENTS PAGE 2

FACULTY & STAFF

UC Berkeley DSP director leaves for UCSC

BY AYAH ALI-AHMAD STAFF
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Karen Nielson resigned from her position as director of UC Berkeley's Disabled Students' Program, or DSP, Wednesday, and will be moving to work at UC Santa Cruz as director of its Disability Resource Center.

Martha Velasquez, associate director, agreed to step into the interim executive director role with support from members of her leadership team, according to Fabrizio Mejia, campus interim chief of staff and assistant

vice chancellor for student equity and success. Additionally, Mejia said campus is planning to initiate "a national search" to fill the role.

"It has been my great joy and pleasure to work with students with disabilities at Cal," Nielson said in an email. "I am excited to continue my life's work at UCSC. The excellent work of DSP will continue with



KAREN NIELSON

much to look forward to."

Carlos Vázquez, ASUC senator-elect and a co-founder and former co-chair of the ASUC's Disabled Students Commission, said the commission was founded to gain more "leverage" in the student government body to better address issues students with disabilities face. The committee has worked closely with DSP on academic accommodations and various issues related to student safety during the pandemic, according to Vázquez.

Vázquez said he had the chance to work with Nielson due to the commission's

collaborations with DSP over the pandemic and added that he was able to grow a close and "lovely" relationship with Nielson. Vázquez wished Nielson the best moving forward with UC Santa Cruz.

Campus senior Cecilia Lopez said she has been a DSP student since the end of fall 2019 and has already gone through two DSP advisors. She added that though DSP has struggled with staff retention since the pandemic, she was not expecting Nielson to leave.

DSP PAGE 2

ASUC

Student leaders, campus negotiate reduction in fee

BY **DHOHA BARECHE**
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The Instructional Resilience and Enhancement Fee, or IREF, proposed by UC Berkeley administration to fund instructional technology was decreased from an annual cost of \$264 to \$212 following negotiations with the ASUC, the Graduate Assembly and the Committee on Student Fees.

According to campus spokesperson Janet Gilmore, the IREF supports technological services including bCourses, Canvas, Zoom Pro for students and Microsoft.

ASUC Academic Affairs Vice President James Weichert said he was “irate” when he heard about the IREF, alleging that it was proposed by the administration “unilaterally” without consulting the ASUC or Graduate

Assembly.

“At first, our strategy, and my strategy in particular, was to fight tooth and nail to try to get this fee taken off the table entirely, but it became fairly clear the administration was not willing to budge on that,” Weichert said. “But from there I shifted my strategy really toward mitigation and trying to reduce the cost as much as possible for students.”

Weichert added that imposing fees without student consent could potentially lead them to think they no longer have the power to choose what gets funded with their student fees, which could discourage them to renew or vote for student fees that are supporting critical services.

According to Weichert, the administration’s imposition of the IREF is a step toward “uncharted territory.”

“This is essentially the campus saying, ‘well, it is not our job

to fund these services through tuition, so we’re going to charge an extra fee on top of that for you to access bCourses or Piazza,’ ” Weichert alleged.

In an effort to achieve a compromise on the IREF, campus vice chair of student affairs Stephen Sutton said in an email that the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Student Services and Fees, or CACSSF, met with senior campus leadership through the spring semester to lower the fees.

He said the CACSSF suggested using the Student Services Fee reserves to reduce the total amount of the IREF for students.

“Over the next three years, about \$5 million of the around \$7 million of reserve funding that there is, will be applied to cover some of the costs of the Instructional Resilience and Enhancement Fee,” Weichert said.

Weichert is “very happy” his



ANIKI MANCHANDA | STAFF

Amid discussion, the campus Instructional Resilience and Enhancement Fee was reduced from \$264 to \$212. The fee aims to support technology services.

administration along with other student leaders were able to reduce the cost of the fee.

However, he said he hopes the state will pressure campus to not offload core instructional costs on students.

“My hope is that the state

can provide more pressure than the students can or that we as students can go to our representatives and say, ‘why am I being essentially double charged on this both through tuition that is going up and also student fees that are going up?’ ” Weichert said. ■

TRANSPORTATION



JONATHAN HALE | STAFF

In the approved fiscal year 2023 budget, Berkeley City Council has cleared funding that could entail improvements to bus stops along Durant Avenue.

City Council passes funds for bus stop canopies, bulb-outs

BY **RILEY COOKE**
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Several proposed bus improvements could come to Durant Avenue bus stops in the future, funded through the recently approved fiscal year 2023 Berkeley City Council budget.

Some of the proposed improvements include bus canopies and bulb-outs on Durant Avenue between Ellsworth Street and College Avenue, according to a press release from Councilmember Rigel Robinson. The more than \$330,000 in funding comes from Measure GG, which taxes companies like Uber and Lyft, the press release added.

“These bus improvements we are funding for Durant Ave are a huge opportunity to keep the 51B on schedule, make public transit more reliable, improve the pedestrian experience, and address the double-parking chaos between Telegraph and Bowditch,” Robinson said in an email.

According to Telegraph for People President Sam Greenberg, bus bulb-outs improve bus speeds by removing the need for buses to merge back into traffic. He added that bus canopies “massively improve” the experience of riders.

Greenberg also said Telegraph for People is excited about the

proposed improvements.

“Improving facilities for transit riders is an important step towards making Durant a better street,” Greenberg said in an email. “This is the kind of infrastructure that makes bus service dignified and reliable, which is what makes people choose to ride transit.”

The bus improvements also supplement existing AC Transit plans for a quick-build bus-only lane on Durant Avenue, according to the press release. The press release added that the stakeholder outreach and community engagement process for the project is expected to begin in late 2022.

AC Transit did not respond as of press time.

Greenberg recounted experiences of buses “packed” with riders on Durant Avenue that were delayed by drivers. “Improved bus stops and a continuous bus lane are a crucial part of making Durant a people-centered street, as some of AC Transit’s busiest lines travel up Durant,” Greenberg said in the email. “We need to recognize that much of Berkeley—including the core of Southside—were built before the car. So when we say that we need to give street space ‘back to people,’ we really mean ‘back.’ ” ■

Riley Cooke is a deputy news editor.

ASUC

UC Berkeley food collective launches petition to relocate

BY **AILEEN WU**
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The Berkeley Student Food Collective, or BSFC, launched a petition to appeal the ASUC Student Union Board’s rejection of its proposal to move into the vacant Bear’s Lair Bar in Eshleman Hall.

Despite unanimous support from the ASUC Senate, the Student Union Board struck down the proposal in what BSFC staff member J Noven described as a closed-door vote by email without any publicly available information.

Instead, the Student Union Board voted to continue considering another proposal for the space not available to the public. The attendees of the closed-door session declined to comment on the issue.

“When students in 2008 were distressed about the lack of affordable groceries near campus, they wanted to provide a student-run grocery store on campus,” Noven said. “For 12 years now, students have successfully run an affordable grocery store that pays market-rate rent to the university out of a former nail salon.”

Noven noted that campus real estate originally referred BSFC to the nail salon on Bancroft Way as a trial run with the intention of eventually moving onto campus.

However, they said the current space is too small to operate



ANGELINA YIN | STAFF

The ASUC Student Union Board struck down the Berkeley Student Food Collective’s proposal to move into the Bear’s Lair Bar in Eshleman Hall.

as a real grocery store.

“There are so many different communities on campus — every imaginable type of culinary context,” Noven said. “To properly serve the whole student body, there needs to be a lot more space for the different types of food.”

Noven emphasized that EBT access on Southside is limited, yet access to government programs, including CalFresh, is the best way to ensure food security around campus. They said BSFC’s EBT incentives make them the cheapest store for CalFresh users.

Meanwhile, the previous upscale dining establishments have failed to succeed three consecutive times since 2015, according to Noven.

“It’s not really profitable to have restaurants in that space,

nor does it serve the campus community,” said BSFC education coordinator Emma Lowe. “The Food Collective has been profitable for years ... in Bear’s Lair, we could generate revenue for the university.”

Since the vote was not final, Lowe said the petition’s goal is to convince the Student Union Board to reconsider its decision.

For Lowe, the number of petition signatories, which currently counts in the hundreds, demonstrates the proposal has wide community support.

“Students are most tuned to what issues they’re facing and how to address them,” Noven said. “The Student Food Collective is this rare example of students working for over a decade to provide for their own needs, and we hope that the Student Union Board will listen.” ■

DSP FROM FRONT

“I don’t have a lot of hope, honestly, in the DSP system at the time, just because of my experiences in the past three years,” Lopez said. “But I really do hope that they receive someone who’s able to help with the understaffing and give more

care to students.”

Lopez alleged she has not received proper support or accommodations, noting she has not been assigned a DSP advisor since her previous advisor resigned in December 2021. Lopez alleged this was due to an influx of student applications, along with frequent staff turnover at DSP.

In response to the allegations, Mejia said understaffing

has been a current issue across higher education and disability services, and that campus has approved of additional positions to leverage “sustainable workloads” to DSP staff.

“I am sad she is leaving,” Vázquez said. “We have to adjust how DSP operates and I am uncertain of how DSP will look like without Karen there. I am hopeful, but nervous at the same time.” ■

REGENTS FROM FRONT

due to inflation of construction costs. According to Christ, The Gateway’s current budget of \$550 million will be fully funded by donations, but needs \$230 million in financing by the UC system until all remaining donations are made.

The 2022-23 state budget

update presented historically high levels of investment with more than \$1.1 billion in new investments and \$360 million in permanent funds and enrollment growth funding.

“By any standard (it is) an extraordinarily successful budget outcome with a really remarkable degree of alignment between what the Regents requested and what the administration and the legislature ultimately approved,”

said Nathan Brostrom, UC executive vice president and chief financial officer.

An amount of \$31 million was provided to offset the reduction of nonresident enrollment at Berkeley, Los Angeles and San Diego campuses, and \$51.5 million was dedicated to enrollment growth in 2022-23. The reduction of nonresident enrollment is projected to be part of a plan to reduce nonresident enrollment to 18%.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee members unanimously approved a measure amending Regents Policy 2110 on augmented review in undergraduate admissions.

The amendment would codify the removal of standardized testing from the admissions requirements for entrance into the UC system. Furthermore, it will combine seven separate policies on admissions into one Regents

Policy on undergraduate admissions.

In addition, two provisions were added that would ensure that non-California residents who are admitted to the UC system have, on average, a higher level of academic achievement than resident students. ■

Amber X. Chen, Kavya Gupta, Lance Roberts, Chanyoung Chung and Rae Wymer contributed to this report.

LOCAL SCHOOLS



CHARLENE WANG | STAFF

Berkeley Unified School District's lunch policy was created in part to accommodate students who are ineligible for the federal free and reduced lunch program, but may face financial challenges due to Berkeley's high living expenses.

Berkeley school district to offer free meals to all students in 2022-23

BY NADIA FARJAMI
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Berkeley Unified School District, or BUSD, will make free meals available for all students during the 2022-23 school year, according to a BUSD press release.

Bonnie Christensen, nutrition services director at BUSD, said in an email the change will

provide meals to all district students 18 and younger at no charge.

Christensen noted that prior to this change, only qualifying students had access to free or reduced meals, in accordance with the National School Lunch Program.

"It is in the best interest of our students that California has determined that meals must be accessible to all our students for

free so that we do not overlook any of our students," Christensen said in the email. "Really, this is in the best interest of everyone in our community."

According to Christensen, the federal guidelines for determining qualification are equal across states, but not equitable for students. She noted that the eligibility for free and reduced meals

MEALS PAGE 6

RESEARCH & IDEAS

Neurodegenerative diseases to be studied in research center initiative

BY TIFFANY LIEU
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Working with UC Berkeley researchers, the Glaucoma Research Foundation launched a research initiative July 15 studying neurodegenerative diseases, such as glaucoma and Alzheimer's disease.

Founded in 1978, the research center is the largest nonprofit for glaucoma research, according to Glaucoma Research Foundation President and CEO Thomas Brunner. The center has funded four total research initiatives following its Catalyst for a Cure model, which coordinates and funds teams of scientists with support provided from scientific advisors.

According to Brunner, the foundation's latest initiative named Melza M. and Frank Theodore Barr Catalyst for a Cure to Prevent and Cure Neurodegeneration brings together four



MICHELLE DE ELIZALDE/GLAUCOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION | COURTESY
Milica Margeta (top left), Sandro Da Mesquita (top right), Karthik Shekhar (bottom left) and Humsa Venkatesh (bottom right) are four researchers working on the initiative.

researchers from different institutions and backgrounds. One of these researchers is Karthik Shekhar, campus assistant professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering.

"The idea here is to see if we bring people together with different scientific backgrounds and

experiences and across different neurodegenerative diseases, that they might have some unique insights, get some new ideas and perhaps some breakthroughs that could lead to preventing and curing these diseases," Brunner

ALZHEIMER'S PAGE 6

BEAR WITH ME

Delighting in sickness



BY LUKE STILES
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It was Tuesday at recess, and I was in a mood most appropriate for a toddler — one so sour that dragging others down was devilish fun. Just as an insult formed, I felt a snuffle coming on, and my pissiness found a new target.

Exaggerating sickness was a bit of a sport when I was younger, and I was an Olympian. I loved the adrenaline kick of taking my parents' and teachers' trust for a joyride.

Day one was the most important performance. I'd announce a dramatic "achoo!" and march myself to the nurse, swooning onto the bed covered in crinkly plastic — feeling like an ad executive who just barked at their secretary to clear my afternoon.

"I don't feel so good," I'd croak, putting a hand to my head and willing my sinuses to clog. After I'd achieved a you poor thing, I'd celebrate silently and cross my hands like a dead body, the taste of the wooden depressor still on my tongue.

Of course, the object of the game was to maximize my time out of the classroom, but it's a tricky business. If I oversold, I'd have to go to the doctor and receive the tragic news that it was just a sneeze or, even worse, teachers would start sending me homework packets through a family friend.

This time, the plan was going perfectly. Nothing can get you into character quite like staring at the ceiling of the nurse's office with a parent on the way. In the car, I explained my close scrape with anaphylactic shock, my heartbreaking diagnosis and the nurse's prescription for rest, to which I added ginger ale and saltines.

Back home, I summoned the strength to drape my comforter over the sofa and tuck myself into what I could tell was going to be a good sickness. I lounged in despair and disease like a housewife wasting away in front of the television — drunk off Pedialyte and puffing a pretzel cigarette.

Coming to college, sickness ceases being a free vacation and becomes an intrinsic fact of dorm life. College colds float around the lecture halls, unnamed and unaddressed — thousands of hometown viruses colliding in a grand, airborne orgy.

The first time I came down with something freshman year, I was faced with the reality that sickness had lost all its signature perks. There weren't mandatory doctor's appointments or homework packets to avoid, just feeble requests that someone gets cough drops from Walgreens.

When academic expectations are sky-high and the appetite to grind is insatiable, illness can feel like a thick fog that I should just turn up my collar and trudge through. It was as if to say, we've already overcome so much, we're drawing the line at a head cold?

Sickness lost its levity, its flirtation. I missed channeling Ferris Bueller. Now, everything's so serious. Moments that I claimed for my own health seemed like borrowed time, like the world spun on leaving me bedridden and behind.

Just imagine, for a moment, I shrunk down and told a white blood cell that what they're doing is selfish or indulgent. They'd laugh me out of the artery. They see what I often dismiss, that there's a threat in need of addressing. Believe it or not, my mind remains a part of my body, affected by the same bacterial battles as the rest of me.

That feeling of wanting to be cared for, to have my sickness validated and cooed over, that's a real desire to see my life's support system unfurl to catch me. Sure, the Tang Center claims to serve the same purpose, but it doesn't give me a sticker on the way out, and it can't make chicken noodle soup.

There's a comfort in admitting that parts of me have wilted. My need for healing isn't something to be frustrated by. It's a reminder that we aren't machines. We need empty time and space to rest and rebuild ourselves.

Dispense with the belief that sickness is somehow a moral failing and treat yourself with the grace and care you desire. Try not to view personal days as guilty but gleeful.

You get to hop off the treadmill for a moment and catch your breath. You need Benadryl, not pre-workout. You have a golden excuse, might as well see what it buys.

I don't want to be flippant about the dangers of illness for the immunocompromised population. I have family members who experience health as a precarious vase poised to shatter at any moment.

Pulling the curtains closed and staying in bed is the best way to show love for my community and for myself, even when it's more inconvenience than delight.

So, the next time sickness knocks on my door, I won't run around turning the lights off, pretending no one's home or I wasn't expecting company. I'll drag my comforter to the sofa, break out my pretzel cigarettes and say, "It's been too long, my friend." 🍷

Luke Stiles writes the Thursday column on unqualified advice and unpopular opinions.

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LIZZO'S *'Special'* SPARKLES WITH SINCERITY

4.0
OUT OF 5.0

Performed by
LIZZO
Produced by
RICKY REED
BLAKE SLATKIN
MAX MARTIN

BY TATUM HANDEL
STAFF
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Hi, motherf—er, did you miss me?” Lizzo’s *Special* opens with an unabashed inquiry, establishing an outpour of unfiltered honesty that recurs throughout her latest album.

Three years have elapsed since the release of her iconic album *Cuz I Love You*, a wildly successful collection of sunny, upbeat tunes that snagged Grammy Awards and thrust the artist into stardom. While Lizzo has taken her sweet time with her fourth studio album, her return is nonetheless glorious.

Special retains the goldenness, frankness and piquancy of *Cuz I Love You*, yet it also showcases a newfound vulnerability.

In her previous works, Lizzo presents her confidence as an eternal, unwavering force.

Special, however, exposes the cracks within Lizzo’s glamour—while the musician continues to produce catchy, feel-good anthems, they are now accompanied with softer songs shaped by the sting of discrimination.

Lizzo’s “Naked” pertains to her struggle of navigating sexual intimacy while battling body insecurities. The ballad stands out in *Special* as especially earnest and

melodic. While the song primarily revolves around Lizzo’s relationship with her lover, social commentary saturates the track: The artist insightfully remarks, “I’ve seen every part of me/ And babe, I can’t erase it/ If I get on top of you/ You promise to embrace it,” and confessions such as these are scattered throughout *Special*. Lizzo continues to excel at creating snappy, inspiring music, but *Special* highlights her internal grappling with a world that continuously attempts to shrink her.

Pieced together with hypnotic elements of disco and new wave, *Special* celebrates Blackness and aims to uplift identities affected by marginalization.

In “Everybody’s Gay,” Lizzo’s smooth voice soars amid groovy instrumentals. Here, “gay” functions as a polysemic term, referring to both queerness and giddiness. The song serves as a testament to freedom, in regard to both sexual expression and release from anxiety. Transitioning from a deep and rich timbre to a flirty falsetto, Lizzo purposefully shifts the tones of her voice

to reflect the diversity of individuals. Lizzo’s carefree invitation to “dance the night away” encourages not only acceptance, but also suggests a deep appreciation for the vast array of colors, shapes and interests that people possess.

Above all, the musician exhibits a deep commitment to her female friends and close relationships.

When considering reconciling with an ex or evaluating her own readiness for love, Lizzo sincerely values the opinions of the women in her life. They act as recurring characters throughout the album.

Not only does Lizzo devote several songs to her “Grrrls,” their perspectives are directly represented in the background vocals in the theatrical “2 Be Loved

(Am I Ready).” While a few moments on *Special* may feel a tad cheesy, the heartwarming reverence Lizzo displays for female solidarity exceeds any gaudiness.

In *Special*, Lizzo also emphasizes her evolution by alluding to her previous songs. In 2019’s “Juice,” she spiritedly sings, “Mirror, mirror on the wall/ Don’t say it ‘cause I know I’m cute.” Three years later in “If You Love Me,” she begs to be comforted and grounded “when the mirror lies and starts to break.” Lizzo’s parallels to her earlier music suggest that she now dares to expose all facets of her experience, even the agonizing ones.

The album contains myriad lighthearted witticisms

and playful vocalizations without dimming its depth.

When Lizzo raps, the escalation of her flow conveys conviction; when she belts, the rasp of her voice reveals angst and betrayal. *Special* manages to exist as a simultaneously silly, crushing, cute and authentic contribution to the world.

Special triumphs as a defiant refusal to minimize oneself. Lizzo demonstrates resilience, whether that be through rekindling a romantic relationship in “Break Up Twice” or withstanding harsh, unwarranted judgment in “Special.”

Not only does Lizzo reckon with the prejudice she has personally experienced, but she assures listeners that in spite of others’ judgment, they always remain worthy of love. ■



KEIRA LEE | STAFF

ALBUM REVIEW

beabadoobee finds solace in ‘Beatopia’



BEATOPIA
BEABADOOBEE
DIRTY HIT

3.5

OUT OF 5.0

BY DOMINIC CEJA
STAFF
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Branding her latest album with whimsical illustrations and an innocent title, beabadoobee invites listeners into the most personal season of life—her coming of age.

Beatrice Laus refines the imagination of her childhood on her new record, as she sings amid lush instrumentals

instead of clashing bass. With this shift in focus, she expresses her emotions with more nuance and a sharpened sonic influence. Though varied in musical prowess at points, *Beatopia* still demonstrates growth for beabadoobee, capturing her independence as an artist in the digital age.

As the title derives from an imaginative world she created as an inspired child, it is fitting for the opening song to immerse listeners into this magical, far-out land. “Beatopia Cultsong” removes itself from the modern world, abandoning melodic structure for electronic whirls and stilted delivery. With this production, one can easily imagine the ambient, almost sinister environment on the cover: blue fairies, purple monsters and bears haunting the foreground.

“Is it me or recently time is moving slowly?” she repeats over buzzing guitar strings and humming basslines. This repetition, her reflection on time and her withdrawn vocals encapsulate her position on life at the moment: At 22, she’s bidding time before the fulfillment of her adulthood.

Discussions about her coming of age evolve on “Sunny Day,” an indie,

early-2000s-reminiscent tune dedicated to the complications of love. She begins the pre-chorus with an offering, apologizing to her partner for refusing to leave the house without the comfort of warm weather. With the same naïve diffidence of people in their 20s, she criticizes herself for being human and for prioritizing her mental health over their relationship.

On “See You Soon,” Laus pines from the sidelines, wanting her affection to be all-consuming for her lover. Allowing the instrumental to bounce with blissful vocals, listeners feel the pulse of her desire within the vivid state of *Beatopia*. Her experience highlights the exhausting highs of love, and how it can be both appealing and deteriorating for young adults.

Her attention to human relationships subsists despite this need for space. In “Pictures of Us,” she expresses gratitude for a role model reminding her “God starts with a capital.” Vocalizing the same hesitation 20-somethings feel when encountering someone bigger—an adult who is so much wiser—beabadoobee responds in fear: “No, I don’t think I could do it.” Her voice is timid but familiar, an old friend

extending their hand to calm the listener in a time of doubt.

“Lovesong,” on the other hand, struggles to capture the same comfort. While beabadoobee crafts cinematic images—lovers at train stations and meeting in autumn—she neglects the childhood innocence and emotion so fundamental to *Beatopia*. The production does not progress until the final chorus, as she trades glittering bass for meandering guitar and drums, which diminishes the dreamworld she shaped in other ballads.

Still, even with these missteps, beabadoobee’s honest and evocative songwriting cuts to the core of her experiences. Her production, vibrating and celestial, converts these realities into the idealized escapism of *Beatopia*. As the creator of this land, she welcomes her most fanatic listeners and harshest critics into this intimate space, granting them access to her most diaristic thoughts—an experience worth commending regardless of its faults.

beabadoobee, beneath the high-voltage bass and lo-fi production, faces the same struggles as the 2000s influences before her—but, unlike many of her predecessors, she finds solace in her truth. ■

ARTS AWAY

Chess to a naked eye



BY SARINA BELL | STAFF
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His name isn’t Lars, and he doesn’t have a chess set, but we’ll call him Lars, and he’s teaching me chess.

It’s a warm Friday evening on the Seine. Lars pulls out his grid-lined notebook and, in the process of explaining the knight, accidentally draws a swastika. He falters and I snort, feeling a bit tired and a bit guilty. I put him in this situation. I put a lot of people in these situations. Every guy I’ve considered going out with while studying abroad in Paris, I’ve demanded teach me how to play chess.

In how to play, I’m a lesbian. In

EDITORIAL

Help stray Berkeley cats find ‘forever’ homes



CITY AFFAIRS

While most attention this summer has been directed towards encouraging smooth post-pandemic transitions and other pressing national issues, a local problem has been receiving less recognition.

Currently, Berkeley animal shelters are experiencing a major influx in kittens, already housing more than three times the number from last year, and counting. California’s perpetually temperate weather means that there’s a somewhat consistent feral feline population, but the surge this year is especially dramatic due to COVID-19 and the subsequent veterinarian shortage.

Normally, feral cats are often trapped, spayed or neutered and released, with successful procedures being universally signified by ear-tipping. But with the pandemic, there have been both fewer people available to trap stray cats and fewer veterinarians available to perform the surgeries. As a result, the population has continued to increase.

Now, residents of Berkeley and surrounding areas should consider visiting local shelters to foster or adopt kittens, including black ones, which statistically have the highest rate of euthanasia and lowest rate of adoption nationwide.

This year, Berkeley Animal Care Services has already taken in 122 kittens, and there are many currently available for adoption. Because of the crowded shelter environment, these kittens are more susceptible to the spread of disease and, unfortunately, also often

receive less attention and care. While current volunteers and staff are already doing what they can, they are spread thin, and Berkeley Animal Care Services is continuing to look for more volunteers.

Aside from the cats, staff members and vets may have also been experiencing the adverse effects of this influx. The sheer number of animals in the shelter could potentially increase their stress, possibly exacerbating the existing issue of depression, anxiety and burnout among veterinarians.

The Berkeley community must relieve some of the pressure on the shelters and its animals before this negative cycle spirals out of control.

For anyone who has had any inkling or wishing to adopt or foster a kitten: Now is the time to do so, especially with adoption fees being waived for the months of July and August, if not longer. The shelter plans on holding an adoption fair later this month.

For those who would like to help but don’t currently have the capacity to care for a cat full-time, consider volunteering at a shelter. What better way to make a difference than by playing with kittens?

As a community, let us all come together to provide respite for shelter staff and local vets, to provide forever homes to these adorable, helpless animals. ■

Editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board as written by the summer 2022 opinion editor, Many Zhao.

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OP-ED | Environment



Sequoias are burning: We cannot just choose to ignore their plight

BY COLLEEN FRIEND
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By now, most Californians know that the Washburn Fire has been burning in and around Yosemite National Park since July 7, 2022. As of July 17, the Fresno Bee was reporting that it is 51% contained — with the fire covering almost 5,000 acres. The fire has been specifically threatening Yosemite’s Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias, home to more than 500 mature giant sequoias.

Sequoias grow naturally only on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. These trees are rare among earthly organisms, because they can live 3,000 years; the oldest among them documented as living 3,500 years. California residents, certainly, and perhaps all people in the United States, have a duty to protect this species for the next generation.

Cicely Muldoon, the superintendent of Yosemite National Park, calls these giant sequoias the root of the whole National Park System. The question is: Are we doing enough to protect them and what are you doing to make this commitment personal?

Why should you care? Most importantly, given their lifespan, they hold our history. Arboriculturists tell us these giant sequoias’ tree rings reveal information about climate change, diseases, fires, floods and more over thousands of years, whereas human records have been systematic for only 200 years at best. These trees may hold the key to understanding how our own species might survive. Furthermore, we have a lot to learn about how they take in nutrients and moisture at their upper leafy extremities, through the fog. The birder watchers among us probably already know that over 30 species have made these groves their home.

Yosemite has three giant sequoia groves and we find these trees at

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Many humans are attracted to these groves as well. Collectively, these parks host about 4.5 million visitors annually.

As John Keats once said, “a thing of beauty is a joy forever, its loveliness increases.” While that is true, since 2020, with the Castle, Windy and KNP fires, we have lost about 10,000 joyful giant sequoias. For all these reasons, we should care. Returning to the focus on the Mariposa Grove at Yosemite, there are four things to commit to memory and action.

First, Yosemite National Park has been operating on an out-of-date fire management plan that originated in 2004, when conditions in California were dramatically different.

During consecutive droughts from 2012-2016, a substantial number of trees died. Under the 2004 plan, felled trees were left on the ground to biodegrade. Places such as the Mariposa Grove had no perimeter. While the above plan has since been amended in 2017, it is important to know that only 3,000 acres are treated with its provisions, out of the park’s 16,000 acres.

It talks about using fire for prescribed burns and “thinning out” the tree population. Very recently, the park did a prescribed burn in this area and established a doughnut perimeter. They also installed a temporary sprinkler system. Pay attention to updates to monitor if these measures were enough to save the Mariposa Grove. Ask what can be done in the longer term.

Second, the Yosemite National Park appears to have a large logging project, underway since May 2022.

The John Muir Project, part of the Berkeley-based nonprofit Earth Island Institute, filed a federal lawsuit, naming Yosemite Superintendent Cicely Muldoon in her official capacity, the National Park Service and the U.S.

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OP-ED | Community affairs

Pit bull terriers: Confronting their reputation

BY LYDIA LOPEZ
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As a mother of six, having conflicting feelings about pit bulls while living with children is incredibly difficult. Owning a pit bull with children has numerous advantages, but the combination comes with risks.

In recent years, 249 children were killed by the breed. Pit bulls are responsible for roughly half of all severe injuries to children. Meanwhile, there are approximately 4.5 million pit bull dogs in the United States, accounting for approximately 5.8% of its canine population. The discrepancies in these statistics alone make parents hesitant to have children around pit

bulls or pit bull mixes.

However, parents are not alone, as the rest of the world also gives pit bulls a bad reputation. By saying pit bull alone, what is the first thing you can think of when you say it? Pit bulls were given the label “dangerous” as early as the 1980s. Their bodies and wide jaws can potentially make people intimidated or wary.

In the United States, pit bulls have become the first-choice breed in dogfighting. Dogfighting is a bloody sport — and also a felony offense in all 50 states — in which dogs that have been bred, conditioned and trained to attack are pitted against each other for the amusement and profit of spectators.

While it can be challenging to estimate the size of a dogfighting industry, several animal rescue organizations suspect at least 16,000 dogs are killed in the industry annually. Pit bulls are typically associated with dogfighting, but there are numerous other dog breeds that fall under the “pit bull” designation such as the American pit bull terrier, Staffordshire bull terrier, and American bulldog.

Dogfighting is a secretive industry; they don’t just have or watch these dogfights. Instead, dogfights can often be associated with organized crime, particularly illegal gambling and money laundering.

Dog bets typically range from \$100 to several thousand dollars. However, it might be

much higher than that, roughly \$100,000 depending on circumstances. Dogfighting in a criminal context is characterized by animal cruelty, violence and illegality.

As an adult with children, I initially assumed that pit bulls were “dangerous” as labeled in the 1980s with their strong bodies and heavy muscular build, and because of this, were not suitable as pets. However, according to my modest amount of research, pit bulls are not as bad as they are often made out to be.

Stubby is a pit bull who earned the highest rank as a sergeant during World War I after participating in 17 battles. After learning that a pit bull can be loyal enough to become a

sergeant during the first World War, I wondered why they are often stereotyped as attacking or killing children.

That is a valid question; pit bulls are loyal and patient with all humans when trained correctly, rather than be trained for violence. Given a chance, pit bulls are suitable therapy dogs, especially for children.

Therapy dogs are accompanied by their owners to volunteer in schools, hospitals and nursing homes. Pit bulls — serving as therapy dogs — and their owners work as a team to improve the lives of others, whether they are working with a child learning to read or visiting a senior in assisted living.

PITBULL PAGE 7

MEALS FROM PAGE 3

is based on the national poverty level.

This baseline qualification, according to Christensen, leads to inequities as the eligibility does not take into account the student's cost of living by area. Due to this, she alleged that "some of the neediest" students are "overlooked."

"Equal for all states but

inequitable," Christensen said in the email. "In the context of public schools and learning in addition to providing for our children, hungry children do not thrive either intellectually, emotionally or physically."

Christensen also noted that BUSD parents want their children to have healthy meals.

She added that the fruits and vegetables provided through BUSD meals are mostly organic, include less pesticides and are grown in safe soil, as compared to non-organic food which could

contain unsafe chemicals.

Christensen said BUSD uses products that are locally sourced from Bay Area businesses such as City Baking for breakfast items, All Star Tamales for "Mexican items" and fresh fruit from a local collective named Food4Thought.

"Berkeley Unified School District is deeply committed to caring for the whole child and to equity," Christensen said in the email. "We are constantly sourcing ingredients and products with an eye towards locally owned businesses." ■

ALZHEIMER'S FROM PAGE 3

said.

The four researchers involved in the initiative met for the first time July 15, the date of the initiative's launch, to discuss their goals, said initiative researcher and Harvard Medical School assistant professor Milica Margeta. The researchers will work in their own labs and toward their shared goals, Margeta added.

Unlike many other grants, the researchers were given a lot of flexibility with the direction of their research, according to Margeta. Typically, detailed proposals

must be written before research projects are able to receive funding, but in this case, the researchers met for the first time and discussed their plans after receiving funding, she said.

"We will closely work together and come up with these goals that will bring our research areas together and hopefully come up with some very novel ideas and policies or findings that one wouldn't be able to figure out if one just worked in isolation," Margeta said.

According to Scientific Advisory Board chair and University of Montreal professor Adriana Di Polo, the goal of the research initiative is to find similarities across multiple

neurodegenerative diseases — such as glaucoma and Alzheimer's disease — in order to eventually prevent and identify therapies for them.

The research initiative aims to address the "huge unmet need" surrounding neurodegenerative diseases, according to Brunner. He added that glaucoma is the world's leading cause of irreversible blindness, but that there is currently no cure.

"What makes me passionate about it is I can see that this research model really works," Brunner said. "It really produces important findings and I'm just excited about continuing that with these teams and seeing how they come together." ■

WILDFIRE FROM FRONT

remarked. "Instead of a forested landscape, we're going to really leave more of a shrub system over thousands of acres."

For millennia, native peoples managed the lands of the Bay Area for various endeavors, from basket weaving to spiritual rituals, according to Stephens. Speaking with local indigenous leaders and elders, Stephens said they partook in "active stewardship," conducting small, intentional burns to decrease the risk of large wildfires.

Essentially, indigenous peoples would light the forest on fire to decrease the high density of vegetation and dead material that acts as wildfire fuel. When European colonizers forcibly removed native peoples from their homelands, they extinguished these practices.

Planting its seeds in federal policy from the 1900s, California's legacy of fire suppression has left the state with dense, homogeneous forests.

Without low intensity fires keeping vegetation in check, forests become swallowed in tightly packed trees as fuel piles up on the ground, Collins said. These dense forest systems are a fertile ground for intense wildfires that can reach the crowns of the tallest trees, he added.

"The condition that the forests are in and the potential for wildfires is not new, we've known about this for decades," Collins said. "It's frustrating that we aren't able to be more proactive."

To restore the world's ailing forests and reduce the risk of wildfires, Collins said there needs to be more intentional, or "prescribed," burning. The current pace and scale of prescribed burns pales in comparison to the magnitude of the problem, he noted.

Collins said there is a quicker process, tree cutting, which yields more immediate results in terms of eliminating fire fuel. With tree cutting, however, comes reluctance. People tend to regard this effort as unnatural and thus — by extension — unhealthy, according to Collins.

"People see it as, 'nature would never do that, so why would we?'" he said. "Nature would have done it had fire been part of the system. Fire would have never let those trees establish in the first place."

With millions of acres in need of active stewardship, Stephens said it will be a daunting restoration process because once people begin, it never ends — the forest and shrubs will always grow back.

Tangible change rests on building a better relationship with nature and emulating the practices of native people tending to their land indefinitely, Stephens said.

"Native people just do this forever, they just continue to steward, steward, steward," Stephens said. "Stewarding ecosystems for the future is going to take an incredible change in mindset and shift in resources to try to employ people in these areas. It's going to take a mammoth of change."

Though still optimistic, Stephens' hope is slowly withering the longer he looks out the window and watches forest systems change.

Back in 2007, the Moonlight Fire — burning approximately 65,000 acres — blew Stephens' mind. Standing in Greenville last month, one of the towns burned down by the 960,000-acre Dixie Fire, Stephens said it felt haunting.

The blaze scorched through every home, all that survived is a high school and one small, older grocery store, he said. There appeared to be one newer building, it may have been a dollar store, Stephens recalled.

"I used to say about 20 years ago 'some day, the forests are gonna change right in front of our eyes,'" he said. "It's already happening. ... So the question is, are we going to engage with this and try to do something or are we going to just continue to watch?"

Berkeley's barrage of fire calls

In a city with far more people than homes, firefighters are feeling a different type of burnout.

Experiencing a rising demand for fire and emergency medical services from the public, Berkeley Fire Department, or BFD, is in the midst of inner-departmental changes as it tries to hire more personnel, said Matt George, vice president of Berkeley Fire Fighters IAFF Local 1227.

The clash between an increasing call volume and workplace transition period has left Berkeley firefighters playing catch up, George said, who has been a BFD firefighter for about eight years.

"Our city's changing a ton: population is increasing, vertical growth is increasing and responses are also increasing year over year," he said. "We're just trying to push as hard as we can to keep up."

While Berkeley firefighters do, in fact, get called for fires, a large share of their requests come from people who simply don't know who else to ring. When not a police matter, or public works issue, the call usually falls to the firefighters; "we're kind of a catch all," George said.

A few days ago, George found himself, along with his peers, throwing up a ladder into a woman's bedroom and climbing to the ceiling to change her smoke detector's battery after she called complaining of its incessant beeping.

Berkeley firefighters must simultaneously navigate the city's various crises, attending to narcotic use, overdose and homelessness, George said.

This can sometimes act as a draw on their system, he added, as some people call in dire need of a defibrillator while others require a refill on their prescription.

But no matter the scope of the issue, George said he and his fellow firefighters strive to leave "no stone unturned."

"It's the best job in the world because it is varied, but it also carries a ton of responsibility," he said. "We really take that to heart."

The harrowing odyssey firefighters pursue when quelling disturbances is both physically and mentally demanding. It tugs uniquely at people's heart strings, leading some to retire early while others have more nuanced effects, George said.

There's an old firefighter adage about a backpack, George explained. At the start of one's career, their bag is empty. In time, every mentally distressing call they receive adds weight to their sack.

To avoid the straps fraying from the bag and spilling all the internal baggage someone's been carrying, George said BFD's camaraderie and Peer Counseling Unit, or PCU, act to lighten the heavy load.

Bustling with audacious personalities and quirky talents, Berkeley's firefighters are people persons, and George counts himself lucky to be one of them. They take care of each other like family, he said, engaging in "one way trades" to cover a comrade's shifts if they're dealing with a personal plight.

"Our guys will come in and work 24 hours not getting paid just to cover for somebody receiving treatment for cancer or whose family or kids are in the hospital," George said. "Everyone always has each other's backs."

When George is able to share a meal with his colleagues at the station, the kitchen table is like therapy. It's liberating, he said, being able to talk openly with his peers and digest some of their shared struggles.

If the trauma cuts more deeply, firefighters can talk to someone from the PCU as they're stationed and on shift at all times, George noted.

As the pandemic and recession coalesced and the world seemed as though it was on the road to ruin, George said there were many roadblocks in BFD, not unlike industries worldwide.

Embroiled in this time, he said it was incredible to watch Berkeleyans head to the polls and support Measure FF, a 2020 ordinance increasing funding for emergency response, hazard mitigation and wildfire prevention through taxation.

"The citizens came out and basically said 'we see the need, we see you guys recognizing the need and we see your solutions to it, here's money,'" George said. "We're so thankful for the support of the citizens." ■

ARTS AWAY FROM PAGE 4

practice, I need men to love me like I need air to breathe. Thus, my attraction to them cycles through a series of domestic fantasies. And this summer, my imagination has arrived, like the truncating tick of a Technicolor pinwheel, at the following isosceles triangle: I want a man to play me in a naked game of chess.

To explain this fantasy, I have to go back to the early '60s, when the writer Eve Babitz (then unknown) met the artist Marcel Duchamp.

After cementing himself as the father of conceptual art, Duchamp quit art to play chess full time.

Forty years later, he agreed to a 1963 retrospective at the Pasadena Art Museum, and every New York intellectual and Los Angeles hedonist turned up for opening night.

Miss Babitz, a member of the latter category, didn't know who Duchamp was, but three days after the party, the two took a now notorious photo together.

Duchamp's in a dark suit, thick glasses and leather loafers. Babitz is naked; they're playing chess. It's one of the greatest photos ever taken. She's a marble nude come to life. Bare to the viewer, unabashed, but able to go toe-to-toe with this mammoth of the art world. Her femininity is obvious but irrelevant.

So, it was with this image in mind that I downloaded Tinder and started messaging men, "Bonjour do you know how to play chess?"

The goal? Recreate the photo.

The plan? Murky, but it began with Lars: my first victim, a Swedish backpacker. Lars and I go on this date. He draws a hate symbol; I forgive him. He asks me if I listen to The Smiths; I forgive him. The date ends. No photo.

The next morning, frustrated, I head to the Centre Pompidou to see a few of Duchamp's glass works on display, and I find "Nine Malic Moulds," a precursor to his more famous "The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even." I didn't know either of these works before entering the Pompidou, but apparently the series aims to represent nine bachelors who are forced to masturbate for all eternity while being taunted by a naked woman.

Disturbed, I left the Pompidou and focused my research on the

photo. I was shocked to learn, though, that when the photo was taken, Babitz was 20, only a year older than me.

Duchamp was 76, 57 years my senior.

I had also assumed Babitz had some hand in the photo, but the photographer Julian Wasser chose her almost at random. Almost.

In an interview with Vanity Fair in 2015, Wasser described a trove of "art-groupie type girls" at the retrospective who "liked to fuck artists."

When pressed on why he chose Babitz, Wasser replied, "You're really asking me that? Oh, Jesus." And finally: "I asked Eve because she had a very classic female body, okay?"

So, he chose her for her breasts.

Shortly after agreeing to the photo, Babitz hoped Wasser would forget about it, but he didn't. She had already committed to the bit, and how could she back out when she was in so deep? Then, there's the image of Babitz the day of, described by her in the same interview. "I'm sitting there, smoking like crazy," she says, "pretending to be bolder than I am."

I told my friends I would recreate the photo, but I didn't really want to.

I found some men who were more than happy to pose with me naked, but once I had my fantasy, I didn't want it. I didn't want to be just my body, even if it was on my own terms.

Even if I were the one recreating the photo, I wasn't the one taking the photo, and neither was Babitz; not everything needs to be reclaimed. I'm exhausted from pretending to be bolder than I am.

It's Sunday, and I'm at the Musée D'Orsay, and everywhere I look there are naked women.

I've been looking for a female artist for hours and hours, and I can't find one.

I spend 15 minutes trying to translate a Mail-lol quote on the wall, only to realize what this sculptor, famed for his nudes of plus-sized women, is saying: "With a man, there is always something, a muscle to fix on. With women, there is nothing, no shapes, you have to invent it all, unless they are very well developed, but that's rare."

I am so angry, and I am not naked, and I won't take the bit any farther, and the pinwheel spins again. And I still don't know how to play chess. ■

"Arts Away" columns catalog Daily Cal staff members' arts and culture experiences away from Berkeley.

Classifieds

Care Giver Needed

Disabled Grad in south campus area, 10:00-11:00 pm: \$20 /hr Cooking, undressing, light bathroom care, transfer from wheelchair to bed to chair and bed placement. I have a lift if necessary. Great job if local, reliable, and compassionate. interest in medicine a plus - counts as clinical experience for premed :) If this sounds good, please reach out! No experience is necessary
* PLEASE include a phone # and resume: contact: haste2110@gmail.com

Sourdough and Co

Sandwiches - Soups - Salads! Renowned for our freshly baked sourdough bread, served warm, our deli style sandwiches features an array of top quality meats, artisan cheese and fresh produce topped with our delectable house spread. We also offer bread bowls, they can be served with any of our soups of the day, but most prefer our famous Clam Chowder Soup which is served daily. Catering available along with online ordering option at Sourdoughandco.com/Berkeley, Snackpass, Doordash, UberEats and Grubhub. Sourdough offers the ultimate in casual dining in our old-time style establishment. Come by and check us out or order online!
Email Telegraph@sourdoughandco.com

SEQUOIAS FROM PAGE 5

Department of the Interior as violating administrative law and raising issues of public transparency. While the hearing has not been scheduled, we should all follow this lawsuit and ask ourselves if what is going on in the park is logging or thinning out.

Third, hold your California public officials accountable for the \$53.9 billion allocated in Gov. Newsom's signed June 30, 2022 budget to protect Californians from extreme weather and to provide advanced fire protection.

As of July 8, 2022, Cal Fire, the statewide agency

that fights forest fires, is now conducting night flying expeditions and is at full staffing with additional equipment. Although they do not have sole jurisdiction inside national parks, they work collaboratively with the California Interagency Incident Management Team to try to bring the larger blaze under containment. The public was assured July 12, 2022 that the fire would be kept out of the Mariposa Grove. Can we rely on that?

Fourth, a bipartisan measure was just introduced in Congress (Rep. Scott Peters, D-San Diego and Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield) named the Save Our Sequoias Act, which would provide \$350 million, over

the course of 10 years. It would do three things: Protect the trees, shortcut environmental review and create a reforestation plan. This could be the answer to a longer-term plan.

Please don't sit this one out. Actions advocated here include: Monitor recent efforts at Mariposa Grove to save it. Follow the lawsuit. Hold California and nationally elected officials accountable for what has been allocated and bipartisan legislation that could be passed to address this specific problem. Our giant sequoias hold our history and perhaps our future for generations to come.

Colleen Friend, Ph. D. is a director at the Cal State LA Child Abuse and Family Violence Institute.

PITBULL FROM PAGE 5

Despite their bad reputation, pit bulls make excellent family dogs due to their intelligence, trainability and strong desire to please. They have all these significant assets that attract many different kinds of owners.

There still are numerous other instances of pit bull terrier-type dogs working as therapy dogs. Jeffrey is an example of a successful therapy dog; he visited Sandy Hook Elementary School following the school shooting that occurred there in 2012. Pit bulls' significant assets may attract owners with questionable intentions, but, in instances

like this one, they can also attract those with positive intentions as well. Having the right owner can impact the behavioral patterns of pit bulls and their reputation.

With so many different situations worldwide, mixed feelings about pit bulls are understandable. If you have children, they are the center of your universe; though it is important to recognize having children around pit bulls depends on the owner and how they were trained.

Any breed of dog can develop a bad reputation. Pit bulls have a more extended history of stigmas than other breeds; standing out by their reputation is a given. Genuinely, many pit bulls are not given a chance because of their owners.

Having a terrible reputation is not suitable for anyone. If pit bulls were given the opposite reputation as therapy dogs, the outcome of having a pitbull as a pet would be different. This is why the breed evokes such mixed feelings.

Pit bulls are incredible dogs but have a terrible reputation because of who raised them and their labels. When you think about it, it's the same as teaching our children certain behaviors, which can be beneficial or detrimental. By correcting our misconceptions and opening ourselves up to the ownership of pit bulls, we can rescue this breed from dogfighting and reset the stigma.

Lydia Lopez is a student at El Camino College.

49ERS FROM BACK

Tyron Smith in a wildcard-round win after Bosa left with an injury, and Willis blocked a Packers' punt for the only 49ers touchdown of the game in the NFL Divisional round victory. Both are worthy of a roster spot, but there are only so many



DANIEL | CREATIVE COMMONS
Martínez is short for a central defender, standing at just 5'9". This may not bode well for a move to the Premier League, likely the most physically demanding soccer league.

SOCCER FROM BACK

including stars like Dominic Calvert-Lewin, Chris Wood and Harry Kane, will tower over Martínez and play with physicality that he likely has not seen before.

Martínez and the Premier League seem far from the perfect match. Rival fans have already discounted the transfer as a nailed-on flop due to his stature — another player that won't cut it in the Premier League.

However, Martínez's statistics wholly contradict this conventional wisdom. In the Netherlands, he was actually dominant in the air. His 70.2% aerial-duel success rate in the Eredivisie was the best among all Dutch league players who contested 100-plus duels. Footage that is now

to go around. San Francisco will have to decide how many defensive ends it can make room for.

The other ends on the roster are veteran Dee Ford and former Alliance of American Football player Alex Barrett. Ford has likely played his last snap as a 49er, and possibly as a player, due to numerous injuries. Barrett will likely end up back on the practice squad where he spent most of last season.

receiving fresh scrutiny shows Martínez's high jumping reach and expertise in destabilizing attackers before aerial duels.

United fans have mobilized this data and footage to defend their signing, insisting that Martínez will fare just fine in England. But just as height does not tell the whole story, neither does aerial-duel success rate in the Eredivisie.

Forwards in England will be outright better than those he encountered at Ajax. And even if he can more or less hold his own in vertical long-ball situations, defending crosses and set pieces requires a different skill set and more heavily favors the taller man. Failure to do so will highly jeopardize the Manchester United goal.

It is an encouraging sign that Martínez was so aerially adept in the Netherlands, but the different nature of the English game still raises valid doubts over how he will adjust to the Premier League.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SEL REAL PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE

No. RP21099687

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

In Re VANONIA JEAN WILLIS, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, subject to confirmation by this court, the undersigned Administrator of the estate of Vanonia Jean Willis, Deceased, will sell at private sale to the highest and best net bidder upon the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned, on the 2nd day of August, 2022, at the hour of 2p.m., or thereafter within the time allowed by law, all right, title, and interest of Vanonia Jean Willis, Deceased, to

the real property sold as a unit located in the County of Alameda, State of California, commonly known and referred to as 7934 Crest Avenue, Oakland, California and legally described as follows:

LOTS 62 AND 63, AND THE NORTHWESTERN 10 FEET OF LOT 64, "MELROSE HIGHLAND", FILED OCTOBER 13, 1925, MAP BOOK 5, PAGE 38, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS.

APN: 040A-3436-028-02

Bids are invited for this property and must be received before the sale is confirmed by the Superior Court. Bids must be submitted in person in open court when this case is called, on August 2, 2022, at 2p.m., at the Superior Court, Department 201, 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way,

Berkeley, California. The initial minimum over bid allowed is \$840,500. The terms of sale are as follows:

- All cash purchase
- 10% required deposit
- Property sold "as is" with no inspection or repair contingencies
- Escrow to close 15 days after court confirmation or sooner
- Seller pays for minimum governmental inspections, reports, and retrofits
- Buyer pays escrow fee and title insurance in full
- Seller and Buyer each pay one-half of city and county transfer tax
- And other standard conditions of Probate Purchase Agreement with Probate Advisory

Brokerage fees are subject to approval of the court. Only bidders that have, prior to commencing of

bidding, shown proof of good funds, will be permitted to bid.

Inquiries regarding the subject real property, proof of funds, and the bidding process should be directed to broker Toni Mallory, The Sayles Group, 707-333-5194, tonimallory1@gmail.com, on or before 10am on August 2, 2022.

RANDOLPH STEIN, Esq. Attorney for Administrator 1320 Willow Pass, Suite 600 Concord, CA 94520

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF: HAO CHEN, deceased NO. 22-4-04562-8 SEA

The Personal Representative

named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1) (c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided

ed in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

COURT of Probate Proceedings: King County Superior Court

PERSONAL Representative: Qiang Bin 2280 W. Cantara Drive, Dublin CA 94568

ATTORNEY for PR: Suzanne Lieberman CMS Law Firm LLC. 811 Kirkland Ave Suite 201 Kirkland, WA 98033 Telephone: 206.659.1512

Cause Number 22-4-04562-8 SEA

Published: 7/21/2022, 7/28/2022

CROSSWORD

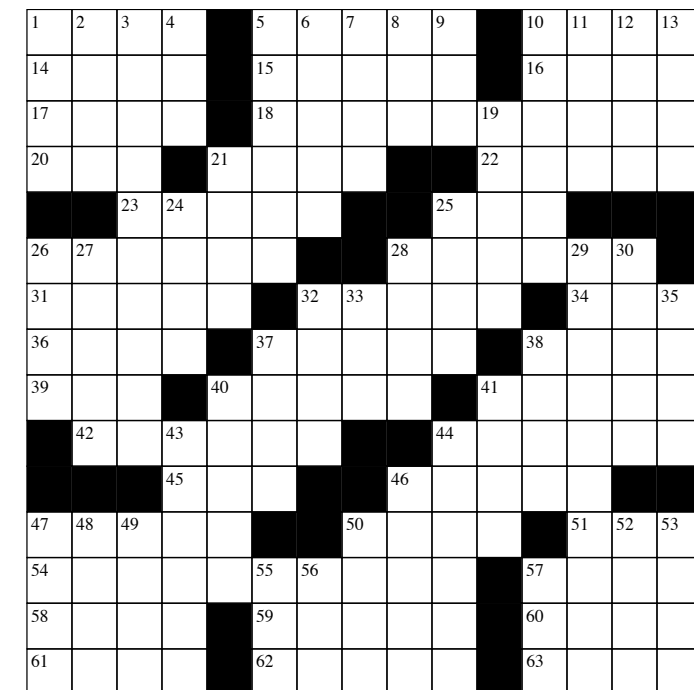
ACROSS

- Piglets' moms
- ___ Park, Colorado
- Tams and berets
- Lupino and others
- Do penance
- Aid in crime
- World's longest river
- California racetrack site
- Become solid
- Ends in ___; produces no winner
- i.e., unabbreviated
- Spring bloom
- Samuel's teacher
- Pin toppler

- Contents of glue sticks
- Hairy one
- Ground
- Sheer linen
- Make literary changes
- Character in "Uncle Tom's Cabin"
- Carried out in secret
- Finish
- Sugar source
- Legal offense
- Little people
- Ages
- Tossed item
- Fencing sword

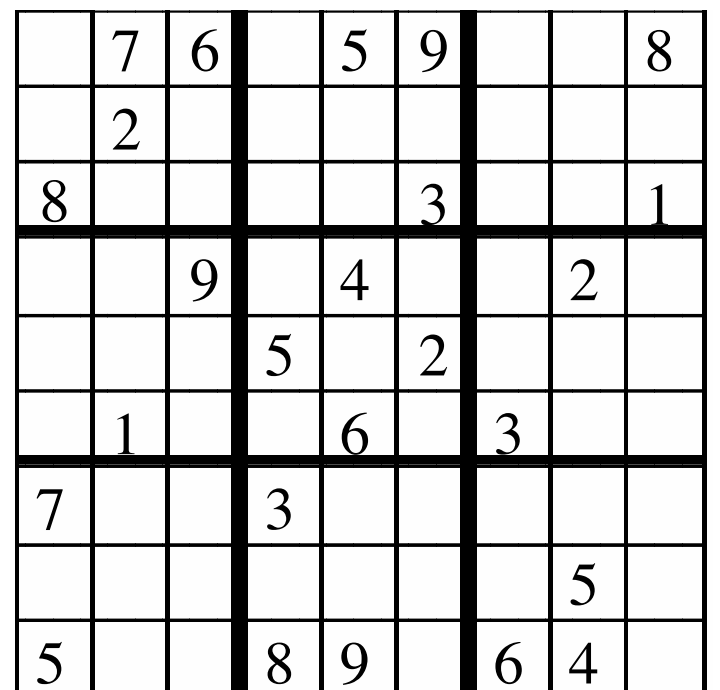
DOWN

- Croon
- Cartoon dog
- City in Washington
- 90° from ENE
- Spring event
- Part of a flight
- Sound
- Ending for absorb or depend
- Yellow or Black
- Frank
- Lover of an Irish Rose
- Tabbies &



1. Croon
2. Cartoon dog
3. City in Washington
4. 90° from ENE
5. Spring event
6. Part of a flight
7. Sound
8. Ending for absorb or depend
9. Yellow or Black
10. Frank
11. Lover of an Irish Rose
12. Tabbies &
13. Bit of numerical info
14. Felt awful
15. Solar disk
16. Faux pas
17. Love deity
18. Use an oven
19. Curved moldings
20. Sheep's abode
21. Past a fund-raising goal
22. Begin, for
23. Sooty matter
24. Spasm
25. Anatomical parts
26. White-tailed eagle
27. Cartoonist
28. Wagon
29. Servants
30. Matched
31. Water retention
32. Sooty matter
33. Spasm
34. Anatomical parts
35. White-tailed eagle
36. Cartoonist
37. Wagon
38. Servants
39. Matched
40. Water retention
41. Unusual person
42. Conception
43. Good's opposite
44. State one's choice
45. Domed projection
46. Blood units, familiarly
47. ___ pro nobis; pray for us
48. Bernadette

SUDOKU



PREVIOUS ANSWERS

S	O	P	H	A	L	S	O	B	A	D	G	E
A	T	R	A	S	E	A	M	A	V	A	I	L
N	O	O	N	H	E	R	E	T	E	R	N	S
D	E	A	D	T	O	R	I	G	H	T	S	
M	A	N	N	E	R	S	R	E	S	T	E	R
R	I	G	H	T	O	O	Z	E	U	R	S	A
A	N	O	A	I	M	B	E	D	G	A	E	L
B	U	R	N	L	E	E	K	R	A	N	T	S
B	E	A	D	L	E	R	E	A	R	D	S	
I	T	S										
C	A	U	G	H	T	I	N	A	L	I	E	
A	H	E	A	D	R	I	O	T	D	O	R	A
M	I	T	R	E	E	D	G	E	D	R	A	T
A	S	H	E	R	T	E	A	R	Y	E	N	S

1	2	8	9	6	4	3	7	5
6	9	5	8	3	7	1	2	4
4	3	7	5	2	1	9	8	6
2	5	6	3	1	8	4	9	7
8	1	9	7	4	5	6	3	2
3	7	4	6	9	2	8	5	1
9	8	2	1	7	6	5	4	3
7	6	3	4	5	9	2	1	8
5	4	1	2	8	3	7	6	9

SPORTS

“He might not be perfect, but he is relatable, and the more relatable players are, the better for the sport.”

— DANIEL TRAN, JOURNALIST

BEAR BYTES

49ers preview: Defensive ends



ALEXANDER JONES | CREATIVE COMMONS

San Francisco has a strong unit of edge rushers competing for spots in the rotation. Training camp is only a few weeks away and will play a major role in determining the pecking order for the season.

BY MAXFIELD MULLINS
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At long last, football is almost here. With the preseason less than a month away, the 49ers are gearing up for the climax of their offseason program: training camp. With everyone in the building together starting July

26, San Francisco will have a chance to complete the last few items on its offseason checklist.

July and August practices will go a long way in determining who makes the team and what roles certain players play. The defensive end group will be an extremely competitive unit, with more NFL-caliber players than there are roster spots available.

One of the defensive end spots is set in stone: Pro Bowler Nick Bosa will be back and continue to be one of the league’s best quarterback hunters. The biggest question for him this offseason is whether or not he gets an extension. If so, he will likely join Rams star Aaron Donald as the only defensive players in the NFL to make more than \$30 million

per year.

However, Bosa will need a bookend, and 49ers defensive line coach Kris Kocurek likes to rotate his players frequently. The defensive line might be the deepest unit on the 49ers’ roster, and everyone who makes the team will get a chance to play. So who makes the team, and what is the hierarchy of those who do?

One candidate to start opposite Bosa is Samson Ebukam, an athletic former Rams player who came on strong at the end of last season adjusting to his role with San Francisco. After just one sack in the first 12 games last year, Ebukam had five and a half in his last eight, including the playoffs. If he can carry that momentum into training camp, he should be the favorite to start.

Another intriguing option is Kerry Hyder, who struggled with the Seahawks last year but led the 49ers in sacks in his previous stint with the team the year before. He has history with Kocurek and could be a good bet to improve now that he is back in a scheme he is comfortable with.

The biggest wildcard of the group is likely second-round rookie Drake Jackson out of USC. Jackson was the 49ers’

first pick this year, and he has tremendous potential in Kocurek’s wide-nine defensive alignment because of his elite bend off of the edge. However, he slipped as far as the Niners in the draft because he is a raw prospect who could stand to add strength and a deeper pass-rushing toolbox before he becomes a key contributor. One of the biggest questions for the unit will be how early Jackson is ready to play.

While he is not likely to start right off the bat, free-agent signing Kemoko Turay can provide additional pass-rushing pop to the rotation. Although he did not start a single game for the Colts last season, he finished with five and a half sacks as a situational rusher. If Turay can maintain that level of efficiency, he can make sure there is not too significant a drop-off when the starters are resting.

The unit is rounded out with a midseason addition from each of the last two seasons: Jordan Willis and Charles Omenihu. Both were playoff heroes last year despite being backups. Charles Omenihu recorded a sack and a half against star Cowboys’ tackle

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BEAR BYTES

Nick Kyrgios brings revolution, disrespect to tennis

BY LEILA ROSENBERG
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July 10, tennis fans everywhere watched Serb Novak Djokovic play Australian Nick Kyrgios in the men’s Wimbledon finals. After a close match, Djokovic won in four sets, robbing Kyrgios of the opportunity to win his first Grand Slam.

However, the events of the match were not limited to the tennis itself. Throughout, Kyrgios argued with the referees, yelled at fans (including a woman he accused of having “over 700 drinks”) and behaved as though “having a tantrum.”

In an act of forthright disobedience after the match, Kyrgios broke Wimbledon’s all-white dress code by donning a bright red hat before accepting his runner-up trophy from Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton. Such an act was outrageous to tennis purists, who claimed Kyrgios was intentionally being disrespectful to the Duchess herself and directly “insulting tradition.”

However, the hot-headed and defiant behavior Kyrgios showcased at Wimbledon this year is nothing new. In fact, over the course of his nine-year career, he has garnered more fines for his behavior on court than any player in ATP history. The total amounts to a whopping \$544,000, and in 2019, he was fined \$113,000 in a single match due to five separate incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct, including a lengthy “expletive-laden” rant detailing how umpire Fergus Murphy was “the worst, hands down” and a “f— tool.”

He has also been fined countless times for slamming his racket, making vulgar gestures and blatantly disrespecting fans, players and officials.

However, despite these punishments, it is still expected by fans and announcers every time Kyrgios takes the court that he will play aggressively and impulsively when provoked by the audience and on-court calls he perceives as being incorrect. Kyrgios has many devout fans who applaud him for being refreshingly authentic and

real in a sport where athletes are typically very reserved in terms of etiquette.

The actions of Kyrgios bring about questions regarding the history of the conventions of professional tennis and challenge the necessity of their restrictiveness. The unspoken customs of tennis, which are viewed by some to be pretentious and outdated, have grown to be widely accepted as well-mannered and appropriate. These include always shaking hands with one’s opponent after a match, respecting the calls of umpires and staying quiet throughout the match.

Even the behavior of fans attending matches is strictly monitored by unvoiced expectations of etiquette, as they are not supposed to speak nor outwardly cheer for one player more than another. In an ideal match based around typical tennis etiquette, the only noises throughout the hours players are on court would be the sound of the tennis ball being hit back and forth, words uttered by the umpire and tasteful clapping from the audience every



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Kyrgios may be productive in pushing tennis to be more honest and human. However, he also dangerously challenges the status quo of pro tennis.

once in a while.

However, even though all tennis players know these conventions exist, almost every professional has thrown their racket on the ground at least once, or perhaps yelled back at a drunk fan jeering at them. The likes of Djokovic, Serena Williams and Roger Federer have all received fines for disrespectful behavior on court.

So is Kyrgios out of line for his actions, or is tennis etiquette outdated in its lack of sympathy toward human emotion? The answer may lie somewhere in between.

“He might not be perfect, but he is relatable, and the more relatable players are at the professional level, the better for the sport as a whole,” said sports journalist Daniel Tran. 🐻

BEAR BYTES

Manchester United’s gamble on Lisandro Martínez

BY COLIN MEQUET
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July 17, Manchester United reached an agreement with AFC Ajax over the transfer of Argentinian central defender Lisandro Martínez. Manchester United will pay the Dutch side £47 million, plus £8.5 million in potential add-ons.

The transfer is the second of Erik ten Hag’s reign in Manchester. The former Ajax boss, who moved to Northern England just

three months ago, will reunite with his 2022 Player of the Year in hopes of revamping the defunct United defense that conceded 57 goals in the 2021-22 Premier League season, ranking 13th in the English top flight.

However, despite the steep fee Manchester coughed up, major question marks linger over how Martínez will acclimatize to the Premier League. While he is undoubtedly a talented defender, his profile seems incompatible with the English game.

In defense, Martínez is

front-footed and confrontational, and he frequently steps up from the defensive line to break up play. His proactive style, combined with Erik ten Hag’s high-pressing setup at Ajax, enabled him to frequently win the ball high up the pitch to restart attacks. He will have no problem racking up tackles and interceptions for the Red Devils.

On the ball, Martínez is even more accomplished — the most valuable dimension of his game. He was indispensable in Erik ten Hag’s possession-based system

as an ambitious ball distributor and volume passer: During his 720 minutes in Ajax’s Champions League campaign last season, he ranked in the top 1% for shot-creating actions and passes attempted per 90, compared to all center backs in Europe’s top-five leagues.

Indeed, his exceptional technical ability, which allowed him to make appearances as a defensive midfielder for Ajax, is among the best in the world in his position and will immensely facilitate Erik ten Hag’s implementation of his

philosophy, which requires technical superiority across the pitch.

But despite the consensus on his ball playing and one-on-one defending, the Argentinian’s physical attributes have been the subject of intense debate. Standing at 5’9”, Martínez is very short for a central defender.

This does not bode well for a move to the Premier League, the most physically demanding league in the world. Indeed, the league’s many physical forwards,

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