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# THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN

BERKELEY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1871

BERKELEY, CA • THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

## Concern for Ukraine rises

Students, researchers voice worries over Russia-Ukraine war

BY WINNIE LAU | STAFF  
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Six days after Russia invaded Ukraine, UC Berkeley students and researchers from Russia and Ukraine rallied to express concerns over the humanitarian crisis and the inadequate support from campus.

About 20 campus students and researchers rallied in front of Sproul Hall on Monday and Tuesday chanting "Stand With Ukraine" and holding signs with slogans such as "Stop Putin, Stop War" and "Support Ukraine, Save Lives." They also gave out flyers urging passersby to donate to humanitarian funds and to fund protective equipment for local defense units and the Ukrainian army.

"A lot of people might not have connections to Ukraine, so the ongoing war may feel distant to them," said campus freshman Max Vaysburd at the rally. "We want to show them that this is personal for a lot of people."

Vaysburd noted his family members and friends are stuck in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, and are unable to flee.

Sofia Surzhak, a campus freshman from Ukraine, also expressed concerns for her family and friends in Ukraine.

"My family is trapped in Ukraine,"



KYLE GARCIA TAKATA | STAFF

UC Berkeley students are advocating for campus to support Ukraine in multiple ways, such as advocating for campus to send out donation links and communicate with impacted students.

Surzhak said. "My family is not fleeing because men cannot flee the country and my mum would not leave without my dad."

Surzhak added her father is not in the army because he has no experience, but he might join the army in the future.

"My aunt lives two mins away from the bombing," Surzhak said. "She and her 6-year-old son are trapped without electricity for the fifth day."

Igor Chirikov, senior researcher and director of the Student Experience in the Research University Consortium, added there are a lot of uncertainties among students with ties in Ukraine, mostly about their families and friends.

"Students show overwhelming support (at the rally)," Chirikov said. "We saw

RALLY PAGE 2

UC

## University deprived of its CRISPR patents in proceeding

BY DAVID VILLANI  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ruled Monday that patents for some CRISPR gene-editing technologies do not, in fact, belong to the university, the University of Vienna and Emmanuelle Charpentier, collectively referred to in the legal documents as CVC.

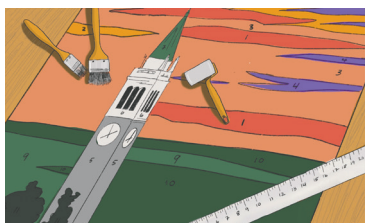
The Patent and Trial Appeal Board of the Patent and Trademark Office, or PTAB, found that the Broad Institute at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology applied CRISPR technologies to eukaryotic, or plant and animal, cells, before researchers from the CVC.

"The University of California is disappointed by the PTAB's decision and believes the PTAB made a number of errors," stated a press release from UC Berkeley.

LICENSES PAGE 3

READ MORE

### Support artists during COVID-19



AARTHI MUTHUKUMAR | SENIOR STAFF

SEE PAGE 5 Berkeley residents must recognize their role in supporting local artists during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Battle in Bay: Cal defeats Cardinal



ANTONIO MARTIN | SENIOR STAFF

SEE BACK Cal gets the last laugh as it faced off against the Cardinal for the second and final time in the regular season.

### 5 low-cost lunch spots in Berkeley



MATTHEW GIBSON | SENIOR STAFF

SEE ONLINE As a busy college student, eating out for lunch is a way to save time between classes but can also break the bank, especially in Berkeley. Luckily, there are a few cheaper places to grab a quick bite to eat around town.

ASUC

## 4 ASUC Senate candidates announced

BY LANCE ROBERTS  
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The Student Action party has announced four more candidates running under its banner for the ASUC Senate elections.

The candidates include Ryusei Best Hayashi, Hitesh Kamisetty, Tyler Mahomes-Kramer and Jordan Ullman. Their platforms advocate for greater representation for marginalized groups on campus and improving the quality of student services.

Candidates running under Student Action cite diversity as one central tenant to their platform. According to Hayashi, it is Student Action's mission to "represent every community on campus."

"We believe in diversity, and inclusion, which is why Student

Action supports candidates from all different backgrounds to run," Hayashi said in an email.

Kamisetty, a campus sophomore studying industrial engineering, believes in a similar sentiment. Working under the external vice president's office of the Engineering Student Council, Kamisetty says he helped implement the "Blue and Gold Initiative," legislation that encourages engineering organizations to become more inclusive and accessible.

"Some of the organizations on campus require you to come in essentially knowing all of what you would need to graduate," Kamisetty said. "One of my objectives is to break down these barriers and provide students the opportunity to learn these skills, to be able to contribute and be part of these (organizations)."



The senator candidates are (left to right): Ryusei Best Hayashi, Hitesh Kamisetty (top row); Tyler Mahomes-Kramer, Jordan Ullman (bottom row).

Kamisetty said one way to do this is to encourage organizations to create mentorship programs so that applications will be open to more students. This would allow more students to participate within

Berkeley's "unique" campus organization culture, according to Kamisetty.

Tyler Mahomes-Kramer also wants to make participating in

STUDENT ACTION PAGE 6

OBITUARY

## Professor emeritus of chemistry dies

BY ASHLEY TSAI  
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The campus College of Chemistry Dean Douglas Clark announced that professor emeritus Andrew Streitwieser died in a letter to the campus community Feb. 24.

Streitwieser was a "major figure" in the field of physical and organic chemistry and was one of the earliest contributors to applying physical techniques to organic chemistry, according to Robert Bergman, the Gerald E. K. Branch distinguished

professor emeritus of chemistry. A notable area of study of his involved the inspection of organic compound intermediates called carbocations, or "short-lived" compounds that would form as a result of organic reactions, according to Bergman.

"He was working at a time when most organic chemists were focused almost exclusively on organic compounds," Bergman said. "There was little attention given by organic chemists to compounds with metals in them. Andy bridged that gap in a very

STREITWIESER PAGE 6



COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY | COURTESY UC Berkeley professor emeritus of chemistry Andrew Streitwieser, who was known for his work with organic-reaction-formed carbocations, died at 94.



## LOCAL SCHOOLS

# CA mask mandate lift elicits school, center response

BY CINDY LIU  
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Masks will no longer be required in schools and child care centers in California after March 11, according to an announcement by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

While the announcement is in response to declining COVID-19 infections, according to Newsom's statement, schools and child care centers in Berkeley will be making their own decisions around requiring masks. For Berkeley Unified School District, Superintendent Brent Stephens announced that the district will continue to require everyone to wear masks indoors and have made masks optional outdoors.

"We do not expect to make any decisions regarding potential changes to indoor masking requirements until we have received City of Berkeley Public Health guidance, consulted with district and school leadership, and met and conferred with our labor partners," Stephens said in the release.

Child care centers in Berkeley are also following precautionary measures around masking. Pixar Child Development Center, or

PCDC, director Susan Stevenson said the program will continue requiring masks to protect children under 5 years of age who are not vaccinated.

Children at PCDC are required to remain masked both indoors and outdoors, according to Stevenson. Stevenson also mentioned that parents have not expressed any opinions to her about mask mandates, and that PCDC's masking policy is similar to that of many other East Bay child care centers.

"(Masking) is just something we keep doing, and that we'll continue to do," Stevenson said. "We're so far into it it's become part of the culture."

Berkeley day care center Bella's Babies Inc owner Kristen Davis said the state's mask mandate decision will not affect the center's operations since most of the children at the day care are under 2 years of age and therefore don't wear masks.

In addition, parents have separate drop-off times, giving them the option to wear a mask or not at drop-off, Davis said.

"I would say probably if the kid is 5 and older, maybe they'll wear a mask," Davis said. "But 5 and under, it's hard for kids to



KIMBERLY FONG | STAFF

California Gov. Gavin Newsom lifted the indoor mask mandate for schools and child care centers, effective March 11. However, schools and centers in Berkeley will be making their own rules amid the state governor's announcement.

have a mask on. It's a fight that I know parents don't want to have with their kids."

According to Newsom's announcement, masks are required in high-risk settings such as public transportation, emergency shelters, health care settings, correctional facilities and homeless

and long-term care facilities.

The announcement also acknowledges that local jurisdictions may have additional masking requirements beyond state guidelines. While masks are no longer required, Newsom noted that they are still "strongly recommended" for

everyone indoors.

"I think this has been difficult for everyone concerned with the pandemic," Stevenson said in her announcement. "It's something we all knew nothing about and how to navigate. I feel like we're still navigating it, and we'll continue for a while." ■

## COMMUNITIES

## Community comes together to support Berkeley Half Marathon

BY ISHWARI NAGNUR  
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The air was filled with laughter, cheers and the energy of thousands of runners, volunteers and supporters as they participated in the Berkeley Half Marathon on Sunday.

Runners in bright clothing lined up at the start line in Downtown Berkeley, at the intersection of Milvia and Kittredge streets, preparing to race 13.1 miles in support of the event's official charity, Berkeley Public Schools Fund. According to the Berkeley Half Marathon website, spectators were dispersed throughout the course at cheer stations, screaming their support as runners passed and the community came together.

Many UC Berkeley students took part in the event. Campus freshman Alyssa Norada took part in the half-marathon race. Norada said she made a goal of



THEO WYSS-FLAMM | SENIOR STAFF

The Berkeley Half Marathon on Sunday brought members of the community together to support the event's official charity, Berkeley Public Schools Fund.

running a half-marathon at the beginning of the year and signed up for the event after she began dedicating time to running each day.

"The race day was very intimidating but exhilarating at the same time," Norada said in an email.

The Berkeley Half Marathon consisted of half-marathon, 10K and 5K races, the website notes. All three races began at the intersection of Milvia and Kittredge streets in Downtown Berkeley but varied in the rest of

HALF-MARATHON PAGE 6

## RALLY FROM FRONT

people taking pictures, coming to ask how they can help."

Chirikov added campus can provide mental health care and help to adjust course schedules so that students and faculty have fewer worries over classes while they are worried about their loved ones.

In addition, campus should check with all Ukrainian students and ensure they have funds for support, he said.

"Berkeley has a history of anti-war activism," Chirikov said. "Nobody wants this war. Everybody wants Ukraine to be a happy and prosperous country."

According to campus spokesperson Janet Gilmore, Berkeley International Office sent out emails to students and scholars from Russia and Ukraine showing support and providing counseling service information Feb. 22-24.

While the Berkeley Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee released a statement in support of Ukrainian students and scholars Feb. 22, Vaysburd said UC Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ should speak out as well, adding that the MIT president has sent out a public statement to stand with Ukraine and cut ties with Russian academic partners.

Maksym Zubkov, a campus Ukrainian graduate student in the mathematics department, said he was "incredibly disappointed" and felt "left out" at the lack of response from UC Berkeley officials.

"I'm trying to reach out to the UC Berkeley community to ask (the) UC Berkeley chancellor to speak out, just to speak, because she's our leader. She is the representative for (campus), and then she is silent for six days," Zubkov said. "That's really painful for me."

Zubkov comes from Ukraine and has been partnering with his brother and friends in Ukraine to fundraise to support rent and daily necessities for low-income families and animal shelters in his hometown of Chernomorsk and Odessa.

Zubkov noted he sent an email to Christ on Sunday and went to several departments, California Hall and University House on Tuesday, hoping to talk to campus officials but was unable to reach any of

them directly.

"I am desperate to talk to someone because I just need some sort of support," Zubkov said. "I just didn't find that support on campus."

Meanwhile, campus senior Borya Sobolev said many Russian students support Ukraine, but they feel "isolated" because there is no campus announcement supporting them.

Zubkov said campus should communicate with Ukrainians and the impacted students.

"This is a heartbreaking moment that touches many students and people's hearts, for Russians and many friends in Ukraine," Sobolev said, adding that public support for Ukraine can mean up to 20 years in prison for Russian citizens now.

There are many ways campus can help Ukrainians, such as direct donation, scholarships and sending out a campuswide email with donation links and concrete steps to support Ukrainians, Sobolev added.

Students can support the people of Ukraine by attending rallies and donating to humanitarian funds, Vaysburd said. Vaysburd noted rallies are important because they drive governments to continue sending aid to Ukraine.

"If people can donate even a dollar, that would mean a lot," Surzhak said.

Several campus departments — including Haas School of Business and Slavic Languages and Literature — released statements condemning the Russian invasion and supporting impacted campus members. The campus Institute of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies has also provided a list of donation links on its website and will host a virtual panel discussion on Ukraine on Wednesday at 4:15 p.m.

Gilmore added that Berkeley News and Berkeley Blog have shared several stories and interviews with Ukrainian scholars and students. Dania Matos, campus vice chancellor for equity and inclusion, also released a statement in solidarity Tuesday evening. She invites impacted students and scholars to join a virtual meeting Friday at 10 a.m. to discuss how the UC Berkeley campus can best stand with and support them.

"This is a humanitarian catastrophe. We cannot be a bystander," Sobolev said at the rally. "War and military aggression should never be a solution in a civilized world." ■

## ADMISSIONS

## Campus receives all-time-high number of fall 2022 applicants

BY VICTOR CORONA  
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UC Berkeley topped its previous record-breaking student applications for the fall semester.

More than 128,100 high school seniors applied for the fall 2022 freshman class, according to a UC Berkeley press release. Campus also saw a 13% increase in freshman applications, in contrast to a roughly 13% decrease in systemwide transfer applications. While the campus community welcomes the increase in applications, many express concern over housing, the recent enrollment cap and the drop in applications from community college students.

"Considering that we are still in the middle of a pandemic, it's truly impressive that so many students were able to commit to the college application process,"

said Abby Jones, UC Berkeley's executive director of undergraduate admissions, in a press release. "I'm especially pleased about the increases in first-generation applicants and those qualifying for a fee waiver, as we seek to make our admission process more accessible."

While universities nationally experienced a decrease, the UC system had an increase in applications, according to Olufemi Ogundele, campus associate vice chancellor of enrollment and dean of undergraduate admissions.

The increase in applications comes at a time when the campus was ordered to decrease its enrollment to 2020-21 levels. The enrollment freeze will result in one-third fewer enrollment seats, which is a cut of 3,050 admits.

Campus junior Jiban Gurung said he is also not surprised campus saw increased applications.

However, Gurung expressed concern over the enrollment freeze, adding that as a transfer student, he understands how hard students work to achieve their dreams, such as getting accepted to UC Berkeley.

Gurung also said campus should make sure that students are able to find affordable housing.

"There should be more housing available," Gurung said. "There are so many students who can't afford the housing that is offered by UC Berkeley."

UC Berkeley also "lacks" support for current transfer students, alleged campus junior Mohammed Abed. According to Abed, there is no support system, which adds to the stress that comes from living in a pandemic.

While it is good that more students applied, the enrollment

APPLICANTS PAGE 6



ENVIRONMENT

# Beloved peregrine falcon returns after 'unexpected' disappearance

BY CLAIRE DALY  
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After being announced as missing a day before, Annie the peregrine falcon returned to the Campanile on Tuesday to put a stop to rumors of her death.

The @CalFalconsCam Twitter account announced Monday that Annie had been missing for a week, leading it to presume that Annie had died, been injured or been displaced from the territory by other peregrines. However, the next day, Annie was spotted returning to her nest on top of the Campanile.

"We've never, in our years of monitoring Peregrine nests had a female disappear during the peak of breeding season and reappear a week later like nothing had changed. Especially with so much competition around." Tuesday's @CalFalconsCam Twitter thread reads.

Annie and her partner Grinnell have nested in the Campanile since 2016, raising 13 chicks together over the years. But recently, a number of new female falcons have been



CAL FALCONS | COURTESY

In the midst of breeding season, Annie the peregrine falcon returned to UC Berkeley's Campanile on Tuesday after having been away with unknown whereabouts for a week.

present in their territory, surprising researchers, according to the CalFalcons team.

Biologist and member of the CalFalcons team Lynn Schofield explained that while other falcons may visit the Campanile, it is unusual for them to spend a substantial amount of time there without being intercepted by Annie due to

the territorial nature of Peregrines.

In Annie's absence, Grinnell was spotted "soliciting courtship" from a juvenile female falcon, demonstrating that he likely also believed Annie was gone for good before her shocking return, Schofield said.

"This is something that is totally

ANNIE PAGE 6

SEX ON TUESDAY

## Confronting Catholic guilt



BY GIGI LAURIN  
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My coming-of-age story falls somewhere between Genesis and the Gospels. My adolescence was infused with Catholicism: picturesque semesters of religion classes, memorizing prayers and discovering sexual preferences.

Everything my parents had envisioned about an all-girls high school was quickly overshadowed by sex, the unavoidable governing power of puberty and the miraculous skills women had in the bedroom. It wasn't a complete failure, though. I did, in fact, find myself vulnerably confronting my religion — with a cross dangling above my face, connected to a chain around the neck of a classmate.

Long story short, it was in the estrogen chamber of my Catholic all-girls school that I realized my faith and bisexuality, my specialized area of study.

Senior year, rather than nursing my relationship with God, I nursed my feelings for one of my classmates: a tall, athletic brunette, who, despite her stereotypically gay appearance, was somehow still in the closet. She was the final chapter in the book of hot girls I had developed a crush on over the last four years — the final recruit to my team of potential partners. But she was also the first classmate I swooned over who repressed her sexuality.

We went on a few dates, with the main topic of conversation always revolving around her conservative family and the lies she had told in order to get dinner with me. While I had also lied about the nature of our relationship to my parents, it was not because they didn't know I was gay. It was rather to conceal the amount of gas I would be using to drive her as far away from home as possible, isolating us from the judgment of her parents. No number of cute texts or dedicated Spotify playlists could persuade her to reconcile her two identities, the good Catholic daughter and gay daughter — the good nature of the latter silenced by fear.

With every religion class we spent next to each other, our feelings grew. It made the Bible studies much more bearable — my innocent crush carrying me through the course material. There was no point in me paying attention during "Catholic Theology and Morality," already having committed the ultimate sin beneath our desks: a game of girl-on-girl footsie. Despite my efforts, our short-lived, forbidden romance was rudely interrupted by a worldwide pandemic and an awkward first kiss.

Our last date was March 12 — what we didn't know was exactly 24 hours before California's shutdown with spiking cases of COVID-19 and the final time we would ever see one another. She picked me up from swim practice, graciously entertaining my presence despite the chaotic smell of Dove body wash, Old Spice deodorant and aggressive chlorination that I brought into her car. The next few hours were perfect: the final moments of maskless freedom.

We drove to a cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the aux flipping between the playlists we had made for each other, our faces close enough that with a slight shift of weight our lips would lock.

You never want to describe a first kiss as "ripping the bandage off," but in this case, that's the only way to refer to our rushed exchange of saliva. Succumbing to the silence, our lips met, and just as quickly as my top lip embraced hers, she pulled away.

I was shocked, but she looked even more surprised. We didn't exchange many words, but I could feel her shame and regret. As her cheeks turned red, thoughts of her religious, chaste upbringing flooded her mind. Her racing heart would remind her of confession, and the voice in her head, the one that had been formed from 13 years at Catholic school, told her she was at fault. I would know; initially, I had felt the exact same way, but I was fortunate enough to have my family's support. Yet, in her eyes, liking girls would always be wrong — kissing them even worse, and she had at last crossed the line between the two.

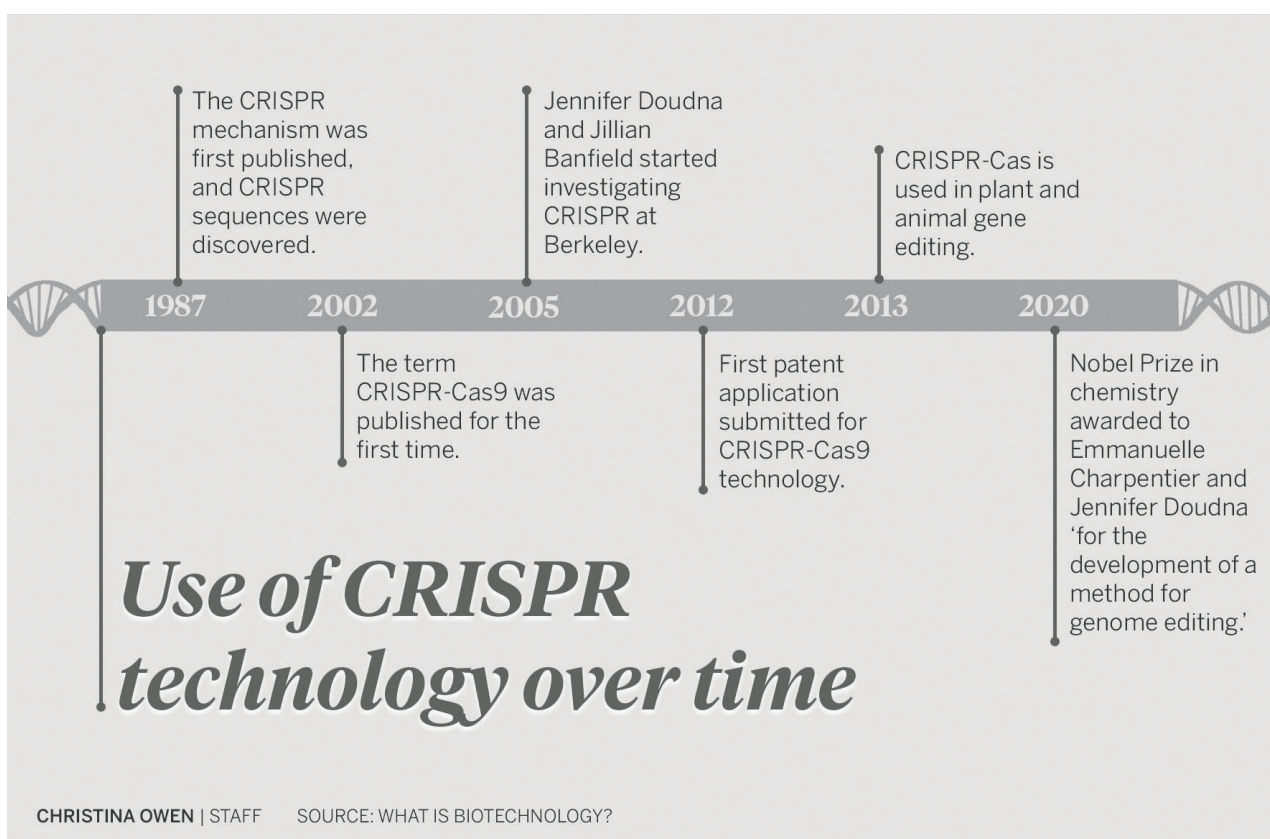
Tense and raw, she drove me home, terrified that her parents would sense her mistake, a sin she now carried — but they didn't. It remained our little secret, and two years later, it still does.

I was embarrassed, convinced the spoiled moment was my fault, when, in reality, she was battling a demon stronger than any crush or temptation: Catholic guilt.

I was no stranger to this sinking feeling. Although I had grown to avoid manifesting my own shame, her reaction pulled me back in, bringing me back to the depths of insecurity and misunderstanding. My sexuality was a complete betrayal of my religion, muddying the holy water of my baptism.

Eventually, as our relationship faded to nothing more than the annual birthday text, so did my feelings of shame. I guess time really does heal all wounds, more than any prayer or blessing could have. But I will always be her biggest secret: a surrogate for the sexual identity she, as far as I know, never explored beyond that night in her car. ■

Gigi Laurin writes the Tuesday column on sex.



### LICENSES FROM FRONT

"CVC is considering various options to challenge this decision."

CRISPR technologies, which allow scientists to edit DNA sequences, were first developed in 2012 by Jennifer Doudna of UC Berkeley and Charpentier of the University of Vienna. The two then shared the 2020 Nobel Prize in chemistry for their breakthrough.

While the decision does not doubt the breakthrough, the Broad Institute was able to successfully argue that a 2014 patent for the use of CRISPR in eukaryotic cells was distinct from the

earlier invention, according to a press release from the Broad Institute.

"Broad believes that all institutions should work together to ensure wide, open access to this transformative technology and will continue to explore how best to make this happen," the statement said.

The ruling leaves UC Berkeley and its group with more than 40 other patents related to the CRISPR technology, according to campus professor Edward Penhoet, who was involved in the CVC legal team. He added this technology allows scientists to edit DNA sequences.

The ruling complicates the work of biotech companies that use CRISPR technology to develop gene-editing therapies, Penhoet said. The

potentially lucrative technology is being tested to help cure genetic diseases and abnormalities.

Some, however, argue that the technology should not be patented at all, including a member of Doudna's lab who chose to remain anonymous for fear of retribution.

"Those patents should be in the public domain as they were a result of research done with research funding provided mostly from public agencies. This is especially important for technologies such as CRISPR which have such a great potential to benefit human health and beyond," the researcher said. "Moving forward, I think we as a society need to rethink how biomedical patenting or licensing needs to work." ■

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## PAYBACK'S A BAT

Robert Pattinson soars in indulgent 'The Batman'

**2.5**  
OUT OF 5.0

**Directed by**  
MATT REEVES  
**Starring**  
ROBERT PATTINSON  
ZOË KRAVITZ  
PAUL DANO

BY **MAYA THOMPSON**  
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Of course, "The Batman" begins on Halloween.

It's alluring and obvious, tense and over the top — a microcosm for the film's thrilling yet fraught sensibilities. Heavy and laborious breaths follow the camera's humid gaze as it pins down a mysterious, masked observer. There's a feral look in the man's eye, kindling a mood of distrust: A chill pricks the spine as it becomes clear this person is not the hero. The ominous voyeur gazes at Gotham's seemingly well-to-do mayor Don Mitchell Jr. (Rupert Penry-Jones), and the fog suddenly clears — he's going to kill him.

Though the eponymous vigilante is absent, the opening sequence of "The Batman" frames its *mise en scene*. Gotham is gritty and austere, riddled with corruption and estranged from order. Truth hides in trick mirrors like skeletons in closets, and no one's

hands are completely clean. The mayor's murder is only the beginning. A twisted, cunning serial killer known as the Riddler (Paul Dano) is picking off Gotham's powerful elite one by one, exposing systemic corruption and leaving a trail of cryptic messages addressed only to "The Batman."

Robert Pattinson stars as the tortured Bruce Wayne, a guarded recluse with deep pockets and deep-seated trauma who spends his nights fighting crime as the titular masked vigilante. As the Riddler's body count grows, Batman teams up with the upstanding police commissioner James Gordan, played by a pinched Jeffrey Wright.

The unlikely alliance ensnares the pair in a web of betrayal and smoke-screens, and the caustic city sprawls as Batman searches for answers. A schmaltzy John Turturro slinks as mob boss Carmine Falcone, while Colin

Farrell lumbers as the Penguin. Batman's best company, however, is with Selina Kyle, played by a delightfully devilish Zoë Kravitz.

Though Pattinson settles into Bruce Wayne more comfortably than he does Batman, the superhero's scenes with Selina sparkle, alight with chemistry. Selina's transformation into Catwoman serves as a refreshing counterpoint to Bruce Wayne's

barbed Hamlet routine.

Director Matt Reeves revels in grime and grit. "The Batman" gives the Dark Knight his own "Joker" treatment, striving for severity and estranged from daylight and levity. The 2022 film takes a cue from Christopher Nolan's "The Dark Knight" in its insistence to be taken seriously. Yet, "The Batman" exudes a kind of turgid gravitas that's unbothered, or perhaps unaware, of its proximity to self-parody — "They think I'm hiding in the shadows," Pattinson hisses, "but I am the shadows."

Comparison weakens "The Batman," curdling it to feel second-rate and ephemeral; it's ironic given the film's presumptive title that purports to represent the definitive Batman myth. In

reality, however, Reeves' movie cuts corners. It succumbs to the typified filmmaking that hollows out superhero flicks — heavy-handed exposition, a shoehorned romance, a bloated runtime and a rushed third act. Despite the artistic ambition, brawn triumphs over brain.

The emphasis on content over form isn't necessarily detrimental, however, and it certainly isn't boring. Pattinson broods and batters his way through the film's fast-moving plot for nearly three hours, a disarming runtime electrified by stunts, suspense and surprises.

While the prickly sense of tension is a consistent strength in the film, "The Batman" makes a habit of giving itself away too soon. Rather than keeping its cards close to its chest, the film gets

BATMAN PAGE 6



ANGELA BI | STAFF

### DANCE

## Duo Jeraldine Mendoza, Dylan Gutierrez discuss pathos, power of dance

BY **SARAH RUNYAN**  
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Pushing the boundaries of classical ballet is no simple feat.

Yet, with each new production, The Joffrey Ballet manages to circumvent the limits of ballet with ease, inviting audiences to fall in love with the expressive potential of the art form.

In an interview with The Daily Californian, Jeraldine Mendoza and Dylan Gutierrez, two company artists in The Joffrey Ballet and romantic partners outside of it, exalt the pathos of dance.

The dancers note the importance of relaying a relatable narrative through movement as it resonates with a broad audience.

"We don't shy away from trying to tell a story in everything we dance," Mendoza said.

Though the couple spent a considerable amount of time in the Bay Area, their paths did not cross until Mendoza began dancing with the Company.

"I was wearing a shirt with the Notorious B.I.G. on it, and she walked past me and did a Notorious B.I.G. impression," Gutierrez recounted fondly. "I was in love

JOFFREY PAGE 6

### CONCERT

## FLETCHER intoxicates The Fillmore with city pining, t\*t signing in SF

BY **TAILA LEE**  
SENIOR STAFF  
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With glitter, liquor and the occasional makeout session, The Fillmore smoldered with sapphic energy Feb. 28. FLETCHER's concert happened to fall on the final day of the rosy, romantic month, and the performance fittingly seemed to mark either lost or found love for fans — either way, Cari Fletcher (known mononymously as FLETCHER) was ready to throw a party.

Ripples of red light shattered the audience's buzzing anticipation, and more than

1,000 people raised their drinks, phones and eyes to Fletcher. The singer surprised with her entrance atop the stage's elevated, boxy structure inspired by New York City buildings.

Mist swirling around her like a supernatural accessory, Fletcher was a glossy vision in her tight white tank and sharp black jacket, with a loose string of diamonds connecting her necklace to her belt.

"Girls, I got girls, only girls," she sang as she sauntered across the stage, "going wild in my mind." As if to materialize Fletcher's unconstrained dreams, the crowd roared

FLETCHER PAGE 6

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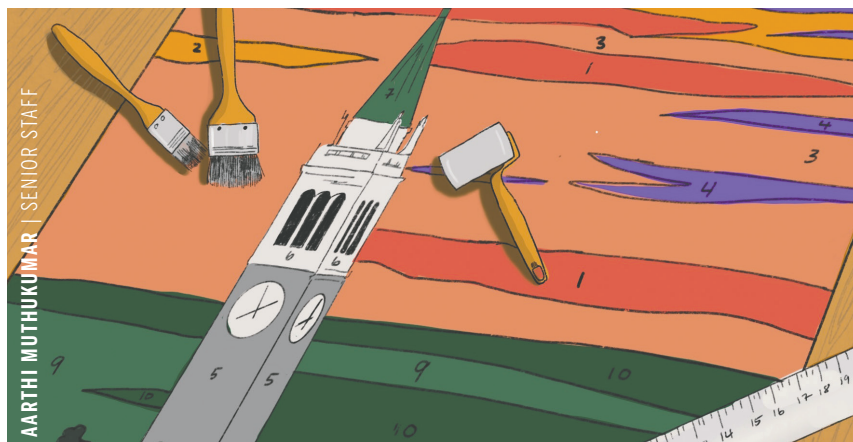
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## EDITORIAL

# Support local artists; they have uplifted us



AARTHI MUTHUKUMAR | SENIOR STAFF

## CITY AFFAIRS

Art has long been a source of healing, comfort and human connection. Those connections have become more important than ever during the pandemic, a period of isolation and separation. Being able to experience connection and process loss through film, music, performance and other art forms is deeply powerful, yet often taken for granted. We must support artists, as their work has supported us through these tumultuous times.

With the cancellation of hundreds of concerts, exhibitions and other artistic events, artists have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. In fact, COVID-19 has resulted in the mass unemployment of 62% of independent artists, and the loss in income of more than 94%.

This is why the city of Berkeley's promise to offer one-time grants to local arts nonprofits and festivals to recover the financial losses from the pandemic is absolutely crucial. With applications being ranked on a criteria heavily emphasizing cultural equity, the grants bring a newfound sense of optimism and promise for local artists. Additionally, the city's plans to create more affordable housing for artists over the next decade will be critical in preventing the displacement of artists from Berkeley and the Bay Area. These efforts from the city signify public support for the invaluable and irreplaceable places which artists occupy in our society.

The pandemic has also forced



artists to move their work online. Artwork distribution on streaming services and platforms like Instagram, TikTok and Etsy has skyrocketed, which has undoubtedly had its own benefits: Through social media, art has become widely and directly accessible. However, this has also pressured artists to maintain a trendy online presence — disadvantaging those less versed in social media trends and lingo.

Social media has also failed to offer adequate alternatives for live performance, particularly dance. With limited access to communal dance studios and a large-scale restriction of stage performances with live audiences, the performing arts industry suffered more than a \$30 billion loss in consumer spending since March 2020. Independent artists — those not backed by agencies or companies — have also disproportionately faced financial crises. The pandemic has widened gaps of financial disparity among artists. While those with financial stability may have the financial freedom to continue creating art, local, self-employed artists are not as privileged.

While the city has taken an important first step, Berkeley residents must also realize their role in supporting local artists, whether that's stopping by art vendors along Telegraph Avenue or supporting pandemic-safe live performances as theaters open back up. Ultimately, giving back to artists is the least we can do in acknowledging the way that art has uplifted and healed our community. ■

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## OP-ED | Campus affairs



SOMA CHU | STAFF

# Admit Bay Area students who pledge to commute amid the housing crisis

BY DANIEL CHESMORE  
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UC Berkeley admissions is considering dropping enrollment to satisfy lawsuits filed by Save Berkeley's Neighborhoods, a coalition of displeased Berkeley residents who blame "impacts related to campus growth," such as traffic, noise and the housing shortages, on overenrollment.

This means that the campus will need to decrease enrollment for fall 2022 by about 3,000 seats or lower offers of admission by at least 5,000 based on yield rates, about one month before admissions offers go out.

In fall 2021, 5,000 UC Berkeley students applied for housing, but they could not be accommodated. In order to satisfy the campus's legal obligation under the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, and prevent decreases to student enrollment, UC Berkeley should admit 3,000 Bay Area students who pledge under binding legal obligation to commute from home.

Back in August 2021, an Alameda County Superior Court judge issued a ruling that effectively freezes enrollment to the same level as the fall 2020 entering class, unless UC Berkeley fully identified the impact of increasing enrollment and proposed mitigation plans for the negative environmental effects on the surrounding neighborhoods.

The litigation and most recent ruling are based on the CEQA, which is the legal authority behind UC Berkeley's obligation to "sufficiently mitigate off-campus impacts related to campus growth and development."

To lower enrollment would be absurd — there are possibly thousands of students ideally willing to accept whatever conditional requirement the campus will require so they can have the privilege of attending UC Berkeley.

This includes close friends of mine who lived with their families and worked full-time jobs while attending the school to support their families financially.

As a gay, first-generation college student, UC Berkeley provided me with the resources I needed to overcome my own

struggles, and I hope it does the same to uplift thousands more.

This proposal to admit 3,000 Bay Area students who pledge to commute provides a temporary means to address the legal challenges, including the ongoing housing crisis.

I personally knew students who would commute from their respective family's homes throughout the Bay Area in cities such as Oakland and San Francisco, so it is not a stretch to presume that there are potential students who would willingly commute if it meant having the privilege to attend the campus.

I am here now advocating for these prospective students and for this alternative to decreasing enrollment altogether.

These students will not overtly burden the housing crisis — they would ideally commute on public transit and not worsen traffic, and their non-Berkeley housing would not warrant noise complaints from your local Berkeley neighbor.

For fall 2021 undergraduate UC Berkeley freshmen admissions, there were about 20,000 high school applicants from the Bay Area alone.

From that same source, about 3,000 of these Bay Area applicants were admitted, and nearly 1,700 enrolled. That means the overall admissions rate for these students was an astoundingly low 15% overall, but in an effort to prevent an enrollment decrease, the admissions rate for Bay Area residents should double to 30%. This proposal would admit roughly 3,000 additional students, or about 6,000 in total, as opposed to 3,028 in total from an applicant pool of 20,096 last year.

Alternatively, we can just hope that the legislature or the California Supreme Court intervenes in time, but UC Berkeley may become more competitive and more closed off to underprivileged communities.

Worst of all, other public universities across this nation may also close their doors to thousands of students. At a time in which income inequality is especially high, is this really the direction we want for humanity?

Absolutely not. Thousands of

CONTRACT PAGE 7

## OP-ED | Campus affairs

# Poison bait imperils peregrines, other wildlife

BY LISA OWENS  
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY CAL  
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At the start of 2022, a Campanile-falcon watcher and raptor biologist Allen Fish was strolling through the Berkeley campus when he discovered the presence of bait boxes containing deadly anticoagulant, blood-thinning rat poisons.

The bait boxes were placed along walls or tucked under thick hedges surrounding campus buildings. Half of the boxes contained the very deadly "one feeding kills" second-generation anticoagulant rat poisons

that were banned by the state legislature last year under AB 1788 (Richard Bloom, D-Santa Monica).

The bill was passed and signed by California Gov. Gavin Newsom on Sept. 29, 2020, in order to stop the widespread secondary poisoning of birds of prey and other wildlife.

When a hawk, owl, fox, bobcat, mountain lion or peregrine falcon preys on a rodent that has eaten anticoagulant bait, it too can die of internal bleeding or become weakened and less able to thrive.

The use of these poisons puts campus's peregrine

falcons — and other wildlife — directly at risk, not to mention any pet dogs or cats that might investigate the bait boxes or their poisoned rats.

Raptors Are The Solution, or RATS, a project of Berkeley-based Earth Island Institute, reported the violation of the new law to the Alameda County Department of Agriculture commissioner's office. They quickly investigated. As a result, UC Berkeley's Integrated Pest Management, or IPM, division replaced most — but not all — of the banned boxes with the still legal (and still dangerous) first-generation

anticoagulant rodenticides.

RATS has once again reported the violation of the remaining second-generation anticoagulant boxes. Weeks later, the same falcon-watcher found an opossum sleeping less than 10 feet from one of the banned compound boxes. Like foxes, bobcats, coyotes and other mammals, possums are beneficial predators and will help control rodent populations if they are not subjected to such indiscriminate use of rat poison.

All anticoagulant rodenticides pose a risk to the peregrine falcons, hawks, owls and

any other wildlife that live on or pass through the campus. The university is demonstrating exactly what not to do with its IPM division.

A true IPM program does not just thoughtlessly distribute poison; it first investigates the root cause of the pest problem — if there even is a problem to begin with — and then takes all possible measures to reduce or mitigate the problem before applying any poison. A true IPM program does not use poison bait prophylactically without investigating the reasons for

BAIT PAGE 7



## STUDENT ACTION FROM FRONT

campus organizations easier. As the vice president of the campus's Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, Mahomes-Kramer believes low-income students should have the opportunity to join fraternities and sororities. Mahomes-Kramer said he is running to develop scholarships for low-income students to afford the dues associated with Greek life.

Mahomes-Kramer also wishes to guide Greek life toward being more active in the local community.

"Donating is always great, but doing things like toy and food drives to local organizations is a great way to bring

the community together and actually allow people in Greek life to give back to the local community," Mahomes-Kramer said. "There's so much we can do, and if there are more opportunities to serve, people will do it."

Ullman, a campus sophomore minoring in Jewish studies, sees his candidacy as a means to represent the campus Jewish community.

"As the party that has historically represented Jewish students in the ASUC since 1995, I am humbled to announce my candidacy with Student Action," Ullman said in an email.

Ullman's platform plans to recruit Jewish students, promote basic needs provisions and provide academic and professional opportunities to

pre-graduate students. As part of this, he advocated for publishing a newsletter that identifies undergraduate scholarship opportunities for students.

In his current role as the chief of staff for ASUC Senator Jason Dones, Ullman says he has been prepared to advocate student needs to the administration, such as his recent work in opposing campus's Instructional Resilience Enhancement Fee.

"Ultimately, it is through these experiences that I feel confident and prepared to deliver on my platforms, and it is my hope that we can come together as a university to facilitate change for future generations of Golden Bears," Ullman said in the email. ■

*Lance Roberts is a student government reporter.*

## STREITWIESER FROM FRONT

interesting way."

According to the letter, Streitwieser was a "pioneer" in the study of molecular orbital theory.

In collaboration with colleagues, Streitwieser authored "Molecular Orbital Theory for Organic Chemists," which Bergman regarded as one of the "most important and groundbreaking" textbooks in organic chemistry.

"It was a higher-level textbook, but still did very well in the market," Bergman said. "It brought mechanistic chemistry into the undergraduate level

and had a major impact on how organic chemistry was taught."

Streitwieser was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1927, and studied at Columbia College and Columbia University to earn his Ph.D. in 1952, according to Clark's letter. The letter noted that after working as a postdoctoral fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Streitwieser moved to campus as a professor of chemistry in 1952 and retired from the College of Chemistry in 1993, yet still remained active in the department post-departure.

Streitwieser received numerous accolades throughout his career, including the Alexander von Humboldt Medal and the ACS Cope Scholar Award and

membership in organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, according to Clark's letter.

Besides Streitwieser's major accomplishments, Bergman said others will remember him as a personable, nice individual, and that he was a respected professor, one that was admired by his graduate and postdoctoral students alike.

"His graduate and postdoctoral fellows never had a bad word to say about their interaction with him. He helped them learn and helped them get jobs after they graduated," Bergman said. "They have great respect for him, even long after leaving Berkeley." ■

## HALF-MARATHON FROM PAGE 2

the course.

The half-marathon went through campus, to the Berkeley Marina and finally ended at Allston Street in Downtown Berkeley. The 10K race went through campus to North Berkeley and ended at Allston Street, while the 5K race course went through Telegraph Avenue and ended on campus.

According to the Berkeley Public School Fund's website, it supports programs in math,

science, leadership and more in Berkeley public schools to provide equal learning opportunities for students.

Runners from San Diego to Texas were present at the event, and a sense of community pride and engagement encompassed the half-marathon, according to the Berkeley Half Marathon's website.

"It was very inspiring to see people of all ages running and getting amazing sub times," Norada said in the email. "Just looking at how many people who had huge smiles on their faces as they were running 5-12 minute paces and just enjoying themselves

was very heartwarming."

The Berkeley Half Marathon website adds the Finish Line Festival and Cheer Garden events occurred after the race in celebration. High spirits filled the crowds as celebration ensued.

For runners of all ages and experience levels, the half-marathon brought a sense of pride to the community.

"By the end of the race I was questioning if I was insane for signing myself up for it," Norada said in the email. "However, I finished with a pace I didn't even know I could run, so I was very proud of myself." ■

## APPLICANTS FROM PAGE 2

cap and housing issue are setbacks, according to Abed. The purpose of a Californian public university is to serve the students of California, Abed noted.

"I hope that more people have the opportunity to go here," Abed said. "It genuinely sucks that we have this court order and that we have a housing crisis." ■

## ANNIE FROM PAGE 3

unexpected and goes against pretty much everything we've seen," the Twitter thread reads. "She still may face competition from the new birds in the area, but Queen Annie appears to be back."

Annie and Grinnell appear to be getting along as normal following her disappearance, according to Schofield. If both birds are able to maintain their control of the Campanile territory, a desirable falcon nesting spot, they will likely remain together, she noted.



BEN MEFFORD | STAFF

Amid another record-breaking year of campus's student applications, there are concerns on student support systems and enrollment freezing.

But the mystery remains as to where Annie was the past week, according to fellow CalFalcons team member Sean Peterson.

"Our current hypotheses are that Annie was injured and recovering somewhere, was exploring the possibility of finding a new territory, or that she decided to avoid conflict with multiple females and wait until there was only one left she could defend the territory against," Peterson said. "We really don't have any good way of knowing where she was and what she was up to."

In the midst of the breeding season, the researchers are hopeful that Annie will

be able to retain the territory and lay eggs for her sixth brood. According to Schofield, Annie has begun scrapping the nestbox, a behavior used to clear space for eggs to be laid, and is developing a brood patch, a fluffy patch of feathers used to warm eggs during incubation.

Yet Schofield and Peterson both emphasized the uncertainty of the future, noting that breeding season could potentially be delayed.

"Fingers crossed, we'll still have many years of Annie and Grinnell ahead of us," Peterson said. "But as with anything in nature, it's very hard to make a solid prediction." ■

## BATMAN FROM PAGE 4

overzealous and punctures its own mystique. Moments of revelation fizzle in execution from Batman's

## JOFFREY FROM PAGE 4

from then on."

The couple has become a dynamic pair in the Company, performing intricate choreography in pieces such as "The Times Are Racing," "Year of the Rabbit" and "Giselle."

The two continue to perform complex pas de deux with The Joffrey Ballet, telling stories that speak to the current social climate. Made up of five unique pieces, the Company's latest program explores the intersection between classic ballet and contemporary social issues.

One of the program's more formal pieces, Gerald Arpino's "Birthday Variations," premiered in the 1980s, yet The Joffrey's reimagining brims with innovation as the discipline of technique enhances the piece's storytelling.

"It's really incredible to watch the current dancers do ("Birthday Variations") because they are so good, so classically beautiful and well trained, but then they also still have that Joffrey spirit of moving," Gutierrez explained. "They move beyond the confines of what classical movement is."

The program also includes Nicolas Blanc's "Under the Trees' Voices," a piece crafted and rehearsed in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Composed of multiple couples, including Gutierrez and Mendoza, the choreography speaks to a pandemic stricken world, touching on themes of isolation and community.

"(Under the Trees' Voices) is about community, connection and our relationship with the earth. I think that the way Nicolas choreographed it and the way the piece intertwines, it's like branches," Gutierrez remarked. "It's a quintessential Joffrey Ballet piece — it doesn't have one stand-alone pas de deux in the middle —

debut entrance to the Riddler's punny endgame, and the suspense flattens.

"The Batman" heralds a new age of caped crusaders. Despite its Pattinson's best grimace, "The Batman" struggles to untangle itself from its predecessors. ■

things move in and out and it's really effective."

The piece first debuted in a digital program during the pandemic, so the process of adapting it for the stage initiated new challenges and anxieties that the dancers had not experienced before.

"Getting back onstage has been a process — it's really not that easy. There are these weird anxieties that you get that you didn't use to have," Gutierrez said. "But The Joffrey did really everything they could to get us back whole and safe and in the best position possible to succeed."

Mendoza confirmed these anxieties. "We were pretty anxious having it be our first time back onstage after two years," she noted. "But, it felt so rewarding and freeing. We forgot what it felt like to really dance with that much space and it felt amazing."

The pandemic detrimentally affected dancers by halting the experience of witnessing live art. Yet, The Joffrey Ballet persevered, creating gorgeous choreographed pieces that allowed their dancers to keep their jobs and anticipate their next opportunity to perform.

"As horrible as it was to be locked down and restricted for so much of our daily lives, there were still so many beautiful moments that came out of the pandemic and 'Under the Trees' Voices' is one of them," Mendoza said.

Ballet is breaking from the past, shifting to reflect the triumphs and turmoil of contemporary society.

"I think the new pieces that we do are led with a lot more compassion to people's experiences," Gutierrez said. "They speak more to a collective experience, and I think that reaches across cultures better and brings more people in than it used to."

With new productions on the horizon, The Joffrey Ballet continues to challenge the boundaries of classical ballet, working with talented dancers to tell significant, expressive stories. ■



CHARLENE WANG | STAFF

On Feb. 28, FLETCHER drenched The Fillmore in San Francisco in luster, generating a palpable and infectious energy that washed over the packed crowd.

## FLETCHER FROM PAGE 4

with jocundity. The lighthearted Australian singer and opener G Flip blew kisses to Fletcher from the balcony, later helping rouse a sea of phone lights.

Gratitude laced the concert's unadulterated electricity with sweetness. While it was sometimes easy for the audience — and at times, even Fletcher herself — to get lost in spectacle, Fletcher's authenticity kept the show grounded.

Fletcher's 18-song spirited set list seemed to fly by. Oscillating between heartbreak and horniness, she commanded the stage with poise, sensuality and determination.

After an intense performance of "Undrunk," Fletcher shrugged off her jacket and climbed a ladder to the stage's top platform, spurring her to mention her fear of heights. "We do s—that scares us, and it makes us grow," she shared.

Legs swinging over the structure, Fletcher performed her unreleased slow burn track "F— You for Ruining New York City For Me." With dimmed lights and minimal

production, it was easy to imagine Fletcher perched on a New York fire escape, mourning in the moonlight.

At one point during the song, Fletcher raised her middle finger to an especially doleful "f— you," and soon everyone's raised middle fingers were swaying along. The collectivism spilled beyond that singular moment, the night reaffirming the ability to find solace in community amid anger and sorrow.

The bittersweet intimacy soon transitioned into a surprise cover of Billie Eilish's "Happier Than Ever," which effectively dialed back up the energy as Fletcher launched into performances from her debut album *The S(ex) Tapes*.

After dynamic performances of "Silence," "If I Hated You" and "Feel," the lights came up as Fletcher took a marker from her stagehand. "I have signed so many t— this tour," she said, jumping off stage to approach the crowd at the barricade.

Although an ex might have ruined New York City for Fletcher, San Francisco welcomed her with open arms and heavy hearts. Healing may not be a linear journey, but Fletcher's show at The Fillmore reminded her audience that love always circles back when it's most needed. ■







## SPORTS

*"It was great to have Jason back."*

— MARK FOX, CAL MEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH

M. HOOPS

## Cal creams, Stanford stumbles



ANTONIO MARTIN | SENIOR STAFF

With 8,773 fans in attendance and the looming pressure of a victorious senior night, Jordan Shepherd exploded for 28 points as the Bears defeated the Cardinal in a packed Haas Pavilion on Feb. 26.

BY TINA XUE  
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Jordan Shepherd took it personally.

What he took personally is debatable. What isn't debatable, however, is that this was a must-win game.

The air smelled like a

mixture of sweat and desperation. With 8,773 fans in attendance and the looming pressure of a victorious senior night, not to mention the presence of all-time great Jason Kidd sitting in the audience, the stakes were higher than the peak of the Campanile.

"It was great to have Jason back," said Cal head coach

Mark Fox. "We have a responsibility to rebuild our program to a point where everybody is proud of it. They understand that this is a process and it's not going to happen overnight."

The Bears understood this. If it weren't for the scoreboard, unpunctual fans might have mistaken the matchup in front of them to be in its

closing minutes: bodies on the ground, court drenched with sweat and expressions full of determination.

A fast-paced start and triples by Jordan Shepherd propelled Cal to an early 8-point lead. Quick hands by Cal's defense and Lars Thiemann — who contributed a couple of blocks with his 7-foot frame — helped the Bears extend their lead. Ball movement that seemed to be charged by the electrifying energy of Haas Pavilion ultimately allowed easy layups for Shepherd and Joel Brown.

The Bears held their opponent to a mere 4 points in the first 10 minutes of the ball game — a feat that can be fully attributed to their help defense. When one man got beat, another was right there. Between the Cardinal's inability to find a gap in the defense and their horrific first half shooting, it was no surprise that they found themselves down by a double-digit deficit in the first half.

It was clear as day: Not only were the Cardinal getting outplayed, but they were also getting outworked. The blue and

gold were truly a spectacle to behold; instead of the static offense that had been the catalyst of so many of their losses, the Bears seemed to have finally realized the deadliness of dribble penetration. Cal recorded a field goal percentage of 53.8% at the half, an accomplishment that can no doubt be credited to the opportunity of easy shots in the paint.

With 19 points at the half, Shepherd played as if he wanted Haas Pavilion to remember his name. Leading Stanford 35-12, Cal players, coaches and fans alike hoped with all of their hearts that the lead was enough of a cushion to secure the win — but the game was not over yet.

Two consecutive 3s by Stanford to start the second half were not a good sign. However, it did not seem to signal the start of a Cardinal comeback. A one-handed slam by Thiemann had all of the houses within a 5-mile radius of Haas Pavilion wondering what all of the uproar was: Crafty footwork by Brown in the paint created "oohs" louder than any rap

STANFORD PAGE 7

W. SWIM &amp; DIVE

## Cardinal reclaims throne in Pac-12 championships

BY IVAN WU  
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Lightning never strikes twice. After ending Stanford's four-year reign as Pac-12 conference champions in 2021, Cal women's swim and dive was hoping to repeat last year's efforts at the 2022 Pac-12 championships in Federal Way, Washington.

The Cardinal, however, did not let history repeat itself, as it finished with 1671.50 points, with the Bears a distant second at 1400.50 points. More surprisingly, Cal found itself consistently fighting for second place throughout the meet, as USC finished just 27 points behind with 1373.50 points.

On the first night of the competition, the Bears were off to a strong start, finishing third in the 200-yard medley relay and second in the 800-yard freestyle relay. Even so, Cal quickly fell a step behind its Bay Area rival,

who took first in both races and won the latter race by nearly nine seconds.

The second night of competition was once again a solid outing for the Bears, as junior Ayla Spitz led with a third-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:40.89. Senior Isabel Ivey's time of 1:53.54 in the 200-yard IM placed her second, and freshman Leah Polonsky set a new personal best of 1:55.10 to place fourth.

Both Ivey and Polonsky proved to be bright spots for Cal during this meet, as Ivey went on to win the 200-yard freestyle and earn third in the 100-yard free, while Polonsky finished second in the 400-yard IM.

Other notable performances for Cal included sophomore Isabelle Stadden, who placed second in the 100-yard backstroke and defended her title in the 200-yard backstroke with a personal best of 1:49.51. Junior Rachel Klinker set a

season-best time of 1:53.30 in the 200-yard butterfly, which placed her second behind Stanford's Regan Smith.

Perhaps the biggest difference separating last year's results to this year's was the presence of Stanford's new freshman class, namely Torri Huske and Smith. At ages 19 and 20, respectively, both have already made a name for themselves on the international stage.

At this meet, Huske dominated after placing first in the 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard freestyle and 200-yard IM. Smith took gold in the 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard butterfly while taking silver in the 100-butterfly behind Huske, who was named the 2022 Pac-12 championship Swimmer of the Meet.

Remarkably, there were no Cal divers present at the 2022 Pac-12 diving championships hosted in Tuscon, Arizona.

While handily obtaining a



VANESSA LIM | SENIOR STAFF

After last year's dominant win at the Pac-12 championships, the Bears were unable to defend their crown against Stanford's freshmen star power.

second-place finish in a conference as competitive as the Pac-12 is certainly not something to look down upon, Cal had its sights on defending its crown as Pac-12 champions. Losing that title to its fiercest rival only adds insult to injury.

The Bears had many great performances that led to podium finishes and personal-best

times, but beating this star-studded Stanford roster requires more than just great performances — it demands near perfection. Whether or not Cal can reach this standard of swimming remains to be seen with only one meet left: the 2022 NCAA Women's Swimming and Diving Championships in Atlanta, Georgia, from March 16-19. ■

BASEBALL

## Busy Bears square off against FSU, Santa Clara

BY COLIN MEQUET  
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After stumbling through its series against University of Illinois, Chicago, Cal baseball is back on its feet. Now, an action-packed week ahead will put the Bears to the test.

They look to build on their momentum as they head to the Florida Panhandle to face off against Florida State in a three-game nonconference series, before returning to Evans Diamond to host Santa Clara University on Tuesday.

The Bears beat No. 23 Sacramento State 6-2 March 1, marking their second win against ranked teams this season. It was a thorough and

comprehensive performance through all nine innings. The Bears found the game's breakthrough in the fourth inning with runs from freshman outfielder Rodney Green Jr. and fifth-year infielder Hance Smith.

When the Hornets responded with two runs to tie the game at 2-2 at the top of the sixth, the Bears immediately recaptured the lead with four runs at the bottom of the same inning to take a 6-2 lead. Thereafter, the pitching committee shut out Sacramento State.

Cal, which is unranked, will go into this upcoming weekend as the underdog against No. 10 Florida State, which is perched toward the top of the

national rankings.

But the blue and gold's pedigree this season is arguably more impressive than their southeastern opponents — the Seminoles are yet to beat a ranked opponent this season, while the Bears have already done so twice.

After Cal finishes its series against Florida State on Sunday, March 6, it will have just one day of rest before it hosts Bay Area neighbor Santa Clara on Tuesday, March 8.

Santa Clara has played four games against Pac-12 teams this season, winning just once. But the Broncos, who started the season slowly, may have found their groove after winning three out of four games in a series against Northwestern



THEO WYSS-FLAMM | SENIOR STAFF

After stumbling in its series against University of Illinois, Chicago, Cal baseball is back on its feet. With little time to rest, it'll be put to the test.

this past weekend.

While Cal is in Tallahassee, Santa Clara will give itself a heat check as it hosts UCSD — newly promoted to

NCAA Division I last year. The Broncos will then travel to the East Bay to play Cal

FSU PAGE 7