



## Classes resume amid Skirball fire

MICHAEL ZSHORNACK/PHOTO EDITOR

BY RUPAN BHARANIDARAN  
& JACOB PREAL  
*Daily Bruin senior staff*

UCLA resumed classes and campus activities Friday, following a fire that burned through Bel-Air on Wednesday and Thursday.

The university canceled all classes that began after noon Wednesday and told students, staff and faculty not to come to campus. Classes remained canceled Thursday, following a statement on UCLA's website. A BruinAlert

released at 3:39 p.m. Thursday indicated classes would resume Friday.

UCLA officials canceled class Thursday so they would have time to assess logistical issues for finals week. The university decided to resume classes Friday because Los Angeles Fire Department officials believed they would contain the fire soon, according to the BruinAlert.

The Skirball fire began near the 405 Freeway around 4 a.m. Wednesday, said Mayor Eric Garcetti. Parts

of the 405 Freeway had been shut down, but reopened, according to a BruinAlert on Wednesday. An LAFD spokesperson said around 5 p.m. Thursday the fire was about 30 percent contained, up from the 20 percent reported earlier in the morning. The fire covers 475 acres.

Residents living in the area south of Mulholland Drive, east of the 405, north of Sunset Boulevard and west of Roscomare Road have been ordered to evacuate, according to the LAFD. Evacuees near the Westwood

area can take refuge in the Westwood Recreation Center located at 1350 S. Sepulveda Blvd., according to an LAFD release.

In some areas, including Bel Terrace and all roads between Sunset Boulevard and Bellagio Road, the evacuation orders were lifted as of 8 p.m. Thursday. However, other areas will remain closed until more of the fire is contained.

### Power outages

Several buildings on the Hill,

including Rieber Hall, Bruin Cafe, Canyon Point and Sproul Hall, were without power Wednesday, as well as some apartment buildings in the North Village. Power was restored in many areas by 12:05 p.m. and the outage was unrelated to the fire, according to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. LADWP restored power to all Medical Plaza buildings by Wednesday afternoon.

Nurit Katz, UCLA's chief sustain-

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## USAC, GSA leaders react to administration's actions

BY ANNY KIM  
*Campus politics editor*

Some student leaders said they think the UCLA administration's response to the Skirball fire was inefficient and that the decision to cancel Thursday classes could have been made earlier.

The fire, originating near the I-405 Freeway around 4 a.m., burned through Bel-Air on Wednesday, prompting the university to cancel all classes that began on or after noon. An initial BruinAlert released at 4:44 p.m. Wednesday said normal courses and on-campus services would resume Thursday. However, a later BruinAlert, released after midnight, indicated classes would be canceled Thursday.

UCLA canceled classes to allow officials to assess logistical issues prior to finals week, according to a university statement. The statement added the campus is safe and is outside the evacuation area.

Graduate Students Association President Michael Skiles said he thinks the administration cancelled Thursday classes in response to student petitions and plans for a "Stay-In Protest." The USAC Academic Affairs office is encouraging students not to attend class until air conditions improve.

"The alerts were sent out late because (students) made it apparent to the university that it



MICHAEL ZSHORNACK/PHOTO EDITOR

UCLA canceled classes Wednesday afternoon and Thursday because of a fire burning near the school. Several student leaders have said they think UCLA did not properly respond to the fire.

wouldn't be productive to risk having classes today," Skiles said.

The Undergraduate Students Association Council and Graduate Students Association also collected student signatures Wednesday night for a letter calling on the administration to cancel classes until conditions from the fire are stabilized, accommodate students who have finals this week and review its emergency management procedures. The letter had received 7,589 signatures as of Thursday morning, Skiles said.

Skiles said BruinAlerts sent in the morning that stated faculty and staff should report to work if possible were vague and could have pressured some faculty to report to work despite health and safety concerns.

"Some faculty supervisors will read that alert and interpret it differently and ask (teaching assistants) to come to work today ... while other faculty that work with research in a lab might require all student staff to come to work," Skiles said.

Skiles said he thinks the BruinAlert system did not effectively communicate timely information to students.

The alert indicating that Wednesday's afternoon classes would be canceled was released at about 11 a.m.

"The whole point of canceling classes is so students didn't have to come to campus, in spite of the 405 being closed or walking through

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AMY DIXON/ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Several students said the Skirball fire impeded their ability to focus on finals and UCLA should have provided faster updates on the fire and campus operations. The fire began near the northbound 405 Freeway early Wednesday.

## Students frustrated by UCLA's response to fire

BY MADDIE OSTERGAARD  
*Daily Bruin contributor*

Ky'Tavia Stafford-Carreker asked her professor Wednesday if she could miss class because the poor air quality from the Skirball fire worsened her seasonal allergies and sinus infection. However, her professor asked her to show proof of her respiratory issues.

"It was putting us in danger," she said. "We have to choose our lungs over our classes."

A fire burned through Bel-Air on Wednesday and Thursday, leading UCLA to cancel classes Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday. The Skirball fire, which began near the northbound 405 Freeway early Wednesday morning, was 30 percent contained as of 5:00 p.m. Thursday.

Stafford-Carreker, a second-year history student, said her doctor could not

give her a note to show her professor unless she met with her doctor in person, but she thought missing class would hurt her grades.

"I was thankful classes were canceled," she said. "I would be in jeopardy if I couldn't go – the pressure to go was really immense."

Stafford-Carreker added the fire prevented her from focusing on studying for finals because she was busy coming up with backup evacuation plans and talking to her family.

"I was trying to study and couldn't calm down because I was anxious," she said. "It took a lot out of me. I can't get that time back."

Several students said they think the UCLA administration was slow to update them on the status of the fire, whether or not classes would be canceled and

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### Opinion

UCLA administrators have once again bungled up their response to an emergency, writes the Daily Bruin Editorial Board. **p. 4**

**DB**  
*opinion*

### A&E

Members of the all-female band Girl Friday released their first six-song extended play which is called "Tiny Hats" Thursday. **p. 5**



### Sports

No. 7 UCLA women's basketball will kick off a five-game road trip, starting with Oklahoma State on Friday. **p. 10**



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Q&A

Professor discusses air quality, pollutants from Skirball fire

BY EMI NAKAHARA  
*Science and health editor*

UCLA canceled classes Wednesday and Thursday due to poor air quality following the Skirball fire in the Bel-Air area. The Daily Bruin’s Emi Nakahara spoke with Suzanne Paulson, an atmospheric and oceanic sciences professor whose research focuses on air pollution in urban environments, to discuss the possible health impacts of the air quality on campus and Westwood during the fire.

**Daily Bruin:** How would you rate the air quality in Westwood currently?

**Suzanne Paulson:** Currently it’s great, it’s super clear. Current air monitors are showing normal levels of air quality for the Westwood area. Generally when it’s windy like this, concentrations of pollutants are pretty low unless there’s a local source, which means the fires are pretty much under control.

However, concentrations were very high (Wednesday) around the range that was unhealthy for sensitive groups such as the elderly and those with respiratory issues.

We have a national ambient air quality standard of 35 micrograms of pollutant particles per cubic meter for the small combustible particles. Yesterday the air had concentrations of up to 70 micrograms per cubic meter, maybe over 100 briefly at one point.

In major cities in China and India, these concentrations have often been as much as 500 micrograms per cubic meter, and we’re nowhere near those ranges.

**DB:** Would you say the campus is safe?

**SP:** At the moment, yes. The fire is largely under control, combined with high winds which generally reduces urban air pollution, and looking outside my window right now the sky looks clear.

**DB:** What kinds of pollutant elements are released during a fire? Which are the most dangerous?

**SP:** What’s the most concerning from a health standpoint are the small combusted pollutant particles which tend to be small in size, about 2.5 microns. There’s a wide range of health effects from particle inhalation, and long term exposure in particular can have negative health effects.

Young people such as students, unless they have respiratory issues like asthma, aren’t severely affected. However for older people, inhaling these particles can cause cardiovascular problems such as heart attacks and stroke.

**DB:** Do over-the-counter masks help in filtering out pollutants and dust?

**SP:** In general they don’t work much, since the particles are microscopic. There are masks that work in these conditions, but they have to have a very tight seal so air only goes through the mask filter.

**DB:** Any general advice for those who are outside you’d like to give?

**SP:** At the moment there’s nothing to worry about. When it is really smoky, try to avoid breathing in lots of air outside and stay indoors, since only some, but not most, of the particles are present indoors.

Email Nakahara at enakahara@dailybruin.com.



MICHAEL ZSHORNACK/PHOTO EDITOR

Suzanne Paulson, a professor who studies air pollution, said the air pollutant concentration Wednesday was unhealthy for sensitive groups such as the elderly, children and those with respiratory illnesses.

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# UC president talks about DACA, federal tax bill with The Bruin

BY SHARON ZHEN  
*National and higher education editor*

University of California President Janet Napolitano said Tuesday that UC tuition may continue to rise with inflation, depending on how the state funds the UC in the future.

Napolitano said in an interview with the Daily Bruin Editorial Board on Tuesday the regents will consider increasing tuition by 2.5 percent in 2018. However, she added 57 percent of California undergraduate students pay no tuition or fees and another 20 percent receive significant financial aid.

“Whether we are looking at tuition increase ad infinitum is really dependent on whether the state puts in the money,” she said.

During the interview, Napolitano discussed the university’s support for undocumented students, a Board of Regents investigation that found the UC Office of the President improperly interfered in a California state audit, and sexual harassment allegations against Regent Norman Pattiz, among other topics.

Napolitano said that although public universities have historically only depended on tuition and state funding for revenue, the UC is also looking into other revenue sources, including charitable giving and funding from online certificate courses and master’s degrees.

**DACA**  
President Donald Trump ended the Deferred Action for

Childhood Arrivals program, which former President Barack Obama enacted in 2012. The program deferred deportation for undocumented individuals brought to the United States as children. The UC, which has about 4,000 undocumented students, sued the Department of Homeland Security in September for ending the program.

Napolitano said the United States District Court in San Francisco will hear oral arguments for the DACA lawsuit Dec. 20.

“That will be likely our first substantive judicial ruling on our claims,” she said. “I anticipate the judge will rule relatively quickly to allow whichever side loses to appeal.”

The UC provides free legal services to DACA students and will continue to fund activities and student centers for undocumented students regardless of what happens to the program, she added.

**Sexual harassment allegations against Regent Norman Pattiz**

Napolitano said that although students have called on Pattiz to resign due to sexual harassment allegations against him, she thinks it is up to the regents to resolve those claims. She added the board has changed its policies to require regents take harassment training and that Pattiz has done so.

“The relationship between regents and students should be one of respect for the roles each play in different university communities,” she said. “That mutual respect should be reflected in

the exchanges between regents and students, and I’ll just leave it at that.”

**Free speech**  
Napolitano said she thinks the University should pay security costs for controversial speakers, even if such costs are expensive.

“Can a university not invite speakers or not approve their invitations on the grounds that we simply can’t afford it? ... That is an untested principle in the law,” she said. “Right now, we have chosen not to raise those challenges but simply to pay for the cost.”

She added the UC’s free speech center, announced in October, will research how students understand the First Amendment and shape university curricula on free speech issues. She added many UC students do not think the First Amendment protects hate speech, even though it is constitutionally protected.

“The national level of debate on these issues is very important and we have an important contribution to make,” she said.

**Federal tax bill**

Napolitano said the UC is concerned about aspects of a tax bill that passed the House of Representatives last month, including a provision that would treat graduate students’ tuition waivers as taxable income.

The Senate version of the bill does not include that provision. She added she is concerned that the tax bill disincentivizes charitable giving, which may impact the revenue the UC generates



AMY DIXON/ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR  
University of California President Janet Napolitano spoke to the Daily Bruin Editorial Board on Tuesday about free speech and tuition, among other topics. Napolitano added the UC is concerned about aspects of the tax bill regarding graduate students and charitable giving.

from donations.

UCOP is lobbying Congressional officials through letters, personal visits and the UC Advocacy Network, a group of students and alumni that send letters and emails to policymakers, she said.

“The provisions that directly affect students are our top concern,” Napolitano said. “The tuition waiver is probably the top of that list.”

Napolitano said the university might consider increasing graduate students’ salaries to counteract the effects of the tax bill, but the costs of such wage increases would be substantial.

**Regents investigation on state audit interference**

A regents investigation released last month found that UCOP improperly interfered in California state auditor surveys that sought independent perspectives from campuses about the quality and cost of UCOP services. Napolitano approved a plan for campuses to send survey responses to UCOP before submitting them to the state auditor.

“I acknowledge and apologize for and regret what happened there,” Napolitano said. “I adopted a plan for us to coordinate responses – that was a

mistake.”

Napolitano added she thinks UCOP will make its budget more transparent by implementing the state audit recommendations.

Napolitano said she has had conversations with chancellors discussing the investigation’s findings and will continue to meet with them to receive their input.

“I appreciate the role chancellors play,” she said. “It’s very important we have a good working relationship and friendship.”

Email Zhen at yzhen@dailybruin.com or tweet @zhen\_shan.

## BEL-AIR FIRE

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ability officer, said LADWP had experienced an outage. She added that generators on campus were not affected by the fire and that UCLA’s cogeneration plant was running. Because UCLA was only operating on internal power, the campus needed to cut power to nonessential buildings to restore power to medical and critical facilities, according to a BruinAlert.

LADWP spokesperson Kim Hughes said power lines were knocked off their poles in the Sawtelle area on Wednesday, which prevented power from reaching UCLA’s campus.

**Campus closures**

The Early Care and Education centers, Geffen Academy and the UCLA Lab School were closed Wednesday, according to a BruinAlert. The UCLA Anderson School of Management canceled all classes Wednesday and the UCLA School of Law canceled its morning finals. All UCLA hospitals were fully operational Wednesday, although afternoon clinic appointments in 100 Medical Plaza, 200 Medical Plaza and 300 Medical Plaza were canceled due to power outages, according to a UCLA Health statement.

De Neve, Bruin Plate, Bruin Cafe and Hedrick Study were the only dining halls open Wednesday morning, UCLA Housing tweeted.



KRISTIE-VALERIE HOANG/ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR  
A fire burned in the Bel-Air area near the UCLA campus Wednesday and Thursday. UCLA canceled all classes that began after noon Wednesday and will resume classes Friday.

**UCLA Athletics**

UCLA men’s basketball did not play the University of Montana at Pauley Pavilion on Wednesday night, according to a release from UCLA Athletics. UCLA football practice was also canceled because of poor air quality.

**Air quality**

Air masks were being distributed by the Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center to help protect students from the smoke.

Walid Ghurabi, medical director of emergency services at the UCLA Santa Monica Health Center, said although over-the-counter masks can help block large particles, they do not block microscopic particles from the smoke.

He added UCLA hospitals have powerful air filters to keep patients safe and the general public should stay indoors to

avoid harmful microparticles in the air.

“Children, the elderly and those with respiratory and lung issues are especially vulnerable and should not really be outside at all,” he said.

**Student reactions**

Clayton Spivey, a third-year political science student, said he came to campus for work and for class before UCLA officially canceled all classes Wednesday. He added he thinks it was necessary for UCLA to cancel classes because conditions on campus were harmful to students.

“Our health is more important than whether you have a final review session,” he said.

Sienna Cabrera, a second-year biochemistry student who lives on the Hill, said UCLA canceling classes Wednesday and Thursday made it difficult to study for her final.

## STUDENT

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whether or not the Hill would be evacuated.

Ali Ashraf Ismail Mohamed, a first-year aerospace engineering student, said he thinks the administration infrequently updated students with information.

“The texts were really sporadic – it was really unprofessional and disorganized,” he said. “I’m disappointed at the reaction.”

Mohamed added he thinks UCLA should have been more prepared for the fire because wildfires are common in California.

“(The administration) should know what their plan is going to be as soon as it happens,” he said.

Timothy Nguyen, a first-year biochemistry student, said he thinks the university informed students classes would be canceled Thursday later than it should have. The university posted a message on its website shortly after midnight Thursday informing students that classes would be canceled that day.

“The timing was off,” said Nguyen. “I feel like they could

have given information out quicker.”

Justin Wolfman, a second-year materials science major, did not know classes were canceled until he woke up Thursday morning to his alarm.

“I was already asleep ... and when I woke up for class, it was canceled,” he said.

Wolfman added he thinks classes should have resumed Thursday because of finals during Week 10 and finals week.

“I had a class today where we were going to go over the final,” Wolfman said. “I think we probably could’ve had class today.”

Although undergraduate classes were canceled throughout campus Thursday, the UCLA School of Law continued to hold finals.

Pinar Palabiyik, a law student, said many law students thought their Thursday final exams would be canceled when the BruinAlert early Thursday morning canceled UCLA classes because of the fire. She added some law students went home for the day, and had to either rush back to campus or miss their finals when the law school announced at 6:29 a.m. Thursday that finals were still on.

Palabiyik added she thinks

the law school should create a specific program to quickly distribute information, especially if it contradicts campuswide instructions.

Amit Liran, a law student, said he was glad the law school held finals Thursday because he wanted to finish them as soon as possible.

“We can’t cancel finals just because there is a fire in Los Angeles,” he said. “This is the real world.”

Other students said they were concerned about Wednesday night rumors that UCLA would evacuate the Hill at 3 a.m.

Braeden Nelson, a first-year environmental science student, said he thinks UCLA should have been more clear about possible evacuation protocol. He added that false rumors about a possible evacuation made him nervous.

“I wish I felt more confident that I knew that (the administration) knew we weren’t going to have to evacuate,” Nelson said. “I didn’t really trust that they knew that.”

Contributing reports from Hedy Wang, Sharon Zhen, Jacob Preal and Rupan Bharanidaran, Daily Bruin senior staff. Email Ostergaard at mostergaard@dailybruin.com.

## REACTION

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the smoke-filled Westwood,” Skiles said.

Divya Sharma, Academic Affairs commissioner, said he thinks the university is not prepared to handle emergency situations because the BruinAlert canceling classes went out after many students were already on campus.

“We’ve seen a shooting happen on campus, where administration did not respond quickly to the needs of students,” Sharma said. “And with the fire happening, there is no emergency preparedness.”

Sharma added he thinks the alerts should have included information to better prepare students for an evacuation and how to stay safe from the fire.

Nathan Glovinsky, one of the undergraduate student representatives on the 2016 Campus Safety Task Force,

which was established after the shooting in June 2016 to better prepare UCLA for emergency situations, said he thinks students should not be put in a position to choose between their grades, safety and mental health.

Glovinsky, a third-year history student, added he thinks the university’s responses to emergency situations communicated through BruinAlert should offer more flexibility for students who choose to take additional precautionary measures for their health or safety.

“In the BruinAlerts, we never really received an acknowledgement that if students wanted to evacuate personally, that there would be no penalty,” he said. “A lot of students were uncomfortable ... doing anything because they didn’t want to leave campus and face an academic penalty.”

Email Kim at ykim@dailybruin.com or tweet @db\_ykim.

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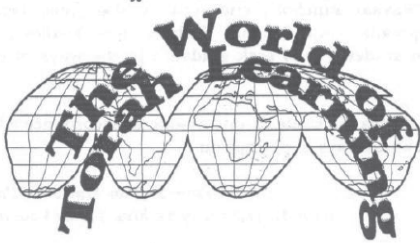
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The issue

UCLA administrators failed to appropriately communicate with campus members after the Skirball fire broke out Wednesday.

Our stance

Administrators needs to address its management issues if it hopes to keep the campus safe during the next emergency.

Administration mishandled fire situation

Smoky skies. Masked students. A near-deserted campus.

This is what Bruins witnessed Wednesday, as a fire raged less than two miles away from campus in nearby Bel-Air. Students, faculty and staff weathered everything from power outages to ashy winds to intractable traffic as flames licked the hills by the 405 Freeway and the Getty Center, incinerating homes and bringing traffic to a standstill.

If the fire remains in a contained perimeter, UCLA will have made it out of yet another campus emergency. But administrators failed, as they did during 2016's murder-suicide, to take the initiative and act expediently to protect and inform university members in the midst of a campus emergency.

Of course, administrators eventually canceled classes Wednesday and Thursday amid traffic and smoke concerns. Chancellor Gene Block sent a campuswide email Wednesday night, detailing how the university constantly communicated with emergency officials and worked hard to keep the UCLA community safe. UCLA also sent out frequent BruinAlert messages to keep campus members informed

about the state of the fire and safety of the campus.

But the university shouldn't expect to be showered with praise for doing the bare minimum to keep UCLA afloat. Its handling of the Skirball fire emergency was riddled with problems.

Take, for example, the administration's reluctance to cancel classes early in the day on Wednesday. By 7 a.m. Wednesday, state officials had closed off the northbound lanes of the 405 Freeway and were already closing the other half of the roadway, making it nearly impossible for students, faculty and employees who use the highway to get to campus.

It did not seem to occur to administrators that getting to campus would be difficult – impossible, even. Instead, administrators urged students, faculty and staff as late as 9 a.m. Wednesday to come to UCLA if they were able to, stating instructors would hold classes at their discretion and that students on campus should report to lecture, discussion or lab as usual.

In other words, UCLA left the decision of whether there would be classes – despite a significant portion of students and the workforce not being able to come to campus – to instructors. And the results were costly: A good number of instructors held lectures or conducted discussion sections, pres-

suring students to go to class despite smoke warnings and slow traffic.

That isn't even mentioning the handful of instructors who insisted on holding classes despite the university's eventual announcement that all afternoon classes would be canceled – a clear demonstration of the lack of cohesion between administrators and faculty during emergency situations. It's easy to say students should prioritize their safety, but with final exams just around the corner, it's naive to think students would willingly skip classes and risk their grades if instructors insist on holding lecture or discussion sections.

UCLA also blundered in how it informed students of campus safety measures. Toward the middle of Wednesday morning, UCLA reported the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power had experienced power outages, forcing the campus to fall back on its internal supply of electricity. In order to keep essential services such as UCLA Health operational, the university had to pull the plug from dining halls, residential halls and other "nonessential" buildings.

Despite knowing of these contingencies, it took the university nearly an hour after the outages began to inform students that the shut-offs were intentional – a rather notable

communication error, considering students were frantically evacuated from dining halls and other areas because of these outages. The university also didn't disclose how it would evacuate campus if necessary, leading some to wonder whether it had even planned that far in advance.

These are many of the same errors UCLA made during last year's murder-suicide. Back then, administrators failed to disseminate information effectively and inform students of the campus' emergency protocols. The same problems persist more than a year later. UCLA is still choosing to engage in damage control rather than act proactively during campus emergencies, and we're all feeling the burn of that.

If effort is all that counts, UCLA passed the test. But emergencies require more than just a good effort. The university failed to act with foresight. Campus officials didn't effectively inform students, and they failed to take pre-emptive action. Until they are addressed, these managerial problems will continue to scorch students' trust in UCLA's ability to navigate campus emergencies.

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

SUBMISSION

Westwood Forward a misinformed threat to experienced leaders

BY LISA CHAPMAN

In early November, a student-led group called Westwood Forward announced it was attempting to create a new neighborhood council in Westwood. Some of the group's claims against the Westwood Neighborhood Council – Westwood's existing neighborhood council – are patently false or greatly exaggerated.

The opinions expressed here are my own. Our council has not had an opportunity to voice its stance on this issue.

I love Westwood Village. I have lived here for 30 years and have worked at UCLA for almost 32 years. My kids were raised in Westwood. I dine, shop and hang out here. My husband owns a business in the Village. I remember what the Village once was and believe it can be an amazing place again.

It is fantastic that students wish to create a neighborhood council that represents UCLA's campus and the North Village area. Having an independent

neighborhood council would give them the autonomy they seek.

However, the coalition's students are inexperienced and misinformed, and have little idea of how the city of Los Angeles actually works.

What Westwood Forward proposes is a form of gerrymandering. The group aims to carve out an entire section of Westwood to suit its singular needs, and has made a blatant attempt to stifle and disenfranchise whole sections of the neighborhood. It aims to exclude the WWNC from its existing boundaries, including Westwood Village, half of the families in Westwood and half of the Persian business community.

These students are attempting to silence the WWNC's voice and render it powerless, despite it being a dedicated board of volunteers that has worked diligently to make Westwood a better place. The students have talked of their principles of inclusion, and yet their boundaries are anything but inclusive.

Everyone wants affordable housing in Westwood. And more affordable housing should be built. But neighborhood councils do not create affordable housing. All they can do is encourage affordable housing. I have heard repeatedly from students how the WWNC does not support more student housing at UCLA.

Nothing could be more false. We support every single bed UCLA proposes in its long-term housing plan. The council only feels it is better to move some of those beds to other identified sites, as UCLA's proposed 20-story residential hall on Le Conte Avenue sits in front of both a busy traffic intersection and the emergency route to Westwood's level I trauma center.

Westwood Forward also likes to talk about variances, or granting exceptions to city codes. Neighborhood councils do not have the power to change or approve variances. Westwood follows city codes, and project approvals come from the city and its planning department.

The WWNC's position on Rocco's Tavern has also been misconstrued countless times. We fully supported Rocco's coming into the Village. Rocco's asked for a large garage door with a retractable window facing Gayley Avenue. But the Gayley Terrace Apartments' managers filed an appeal with the Westwood Community Design Review Board and the Area Planning Commission against such a door because of the potential noise issues coming from a loud sports bar with a large, open window close by. The commission ultimately did not approve the Rocco's Tavern's window because of the design and potential noise levels.

And there is the urban myth that there is a prohibition of nightlife in Westwood, including dancing and live music. While the WWNC's sample alcohol permit conditions may make it seem like the council is against entertainment, many on the council support a more active nightlife in the Village and look forward to those types of businesses.

The fact remains that anyone can request permission to provide entertainment services in the Village – they just need to apply for the proper permits.

Westwood Forward also likes to claim the WWNC made derogatory comments about the D1 Cafe owner's English-speaking skills when he applied for an alcohol permit. Though some in our council have expressed personal opinions on the matter, we never officially referred to the owner's lack of English skills. In fact, his own representative was the one who brought up his language difficulties in trying to explain why he refused to comply with the city's orders.

Westwood Forward is built on the argument that the WWNC marginalizes students in its elections. But the WWNC has 19 seats, and students can run for 18 of those. The council currently includes three UCLA students and at least six UCLA alumni. Many students just don't run for council seats, even with outreach via social

media, the Daily Bruin and students themselves.

While an online voting model seems viable, the WWNC has not opted to use one because the process has not been fully vetted. The Los Angeles City Council has a moratorium on online voting for this reason. If the process is proven to be safe and accurate, we would reconsider.

I don't know how the property owners, the Westwood Village Improvement Association and the merchants will vote on Westwood Forward's proposed neighborhood division. It's hard to believe in any scenario they would consider an ever-changing group of students better than the WWNC.

I want the Village to be competitive with other areas, and I care deeply about its success. However, this can only happen with consistent, trusted and experienced leadership. The WWNC provides those qualities.

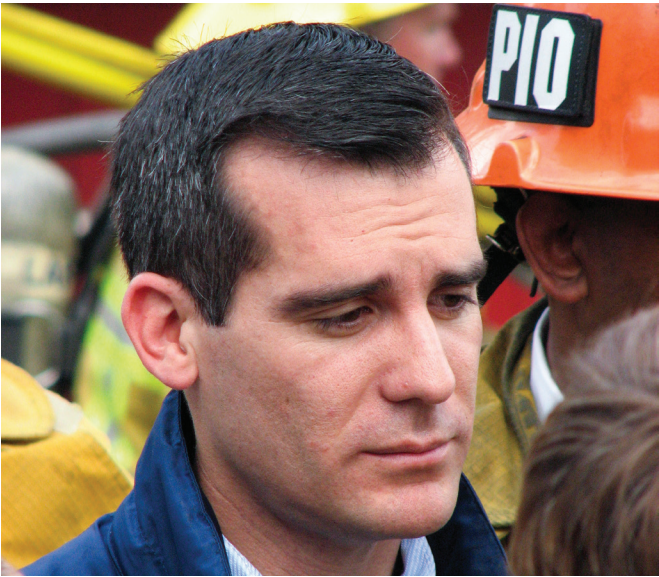
Chapman is the president of the WWNC.

Public comment

Words matter.

What are elected officials and public figures saying?

The Skirball Fire, which broke out near the junction of Sepulveda Boulevard and the 405 on Wednesday morning, has destroyed at least four homes in Bel Air. Here's what Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said after the fire broke out:



“These are days that break your heart. These are also days that show the **resilience of our city.**”

**ERIC GARCETTI**  
LOS ANGELES MAYOR



Twitter commentary

Many people think the UCLA administration's response to the #SkirballFire was not enough and that the cancellation of classes should have happened earlier. Here is what people had to tweet about it:

I'm a @ucla instructor. Admin, this is not enough. Don't put students at the whim of their professors, who decide their grades. Formally cancel all classes so that no student feels pressure to get to campus/go outside in the smoke! #SkirballFire

**Amanda Freise**  
@AmandaFreise

UCLA should NOT be holding classes/work as a wildfire burns literally feet away. The air is unsafe and the fire is not contained. The well-being of students should be the University's top priority now and always. #SkirballFire

**Julio Mendez Vargas**  
@julioo\_mendez

I cancelled finals today because #SkirballFire unsafe. @UCLA don't force faculty to make the call, you need to close campus or give guidance @UCLAnewsroom

**Sophia**  
@sophiacoolgirl

Shame on @UCLA for not closing campus today. Some buildings are losing power. The air is thick with smoke and ash is coating surfaces. I am not proud to be part of an institution that damages the health of its students. #SkirballFire

**Justin C Smith**  
@JustCliffSmith

@ucla students are put in a position where they have to choose between their grades and their safety. If it were any other week during the quarter people ABSOLUTELY would not have the same hesitation to evacuate... so tell me again how academic culture isn't toxic #SkirballFire

**Kyna**  
@bittermelona

I don't get how SMC immediately cancelled classes for their students way earlier this morning and they're not as close to the fire and then there's UCLA...

**Joss**  
@jmazzs



# All-female band comments on gender politics

BY ELI COUNTRYMAN  
Daily Bruin contributor

Alumna Libby Hsieh dons a suit and mustache in her band's latest music video.

In the music video for the band Girl Friday's song "12 Hour Turnaround," Hsieh, the band's bassist, depicts a man, while a fellow female band member dresses as a 1950s housewife. The getups are meant to be a commentary on stereotypical gender roles in society, Hsieh said.

The music video is just one example of the band's attempts to fuse gender politics with music. The band members took the typically disparaging phrase "girl Friday" – a patronizing term that was made popular in the 1940s to refer to female assistants – and claimed it as their title, Hsieh said.

"The idea was this woman who was a powerhouse but not getting any acknowledgement for it, which happens a lot still," Vera Ellen, the group's guitarist, said. "It's taking that and reversing it because we're all onstage and we are all women."

The all-female band originally began playing together in November 2016 with three UCLA students: Natalie Morace, Hsieh and Ellen – an exchange student from New Zealand. In the past two months the band also incorporated members Sierra Scott and Virginia Pettis, and released its first six-song extended play, "Tiny Hats," on Thursday.

In their EP, the band members said they worked to imbue their own personal feminist beliefs into the pop- and punk-influenced music. Ellen said the group discusses political topics



Alumna Libby Hsieh plays bass in the all-female band Girl Friday. She said the band's songs feature inherently political messages under a more lighthearted pop sound on their latest EP "Tiny Hats," released Thursday.

ISA SAALABI/DAILY BRUIN

based on their own personal experiences as women in the music industry, choosing to avoid exploring cliché topics like love.

"The industry is really male-

dominated," Morace, a fourth-year global studies student, said. "Obviously, we are going to sing from our own perspective, and that's going to be a different one by nature of the

game."

Morace met Hsieh at a UCLA noise concert – a show where people create sounds as they go – in 2016. Most of the musicians there were males, Mor-

ace said. The two bonded over being among the few women at the show and shared a desire to play music in a less male-dominated environment, Morace said.

Ellen, who also plays with men in a band called Sweat-er, said making music with all women is a completely differ-

GIRL FRIDAY | Page 6



ISRA AMEEN/DAILY BRUIN

Third-year art students Everett Babcock, Angel King and Lorena Ochoa (left to right) collaborated on a large, untitled art piece in their art show that will run until Dec. 12.

## Art exhibit ties students together

BY TIGER ZHONG  
Daily Bruin contributor

Everett Babcock, Lorena Ochoa and Angel King made abstract sculptures out of wooden sticks, hot-pink foam and gray yarn for their latest art show.

"Dyed In The Wool," which is composed entirely of abstract sculptural pieces and paintings, opened Nov. 30 in Broad Art Center 1140 and will close Dec. 12. The third-year art students transferred to UCLA in the fall, and said they found inspiration for their art show while balancing their newfound artistic freedom and the challenging social landscape.

"Out of necessity we came together, and we developed this meaningful friendship that offers a safety net and inspiration," King said.

In preparation for the show, the three exchanged personal belongings such as their childhood toys and parents' cloth-

### "Dyed In The Wool"

Nov. 30 - Dec. 12  
1140 Broad Art Center  
FREE

ing. After sharing the intimate stories that came with the items, they then used each other's pieces to build sculptures that they deemed representative of their respective friends, King said. They are also showcasing their own pieces focused on their upbringings and cultural identities.

One of the pieces King is displaying, titled "House Arrest," was inspired by a story that Babcock shared, involving the house arrest of Babcock's brother who was sentenced to prison for 45 years to life. King's piece features three wooden sticks pointing diagonally upward to form a triangle, with branches woven together by twine. The sculpture also uses watches and T-shirts – personal objects that

all belonged to Babcock. King said the objects symbolize time and nostalgia while referencing Babcock's childhood and upbringing.

"I wanted to create an imagery that represents (Babcock's) feelings towards his brother's arrest and later the new pressure from inheriting (his late father's) home," King said.

Another piece by Ochoa, with the same name as the gallery, includes imagery of classic Latinx culture, such as plaster molds of pan dulce and a sculpture of a hot-pink Virgin Mary on an altar with vinyl-tile flooring, which she said represents her Latinx upbringing. King said that as Ochoa cut out the Virgin Mary from foam using her childhood memory of what the religious icon looked like, the specific details had become blurry, resulting in the sculpture facing the wrong way and having incorrect hand gestures – a commentary on

remembering what it was like growing up in her culture.

All three worked on the largest piece in the art show – an untitled mashup of various mediums that sits in the back of the exhibit room. The three scratched out the name of the piece to capture the chaotic nature of the sculpture, King said. The center component of the art piece features a collage of Babcock's abstract sculptures from Long Beach City College.

The sculpture originally began as Babcock's own piece, but Ochoa and King began contributing after Babcock suggested the friend group collaborate on the project. Ochoa helped expand the piece by extending rolls of yarn through the structure – placing it over a desk, under wires and throughout the entire exhibit room. King said by tightening everything, from the yarn to the

### Movie review

#### The Shape of Water

Directed by Guillermo del Toro  
DOUBLE DARE YOU PRODUCTIONS  
DEC. 8



BY TIGER ZHONG  
Daily Bruin contributor

"The Shape of Water" makes audiences fall in love with a relationship between a mythical amphibian creature and a mute janitor.

The plot of Guillermo del Toro's latest film sounds a bit like an LSD-induced daydream: A mute janitor named Elisa (Sally Hawkins) falls in love with an amphibious creature (Doug Jones) that the U.S. military is holding in a government research facility during the Cold War era. The chemistry between the sexually deprived Elisa and the poorly treated amphibian highlights a theme common to many del Toro movies – the similarity between broken humans and misunderstood monsters. Del Toro fills the bizarre yet charming story with charismatic, relatable characters and tension-building plot points with satisfying conclusions.

The movie itself is a collision of gothic horror, romance drama and espionage thriller. It takes inspiration from each, creating a colorfully explosive yet thoroughly cohesive project with the suspenseful story progression of a thriller and the dialogue-driven characterization typical of a romantic comedy.

In the process of establishing the romance between Elisa and the Amphibian Man,

the film treats itself lightheartedly without overly concerning itself with the ridiculous nature of their relationship. Instead of attempting to romanticize the interspecies relationship, del Toro uses the premise of the movie to highlight a more humanlike love story between Elisa and the Amphibian Man.

One of the key strengths of the film is its actors' high-caliber performances, making the surreal storyline engaging for its audience. Hawkins successfully portrays her character as both broken by her social isolation and hopeful in her pure optimism for a better life. From the subtle shifts in facial muscles to the deft movements of her body used to carry out sign language dialogues, Hawkins' performance breathes life into the chaotic decisions Elisa makes in the film, such as breaking out of government labs and engaging in a relationship with a creature from Amazon folktales.

Jones, who has previously played nonhuman characters such as Fauno from "Pan's Labyrinth" and Abe Sapien from "Hellboy," once again enhances his makeup and prosthetics with an effective portrayal of the Amphibian Man's complex emotions. While playing the Amphibian Man, Jones only com-

REVIEW | Page 6

#### Ratings

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Waste of time       | 3 - Good           |
| 2 - Eh, could be better | 4 - Almost perfect |
|                         | 5 - Life-changing  |



TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION

DYED | Page 6





Natalie Morace, lead singer of Girl Friday and fourth-year global studies student, said the band tries to focus more on highlighting political messages rather than each member's individual music skills.

## GIRL FRIDAY

from page 5

ent experience. When playing music in groups with men, Morace said Girl Friday's members sometimes feel the need to exaggerate their musical skills to establish credibility as artists. On the other hand, Morace said communicating Girl Friday's political message takes priority over showcasing the skill sets of its members.

Some of the band's songs in "Tiny Hats" include commentaries on the unhealthy dynamics in relationships between men and women using a light-hearted, pop-inspired sound, said Ellen.

"(The EP is) very political with a slice of sweetness," Hsieh said. "It's like biting into a cake and realizing there's a huge pepper in the middle of it."

"12 Hour Turnaround" depicts an emotionally attached man in a relationship with a woman who doesn't care about him, and only uses him for sex. The song is meant to overturn the trope of women as clingy or dependent on men.

Ellen said the band will continue to make music about political topics in its music as it battles to prove its musical credibility in a male-dominated music world. In the future, the group will also explore topics such as depression and privilege from a female perspective, she said.

"We're living in a turbulent time, but as artists and musicians have done for decades, the way you reflect what's going on is by talking about your own personal experiences," said Ellen.

Email Countryman at [ecountryman@dailybruin.com](mailto:ecountryman@dailybruin.com) or tweet @EliCountryman.

## DYED

from page 5

strings, the artists created a space in which objects cannot enter or exit, therefore trapping each object within a spiderweb-like design.

King said the artists went into the project with a focus on collaboration, resulting in the mashup of various mediums. However, she added they didn't have a specific meaning in mind. As they finished putting everyone's contribution together, they realized the meaning came from the making, she said.

During her seven years

at Long Beach City College, King became close friends with Babcock through various sculpture classes they took together. And Babcock said the two developed a close bond over their passions for sculpture.

"As I got to know her, she has some naive qualities, but very wise," Babcock said. "She is like a sister, a really good friend that I don't think I will ever lose."

After meeting Ochoa during their transfer orientation day and working together on the art show, King said her and Babcock's friendship became even stronger. Now at UCLA, Ochoa said the trio are excited to try new artistic endeavors at UCLA, yet

are simultaneously frustrated by their limited time as transfer students. However, their frustration also made them appreciate their friendship, which they explored through their art, even more.

"I've found the people (at UCLA) very accepting, but everyone is very focused on what they are doing. It's hard to make connections with people when everyone is working so hard," Ochoa said. "With (King) and (Babcock), we developed our own community, and being all sculptors, we all speak each other's language."

Email Zhong at [tzhong@dailybruin.com](mailto:tzhong@dailybruin.com) or tweet @tiger\_zhong.

## REVIEW

from page 5

municates through basic sign language, yet he still succeeds in humanizing the strange character.

In addition to a compelling bond between the central couple, the film also presents an exemplary antagonist. Michael Shannon delivers tension and paranoia as Richard Strickland, the ex-soldier who is in charge of the Amphibian Man and who aims to impress General Hoyt (Nick Searcy). Strickland exudes authority and menace through his posture, dialogue and facial expressions while

simultaneously justifying the motives behind his cruelty in front of the audience. The movie makes him a relatable character by presenting him as not only a villain, but also as a human being who cares about his family.

The film's other cinematic elements also help support its character development and plot devices. Alexandre Desplat's jazzy score exhibits a classiness reminiscent of the 1960s, during which the movie takes place. The music is soothing during romantic scenes and suspenseful during the action sequences, creating a diverse range of tones for the movie. The film's cinematography is also both colorful

and dreamy, fully realizing the world in which the movie takes place through its inclusion of small details such as neon lights on the streets or the complex scientific equipment inside the lab.

After filming giant robots battling amongst cities and a red demon fighting mythical monsters, del Toro has to work hard to shock and satisfy his fans. However, the charmingly written and well-shot "The Shape of Water" does just that with a riveting romance between a water creature and a lonely woman.

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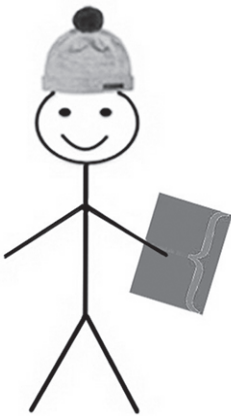
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5	9	6	8	1	4	2	7	3
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6	2	9	3	8	1	7	4	5
8	3	7	4	2	5	6	1	9
7	8	1	5	9	6	3	2	4
9	6	3	1	4	2	5	8	7
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# UCLA women’s soccer hopeful for future despite loss in final

BY MELISSA ZHANG  
*Assistant Sports editor*

UCLA women’s soccer may have just fallen short of a national championship this year, but the young talent on its roster breeds hope for upcoming seasons.

The Bruins finished their season with a record of 19-3-3 after losing 3-2 to Stanford (24-1-0) in the national championships last weekend at Orlando City Stadium.

Although unable to overcome the one-point deficit, UCLA did score two goals in four minutes after the Cardinal had played 487 straight minutes without allowing a single goal.

Though six seniors are graduating from this year’s squad, UCLA’s starting lineup from the NCAA Tournament will remain mostly intact. Redshirt senior defense Zoey Goralski and senior defender MacKenzie Cerda will graduate, but nine of the 11 starters will return in 2018.

“They’ve got incredibly talented rosters from UCLA’s (U.S.) youth national team players and Canadian (sophomore midfielder) Jessie Fleming,” said ESPN commentator Julie Foudy, who covered the entirety of the weekend’s College Cup. “That’s what I really love most about the College Cup – it’s a glimpse into the future for this country and for women’s soccer in general.”

Members of the freshman class made an immediate impact upon starting their collegiate soccer careers, with seven freshmen claiming starting positions in at least one game this season.

“Every class that comes through UCLA women’s soccer is one of the top in the country, but this one is pretty special,” said redshirt senior defender Claire Winter earlier in the season.

Freshman forward Ashley Sanchez came to Westwood as the top recruit of the 2017 recruiting class, according to Top Drawer Soccer. The rookie set a new UCLA freshman record with her dozen assists this season, and is one of only four Bruins in program history to log 12 assists in one season.



AXEL LOPEZ/DAILY BRUIN

Forward Ashley Sanchez set a freshman record for her 12 assists in her debut season. Sanchez came to Westwood as the top recruit in the 2017 incoming class, having U.S. national team experience.

“(Sanchez) has played on every youth national team and now we get a chance to see in her freshman season how she can continue to perform on the biggest stage,” Foudy said. “She has that experience and confidence.”

Two of UCLA’s key assets that will stay on the roster are junior forward Hailie Mace and Fleming.

Both Mace and Fleming were named to the All-Tournament Team following the College Cup. The pair are both First-Team All-Americans and semi-

finalists for the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy as well.

This is only the fifth time that the program has had two first-team selections in one year.

“Hailie Mace is an awesome story,” Foudy said. “Her having not really been recruited and (coach) Amanda (Cromwell) seeing a video of her and being like ‘Oh my gosh, who is this kid. ... Here’s a kid who didn’t go through the normal channels and played multiple sports.’”

Cromwell will return for her

sixth season in 2018. Cromwell is only the third female head coach to win an NCAA championship in women’s soccer, with the other two being Florida’s Becky Burleigh and Penn State’s Erica (Walsh) Dambach.

Following UCLA’s semifinals win over Duke, Cromwell was asked about her program’s success despite losing the 2016 season’s top prospect Mal Pugh to the U.S. national team in April.

“That was a blow. What she would bring to the table was undeniable. Now we have (redshirt sophomore midfielder)

Anika Rodriguez stepping up in tremendous ways,” Cromwell said. “Counting on (Sanchez) and (Mace) scoring, I don’t know how many, 15 goals ... we did get a lot of other players to flourish and to come into their own.”

The Bruins were also among the first NCAA teams to kneel during the playing of the national anthem this fall. A number of UCLA coaches and players knelt at different games throughout their season, beginning with their Oregon match on Sept. 28.

Seven Bruins took a knee during either a part or the entirety of the singing of the National Anthem before playing Stanford in the championship match at Orlando City Stadium.

“We discussed it as a team that it was each individual’s choice, but as a team we’re still connected,” Fleming said in October. “If you look at us, everyone’s touching someone. I think it’s pretty cool that we’re able to do this at UCLA.”

Email Zhang at [mzhang1@dailybruin.com](mailto:mzhang1@dailybruin.com)

TODAY’S  
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Attic end

6 Thorny stem

11 Earth, in combos

14 Artist — Neiman

15 Shocking

16 Wheel buy (2 wds.)

17 In a foul mood

18 Holds firm (2 wds.)

20 Salaam

21 Nessie’s hideout

23 Gray-barked tree

24 More than wants

26 Clergy

28 Fly

30 Blackens a steak

31 Layers

32 Not spicy

33 Pond maker

36 Cookbook qty.

37 Investment return

38 Obi-Wan, for one

39 So far

40 Hawks

41 Half of Mr. Spock

42 Does origami

43 Japanese mat

44 Caesar’s books

47 Edmonton puckster

48 Storm warning

49 Coup d’—

50 IRS form expert

53 Lose heavily (3 wds.)

56 Musician — Hayes

58 Sooner than anon

59 Fierce look

60 — Dame

61 Cloudy region

62 Early anesthetic

63 Ballpark figure

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

CLIMB SHAG HEMP  
COCO HEMI OLEO  
CROCS ALOU RIME  
LINKED MUSHROOM  
HOC REMITS  
CORSICA POD  
APART JEEPS EAU  
PUNS PULSE AXIS  
EST MONKS BRIDE  
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SQUIRREL PRANCE  
HURT IVAN CREME  
EASE NICE UNION  
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DOWN

1 Honey-tongued

2 Prefix for dynamic

3 Huskiest

4 Destiny

5 Grommets

6 Autumn pears

7 Baby —

8 Make — — double

9 Son of Val and Aleta

10 Cardinal

11 Regards with awe

12 Pass legislation

13 Vows

19 Gets the drift

22 Byron work

25 Tombstone deputy

26 Bell tower sounds

27 Writer Ayn —

28 L.L.D. holder

29 Intuition

30 Iditarod runners

32 Wraps tightly

33 Draw boundaries

34 Economist — Smith

35 Revealing dress

37 Bellow

38 Rope fiber

40 120 or 240

41 Hesitant, as speech

42 Golfer’s shout

43 — Maria

44 Gluts

45 Explorers Lewis and —

46 Type in again

47 Last box to check

49 Raison d’ —

51 Duffers’ goals

52 Poker pair

54 Diner sandwich

55 Murnur of content

57 Worthless coin

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16

17 18 19

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# UCLA brings strong defense to game against Oklahoma State

BY JOY HONG  
Daily Bruin contributor

Oklahoma State may be unranked, but on paper, the Cowgirls' head-to-head season stats are very similar to the Bruins'.

"Oklahoma State is a great team – I saw them play against Mississippi State," said senior guard Jordin Canada. "They only lost by three (on the road), and they're a great team as well. So we know it's going to be a battle."

No. 7 UCLA women's basketball (7-1) will kick off a five-game road trip by visiting Oklahoma State (6-2) on Friday. Both teams are holding opponents to just under 60 points per game and lead their conferences in steals, tallying 12.1 and 11.5 per game, respectively.

Oklahoma State will face its third top-15 opponent in just two weeks, after falling to both No. 12 Tennessee and No. 6 Mississippi State in close games. However, the Cowgirls will have a chance to pull off an upset in front of their home crowd.

"That's what we love to do – I'm like 'Bring it on,'" said coach Cori Close. "If you're a competitor, that's exactly what you want. You want situations that are going to force you to rise up."

UCLA will be playing its first road game of the season.

"Obviously playing on the road is always very hard," said

## Women's basketball

Oklahoma State  
Today, 5 p.m.  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Fox Sports Go

senior guard Kelli Hayes. "But our defense has prepared us very well to play road games like this."

Close often reminds her players that defense wins games. The Bruins have been playing stifling defense by limiting opponents to just 35.9 percent from the field.

"I think it's been motivating to be a great defensive team (because) we've never been a great offensive team," Close said. "As a lot of coaches have said ... offense is up and down, but defense travels. It will be the same whether you're in your own court or somebody else's gym."

Hayes also agreed the team's defense has led to getting everyone involved.

"It's definitely us finding those easier shots in transition, (making sure to look) in the paint for people posting up like (senior forward Monique Billings)... or (Canada) penetrating in transition taking her shot," Hayes said. "Everyone on the team working on their strengths, that's something that's been going well for us this year on the court."

Billings is continuing to dominate the paint, averaging 15.9 points and 9.1 rebounds

per game. Last Wednesday, she joined Canada on the 2018 Citizen Naismith Trophy watch list. The duo was nominated among 50 candidates, including Oklahoma State's center, Kaylee Jensen.

UCLA will have the opportunity to showcase its game plan of attacking the paint coming off Sunday's confident win, scoring over half of its points inside the paint in its 74-44 win against UCSB.

The Bruins, however, still struggled to find the bottom of the net shooting from behind the arc and sit tied for second to last in the Pac-12 at just 30.2 percent. On the other hand, Oklahoma State leads the Big-12 in defending the 3-point line, limiting opponents to just 23.5 percent.

"If they take away the 3-point line, we're still going to have killer inside game and just (focus on) getting those offensive boards," Hayes said.

The Bruins also lead the Pac-12 in offensive rebounding, hauling down 16.8 per game.

Canada said the team was unable to squeeze in a practice before traveling to Oklahoma due to complications caused by the Skirball fire near UCLA's campus, and said coaches will work out little details and run through the game plan with the players once they arrive.

Email Hong at  
jhong@dailybruin.com  
or tweet @joy\_\_hong.



JENNA NICOLE SMITH/DAILY BRUIN  
Senior guard Kelli Hayes and No. 7 UCLA women's basketball begin a five-game road trip against Oklahoma State on Friday. The Bruins have not played a true road game this season, but now face Pac-12 opponents like Stanford and Cal, as well as Fordham and Seton Hall.

## W. VBALL

from page 10

Florida has won in straight sets 16 times this season and hasn't lost since Oct. 15. It has held opponents to a .132 hitting percentage on average, which ranks second-best in the nation.

The Gators have also employed an efficient attack, ranking 13th in the country in hitting percentage with .287.

"I think we're a very good defensive team and I think that we can outlast a lot of teams," Munro said. "(We can) keep a low error percentage and keep the ball in play until other teams make errors, which I think will match up really well against Florida."

Florida has made the NCAA tournament 27 times in a row

since its current coach Mary Wise took over in 1991, but has yet to win a national championship.

In last year's tournament, the Gators were upset by their rival, the Florida State Seminoles, in the second round.

UCLA will be looking to advance to the national quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

"Pressure's on them. No. 2 seed? They have to get through that region," Sealy said. "If you're gonna have a season where you have the number two seed, all the expectations are there. If they don't get through this region and get to the Final Four, that's probably a disappointment for them and their fans."

Email Kearns at  
jkearns@dailybruin.com  
or tweet @\_jackkearns.

## GOLDBERG

from page 10

away. ... It was a tough decision," Ben Goldberg said.

Rapp, who had already committed to UCLA, tried to sway his partner to keep the doubles pair alive.

"I committed first, and then I was recruiting him to come here like, 'Come on, let's get this going,'" Rapp said.

Ben Goldberg decided to stay close to home and reunite with Rapp and coach Martin, choosing UCLA three months after Rapp committed.

However, his decision meant turning his back on other schools that could have offered him a larger role.

"There was no guarantee of playing in our top six or playing doubles, yet he could have gone to a lot of other schools and absolutely played in their top six," Martin said.

Ben Goldberg did not see any game action for the first few weeks of the regular season.

But following an injury to a teammate, he made his

dual match debut against USC in the ITA Indoor Championships in February. He and senior Austin Rapp, Connor Rapp's older brother, won the set against the Trojans 6-4.

Although he did not permanently crack a top-six singles position, Ben Goldberg cultivated a niche in doubles. After initially pairing with Austin Rapp for several matches, he partnered with junior Maxime Cressy.

Ben Goldberg finished his freshman season with a 7-9 record in singles and a 14-16 doubles record. He attained records of 3-0 and 7-10 in singles and doubles dual matches, respectively.

The player has been lauded by Martin for his foot speed and quick in-game adjustments to counter his opponents. Heading into this season, Ben Goldberg has focused on getting stronger, which has helped his serve and aggression.

"When he steps on the court here at UCLA, he's all business," Martin said. "He has added that heart to our team."

Like his father, the sopho-

more said he hopes to work in college athletics after the conclusion of his tennis career, whether as a coach or as an administrator. Ben Goldberg said he would prefer to work at UCLA and give back to the school that has been such an integral part of his life.

But for now, he's focused on building off his freshman campaign. Even with the addition of several talented freshmen to the team this year, Ben Goldberg said he aspires to earn mainstay positions in both singles and doubles.

Although neither his role for the upcoming season nor his future aspirations have yet to be fully solidified, one thing is for certain: Ben Goldberg has been and will be a Bruin for life, he said.

"I felt like to have the opportunity to go here given my upbringing with everything, (it was) definitely something I couldn't turn down," Ben Goldberg said. "I was basically born to be a Bruin."

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NCAA TOURNAMENT



EDWARD FIGUEROA/DAILY BRUIN  
Junior middle blocker Kyra Rogers has recorded a season hitting percentage of .272 and 65 total blocks, both of which are the second-best on the team this season.

UCLA ready to face one-loss Florida team

BY JACK KEARNS  
Daily Bruin contributor

UCLA women's volleyball had a fluctuating regular season, taking time to adjust to a young roster.

However, everything is seemingly coming together for the Bruins as they enter the Sweet 16 looking for a win against a Florida team with just one loss.

"We're hitting our stride at the right time," said junior libero Zana Munoz. "We've had a lot of ups and downs throughout the season. But all that's important is hitting your peak at the right time and we're definitely doing that."

The No. 15 seed Bruins (21-10) will travel to Gainesville, Florida, on Friday to take on the No. 2 seed Gators (27-1) in the third round of the NCAA tournament.

UCLA lost in five sets to No. 3 seed Stanford on Nov. 16 and has proceeded to go on a five-game win streak since, including a sweep over No. 10 seed USC.

Coach Michael Sealy said after the USC game that he thinks the team can grow exponentially due to its youth and team chemistry.

"I think the team's been really consistent for the last six weeks," Sealy said. "The

Women's volleyball

No. 2 Florida  
Today, 1 p.m.  
Gainesville, Florida  
ESPNU

energy, the attitude, the focus is consistent. I think it's a nice balance because they're (also) a fun, laid-back group."

Florida is an experienced group with lots of talent and size. The Gators start three seniors and a redshirt junior. Middle blocker Rhamat Alhassan, who's 6-foot-4-inches, leads the nation in blocks per set, while 6-foot-8-inch middle blocker Rachael Kramer is seventh in the country with a hitting percentage of .434.

Across the net, UCLA middle blocker Kyra Rogers stands at 6 feet. The junior, while undersized for her position, has been able to log a season .272 hitting percentage and 78 total blocks, both second-best on the team.

"I know I'm going to be facing a lot of players that are much bigger than me," Rogers said. "I just have to accept that I'm going to get a lot of my attacks blocked ... and just play fast and reset after every play."

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Ball brothers to play overseas

BY KELSEY ANGUS  
Assistant Sports editor

LaVar Ball told ESPN on Thursday morning that his two younger sons, LiAngelo and LaMelo Ball, have both signed with agent Harrison Gaines with the intention of playing overseas.

LaVar Ball recently pulled LiAngelo Ball from UCLA after the freshman was suspended from play indefinitely following a shoplifting incident during UCLA basketball's trip to China. LaMelo Ball had also previously withdrawn from Chino Hills High School in October, which would have been his junior season.

Earlier this week, LaVar Ball

had said LaMelo Ball would still play for UCLA, but Thursday morning, he said LaMelo Ball will not play college basketball.

Teams in Europe and Asia have expressed interest in the brothers, according to ESPN. LaVar Ball said he is not concerned with the money, but wants his sons to be playing basketball again – on the same team and on the court at the same time. However, many European club executives are not interested in the Ball brothers, according to Bleacher Report.

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AUBREY YEO/DAILY BRUIN SENIOR STAFF  
After pulling LiAngelo Ball from UCLA earlier this week, LaVar Ball told ESPN on Thursday that both LiAngelo and LaMelo Ball have signed with agents to play internationally.



AUBREY YEO/DAILY BRUIN SENIOR STAFF  
Ben Goldberg said he hopes to work in college athletics someday after he graduates, as a coach or administrator. The sophomore said he would prefer it to be at UCLA, however.

BY JUSTIN AUH  
Daily Bruin contributor

Crowds can provoke anxiety in a freshman student-athlete, but not in one who grew up around them.

"Being in front of a crowd, it's easy to get nervous and get tight ... but my upbringing, being at all these huge games, huge crowds, I (feel) super comfortable out there," sophomore Ben Goldberg said.

Born into a family of Bruins, Goldberg went to countless games at Pauley Pavilion and the Rose Bowl throughout his childhood. The tennis player felt at home among the large game day crowds and envisioned playing for UCLA one day.

Both of Goldberg's parents and his paternal grandfather

attended UCLA. His father, Dan Goldberg, works as the university's assistant athletic director of compliance, which provided many opportunities for Ben Goldberg to immerse himself in UCLA athletics from a young age.

Ben Goldberg attended three Final Fours in a row from 2006 to 2008. He also recalled excursions with the football team, including trips to Alcatraz before the 2011 Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl in San Francisco and to SeaWorld prior to the 2012 Holiday Bowl in San Diego.

"I got to travel with the team to bowl games on the charter plane. ... They got the police escorts on the buses," the Pacific Palisades native said.

While his father instilled in him his diehard Bruin loyalty,

Ben Goldberg's mother, Vicky Goldberg, introduced him to tennis when he was 3 years old. It was not until he was about 8 years old, however, that he began to focus intensively on the sport.

At age 9, Ben Goldberg met redshirt freshman Connor Rapp at a tournament in Anaheim, California. From there, the pair would become a doubles team for the next nine years on the junior tour, developing a close friendship.

"Sometimes (Ben) invited me (to football games), so I was kind of surrounded by the culture of UCLA," Rapp said.

Ben Goldberg also established an early connection with coach Billy Martin, attending his summer and holiday camps throughout his elementary school years. Martin said he

kept a close eye on Ben Goldberg's progress, especially during his four-year varsity career at Palisades Charter High School.

"I got to know (Ben), watch his tennis progress and follow him during his high school years and doing really well in Southern Cal Juniors," Martin said.

Martin began to intensively recruit Ben Goldberg during his junior year. The five-star recruit received offers from big and small schools alike, but he only seriously considered UCLA and Wisconsin, whose coach is also from the Pacific Palisades.

"Also, I had to play the other side of it and try to see if it would be good for me to go

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Men's water polo sees end of an era with graduating senior class



AMY DIXON/ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR  
With the 2017 season in the rearview mirror, UCLA men's water polo is set to lose seven seniors, including senior utility Alex Roelse. He scored twice against USC in the national championship, leading the Bruins in goals Sunday with senior center Matt Farmer.

BY RYAN SMITH  
Assistant Sports editor

With the 2017 season in the books, UCLA men's water polo must say goodbye to a senior class who will leave behind an impressive legacy.

The Bruins claimed their third title in four years after knocking off USC in the NCAA championship Sunday. This is the second time in which UCLA has won three titles in a four-year span, last occurring between 1969 and 1972.

However, the win also marked the end of one of the most decorated senior classes in program history, which has achieved three national titles, a record breaking 57-game win streak and a 105-10 overall record.

To coach Adam Wright, though, this season may have been the most impressive feat in the seniors' careers.

"What they were able to do with the influx of a large class of freshmen, and show them just how we are supposed to operate every day, first as people and students, and how we train every day – they did it all," Wright said.

The Bruins lost four 2016 All-Americans prior to the season, and were given the task of inte-

grating nine new freshmen into the lineup. As Wright mentioned after the win Sunday, most people in the water polo community had written off UCLA early in the season for that reason.

Senior utility Alex Roelse and his fellow senior teammates silenced the outside noise, and focused on making a lasting impact on not only the freshmen, but the entire program.

"Coming into this season, we sat down as a group of seniors and we talked about where we wanted to go, and what kind of stamp we wanted to leave on this program," Roelse said. "How is this program going to benefit from us this year?"

The Bruins responded by opening the season 11-0, and leapfrogging the Trojans for the No. 1 ranking after taking them down in the final of the MPSF Invitational in September.

Senior attacker Max Irving, who scored a career-high six goals in that game, played a major role for UCLA in bringing home the title over the weekend. After scoring a pair of goals in the semifinal victory over Pacific, he said that he hadn't had a chance to digest that his collegiate career was coming to an end.

"I haven't really thought about it too much," Irving said. "I'll definitely have some time after its all said and done to think back and reflect but right now I'm trying to focus and just be present."

Irving went on to score a goal in the championship game. He finished his UCLA career with 133 goals, including a career-high 47 in 2015.

Along with Roelse and Irving, UCLA will lose five other seniors: goalkeeper Aleksandar Ruzic, center Matt Farmer and attackers Jack Grover, Jesse Camou and James Robinson.

Ruzic started four games, splitting time with redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Alex Wolf, while the six position players accounted for 133 of the teams' 292 goals this season.

Despite the end of this era, the Bruins remain in good hands. With freshman attackers Nicolas Saveljic and Chasen Travisano, who finished first and fifth in scoring respectively, UCLA will remain competitive in part thanks to the mark this senior year's class left behind.

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