

THE DAILY AZTEC



San Diego State University's Independent Student Newspaper since 1913

INSIDE TODAY

FOOD & DRINK



EXOTIC CUISINE

Treat yourself to an extravagant dining experience at The Marine Room on the La Jolla Shores.

page 3

THE BACK PAGE



THE CON ARTIST

Conor tries to meet girls at East Commons ... and fails.

page 8

TODAY @ SDSU

Noah Needleman

4:30 p.m., Aztec Center Starbucks

Check out the acoustic stylings of this indie/pop singer/songwriter as part of Cultural Arts and Special Events local talent coffeehouse series.

For more information, visit <http://www.case.sdsu.edu>.

For more of today's headlines, visit: www.thedailyaztec.com

TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly cloudy
High: 78°F
Low: 65°F

TOMORROW

Mostly sunny
High: 75°F
Low: 65°F

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy
High: 76°F
Low: 63°F

TODAY'S SURF

3-4 ft., Occasional 5 ft.; Fair conditions

WATER TEMP: 63°-67°F

TIDES: 7:21 a.m., 3.55 ft. high
10:42 a.m., 3.20 ft. low
5:07 p.m., 5.46 ft. high
12:55 p.m., 0.12 ft. low

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INDEX

FOOD & DRINK.....3
SPORTS.....5
CLASSIFIEDS.....7
THE BACK PAGE.....8



Courtesy of the San Diego Padres

BUD AND BOBBY

BLACK AND MEACHAM PLAYED TOGETHER AT SDSU AND NOW COACH SIDE BY SIDE IN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL.

Making smooth transitions

Workshop helps new students make the switch to SDSU

KIM SWAIN
CITY EDITOR

Making the move from high school to college, or even from one college to another, can be difficult, especially at a campus as large as San Diego State. In an effort to address some of the issues that arise in such transitions, the Intercultural Relations/Cross-Cultural Center will be holding a workshop at 5 p.m. today in Casa Real.

This is the first time that this workshop, titled "Transitioning into the University," has been offered through the department of intercultural relations, said Tanis Starck, director of the Intercultural Relations/Cross Cultural Center. The workshop will be an interactive dialogue with students and will include information on where students can get assistance if needed.

Starck said any student may attend, but first year, transfer

and underrepresented students would benefit most.

"First generation, low-income and cultural minority students often encounter similar challenges when first attending a large institution such as SDSU," Starck said. "This work-

"First generation, low-income and cultural minority students often encounter similar challenges (at large universities)."

—Tanis Starck,
Director of Intercultural Relations

shop is designed to help students understand and address these challenges."

Some of the topics for discussion include tips and information on how to successfully transition into a large universi-

see **WORKSHOP** on page 2

SDSU struggles to keep its cool

Main chiller system down, majority of campus without AC

KIM SWAIN
CITY EDITOR

While San Diego State students, faculty and staff were off-campus for the Labor Day weekend, the main chiller system experienced a major failure, leaving about two-thirds of the school without air-conditioning.

An e-mail from the Work Control Center sent to faculty and staff just before 9 a.m. yesterday said that the Physical Plant is working to restore the system and hopes to have full air-conditioning restored within 36 hours. Although air handlers continue to circulate air, it is warmer than usual.

Provost Nancy Marlin sent an e-mail yesterday afternoon that said based on increasing room temperatures because of the chiller failure, faculty and students are questioning whether classes would be cancelled. Because conditions vary across campus, Marlin said it is up to faculty to use their own discretion as to whether they will cancel class.

Bob Schulz, associate vice president of operations for Business and Financial Affairs, said the cooling system started to go down on Sunday, became a bigger problem yesterday and has now shut down for an indefinite period of time. Temporary chillers are being brought to campus, but Schulz said he doesn't anticipate that they will be ready until late tomorrow.

Campus buildings should be back to cooler temperatures by tomorrow.

Students all over campus have been feeling the effects of the air-conditioning outage. Communicative disorders senior Teresa Nichols said she had class in Storm Hall yesterday and, although she didn't know about the cooling system failure, everyone noticed the classroom was warmer than usual.

"It was really bad," Nichols said. "We were trying to take a quiz and everyone was using the quiz as a fan. It's really difficult when you're trying to concentrate and listen to your professor but you're sweating."

Liberal studies junior Mynor Pinillos said he noticed a lot of people complaining about the heat, but it didn't affect him too much. Pinillos said he tries to drink lots of water, wear comfortable clothes and not think about the heat.

Some buildings, which run on a separate cooling system, have not been affected. These include Calpulli Health Center, Aztec Athletic Center, KPBS, Gateway Center, Extended Studies Center, Public Safety and the residence halls.

To help keep everyone on campus cool, the business affairs office began distributing 30,000 free bottles of water to students, faculty and staff yesterday and will continue to do so today, Schulz said. As of yesterday, between 12 and 14 pallets of water had been given out.

The bottled water is being made available through Aztec Shops and Business and Financial Affairs distribution services at several locations across campus.

Free Bottled Water Locations

- Outside walkway on Hardy Avenue at American Language Institute and Gateway Center
- Northwest corner of Student Services
- On Aztec Circle sidewalk in front of Geology Mathematics and Computer Science

- In front of the Theatre Department
- In front of Nasitir and Storm halls
- In front of Hardy Tower

Source: Business Services

New year for A.S.

ALANNA BERMAN
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Associated Students will hold its first official meeting of the year today.

"The biggest thing on the agenda this year will of course be Modern Space," said Jameson DeSantis, A.S. executive vice president and chief operations officer.

Preliminary plans for Modern Space, the planned addition to Aztec Center, were discussed last week in a meeting with architects, but no official plan has been confirmed.

"We hope to have some plan set by the end of the year," DeSantis said.

A.S. will also look at athletic events on campus, which have been sparsely attended in the past.

"There will be football tailgates before every game this year, unlike some years in the past," DeSantis said. "We're also working at increasing the visibility of the football players to students this year, so that these events are attended."

Improving student interest in these events will be an effort headed by Aztec FORCE, or Fanatics Organizing Campus Energy, a new group aimed at getting student organizations to incorporate athletics into their programming.

"The student organizations have the numbers we need to get the interest in student athletics up," DeSantis said. "Hopefully, we can create some new traditions along the way."

Additionally, A.S. will continue to work on its own green movement and a "fix the fine" program. The \$1,000 citations for noise violations have been a major issue for members of both the campus community and A.S. since they began in April. A.S. has been working to get the word out about the fines and will continue those efforts this year.

A.S. meetings are open to the general public and are held at 3:30 p.m. every Wednesday in the Council Chambers, which are in the Lower Aztec Center.

WORKSHOP: *Greater academic expectations in higher education*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ty, how to succeed in and out of the classroom and college expectations.

The higher level of academic expectations students face in college can often catch one off guard, Starck said.

"To address these higher expectations," she said, "students need to understand the differences from their previous academic experiences and adjust their study

approaches to accommodate these changes."

At a university as large as SDSU, which is bigger than some small towns, students can feel overwhelmed, especially those from smaller, rural environments, Starck said. To help with the feeling of being overwhelmed, Starck said students can focus on one or two small aspects of the university and get involved there.

Getting involved with student organizations helps make a big university feel smaller.

"Academically oriented organizations as well as socially oriented organizations allow a student to make friends and become part of a smaller group," Starck said. "It is these experiences that help students connect to the university and feel like they belong."

The City Section is currently hiring writers for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Pick up an application at the Daily Aztec office, in the basement of BAM, or call City Editor Kim Swain at (619) 594-7882.

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La Jolla chef Bernard Guillas' labor of love



Waves crash against the window while you enjoy international cuisine

NATALIA VAN STRALEN
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Chef Bernard Guillas is a talker – and rightfully so. He's been around the world, and just listing the spices he's discovered in far-off lands could fill an entire day. It's Guillas' passion that keeps you engaged in the conversation – the enthusiasm he has for bringing the tastes of his travels into his food to produce amazing meals.

As the executive chef of La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club's three restaurants, that is exactly what Guillas does.

The crown jewel of the trio over which Guillas presides is The Marine Room, a seafood restaurant that doubles as a landmark.

"The Marine Room is the oldest restaurant in San Diego that has been owned and operated by the same family," Sara DeYoung, marketing and communications specialist for La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, Inc. said. "The restaurant opened in 1941, and we are cuisine."

The appearance is deceiving. From the outside, you'd think you were eating at a small house. But once you walk in, your eyes are treated to a magnificent sight. A rounded staircase leads into a relaxing cocktail lounge built onto the sandy beach floor. The lounge transitions into dining areas from left to right of the staircase. No matter where you're seated, you get a jaw-dropping view of La Jolla Shores cliffs, ocean and beach.

While the building is old, you'd have no idea from looking at it. Renovations have allowed The Marine Room to uphold its class and preserve its prime location.

"The windows have been replaced twice since the opening of the restaurant; once in the '40s and again in the '80s," DeYoung said. "They are now 3/4-inch thick and are constantly being maintained."

Since its opening, The Marine Room has added a great deal to its menu. In his 13 years as a chef there, Guillas has contributed to many of these additions. The appetizer, "Togarashi Plum Spiced Kobe Beef Carpaccio," is complimented by numerous spices that Guillas synergized together. It's presented to the diner on a large square platter filled with delicate amounts of cocoa nibs, sharp roomano cheese, watercress, a sweet carob vincotto sauce to be paired with the Kobe beef and an espelette guava paste from France that's tangy and sweet. This appetizer platter costs \$15 and is the second least expensive appetizer on the menu.

An entrée option is the "Fennel Pollen Dukkah Coated Alaskan Halibut." Guillas recommends enjoying this dish and its distinctive mixture of flavors while you can, as The Marine Room does not serve it in the winter because it is imported from Alaska seasonally. This plate highlights red quinoa, an Incan grain that Guillas said is one of the highest protein grains in the world. Accompanying the grain is a vanilla leek that looks like a yellow wrap and has a mild, sweet flavor. The coated Alaskan halibut sits in the center of the platter surrounded by chive sprouts and an absinthe infusion. This dish is priced at \$35, which is about the average price of an entrée at the restaurant.

Guillas realizes that the importance of flavor must carry through to all parts of a meal. The desserts, therefore, are as uniquely composed as the appetizers and entrées. Most of the desserts are reasonably priced at \$11 each. However, for a more complete dessert option, diners can enjoy a "Chef's Tasting" of either

American Artisan cheeses, the "Trilogy," or the "Study on Chocolate" at \$14 a platter.

The desserts each have a distinctiveness to them. For example, the Warm Carlsbad Strawberry and Peach Torte has a peppered – as in black pepper – blood orange sorbet with a 25-year-old balsamic vinegar. The "Trilogy" features a sun-dried blueberry zinfandel brulee. The blueberries, mixed throughout the brulee, provide a balanced sweetness of the berries and sugary cream.

According to Guillas, it is his travel and experience that makes the Marine Room's food so exceptional.

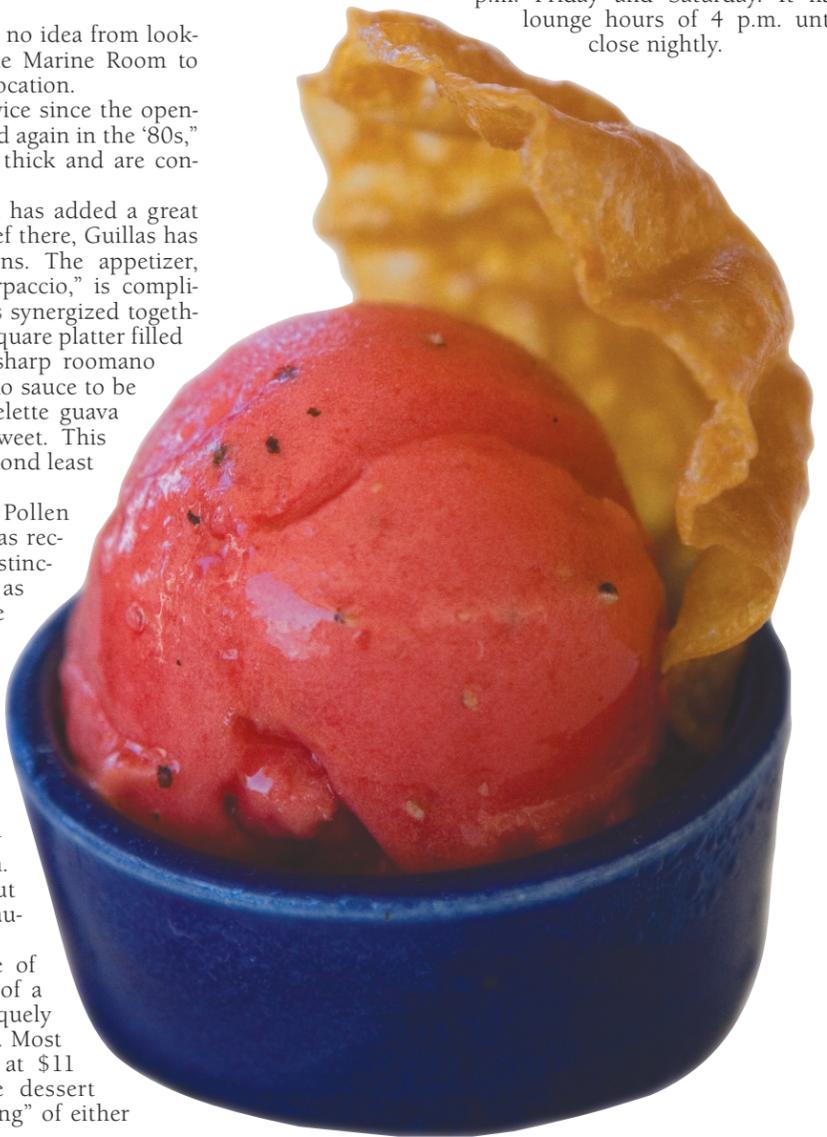
"When you are looking to explore a new food or ingredient, you must go where the chef knows what they are doing," Guillas said. "They know how to pair the food, present it and cook it properly. Traveling gives a richness to our souls. I am in a labor I love – traveling just allows me to continue to create, create and create!"

The only problem with Guillas' creations is the cost. The prices may not be a reasonable meal option for a budgeting college student. However, even Guillas admits the food is an occasional treat – one he often neglects to indulge in.

"I don't eat anything on the menu," said Guillas. "Give me a tomato salad for lunch rather than a filet."

Don't let the white tablecloth presentation, service and quality of food intimidate you. Even a saving student can treat themselves, a date or a visiting family member to an experience at The Marine Room.

The Marine Room is located at 2000 Spindrifft Drive in La Jolla. Its dinner hours are from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. It has lounge hours of 4 p.m. until close nightly.



The "Togarashi Plum Spiced Kobe Beef Carpaccio" is decorated with cocoa nibs, roomano, watercress, carob vincotto and espelette guava paste. This delicious dish of raw beef is a popular appetizer at The Marine Room.

David J. Olender / Assistant Photo Editor

Cookbooks tailored for the kitchen-impaired

Here are some cookbooks to help college students create easy home-cooked meals

AMY CULBERTSON
MCT CAMPUS

It's not likely that if you're college-bound you're going to starve to death shortly after arriving on campus – whatever your fears may be.

Still, it wouldn't hurt to know a little bit more about cooking than how to heat up a Pop-Tart.

At your neighborhood bookstore, or on www.amazon.com, you'll find a selection of cookbooks aimed at college students. We checked out a bunch of them and chose a few we really like:

–“Where's Mom Now That I Need Her?: Surviving Away From Home,” by Kent P. Frandsen (Aspen West, \$24.95).

This old ring-binder favorite has been updated during almost 25 years of printings, and it's as useful as ever. With a tone – like Mom's – that is alternately no-nonsense and affectionate, this is a comprehensive guide to “surviving away from home.”

A chapter called “Conquering the Grocery Store” includes a thorough treatise on food safety and a nutrition primer offers down-to-earth advice. Besides the chapter on cooking and housecleaning basics, you'll find chapters on laundry and clothing repair, basic first aid and when to see a doctor. And, of course, Mom's favorite recipes,

as well as space to write your own mom's favorites and advice.

–“College Cooking: Feed Yourself and Your Friends,” by Megan Carle and Jill Carle (Ten Speed Press, \$19.95).

The back cover of this attractively illustrated cookbook notes: “After watching so many of our friends stumble around in the kitchen, we decided that we needed to write a book specifically geared for college students. In other words, people with very little equipment, very little cooking experience and very little money.”

This is the book for a student who's ready to start making mac-and-cheese from scratch, but there are still starter recipes – tuna noodle casserole, barbecue chicken pita pizza – in the “Survival Cooking” chapter.

–“Munchies,” by Kevin Telles Roberts (Storey, \$12.95).

This clever and thoroughly entertaining cookbook is aimed at students of the guy variety, but female collegians should warm to it as well. This is one cookbook that is likely to see actual use by your student. Who could resist a book with a recipe for baked chicken crusted with crushed Goldfish crackers?

Other cookbooks that should come in handy at college: “The College Cookbook: An Alternative to the Meal Plan,” by Geri Harrington; “The Everything College Cookbook,” by Rhonda Lauret Parkinson; “The Healthy College Cookbook,” by Alexandra Nimetz, Jason Stanley and Emeline Starr; “101 Things To Do With Ramen Noodles,” by Toni Patrick; and “101 Things To Do With a Tortilla,” by Stephanie Ashcraft and Donna Kelly.



Ramen noodles are an easy and healthy meal that college students can easily make on a busy schedule.



The diploma you can wear



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West side of the SDSU Bookstore

SDSU BOOKSTORE



Former Aztecs find jobs together in SD

Black and Meacham unite, play for San Diego Padres

DAVID BIDERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

This routine is old hat by now.

The relationship started nearly three decades ago on a sunny field in San Diego and it continues today. One calls the shots and the other has his back.

One was a pitcher and the other his infielder; his first line of defense. Now, one is a Major League Baseball manager and the other his first base coach; his trusted adviser.

For this duo, the pairing is natural. In 1979, Bud Black pitched and Bobby Meacham played defense for the San Diego State baseball team under legendary head coach Jim Dietz. The two worked together for just one season and then separated paths.

Black left school and had a 15-year MLB career before retiring in 1995 and becoming a pitching coach with the Anaheim Angels in 2000.

Meacham played at SDSU for two more seasons before launching a six-year stint with the New York Yankees. He played his final game in 1988 and joined the coaching circles too, landing his first MLB gig with the Florida Marlins in 2006.

The Aztec duo, though divided for 27 years, hadn't forgotten about one another.

Meacham was not asked back to his role in Florida after the season once the Marlins' manager was let go.

Black landed the top spot with the San Diego Padres before the 2007 campaign began.

The next piece of the San Diego baseball puzzle fit like a batting glove.

"The main thing when I got this job was that I recognized Bobby as a great baseball man,"

Black said. "As far back as college, I knew he was good from the fundamental side and the strategic side. Last year, when the Marlins went through some changes, there was no doubt that I'd (want him) on my staff."

Call it good timing. Or maybe good luck. How about an Aztec alliance?

No matter, Black and Meacham's paths weren't necessarily destined to cross.

Black had resisted other teams' requests for his managerial services for years before eventually stepping up to the plate. And even then, he interviewed with the San Francisco Giants prior to migrating back to San Diego.

Meanwhile, Meacham had been working his way through the coaching ranks and just so happened to be a free agent during the right off-season.

"It just luckily worked out this way," Meacham said. "After 15 years in coaching and managing in the minors, after not being asked back in Florida, I was just looking to stick in the big leagues. But to not only get (a job), but for it to be in San Diego, that was nice."

Now that the two are back in town, they can continue growing the SDSU sports network. The Aztec baton that Tony Gwynn recently ran with in his induction to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum can be lent to Black and Meacham.

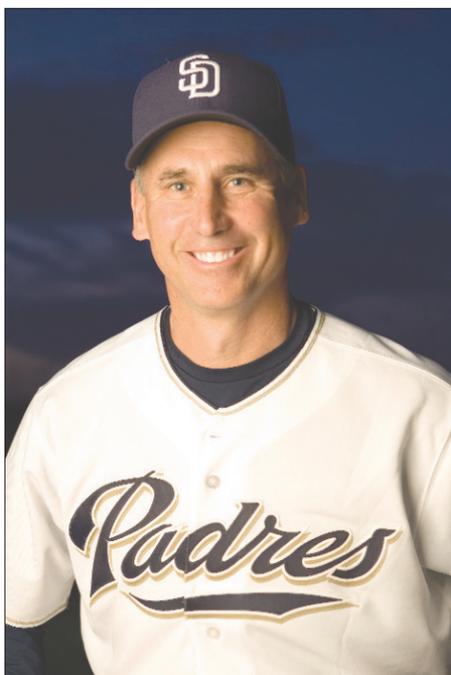
"I think (us) being here is great for SDSU and for the Padres and it's a reflection on coach Dietz and all the great things he did from a teaching standpoint," Black said. "To have a number of guys from the school go on to careers as MLB coaches is a tribute to the program."

"To see how Tony's been here for so long and how people here love him so much," Meacham said, reflecting on his and Black's San Diego legacy, "it's definitely cool to start becoming a part of that."



Courtesy of the San Diego Padres

Former Aztec Meacham coaches with the Padres.



Courtesy of the San Diego Padres

Manager Black pitched for SDSU in the '70s.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

SDSU hit by injuries, red cards and losses

ERIC SHANNON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Ever try putting a puzzle together only to learn that a few pieces were missing?

After all that time and effort, you see those empty spaces staring at you, mocking your frustration.

Well if you have, know that you're not

alone. The San Diego State women's soccer team is in the same boat.

Injuries to vital upperclassmen have caused gaping holes in SDSU's roster that its freshmen haven't filled. A lack of offensive punch has limited the team to just one goal in its first two matches.

The Aztecs' inability to score should be

see **WOMEN'S SOCCER** on page 6

FOOTBALL

Determined defense

SDSU still adjusting to new defense installed in 2006

DAVID BIDERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

In addition to learning a new defensive scheme, stopping the run and out-thinking the opponent's quarterback, the San Diego State football team's linebackers must avoid tripping on the field at Qualcomm Stadium.

There are some large divots that were left in the past few years, and ankles could be sprained if players aren't careful.

Linebackers Kirk Morrison and Matt McCoy left SDSU in 2005 and found success in the National Football League with the Oakland Raiders and Philadelphia Eagles, respectively.

Linebacker Freddy Keiaho traded his Aztec uniform for Indianapolis Colts gear in 2006 and won a Super Bowl ring.

Those three players create an awfully intimidating legacy to hold up.

It's time for senior linebackers Brett Martin and Freddy Dunkle, junior linebacker Russell Allen and short but speedy sophomore linebacker Luke Laologi, among others, to start making some trails of their own.

SDSU's run defense was porous in 2006 — last in the Mountain West Conference in total rushing yards allowed, rushing yards per game and per carry — and needs its current defensive crop to match the production of players past.

"There's a completely different feel around the locker room and the field than last year," Allen said. "Everyone is sick of the way it was (in 2006), and we've really come together and tried to make changes."

The changes they're making will have to coincide with the alterations to the Aztec defensive game plan.

Assistant head coach and defensive coordinator Bob Elliott remodeled SDSU's playbook last season and the players struggled to adjust. Elliott introduced more blitzing from various angles to an Aztec squad lacking in size but abundant in speed.

Last year, the changes often led to confusion among defenders. This year, however,

the players are more confident.

"We're really flying at the ball and getting our hands on everything," Allen said. "The scheme is a bit different but we're creating takeaways by approaching the ball in different ways."

For SDSU, the more Allen adjusts to the plan, the better. Though he'll predominantly be lining up as an outside linebacker, Allen will be making most of the defensive decisions and calling the on-field adjustments.

"We can count on (Allen) to do a lot of things," Elliott said. "We put him in a position to make a lot of plays and be a leader. He's calling the defense in the huddle which is unusual for an outside linebacker, but the guys have a great respect for him. And if (the players) have respect for him, what he says will carry."

What remains to be seen is whether the players can execute the defensive adjustments in game situations.

Elliott hopes the success in fall practices will be a harbinger of things to come.

"We haven't played anybody but ourselves, but I like our attitude," Elliott said. "I think we're making progress, but you just never know how fast things will move when you actually get out there (in real games)."

News and Notes:

- Senior running back Lynell Hamilton will likely not play Saturday in the Aztecs' opener at Washington State because of a knee injury.



Glenn Connolly / Photo Editor

Junior linebacker Russell Allen leads the defense.

MEN'S SOCCER

Soccer team fails to find goals at home

UC Riverside provides tough, physical opponent

EVAN ADRIAN
CONTRIBUTOR

When push comes to shove, the San Diego State men's soccer team usually dominates. SDSU doesn't win all of its matches, but it almost always out-fouls its opponents. It's the Aztecs' trademark defense: tough and gritty.

In its home-opener against UC Riverside Monday afternoon at the SDSU Sports Deck, SDSU was neither victorious nor physically dominating in a 2-0 loss in front of more than 300 fans. The Aztecs committed just 12 fouls compared to the Highlanders' 21. UCR also drew four yellow cards next to SDSU's two en route to an easy victory.

The Highlanders set the tone early with 13 fouls in the first half while the Aztecs fouled just three times and fell behind 1-0.

"We knew going in that they were a very physical team," sophomore defender Nick Cardenas said. "A few calls didn't go our way, but they outworked us."

Despite out-shooting UCR 7-4 in the opening stanza, SDSU found itself in a hole because it couldn't generate any decent shots on goal. The Highlander's first score came on freshman forward Cito Soriano's

shot just 12 minutes into the contest. The strike flew to the right of goalkeeper redshirt junior Ryan Bowie's reach. Bowie, in his first career start, eventually gave up a second score in the second half when he tripped trying to get into a good defensive position.

Bowie, however, wasn't the only Aztec that looked a step slow and off-kilter. SDSU was unable to put together a consistent offensive attack and ended the match with just two quality shots on goal.

"We've got to learn that every game is equally important," head coach Lev Kirshner said. "We won't get far until we learn that."

The Aztecs had more spirit in the second half after subbing co-captain senior midfielder Craig Chiles into the game, but his efforts weren't enough to overcome a weak first half and an overall inefficient afternoon.

"It was a hot day and I think we let the game come to us a little too much in the first half," Chiles said. "When we started the second half down, we started pressing and getting more looks. We turned it around, but it wasn't enough."

SDSU has started its season off on an average note, combining a draw on the road against a formidable Creighton team with a lackluster performance against UCR.

The Aztecs, though, have yet to lose confidence and won't change their attack too drastically.

"It's only the second game," Kirshner said. "Let's not get too worried yet."

WOMEN'S SOCCER: *Sophomore forward Heather Vandevanter will return to action Friday against Creighton*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

curved, however, as sophomore forward Heather Vandevanter will return to action against Creighton on Friday at the Michael G. Morrison, S.J. Stadium in Omaha, Neb. after missing much of SDSU's previous match because of a red card.

"(Vandevanter is) a huge physical presence for us on the field," head coach Mike Friesen said. "She has the ability to score a lot of goals. Heather allows us to pressure the other team and build our attack."

Vandevanter brings relief to a squad that is also without injured sophomore forwards Cat Walker and Jessica Gordon and senior midfielder Lisa Nielsen.

The Aztecs still have a ways to go on their ride back to full strength, however.

Although injuries have made SDSU (0-1-1) alter its lineup, not all of the early season struggles can be put on the five freshmen who have unexpectedly logged heavy minutes.

"You have to work as a team to get (on the opponents' side) and support the forwards,"

senior midfielder Jessica Girdner said. "We need to work on the whole team getting up there together."

The Aztecs have been too passive and they plan to rearrange their game plan to spark the offense.

"We'll try and be a little more direct and step up and pressure (opponents) in their own half," Friesen said. "We'll try to dump some more balls in. We aren't doing the things we need to do; the small things."

Fortunately for the team, they'll have two

chances to improve this weekend.

Following its contest with the Bluejays (2-0-0), SDSU will play Nebraska on Sunday afternoon at the Nebraska Soccer Field in Lincoln, Neb.

The Cornhuskers have also relied on freshmen this season, but they've yet to struggle. Nebraska (1-0-0) was fueled by two freshmen in its 2-0 victory over Northwestern last Sunday, among them, freshman goalkeeper Jessica Mills, who stopped 11 shots.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sigma Alpha Lambda, a National Honors and Leadership Organization, is seeking motivated students to serve as founding officers/members to begin a campus chapter. Contact: RMiner@salhonors.org

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CON ARTIST'S CRANIUM

A lesson served: Another guy bites the dust

In between one of my classes, I have one of those annoying breaks where you can't accomplish too much or too little. It's not enough time to workout at the Aztec Recreation Center, but it's too much time to get some fish tacos or avoid embarrassing myself. Hence my expedition to East Commons during the first week.

Most of the time I wouldn't dare eat there in the first week because I would be more lost than Rosie O'Donnell at Whole Foods, but I tried anyway. After surveying my choices and noticing that the corner eatery changes more than David Beckham's hairstyle, I settled on Rubio's, to support San Diego State alumnus Ralph Rubio. A sea of freshman Aztecs occupied all the seats, so I knew what I needed to do. Fortunately, I have no qualms about asking random people if I can sit and eat with them — especially if those random people happen to be cute girls. (They somehow almost always are.)

So I took a seat next to Stacy and Marie and immediately heard something askew. Stacy's accent was undeniably Australian, so I started asking her where, specifically, she was from.

"I'm actually from Great Britain," Stacy replied.

"Sweet," I coolly responded. "Do you know a girl named Lindsey?"

CONOR SHAPIRO
STAFF COLUMNIST

She's a friend of mine who was there during the 2000 Olympics."

Apparently, I missed something important because the girls looked at me like I was some typical So. Cal dude who doesn't listen.

"No, see I'm from England, it's in Europe — about the size of California," Stacy said.

I wasn't sure what this had to do with the Olympics or my friend Lindsey, but I figured I'd try again anyway.

"Yeah, I get you, well listen," I said, "Lindsey is about 5'5", with brown eyes and she lives right near Sydney."

"I'VE NEVER BEEN TO AUSTRALIA!" Stacy shouted.

Awkward silence ensued for about five seconds.

"OK, sorry," I detracted. She obviously had some rough memories from her childhood, so I figured it'd be too risky to press forward. Meanwhile, a stunning brunette was eyeing me from across the room.

"I have a question for you ladies: What would you do if a really hot girl was staring at you right now?" I said. They seemed baffled at the question and had a good laugh for a minute before asking where this girl might be sitting.

"She's about 1 o'clock from here — so about 13:00 Aussie time," I directed.

Wow, did I creep this girl out. Suddenly, she saw six beady eyes staring at her and I knew Stacy and Marie had messed up.

"No, not yet!" I muttered, my eyes shifting rigorously to avoid eye contact. "You have to wait the standard seven seconds before checking out a girl. Don't you know? It's pretty much a law."

They were apparently rookies at scoping out chicks.

A few moments later, the thoroughly uncomfortable girl collected her things and hurriedly left her table. At the same time, some wannabe model-looking dude (probably her brother) gave me the evil eye.

My two new friends were laughing hysterically at me by this point.

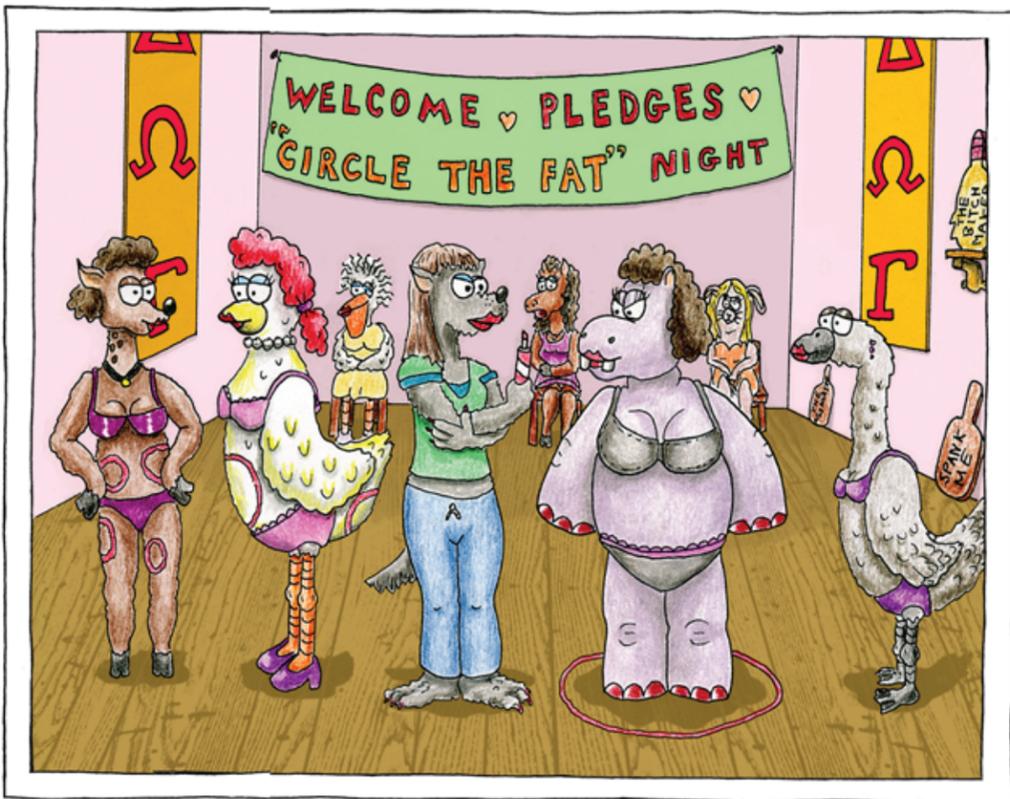
I took comfort in my now-soggy tacos and remained quiet while the girls scattered off giggling. I knew I should've played it safe and stuck with the Aztec Market.

Hey, at least I found a place to sit.

—Conor Shapiro is a political science senior.

—This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Daily Aztec.

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DAILY HOROSCOPE BY LINDA C. BLACK, TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (9-5-07). A friend can help you understand the motivation behind behavior you see as inexplicable. This year, you'll do best if you utilize counselors, attorneys and go-betweens.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19) - Today is a 6 - Hold off on mailings, shipping stuff and advertising now. Focus instead on your mending and listening to the family's woes.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) - Today is a 7 - You're generally a very cautious person, and that's a wonderful thing. Continue with that attitude, while watching for excellent deals to pounce upon.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) - Today is a 7 - A door that was closed before has opened up just a crack. Figure out what you really need and ask for it again.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) - Today is an 8 - It's good to listen, although you don't always like what you hear. Continue to teach from your strengths, even when criticized by a jerk.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - It's becoming apparent what needs to be done next. Unfortunately, some of it should have been done yesterday. Don't look back, but do get busy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) - Today is an 8 - The people who yell louder are not necessarily right. Be polite and resilient.

Also be quick. Don't get squashed. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) - Today is a 6 - You'll advance your career now by doing what you promised, on time. There will be no more excuses allowed, so don't even ask.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - The crisis phase is past, and you'll have more time soon for playing with friends. This is excellent because you really need a break. Sign up for some comic relief.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Continue to build a strong economic base for yourself. The security you gain increases your confidence and your status.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - Make your decision and take action before discussing it any further. You've talked about it enough. Nothing's different except that time's running out. Choose.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - Carefully explain so everyone can understand. Nobody said this was going to be easy. In fact, it's very hard work.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20) - Today is an 8 - A person who loves you very much wants to tell you something important. The trick is, it could be anyone. Better listen carefully.

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SUDOKU

BY MICHAEL MEPHAM

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

Instructions: Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution available online at www.TheDailyAztec.com

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CROSSWORD

EDITED BY WAYNE ROBERT WILLIAMS

ACROSS

- 1 Norse god
- 5 Silent mollusk?
- 9 Puts in order
- 14 Tempo
- 15 ___ avis
- 16 Minneapolis suburb
- 17 Gung-ho
- 18 Actor Sharif
- 19 "Psycho" setting
- 20 Fabrication
- 21 Unusual sighting in the paddock?
- 23 Overexertion
- 25 Fill to excess
- 26 Piffer
- 29 Get cozy
- 33 Unusual sighting at the aviary?
- 37 Lobster eggs
- 38 Brit's indignant comment
- 39 Nigerian tribe
- 40 Serengeti cat
- 41 Saloon
- 42 Unusual sighting at the aviary?
- 46 Hot-fudge creation
- 48 Saab models
- 49 Turow book
- 51 Black Sea port
- 55 Unusual sighting at the aviary?
- 60 Latvian chess great
- 61 Of hearing
- 62 Dry gully
- 63 Kemo ___
- 64 Hackneyed
- 65 First name in mysteries
- 66 Ended
- 67 Ninnies

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
20				21				22					
23			24				25						
			26			27	28	29			30	31	32
33	34	35					36				37		
38						39					40		
41				42	43				44	45			
46			47				48						
			49			50		51			52	53	54
55	56	57					58	59					
61						62					63		
64						65					66		
67						68					69		

By Philip J. Anderson Portland, OR Solution available online at www.TheDailyAztec.com 9/5/07

- 68 Dawn Chong and Carruth
- 69 Sleuth Wolfe
- 72 Tricky joint?
- 73 Bando and Maglie
- 21 Sexologist Shere
- 22 Suspend
- 24 Pale gray of face
- 27 Puccini song
- 28 Egypt's neighbor
- 30 The Magi, e.g.
- 31 Diving bird
- 32 Evenings to poets
- 33 Teases
- 34 Twin of Jacob
- 35 Phooey!
- 36 Slangy turndown
- 40 ___-majesty
- 42 Altar lighting
- 43 Villain's look
- 44 Twists of fate
- 45 Deities
- 47 Contribute
- 50 Not as elevated
- 52 Barrel part
- 53 Cavalry weapon
- 54 Olds model
- 55 Pro ___ (in proportion)
- 56 Sharer's pronoun
- 57 "QB VII" author
- 58 Theda of films
- 59 Not working
- 63 Male heir

DOWN

- 1 Iridescent gems
- 2 Ship's crane
- 3 More aloof
- 4 Writer Buntline
- 5 Song stylist
- 6 Mary's charge
- 7 U.A.E. part
- 8 Martin and Astor
- 9 On-location newscasts
- 10 Worships
- 11 Young lice