The Southwestern College women's soccer team has accomplished “something special” by winning their third consecutive Pacific Coast Athletic Conference title, with an undefeated season.

By Nicolle Monique Luna

The Southwestern College women’s soccer team has achieved its “sweet spot” by netting the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference with a 3-0 win over Grossmont College. Undefeated in conference, undefeated by early season setbacks and unmatched on the pitch, the Lady Jaguars have put SC back in the champion’s column after a long drought that spanned pandemic, pandemic and pandemic years ending in pandemonium.

Captains Raelyn Arrendondo and Stacy Ziramba almost knocked over head coach Carolina Soto, who opened her arms wide at the whistle to receive the automatic promotion in a hugging, spinning hug. In an instant the entire team was an undulating, shrieking mass of unrestricted joy.

Arrendondo recalled the emotion of the moment. “When it happened I cried,” she said. “It was amazing. We had clinched it one day before the conference ended and that was just amazing!”

SC finished 12-0-2 in conference and 15-3-3 overall. They grabbed the title with room to spare. Led by a group of three female coaches, the team built on unity and generous success with room to spare. Led by a former teen coach, the team built on unity and generous success.

As of press time Dumas had received 65 percent of the vote in Area 6, dispatching challenging Rosemarie Ballard. He was appointed to the board two years ago when former trustee Nora Vargas was elected to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and Tim Nader was appointed to the board. Nader won election to the board two years ago when former trustee Nora Vargas was elected to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and Tim Nader was appointed to the board.

REACHING A GOAL — (l-r) Raelyn Arrendondo, Alexi Nader, Norma Kacsinta and Stacy Ziramba celebrate their women’s soccer championship following an undefeated season in the Pacific Coast Conference. SC finished 12-0-2 to win the title going away.

Photo Courtesy of SC Athletics

NEWS EDITOR

BY NICOLETTE MONIQUE LUNA

Women’s soccer team romps undefeated to conference title

REACHING A GOAL — (l-r) Raelyn Arrendondo, Alexi Nader, Norma Kacsinta and Stacy Ziramba celebrate their women’s soccer championship following an undefeated season in the Pacific Coast Conference. SC finished 12-0-2 to win the title going away.

Photo Courtesy of SC Athletics

FORMER PROFESSOR, STUDENT ELECTED

Robert Moreno is first elected to area board seats

BY CAMILA A. GONZALEZ

Editor-in-Chief

former professor, student elected

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Corina Soto and Robert Moreno are first elected to area board seats

An appointed incumbent and two political newcomers all won their first attempts at elective office when they were voted on to the Southwestern College Governing Board.

Don Dumas, Corina Soto and Robert Moreno will be sworn into the board in December for four-year terms following strong performances their first time on the ballot. They are also the first board members ever elected to the Southwestern College Board of Supervisors and Tim Nader was appointed to the board.

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A year-long case of an alleged gang rape of a 17-year-old high school student by San Diego State football players has generated national news and local controversy about the way the case has been handled by San Diego police and university administrators.

At least three investigations are underway and a civil lawsuit has been filed, but no charges. Following is a timeline of key moments in the case:

- **October 17, 2021:** A 17-year-old high school senior is alleges gang raped for 90 minutes at a Halloween party near the San Diego State University campus by three or four SDSU football players. • **October 18, 2021:** Victim reports the crime to San Diego police and within 24 hours a rape kit test is taken at Rady’s Children’s Hospital. • **October 19, 2021:** Victim’s father said he met with SDSU campus police and provided officers with his daughter’s name, his phone number and a detailed description of the alleged gang rape. • **October 27, 2021:** Records from a police portal indicate that testing of the victim’s Sexual Assault Response Team exam was completed and returned to law enforcement. • **Early November 2021:** Brenda Tracy, a gang rape survivor who speaks to sports teams about sexual assault, is asked to speak to the SDSU football team. • **Mid-November 2021:** SDSU administration is informed that an official SDPD investigation was starting. • **November 27, 2021:** SDSU Aztec football team defeats Boise State in a crucial game to win a spot in the Mountain West Conference championship game. • **December 4:** Football team loses to Utah State in the Mountain West Championship game. The loss costs the team a chance to play in the Holiday Bowl and a possible $65.3 million payout to the university. • **December 9, 2021:** SDSU punter/kicker Matt Araiza, nicknamed “Punt God” by his teammates, receives the Ray Guy Award as America’s best collegiate punter. It is the first national individual award ever presented to an SDSU football player. • **December 21:** SDSU defeats University of Texas, San Antonio in the Frisco Bowl. The game generated a $650,000 payday for the university. • **April 30, 2022:** Araiza drafted in the sixth round by the NFL’s Buffalo Bills, the highest draft position for a punter in decades. • **June 5, 2022:** The Los Angeles Times publishes the article, “Claims that SDSU football players raped a girl were followed by months of silence.” • **Mid-June 2022:** Victim finishes her senior year of high school online due to emotional and physical trauma. • **July 22, 2022:** SDSU launches a Title IX investigation to determine if the girl’s civil rights were violated by SDSU students. • **August 5, 2022:** Nowlin “Pa’a” Ewaliko, one of the accused football players, is absent from preseason camp and subsequent summer practices. • **August 19, 2022:** Victim’s lawyer Dan Gilleon files a request for recordings of statements made to SDPD by the young woman and her father in October 2021. Gilleon also seeks records from 10 search warrants SDPD police executed and audio of calls detectives recorded in 2021 between the young woman and the men who police determined were in the bedroom where the alleged rape occurred. • **August 24, 2022:** Zavier Leonard, one of the football players later accused of rape, is cut from the football team. • **August 25, 2022:** A civil lawsuit is filed in State Court by the victim against SDSU and the three football players accused of rape — Matt Araiza, Zavier Leonard and Nowlin “Pa’a” Ewaliko. • **August 25, 2022:** Gilleon, the victims’ attorney, said SDPD had the victim call the suspects shortly after the alleged gang rape. SDPD officers recorded the phone calls. Araiza, the complaint alleged, confirmed on a call in late October 2021 that he had sex with the victim and recommended she get tested for a sexually transmitted diseases, Gilleon said. • **August 26, 2022:** Attorney Gilleon shares on Twitter the victim’s diary entries about her experience the night of the incident. • **August 27, 2022:** Buffalo Bills release Araiza. The SDSU case is now a national story. • **August 28, 2022:** Brenda Tracy, the sexual assault speaker invited to address the football team, expresses disappointment and said she felt manipulated by SDSU. • **August 29, 2022:** SDSU Athletics Director J.D. Wicker and football coach Brady Hoke walk out of a press conference in anger after refusing to answer questions about the gang rape incident. • **August 31, 2022:** Victim sits for a video interview with CBS Mornings program that does not show her face but shows graphic video and photos of bruises and injuries suffered during the assault. • **September 14, 2022:** Briggs Law Corporation files a lawsuit on behalf of the victim and her attorneys demanding files from the investigation that have been denied to the victim, an alleged violation of the California Public Records Act. Briggs firm seeks compensation from the city of San Diego and SDPD for ignoring records requests by the victim’s father. • **September 15, 2022:** SDSU student newspaper The Daily Aztec criticizes university president Adèle de la Torre for “lack of transparency” and responses that are “insufficient.” • **October 8, 2022:** SDSU students and community members protest SDSU’s lack of response to sexual assault at a rally outside of Snapdragon Stadium prior to a football game against the University of Hawai’i. • **October 14, 2022:** Football coach Brady Hoke is given a raise by SDSU. • **November 2022:** Statements from San Diego County District Attorney, SDPD and SDSU say that investigations are ongoing. No criminal charges have been filed.
of lying in hopes of capitalizing on Araiza’s new found wealth as an NFL player.

One of the protesters, 24-year-old sexual assault victim Trinity Martinez, said she has heard this all before.

“My perpetrator was never brought to justice,” she said. “I never had any closure. And (now) this victim, a year later, hasn’t had closure. It seems like this pattern is repetitive and I am not okay with that.”

Martinez held a poster that read “San Diego has been normalizing rape culture since 2012.”

Her friend, 22-year-old SDSU student Kyle Dreher, joined Martinez on the front lines of the protest to show his support for young women and to speak out against rape culture. Dreher said he and Martinez received a great deal of support and encouragement from SDSU students at their anti-rape table on campus.

Spurring meaningful conversations about rape and sexual abuse is an essential step in the effort to change the culture, he said.

Neftali Ramos, a 20-year-old SDSU junior, agreed.

“I am here to change my university,” she said. “I want to rewrite the narrative so other women can feel safe to come back here.”

Protestor Daniel Lopez, 20, said he was there to support members of his family.

“I have a baby sister and many young siblings,” he said. “I don’t want them growing up in a society and a college that normalizes rape.”

Lopez held a sign that read “I Believe Her.”

“Rape,” he said, “will never be okay.”

He criticized the “rapist culture” and anti-female vibe of SDSU fraternity parties.

“I have been to a frat party and it was not a cool place to be,” he said, adding that some of the young men are ready to take advantage of inebriated women. “It is not a nice place to be. Even as a male I do not feel comfortable in frat houses.”

Ellie Bousquet, 19, an SDSU sustainability major, said the university has not done enough to bring the perpetrators to justice and has not demonstrated that it is taking the situation seriously.

“I feel our school is very effective at perpetuating the idea that (sexual assault) is okay,” she said. “These things continue to happen and nothing is done about it. Abusers are slapped on the wrist and nothing else ever comes of it.”

Bousquet said sexual assault victims are not taken seriously by SDSU administrators, which helps to perpetuate the culture.

“I have been a victim of sexual assault in the past,” she said. “Women should feel safe enough to speak about what happened.”

SDSU cares more about football and sports revenue than the safety of its female students, Bousquet said. She and other protesters said SDSU President Dr. Adele de la Torre and the university’s athletic department are not taking the alleged gang rape seriously.

Dreher said the college’s priorities are misplaced. Ironically, the multi-million dollar Snapdragon Stadium itself is a big glowing symbol of hypocrisy, he said.

Martinez said she voted to fund the construction of the new SDSU stadium, but now regrets it.

“I feel like the stadium (was built) with blood money,” she said. “That is unsettling.”

NOISY RESPONSE TO THE SILENT TREATMENT — (clockwise from top) SDSU students protest the university’s handling of an alleged gang rape by members of the football team outside of Snapdragon Stadium. Protestor critical of SDSU President Adele de la Torre. Athletic Director J.D. Wicker and football coach Brady Hoke stormed out of a press conference. De la Torre (center) has remained silent on the issue. Students enter campus. Protesters at Snapdragon Stadium prior to a football game.

CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

SDSU: Lack of response has angered students, women’s groups

NEWS

THE SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE SUN

DECEMBER 1, 2022 / WINTER EDITION
ANTI-SEMITISM: Recent increases in hateful activities in South Bay and across America has Jewish community, rights activists alarmed

It has been for Scheller. On a warm August afternoon she and a friend had an ugly encounter at the Chula Vista Public Library near City Hall.

Scheller and historian Harry Orgovan were at the library packing up Scheller’s critically-acclaimed exhibit "RUTH: Remember Us, The Holocaust" when they were approached by a middle aged man with dark hair and eyes. Scheller recounted the episode.

“What are you doing?” she said.

“What is this?”

“We’re taking down (our) Holocaust exhibit,” she recalled telling the man. “There is a new exhibit coming in.”

Scheller said the man seemed unhappy to hear that, but not for the reason she expected.

“You need to keep this up,” she recalled the man saying. “Everybody needs to see this wall. Everybody needs to see Auschwitz. Everybody needs to know that Jews lie, Jews steal, Jews kill animals. Jews have their own language no one understands. They cry like babies and ask ‘Where is God?’ Don’t they realize that God created Auschwitz so every Jew could get killed? You need to keep that wall up.”

Scheller said she stood before the man silently and in shock when she realized that he considered the exhibit to be a celebration of Auschwitz and the Holocaust rather than a condemnation.

“It was a real wake up call,” she said.

Call for Permanent Museum

The diatribe sparked a realization, Scheller said. “There is a great need for a permanent Holocaust museum in the South Bay.

“We need to continue to work hard to teach younger generations about what happened to Jews and other marginalized people in the 1930s and 40s,” she said. “We have so much more work to do.”

Holocaust survivors are rapidly disappearing due to old age, Scheller said. The work of her mother, Holocaust educator Ruth Goldschmiedova Sax who died in 2018, must be handed off to younger Americans.

A museum would be the center of Holocaust education for schools and the community, she said, and a repository of artifacts from the pogrom, Kristallnacht, the Holocaust and other attacks on Judiasm. Scheller envisions a museum that educates about genocides committed against Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and peoples in North America and South America.

Bob Lehman, Executive Director of the San Diego Museum Council, supports Scheller’s vision.

"Museums are really about the community telling its story,” he said. “It’s about remembering what happened and being able to tell that story.”

Orgovan, president of the South Bay Historical Society and the Chula Vista Heritage Museum, partnered with Scheller on the Holocaust exhibit in the library.

“It really expanded my view of what the Holocaust was and why it is so important that we not judge people by race, religion, country of origin, or anything that we think defines them,” he said.

Now Orgovan hopes to help Scheller continue educating others.

Scheller said “It’s all about baby steps” as she presses for a Holocaust and human rights museum. She said she would love to build the museum at Southwestern College.

“Southwestern is our community’s cultural center and a place of growth,” she said. “Chula Vista has a rich heritage of community-minded Jewish people who served others with selflessness and a spirit of generosity.

What a perfect place for a museum that reminds us that we must love and respect each other.”

Magazines Destroyed

Scheller’s encounter was a prelude to other anti-Semitic episodes in the community.

In late October SC journalism students and faculty were shocked to find that someone had vandalized or stolen thousands of copies of the Southerwestern College Sun and El Sol Magazine at campus news stands as well as distribution points in Chula Vista, Bonita and Sunnyside. Nearly 400 copies of El Sol Magazine featuring three Holocaust survivors who had their covers torn off. Some had been stomped or torn up.

Perpetrators had combed the campus and attacked at least a dozen circulation sites. Publications advisor Dr. Max Branscomb reported the vandalism to the Chula Vista Police Department as well as the campus police. He also briefed college President Dr. Mark Sanchez. He estimated the value of the stolen and damaged publications to be $2,500 - $5,000.

“This was a calculated act,” Branscomb said. “It took someone a long time to cross our campus, find all the newsstands and destroy so many newspapers and magazines.”

Campus Police Chief Marco Bareno said SCPD officers would be increasing patrols and surveillance around the campus.

Photo By The Sun Staff

Photo Courtesy of Sandra Scheller

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E.R.A. OF HATE — (from top) A swastika painted on the fence of a preschool on E. 1st Street near Southwestern College. Photos from the RUTH: Remember Us, The Holocaust exhibit at the Chula Vista Library. Copies of the Sun and El Sol Magazine vandalized by Trump supporters. Nearly a third of the entire run of El Sol Magazine VIII featuring SC’s Muslim ASO President were ruined in 2016. More than $4,000 worth of the student magazines were destroyed or stolen.
Nearly a third of Southwestern College.

article about an Iraqi refugee attending destroyed hundreds of copies of The

crime before, including:

Hate targeted Before

Student Publications

Camila Gonzalez, Editor in Chief of The Sun, had several of her articles published in the 2004 edition of El Sol Magazine. She said the attacks on student publications featuring courageous Holocaust survivors were "profoundly disappointing."

"It was in shock because the intention of this magazine was to create empowering and profound stories that were meant to impact the community in a positive way," she said. "People can do more than just assignments to me. They give individuals a chance to speak their truths, which has always moved me."

Recent anti-Semitic activity and Holocaust deniers underscore the need for more reporting by young journalists on these topics, Gonzalez said.

"The Holocaust destroyed the lives of mothers, fathers, children and many other people," she said. "I cannot fathom why they continue to be met with anti-Semitism."

Gonzalez said she encouraged all journalism students to not be intimidated by "hometown haters" and will continue her efforts to thwart the First Amendment violations of the campus police, who will not let anyone inside the journalism building to interview students who said they were successful, and none ever will be," Branscomb said.

The Work Continues

Holocaust educators like Scheller and Rose Schnichler, Benjamin Maller and Gerhard Marschikowski -- the trio of elderly survivors featured on the cover of El Sol XII -- have much the same attitude. Their work continues.

"Silence is complicity," Scheller said. "As long as there are people speaking up and sharing the truth there is hope. There are a lot of crummy things going on in the world, but there are even more wonderful things. That and our young people should give all of us hope."

Sandra Scheller
HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR

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San Diego County’s Jewish community suffered 38 recorded incidents of anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish hate in 2021, according to the Anti-Defamation League. The figures represent “just the tip of the iceberg.” — Tammy Gillies, former Anti-Defamation League director

review video from blue pole security cameras to see if the perpetrators could be identified. Branscomb said he would prosecute any suspects identified by the police. Collegiate publications have special federal legislation designed to protect the speech rights of students and the work of young journalists. Theft, destruction and damage of college newspapers to prevent others from reading them is a federal offense and a felony, Branscomb said.

"Stealing and vandalizing student publications are despicable acts and efforts to thwart the First Amendment rights of college journalists," he said. "I won’t have it on my watch. The perpetrators better pray we never catch them because we do there will be severe consequences for them."

The vandalism could also generate hate crime charges, Bareno said, if the college could show that the motive was anti-Semitism. Bareno said he and the campus police support Southwestern’s journalism students and would step up patrols around circulation points.

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San Diego County’s Jewish community suffered 38 recorded incidents of anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish hate in 2021, according to the Anti-Defamation League. The figures represent “just the tip of the iceberg.” — Tammy Gillies, former Anti-Defamation League director

review video from blue pole security cameras to see if the perpetrators could be identified. Branscomb said he would prosecute any suspects identified by the police. Collegiate publications have special federal legislation designed to protect the speech rights of students and the work of young journalists. Theft, destruction and damage of college newspapers to prevent others from reading them is a federal offense and a felony, Branscomb said.

"Stealing and vandalizing student publications are despicable acts and efforts to thwart the First Amendment rights of college journalists," he said. "I won’t have it on my watch. The perpetrators better pray we never catch them because we do there will be severe consequences for them."

The vandalism could also generate hate crime charges, Bareno said, if the college could show that the motive was anti-Semitism. Bareno said he and the campus police support Southwestern’s journalism students and would step up patrols around circulation points.

Camila Gonzalez, Editor in Chief of The Sun, had several of her articles published in the 2004 edition of El Sol Magazine. She said the attacks on student publications featuring courageous Holocaust survivors were "profoundly disappointing."

"It was in shock because the intention of this magazine was to create empowering and profound stories that were meant to impact the community in a positive way," she said. "People can do more than just assignments to me. They give individuals a chance to speak their truths, which has always moved me."

Recent anti-Semitic activity and Holocaust deniers underscore the need for more reporting by young journalists on these topics, Gonzalez said.

"The Holocaust destroyed the lives of mothers, fathers, children and many other people," she said. "I cannot fathom why they continue to be met with anti-Semitism."

Gonzalez said she encouraged all journalism students to not be intimidated by "hometown haters" and will continue her efforts to thwart the First Amendment violations of the campus police, who will not let anyone inside the journalism building to interview students who said they were successful, and none ever will be," Branscomb said.

The Work Continues

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Mysteries Film Library Planned For Chula Vista

BY HAN PSALMA, Staff Writer

A bold new media arts facility planned for the South Bay is the biggest thing to one ever heard of.

Practically no one.

As SDSU and Chula Vista city officials were almost hip-to-toeing on the heels of about an $85 million digital library and a partnership with Southwestern College, SC’s dean of the School of Arts, Communication and Social Science, said she was not surprised by the project.

“Sometimes I get so busy that I don’t capture everything, but no, this one I did not know about,” she said. “The rest of our faculty didn’t know about it, either.”

McGregor said she hopes the project turns out to be “pleasant surprise.”

“It’s connected to SDSU, which is our biggest transfer university,” she said. “We want our students to be able to finish their degrees in the South Bay. I know that it is a big moment of our current administration.”

SC President Dr. Mark Sisson sent out an enthusiastic message to employees about the project shortly after the announcement. Zaneta Encarnacion, his chief of staff, said a planning study found a need to support Film, Television, Media Arts (FTMA) programs because it is a fast-growing industry and a projected job creator. Encarnacion said the library would be state-of-the-art and designed to embrace updates as the industry evolves.

Otherwise, the project is long on hype, but scant on details, according to SC personnel. Faculty said they hope the library will have sound stages and production equipment. Professor of Film Mark Sisson said SC students need hands-on opportunities that lead to industry internships.

SC FTMA students have a significant advantage over SDSU students, Bulkin said, because they get two years of intense hands-on experience before transferring. Technical training at SDSU and many other universities does not start until students’ junior year, he said.

Sisson said the project is supposed to break ground in 2023 but no meetings have been planned and there is confusion about which institution and which faculty will take leadership roles. McGregor said she is not sure SC will have significant involvement.

“When you look at that [announcement] flyer, it talks a lot about the relationship between the city of Chula Vista and San Diego State University,” she said. “We don’t think there will be a strong relationship. We would like to work on that and develop that with them,” said Professor of Film, Television, Media Arts (FTMA) programs because it is a fast-growing industry and a projected job creator. Encarnacion said the facility would be state-of-the-art and designed to embrace updates as the industry evolves.

CRIME DOCS

Former chief Davis Nighswonger acknowledged that SCPD records were “hot news” or non-existent when he assumed leadership of the department.

He launched an effort to correct the situation, according to reporting in The Sun from that time.

Current Chief Marco Bareno has finished the job. A watchdog reporter from The Sun recently asked for crime reports at the SCPD station and received them quickly without complaint.

The SCPD appears to be in full compliance.

That was not the case in 2016 when the college was hit by a wave of sexual assault cases. After failing to turn over any records requested by The Sun, campus police provided a hastily-prepared document that showed only light criminal activity such as car vandals and ghosts, but no rapes or assaults. San Diego State University campus police have said numerous cases of campus sexual assault that had been reported to SCPD and the former dean of student affairs — including the rape of a newspaper editor in a campus parking lot.

Weekly checks of the college website from 2016-2019 showed no current monthly crime reports or annual federal Clery Act summaries as required by law. The Joanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act passed by Congress in 1990 and signed into law by President George H.W. Bush.

It requires educational institutions to provide information about their crime prevention programs, to keep statistics of crime that occur on or near college campuses, to make the information available to the public, and to use the information to develop campus crime prevention programs.

In Southwestern’s case, the college was hit by a wave of sexual assaults and a reported rape of a newspaper editor in a campus parking lot.

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The increase in anti-Semitism crimes—a dire warning to the South County

“I first came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.” —Martin Niemöller

It is, once again, time to speak out about anti-Semitism. Slowly and steadily, like rust on the undercarriage or mold in the wall, the corrosive malignancy of anti-Semitic language and anti-Semitic behavior is slithering free of Pandora’s Box. Even here, in mostly-progressive, multicultural Southern San Diego County, anti-Semitism is clawing its way out of the dustbin of history. Chula Vista—a city largely built and shaped by its altruistic Jewish citizens—is inexplicably ground zero. Nicolette Luna’s report on recent anti-Semitic activity in Chula Vista includes:

• A verbal attack on a Jewish activist at her Holocaust exhibit at the Chula Vista Library.
• Swastikas spray painted on Bonita Vista High School and BV Middle School.
• A swastika painted on a preschool near Southwestern College.

Now anti-Semitism has come to our campus. Last late month hundreds of copies of The Sun and El Sol Magazine were vandalized and destroyed in an act of despairing across sites on the Chula Vista campus. Monetary value of the destruction was estimated at $2,000 - $2,500.

That is a lot for our journalism program, but the true cost is much higher. Vandalizing anti-Semites targeted El Sol Magazine, whose current edition features a striking cover photo of trio of Holocaust survivors in their late 80s and 90s showing tattoos they received from their Nazi captors at extermination camps in Auschwitz and Birkenau. Covers were torn off, torn up and stomped on, ground into the soil of our multiracial, multi-faith campus.

Unfortunately, this swelling tumor of intolerance is expanding across our nation, and its growth is being normalized. In 2021, the Anti-Defamation League’s annual audit found the highest rates of Anti-Semitism in the U.S. since it started tracking it in 1979. For a generation that prides itself on being accepting and doing better, that data is alarming. An NRP report found that one in four Jews were subject to antisemitism in the U.S. last year. Both organizations expect the 2022 data to be worse.

Traditional hate has a new home on social media, including entire sites dedicated to anti-Jewish conspiracies, plots and pockets of paranoia. Their foul potions are dripping on America. Anti-Semitic paranoia. Their foul potions are

The Issue: A series of anti-Semitic attacks in the South Bay comes on the heels of incidents anti-Black, Islamophobic and Asian hate since the Trump era. Pandora’s Box is cracking open.

Our Position: Racial and religious hatred affects the health and security of the entire community and must never be tolerated. We would like to see the CVPD and our college administrators make more of an effort to combat racial hatred.
Do you feel safe on campus?

Women at SDSU have expressed unhappiness with the university’s handling of an alleged gang rape of a 17-year-old. Do you feel safe at Southeastern College?

CAMILA ALEJANDRA GONZALEZ

BY CAMILA A. GONZALEZ

Sexual assault a plague for college women

If I’d pressed charges I would have (had) to tell my parents, go to the police, and go to the hospital to get poked, prodded and scraped. It would have been a violation all over again.

Naomi

Rape Victim

She must have led them on.

She should never have been out so late.

Good girls know how to stay out of those situations.

Whatever you do, don’t talk about it!

TALK ABOUT IT!

She was asking for it.

WE TRIED TO WARN HER, BUT SHE WOULDN’T LISTEN.

She’ll get over it.

WHATEVER DOESN’T SOUND LIKE RAPE.

THAT GIRL IS NOT EXACTLY LITTLE MISS INNOCENT.

Get over it!

She should have known better...

THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN TO ME.

I thought she liked him.

I hope you learned your lesson.

We are hopeful that our current college leadership will handle the issue with greater transparency and greater humanity. Our at least a degree of professionalism. So far the campus police, at least, have taken strides to improve record keeping and increase our confidence in them.

We need to change America’s blame-the-victim culture to a prevailing practice of empathy, support and belief of women. Young women need to feel like the system is on their side, not another source of trauma.

“I do feel safe here on campus. There are a lot of people around, so that makes me feel safe.”

Destiny Owusu

“It works to stay safe. I scan my surroundings and make sure no one is following me. I hold my keys in my hand as a self-defense method.”

Khloe Morales

“No always. It’s unfair but sexual assault happens more often than it should. I try to be aware of my surroundings, stay off the phone and keep alert.”

Emilio Davila

“We’re campus is not entirely safe for women and being in a college environment can make it seem like women are easy targets.”

Khris Villafanaca

“Not always. It’s unfair but sexual assaults happen more often than it should. I try to be aware of my surroundings, stay off the phone and keep alert.”

Illustration by Alicia Rivero

RESPECT KNOCKS OUT HATE.
TECHNOLOGY, SWC CARES

who comes from a social services

Miniature social services agency on

from the pandemic that creates a

funded program that emerged

effort is SWC CARES, a state-

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than 8 out of 10 SC students are

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students come from disadvantaged

Staff Writer

BY LILIANA ANGUIANO

It has never been a secret that a majority of Southwestern College students come from disadvantage socioeconomic backgrounds, but recent data borders on bleak. More than 8 out of 10 SC students are from families that qualify for free or reduced lunch programs in the K-12 system. Almost 40 percent self-reported food insecurity and a third reported housing insecurity.

Other rampant student stressors are inability to purchase technology such as laptops, inconsistent access to internet and Wi-Fi connectivity, expensive transportation and lack of childcare.

Since 2020, SC has made an intentional pivot toward providing additional help to students under stress in an effort to keep them in college. One arm of that multi-pronged effort is SWC CARES, a state-funded program that emerged from the pandemic that creates a miniature social services agency on the Chula Vista campus. Trina Evers, who comes from a social services

HOME IS WHERE THE CAR IS — Ian Ramirez spends most of every day in his car at Southwestern College. Housing insecure since age 13, Ramirez moves his vehicle around the area in search of a safe, quiet place to spend the evening. An ambitious student, he has nevertheless suffered a stop-and-start academic career due to homelessness.

If you show fear, it will attack."

Montes, 25, lives in his car that he sometimes parks in the darkened SC parking lots. It is temporary, he said, but for now it is his address.

His life has had a temporary feeling since he suffered his first bout of homelessness at age 13. A dysfunctional and sometimes violent family has caused him to flee for his own safety. He enjoys surfing, but often found himself couch surfing the homes of friends and acquaintances.

“I’ve been homeless for probably 14 different streets,” he said. “A lot of the time I just viewed it as ‘I’m just going to (a friend’s place) for a few days’.”

Hungry was a constant companion in his household. When his family did feed him, the quality of the food was often lacking.

“Excessive famine,” he said. “It was really difficult as someone who cares about my health to have to eat instant ramen. So that was really hard, having to choose between nothing and one of the unhealthiest foods I can ever think of eating.”

Hungry is the biggest challenge of living in his car, Ramirez said. He would like to follow a healthy vegan lifestyle, but sometimes it comes down to survival.

A football player at Hilltop High School and Olympian H.S., Ramirez managed to be a student-athlete who graduated with decent grades despite long periods of homelessness that started in middle school. He enjoyed football, he said, but also acknowledged that it was also possible that he needed the distraction.

Not-Always-Happy Camper Makes Do In Parking Lots

BY LILIANA ANGUIANO

Happy students often say they found a home at Southwestern College.

Ian Ramirez literally calls Southwestern College his home.

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CARES: Needs of SC students overwhelm campus program

background, was brought onboard to lead the $490,000 program. Homelessness and housing insecurity among students has been her top priority, she said, but relieving those problems will require more resources than the college has. “We don’t have the capacity to resolve someone’s homelessness,” she said.

That does not mean the college is incapable of helping homeless students, she said. Eros coordinates care for those facing homelessness or eviction, and works to connect students with social service agencies with the means to find solutions. Her efforts have helped to place scores of students into safe, affordable housing at least temporarily.

“I definitely consider SWC CARES, like our community partners, an extension of (the federal) CARES because we have to rely on them so much,” she said. “It takes a village.” Eros and her team have been overwhelmed by thousands of requests for assistance. There is more she would like to do, she said, particularly in terms of outreach to people in the community who may need help, but that may have to wait.

Students who have received support expressed appreciation, even if their problems were not completely solved. Homeless student Isamar said he was not expecting magic right away. “I am not used to any help at all, so I feel it would be unappreciative of me to say that there could be anything better,” he said. “I never thought I would get a gas card, money for food, have my programs for school paid for and a calculator paid for.”

Whatever you are going through, all you can do is just take it day by day and wake up and look at life as a blessing, even through the hardships. We struggle in order to learn the lessons from our struggles.

Julia Chaves
SC student

As her stamina has improved, so have her options. Chaves enrolled for classes at SC this semester, but like many first-year students she is struggling to learn the ins and outs of college life.

“I am not used to any help at all, so I feel it would be unappreciative of me to say that there could be anything better,” he said. “I never thought I would get a gas card, money for food, have my programs for school paid for and a calculator paid for.”

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"I realized that I had something that channeled me toward football," he said. "I needed to redirect (my) energy. I guess football helped me to do that."

He was not a typical football player, he said, in terms of his values. Ramirez describes himself as very liberal, an environmentalist and an LGBTQ ally. He enjoyed the game, but not the toxic atmosphere created in the locker room by some of the other players. It caused him to think about where he channeled his efforts and why.

Today he is putting his mental and physical energy into transferring to UCSD to study computer science, he said.

"(Maintaining) the discipline to go to classes and do the work when you are in a dark place is really hard," he said.

"(Withdrawing) is still affecting me," he said.

Most community college students who resolve to focus more on school do not actually move to the school and live in its parking lot, he acknowledged.

"I am ambitious about the things I care about and that will allow me to persevere through the circumstances I'm in," he said. "Homeless is not hopeless."
MUSEUM: Long-time dream of Chicano leaders finally a reality

Chicano history.

One crowded area was the exhibit of eye-level pillars that replicated the towering structures supporting the Coronado Bridge. Chicano Park’s enormous pillars are concrete canyons featuring some of the planet’s most famous outdoor art. “PILLARS: Stories of Resilience and Self-Determination” were mimetic tributes to the tree-sized behemoths in the park.

Like their outdoor mates, the indoor pillars were covered with inspiring art and history presented with the primary colored urgency of la causa.

Curated by Josephine S. Talamantez, Alberto Pulido and Valerie James, the exhibition featured 12 pillars, each representing a different organization with art and photos highlighting its work.

Talamantez, chair of the museum board, said the curators’ mission is to commemorate and correct aspects of Chicano history that are misunderstood, misrepresented or overlooked.

PHOEBE FRANCO

DECEMBER 1, 2022 / WINTER EDITION THE SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE SUN

PUBLICATIONS: The Sun, El Sol Magazine repeat as national champions

and San Diego Chapter of the SPP.

A junior at San Diego State University, Villarreal-Gerardo is currently the Managing Editor of the SDSU Daily Aztec and EIC of the Spanish-language Mundo Amigo. She is working part-time as a Formula One Racing journalist and is managing Miss Chula Vista.

“Being awarded a Pacemaker is an honor,” she said. “The Sun team and I worked hard to produce El Sol Magazine XI for our courageous community during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. This recognition means a lot to us. Thank you, Associated Collegiate Press!”

Esteban Preciado won first place in the ACP Story of the Year competition for his sprawling story of trekking to the Impenetrable Forest of Guiana with rare mountain gorillas. Preciado, a former U.S. Marine from San Ysidro High School, is now a junior at SDSU. Other Story of the Year winners were Gonzalez for editorial writing, Andrew Sanchez for sports feature writing of Contra mesa Baja for profile feature writing.

Gonzalez teamed with Ji Ho Kim for a Design of the Year award. Kim is now a junior at UC Davis. Gonzalez, Kim and Nicolete Luna shared a College Media Association National Pinnacle Award for newspaper design. Luna, a 16-year-old Remita Vista High School junior cross-enrolled at Southwestern, was named one of the 25 Remarkable Teenagers in San Diego County by the San Diego Public Defender’s Office. She was just 15 when she served as editor-in-chief of El Sol XIII, the edition currently on newsstands. The issue was runner up for Best of Show at this month’s ACP convention in Washington D.C. Luna will serve as EIC of El Sol Magazine XIII, scheduled for publication in June 2023.

Oklahoma’s Native American Journalists Association honored Gonzalez with its top national award for news writing. Julia Woods, the 2022-23 EIC of The Sun, was also honored by NAJA for her coverage of Native American issues. Woods was a 2021-22 Society of Professional Journalists Leadership Institute fellow.

Lesley Garate, an arts writer for The Sun and El Sol, earned state and national awards for her profiles of recording artist Jesse Lark and Chicano Park’s emblematic guardian Tío Camarillo. Garate is currently a junior at SDSU.

Diego Higuera earned state and national recognition for his investigative article about the misrepresentation of LGBTQ students by conservative universities and a feature about a Chula Vista hair salon that caters to Latinx hair. SC student journalists earned more than 250 organizational and individual awards, scholarships and fellowships in 2021-22.

“ ”

Camila González, National College Reporter of the Year (Associated Collegiate Press, Sacramento)

Julia Woods, Society of Professional Journalists Leadership Institute (Indianapolis)

Esteban Preciado, 2022 Story of the Year, Ernie Pyle Leaders (Indiana)

Nicolette Monique Luna, Newspaper Design Prominence Award (College Media Association, New York)

Ji Ho Kim, 2022 Story of the Year, Environment (Associated Collegiate Press, Minnesota)

Lesley Garate, 2022 Story of the Year, Human Interest Profile (ACP, Minnesota)

Diego Higuera, 2022 Story of the Year, Editorial (ACP, Minnesota)

SC student journalists earned more than 250 organizational and individual awards, scholarships and fellowships in 2021-22.

News machines, murals, life-sized behemoths from Chicano Park

The focus of the museum is all inclusive,” she said. “It is the art, history and the people of borders — both race and indigenous communities of the borders.”

Visitors jammed the Archive Room, a chamber of wondrous historical artifacts from the collection of Chicano Park Steering Committee icon Tomás “Tommy” Camarillo. Dog-eared posters, faded photos, tattered flags and other survivors of la causa hung triumphantly, claiming what it took and what is possible.

Jaimes, the interim executive director of the museum, said the cultural center is something the community has needed for generations.

“(I wish) I could go back in time into my youth again and see the museum for what it is right now,” she said. “It’s a welcoming space for our community, a cultural center for us to explore and ultimately love our identities. It would have helped me so much in my self-evolution and self-determination.”

Boye said the aim of the Chicano Park Museum and Cultural Center is to uplift the community, particularly of youth.

“It’s the community’s museum,” he said. “We want to develop it as a first class museum in the heart of a barrio. This community deserves it.”

The Sun, El Sol Magazine repeat as national champions

Southwestern College Sun

Continued from Page 9

Student Journalism Recognition, 2021-22

Camila González, National College Reporter of the Year (Associated Collegiate Press, Sacramento)

Best College Newspaper (San Diego Press Club)

Best Collegiates Publication (San Diego Chapter, Society of Professional Journalists)

El Sol Magazine XI

Most Outstanding Collegiate Magazine (American Scholastic Press Association, New York)

Pacemaker Award, the collegiate Pulitzer Prize (Associated Collegiate Press, Minneapolis)

Best of Show, (ACP, Minnesota)

Prominence Award (College Media Association, New York)

Best Collegiate Magazine (California College Media Association, Sacramento)

General Excellence Award (Journalism Association of Community Colleges, Sacramento)

Best College Newspaper (California College Media Association, Sacramento)

Best Two-Year Newspaper (California Newspaper Publishers Association, Sacramento)

General Excellence Award (Journalism Association of Community Colleges, Sacramento)

Camila González, 2022 Story of the Year, Editorial (ACP, Minnesota)

Ji Ho Kim and Camila González, Design of the Year, Newspaper (ACP, Minnesota)

Nicolete Monique Luna, San Diego County Remarkable Teenager (San Diego Public Defender’s Office)
Jazz Café receives an A rating from an appreciative audience

This year’s rendition was a tasty tribute to jazz greats Ella Fitzgerald and Count Basie that left everyone satisfied like milk and cookies by the fire.

SC’s junk ensemble West Coast Syncopation teamed with the Grossmont College Cadence Vocal Ensemble for a double scoop of marvelous music. SC counted in with a chery rendition of “On the Sunny Side of the Street” that set the tone for the evening and invited the audience into the warm café of the imagination. Vic Arreola took the torch with a soulful take on “It’s Only a Paper Moon,” a precursor to Xenia Odette and her sultry rendition of “I’m Getting Sentimental Over You.” Odette conjured sweet nostalgia, a lovely reminder of unforgettable love.

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Freewheeling skateboard culture is zag-zag Zen

BY CAMILA ALEJANDRA GONZALES
Editor-in-Chief

Skateboarding is a sport, an art and a way of life. It is exercise and therapy. It inhabits an internal void in a way that can feel spiritual. It can also skin the holy heck out of your knees, bruise your elbows and throw out your back. Thessin lies the rub. Skateboarding is the Zen meditation of falling down and getting back up. It is conquering fear and shaking off pain. It is a quest for self-improvement. It is Jonathan Livingston Seagull for terrestrials.

"I am not the kind of person who likes to talk about my feelings, so I skate when I need to off load," she said. "The pain from falling distracts me from my emotions and is a way for me to cope. It just cancels everything out."

Illustration By Edward Herrera / Staff

"Thankfully I've never broken a bone," Osegueda said. "I'm very frustrated with the process. I'm in my 20th season of coaching Southwestern now for 20 seasons. I was hired in 2002 with the promise that) once our parking issues were resolved, the track would be pushed a priority. Unfortunately, the idea has worked too well. What was (supposed to be) an 18-month temporary parking lot for construction and student parking (with the commitment that) once our parking issues were resolved, the track would be pushed a priority. Unfortunately, the idea has worked too well. What was supposed to be an 18-month temporary situation has turned into four years.

"My philosophy is if you think you know it all, you don't. If you tire of learning, it's time to retire. Athletes and the sport demand evolution. Last season COVID taught us all to be patient and hopeful. There are great and talented young men and women in this county, especially in Chula Vista. It's our job to give them the opportunity to compete, improve and move on to university athletic programs or at least leave here knowing more about themselves. What motivates you to keep going despite not having a facility only makes me and others wonder what successes we could have had with a track on site.

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What motivates you to keep going through the ups and downs of a season? Love for the sport, but most importantly my passion for the mission of helping others (to) be the best they can be.

Track sage predicts bright future

BY ESTEBAN PRECIADO
Staff Writer

Southwestern is neither the college whose track and field team has a track nor a field. What it does have is Renaissance man Anthony “Tonie” Campbell as its track coach. He is an Olympic silver medalist and a coach of Olympic medalists. He is also a devoted mentor to Paralympians, an author and the college’s assistant athletic director.

Campbell and his track squad completed another successful season with a second place finish in the PCAC Finals, but he still does not have the state-of-the-art track facility he was promised when he was hired to SC in 2002. Even so, he pledged to continue to do his best with what he and his athletes have.

Replacing the condemned track with a parking lot was actually my idea. I have been the head coach at Southwestern now for 20 seasons. I was hired in 2002 with the promise of a new facility. The school and economy entered a budget crisis, however, and the funds were absorbed. This happened again in 2017 with the (Proposition K) bond measure debacle and misappropriation of funds. The Sun reported on extensively. Moving on to 2026 and the newest bond measure, the track was not a priority. The team had not been using the (demolished track). We trained at local schools.

I proposed to the (former dean) to demolish the track and convert it into a temporary parking lot for construction and student parking (with the commitment that) once our parking issues were resolved, the track would be pushed a priority. Unfortunately, the idea has worked too well. What was supposed to be an 18-month temporary situation has turned into four years.

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**DANCE**

King of kings.

Student performances throughout the evening were vibrant and soulful. It was lovely to see each command of dance vocabulary from the diverse ensemble. It was just as much fun to listen to them.

Discerning members of the audience can correctly predict whether the next number is ballet or tap by the sound of the dancer's shoes in the scene. When the stage is pitch black, sounds of the dancer's shoes in the ensemble can correctly predict whether them.

'The biggest thing for me is showing them that I care, and that our staff cares,' she said. 'We're a very unique staff. We've three female coaches, so we connect to (female athletes) well. I think we all bring a very different dynamic to the table.'

Thanks to this dynamic, the team has been able to accomplish so much this year.

A conference championship was step one, Soto said. Her team is now taking aim at the regional playoffs, followed by an invitation to the state championship tournament. Harbin said the Lady Jaguars are wired to win.

'We have a lot of heart,' she said. 'It doesn't matter what's thrown at us.'

Zenodo described her team as ambassadors for the community.

'We hope to bring back respect to the South Bay because we've been working so hard,' she said.

That, she added, would be sweet.

**SEASON OF GOOD CHEER** — Members of the men's soccer team and football team celebrate a goal by the women's soccer team that clinched the league title. Coach Corinna Soto and several of her players said they appreciated the support they received from many of their male counterparts.

**SOCORR: Lady Jags undefeated on way to league championship**

Captain Daisy Harbin said Soto and her coaches were teachers, counselors and advocates all rolled into one.

"The coaches are absolutely amazing," she said. "I can come to them for anything, even if it's not soccer or school. They're a support system for all of us." Soto said that was a goal of her coaching team.

"The biggest thing for me is showing them that I care, and that our staff cares," she said. "We're a very unique staff. We've three female coaches, so we connect to (female athletes) well. I think we all bring a very different dynamic to the table." Thanks to this dynamic, the team has been able to accomplish so much this year.

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**SKATE: Time on the board can be a spiritual respite**

"The pain from falling distracts me from my emotions and is a way for me to cope. It just cancels everything out."

Jocelyn Osegueda

"I found my sense of purpose and shaped my identity through skating, and it nourishes my mental health like nothing else," said the Baron of Bearings. "I've said many times that I won't stop skating until I am physically unable."

"I am up for the challenge," he said. So, too, his friend.

An HBO skate documentary, "Until the Wheels Fall Off," features Hawk at his philosophical best.

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**Museum is a new community pillar**

Chicano Park, born of revolt, has a home to collect its history and culture

**BY NICOLETTE MONIQUE LUNA**

**News Editor**

**CHICANO PARK** —

It was a celebration that rumbled through the community like joyous thunder. Even three blocks away the grand opening announcement rang through Barrio Logan, an aural symphony of rattling Aztec dancers, fiery mariachi licks, playful low rider horns and gritos de gozo.

Barrio Logan’s Chicano Park Museum and Cultural Center was open for business. Getting to it was another matter. A phalanx of epic low riders sparkled and strutted with bouncing pride. Dancers with better feathers than Quetzalcoatl gyrated and rattled rhythmically in spiritual wisps of incienso. Visitors wore pride on their shoulders like El Tri soccer jerseys.

Taking it all in with wide eyes and a wide smile was Rigoberto “Rigo” Reyes, leader of Los Amigos Car Club and a director of the new museum. “It’s a dream come true,” he said. “We’ve been talking about this for 47 years.”

The talking part is done. Brimming from the museum are the history and culture of Barrio Logan and the broader Chicano community. Each room is a walk-in memory book of the region’s Chicano Park, born of revolt, has a home to collect its history and culture.

“**It’s a dream come true. We’ve been talking about this for 47 years.”**

RIGOBERTO “RIGO” REYES

LEADER OF LOS AMIGOS CAR CLUB, CHICANO PARK MUSEUM DIRECTOR

IMAGES OF THE COMMUNITY — (Top l) Aztec dancers invite goodness and hope to the new Chicano Park Museum. (l, below) Museum director and Amigos Car Club stalwart Rigo Reyes with a miniature bridge pillar honoring the trans-border lowrider culture. (above) Students from Kumeyaay Community College created a pillar featuring their culture that lists all the regional Kumeyaay villages on its side.

TRIUMPH OF “LOS CHAVALITOS” — Beloved Chicano troubadour Ramon “Chunky” Sanchez is the centerpiece of a pillar honoring the role of music in the United Farm Workers Movement. Sanchez played countless rallies with UFW leaders Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, and recorded the iconic song “Chicano Park Samba,” which is now part of the Smithsonian Folkways Recordings collection for its impact on American culture.