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ROTC: students who serve

Future soldiers speak of plans and apprehensions



RYAN BRENNAN/THE VISTA

Junior Mike Baryla will serve the United States Air Force upon graduation. He hopes to become a pilot.

LAUREN BARULICH
STAFF WRITER

The specter of graduation looms over all seniors. For some, it is an opportunity to enter the working world and for others, graduate school is the next logical step. Yet, there is a section of our student population who will reject the civilian life upon graduating and answer the call of their country by serving in the armed forces.

For junior Mike Baryla, a member of the Air Force program, plans for the future have always included military service. "I pretty much knew I was going to be in the military ever since I was a little kid," Baryla said. "I did ROTC because I wanted to experience a college life and to be an officer in the best Air Force in the world."

Although he is in his first year in Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Baryla has been chosen for the fast track program and already performs the tasks of a third year cadet. He spoke with confidence and pride regarding his future service. "Obviously I am not prepared to fly jets in

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Prendergast speaks out

USD's first peace scholar gives an exclusive interview

JULIE PARKS
GUEST WRITER

The University of San Diego proudly welcomes back renowned peace scholar, John Prendergast. Not only does he bring his action-oriented personality, but also his visionary goals and accomplishments as he continues to inspire those around him. Senior Julie Parks interviewed him on behalf of The Vista on Nov. 11.

The Vista: Welcome back to USD. Are you glad to be back?

John Prendergast: When I was walking down [campus] for the first time yesterday since February, I was filled with a sense of excitement and hope because in all my travels from campus to campus around the United States, USD has one of the most vibrant and interesting student bodies that I've encountered.

V: Trying to gain the support and/or funding of the government to alleviate some of the struggles and problems in Darfur can be challenging when this issue is not at the top of the list of issues concerning the U.S. In your opinion, do you think President-elect Obama will be able to influence Congress or inspire Americans to support helping the situation in Darfur?

JP: Yes, I do. With all my heart. He is someone who, over the course of his career, has demonstrated a profound commitment to African issues and wisdom about the appropriate role for the United States. The only footnote is that the challenges he's inheriting are so enormous that there exists the possibility that issues like Sudan will be squeezed out of the first 100 day agenda, and

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AS has big plans for a hefty budget

ANDREW KHOURI
STAFF WRITER

Associated Students will control a budget of \$921,680 this year. AS supports countless organizations, clubs, programs and events that enrich student life, many of which require funding.

The annual budget is allocated to AS and is then distributed with the input of the AS Budget

Committee, Interclub Council Budget Committee and Weekend Programming. The budget is derived from the \$85 student fee, a portion of every student's tuition. Because the fee is obligatory, money available to AS will increase with the size of the student body. This year, following the admittance of a sizable freshman class, the budget reached an unusually large sum.

The AS Budget Committee doles out the majority of the money. This committee is comprised of the vice presidents of finance and programming, four AS class senators, the secretary of student organizations, a United Front representative, an Interfraternity Council representative, a Panhellenic Council

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Favorite major is business as usual

DARREN FEENEY
STAFF WRITER

The selection of a major is one of the most difficult decisions that students will make in their college career. This important choice will pave the education path en route to the work force. The University of San Diego offers up to 36 different bachelor's degree programs and the opportunity to specialize in different areas.

The most popular major amongst last spring's graduat-

ing class of 2008 was Business Administration. This popularity, however, should come as no surprise. The School of Business Administration at USD has been ranked as one of the top undergraduate business programs in the nation by BusinessWeek magazine for the second year in a row. USD School of Business Administration ranked 47th on the list of the top 50 programs in the nation and among the top five schools on the West Coast and top two in southern California.

"Small class sizes and acces-

sible professors contribute to the school's continued presence in the BusinessWeek ranking," Stephen Standifird, a professor in the School of Business Administration and the director of undergraduate business programs, said.

The school of Business Administration offers bachelor's degrees in Accountancy, Economics and Business Administration with majors in Business Administration, Business Economics,

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