



The San Diego Union-Tribune

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WEDNESDAY • MAY 25, 2016

GOP MAY REWORK PRIMARIES

Reeling from chaos of 2016, Republican leaders consider adopting a major overhaul

BY JEREMY W. PETERS

WASHINGTON

Leaders of the Republican Party have begun internal deliberations over what would be fundamental changes to the way its presidential nominees are chosen, a recognition that the chaotic process that played out this year is seriously flawed and helped exacerbate tensions within the party.

In a significant shift, Republican officials said it now seemed unlikely that the four states to vote first would all retain their cherished place on the electoral calendar, with Nevada as the most probable casualty.

Party leaders are even going so far as to consider diluting the traditional status of Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina as gatekeepers to the presidency. Under one proposal, those states would be paired with others that vote on the same day as a way to give more voters a meaningful role much sooner.

But in a move that would sharply limit who can participate in presidential primaries, many party activists are also pushing to close Republican contests to independent voters, arguing that open primaries in some states allowed Donald Trump, whose conservative convictions they deeply mistrust, to become the apparent nominee.

Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina are sure to mount fierce resistance

SEE GOP • A9



JEWEL SAMAD GETTY IMAGES

A primary voter casts his ballot in New Hampshire, a state expected to fight the proposed changes.



K.C. ALFRED U-T

UC San Diego athletes celebrate with other undergraduates Tuesday after learning that their referendum to leave Division II athletic competition passed. The move to Division I, which awaits other levels of approval, would more than double student athletic fees.

UCSD students: Yes on Division I

Lopsided vote to hoist sports programs and athletics fees is a big but early step in process

BY MARK ZEIGLER

UC San Diego undergraduates voted 6,137 to 2,567 to more than double student athletics fees to fund a move to NCAA Division I in sports.

Now comes the hard part: getting seven more votes.

The referendum to elevate from Div. II to Div. I without football is contingent on an invitation from the Big West Conference, which rejected UCSD's application in 2010 and added Hawaii in-

stead. The conference has nine schools — eight in California plus Hawaii — and requires a supermajority, or seven votes, from its presidents and chancellors to expand.

"I want to emphasize, this is the first step of a process," UCSD Athletic Director Earl Edwards said Tuesday.

But it was hard to contain the euphoria of what could be a historic vote, the results of which were unveiled on the patio of a campus pizzeria and sparked wild celebration among about 100

athletes in attendance. There's also the blessing of the Faculty Senate and formal approval from Chancellor Pradeep Khosla needed, plus six years of transition mandated by the NCAA, but for a moment before shuffling off to afternoon classes, students allowed themselves to dream a little.

"That's what makes it cool," said junior Danny Glascock, a midfielder on the soccer team who was part of a student group that spent this year

SEE UCSD • A8



GETTY IMAGES

If convicted on three sex crime counts, Bill Cosby faces up to 10 years in prison.

COSBY ORDERED TO STAND TRIAL IN 2004 SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE

BY NOAH BIERMAN

NORRISTOWN, Pa.

Bill Cosby, once synonymous with wholesome children's dessert commercials and middle-class family values, sat rubbing his chin through hours of graphic testimony about drugs and sexual encounters Tuesday before a judge concluded there was sufficient evidence for

him to stand trial on charges of sexual assault.

It marked a dramatic turn for the longtime comedy superstar, a crucial step in the only criminal case to spring from dozens of accusations that have upended his career and his legacy. If convicted on three sex crime counts, Cosby faces up to 10 years in prison.

"This case will move forward," Judge Elizabeth McHugh told a crowded courtroom at the end of a 3-hour hearing that focused in part on accuser Andrea Constand's claim that Cosby invited her to his home in 2004 and gave her several pills that made her dizzy and almost unable to see before assaulting her.

Constand and Cosby had

SEE COSBY • A11

NAME OF ROBERT E. LEE ELEMENTARY WILL BE CHANGED

BY MAUREEN MAGEE

Robert E. Lee Elementary School is officially history in San Diego.

The San Diego school board voted unanimously Tuesday night to rebrand the Paradise Hills campus amid a national movement to strip public venues of

their Confederate monuments.

Pacific View Leadership Elementary School will replace the Civil War general on the marquee of the 57-year-old campus.

The new and somewhat generic name was selected by students — and supported by teachers and parents

— after a San Diego Unified School District committee rejected their first choices: Lee Elementary, a condensed version of the original; Frederick Douglass, after the African-American abolitionist; and Archie Buggs, a slain San Diego police officer.

Fifth-grader Stephanie

Broussard helped make the case for the new name at the meeting.

"From our playground we have a beautiful view of the Pacific Ocean — Pacific means peaceful, and our school is very peaceful and calm," she said. "It represents who we are."

SEE LEE • A6



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DEMENTIA SIGNS OFTEN MISSED BY TESTS

Local researchers: Cognitive loss can be better detected

BY BRADLEY J. FIKES

In a finding with potentially big significance for combating age-related dementias such as Alzheimer's disease, scientists at UC San Diego and the local Veterans Affairs system said routine tests fail to identify a significant percentage of people with mild impairments in thinking.

7.1%

Conventional screenings that miss mild cognitive impairment

The researchers also offered hopeful news in their study: They said more extensive testing with already existing methods can spot cognitive problems in patients who were misdiagnosed by the standard procedures.

Conventional screenings miss 7.1 percent of those with mild cognitive impairment — a risk factor for Alzheimer's and other dementias — the study said.

A false-negative diagnosis means that people who could benefit from therapy may not be identified early, when treatment has the greatest chance of success, said UC San Diego's Emily Edmonds, an author of the new study. When combined with results from earlier research that found false-positive rates above 30 percent, this latest analysis shows a great need for more precise testing, she said.

Testing inaccuracies also mean that people chosen for clinical trials of anti-dementia drugs may not fit their presumed category. This is of great importance in evaluating drugs for Alzheimer's, which has no cure or even a treatment to keep the disease from worsening. Some interventions appear to be helpful in reducing cognitive loss from Alzheimer's, but they are the most effective

SEE SCREENING • A8

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SCREENING • More extensive tests take about half an hour

FROM A1
cative when given as early as possible.

The study was published Monday in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*; it can be found at <http://j.mp/cog-testing>. Edmonds was the first author, and Mark Bondi, of UC San Diego and San Diego VA Healthcare System, was senior author.

Using data from the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative, the scientists compared routine screenings with more thorough and precise thinking tests. These evaluations examine abilities such as being able to describe the characteristics of various animals or deduce objects depicted by line drawings.

Alzheimer's is the best-known example of cognitive decline. But there are many other causes of impaired thinking, Edmonds said. These can include reduced blood flow because of stroke or partial blockages of smaller blood vessels in the brain.

In many cases, both causes are at work, Edmonds said. So restoring proper blood circulation could help people who have or are developing Alzheimer's disease.

Growing toll

Alzheimer's is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, killing 93,541 people in 2014, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In California, the disease is the fifth-leading cause of death.

And in San Diego County, it's No. 3, according to the Alzheimer's Project, an initiative established by the county in 2014 to combat the disease. More than 62,000 San Diegans are living with Alzheimer's or other dementias.

While the statistics are grim enough now, the number of Americans with Alzheimer's is expected to climb sharply in coming decades if present trends continue.

About 4.7 million people age 65 or older were living with Alzheimer's in 2010, according to a 2013 study in the journal *Neurology*. The analysis projected that by 2050, the population will expand to 13.8 million.

Also expected to grow will be the related financial burdens, along with the psychological toll put on the pa-

considerably greater investment of time, the more comprehensive screenings have been around for years and don't require expensive new technology, she said.

One problem is that the information from these more extensive tests isn't being used to the fullest extent possible.

"In large-scale research

"It's really rich, valuable information that's often already there and available."

Emily Edmonds • UC San Diego researcher

tients and their family members.

To detect people at risk of developing dementia, screenings that may take just five minutes are the norm. The more extensive tests last about half an hour, Edmonds said.

Despite requiring a con-

siderable greater investment of time, the more comprehensive screenings have been around for years and don't require expensive new technology, she said. One problem is that the information from these more extensive tests isn't being used to the fullest extent possible. "In large-scale research

ed into the diagnosis."

Follow the patient

The new study provides valuable information to help advance research, said Dr. Michael Lobatz, a Scripps Health neurologist who treats patients with memory disorders.

"When you have a diagnosis that suggests you may be heading to a problem, you have the opportunity for better decision-making, for yourself and for your family," Lobatz said. "You get better medical care as a result. The paper indicates that by being able to talk to these patients about the fact that they do have mild cognitive impairment and that there is a risk of going on to developing more profound impairment such as Alzheimer's disease, that those patients could participate in cognitive therapy. And if they don't know that, they don't get that opportunity."

Moreover, early intervention "is where the action is" for clinical trials and experimental therapies, he added.

It would be very difficult to routinely use the more exten-

sive testing methods in clinical practice, Lobatz said.

The more thorough screenings aren't automatically needed as long as physicians keep a good watch on their patients, Lobatz said. If doctors have unresolved questions about a patient's cognitive abilities, that would be the right time for the in-depth testing.

In addition, Lobatz said, the routine screenings can be performed repeatedly — perhaps at six-month intervals. Since the age of onset for Alzheimer's symptoms is unpredictable, normal screening results aren't a guarantee the disease will never develop.

"If you can get to the diagnosis, that's great," Lobatz said. "And if you can't and there's still a chance you have a false negative, you follow your patient. Because there was a certain percentage in both groups — false negatives and the true negatives — that went on to develop Alzheimer's disease."

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UCSD • Fee hike would not begin until after formal invite

FROM A1
campaigning for Div. I. "A lot of people who voted, they won't see it. They just did it because it's the right thing to do. Obviously I'd love to play in the Big West against some of those soccer schools, but I'll be pumped to come back and see it."

"When I was in high school or middle school, I would have wanted someone to do the same thing for all of us. Someone's got to step up and do it. This is kind of our bit of history for UCSD."

Big West Commissioner Dennis Farrell has remained noncommittal on UCSD's prospects, saying he would wait for student approval first and then assemble an expansion committee to examine the merits of adding a 10th member. A conference vote isn't expected until later this year, and the fee increase wouldn't begin until the fall quarter after a formal invitation.

Then the Tritons must spend two years increasing athletic scholarships to certain minimum levels. And only then can they apply with the NCAA and begin a four-year transition period, meaning they likely wouldn't be full-fledged Div. I members until the 2023-24 academic year.

Forgive the premature celebration, then. This was the third time UCSD students have held a Div. I referendum. The previous two failed, most recently in 2012 by a margin of 6,407 to 4,673.

That vote lasted two weeks and had a 51 percent turnout but came amid UC tuition hikes and a worse economy. This referendum was five weekdays — beginning last Tuesday after a computer glitch pushed back voting a day and extending into Monday night — and only 35 percent of 25,173 eligible undergraduate cast votes in the online system.

Nearly 70 percent said yes to Div. I and the accompanying fee hike (there were 124 abstentions among the 8,828 ballots).

The current Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) fee is \$129.38 per quarter, or \$388.14 per year if you don't attend summer school. The increases will be phased in over three years to \$289.38 per quarter — or an extra \$480 per year. The math over four years: \$3,472.56.

That is expected to generate an additional \$10 million annually for the athletic department (29 percent of the fee hike goes to university-wide financial aid), doubling its current budget to cover increases in scholarships, salaries and staffing. That also would set up a unique financial model, with practically all the budget coming from student fees — an enormous percentage in Div. I.

A half-dozen UCSD teams like water polo and

men's volleyball already compete at the Div. I level, because there aren't enough programs nationally to create separate divisions. The rest would gradually ramp up with added scholarships and tougher schedules in the coming years.

Without football, men's basketball is considered the marquee Div. I sport. It's also the one that might face the hardest adjustment, especially with Edwards' insistence that the school won't relax admission standards in any sport.

The Tritons have struggled at times to remain competitive in men's basketball at Div. II but appeared to turn a corner last season with limited scholarships, finishing 24-8 and reaching the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament with a fundamental, unselfish style of play. But the size and athleticism at the next level is a different story.

"A huge challenge for us, obviously a big step up," third-year coach Eric Olen said as he watched several of his players celebrate at the pizzeria. "But this is a different place. I think when you find people who value the education, and find the guys who want to be here, that's how we've had success."

"We had some big hurdles in the Div. II level, and we feel like we're starting to overcome some of those hurdles and have some success. And we didn't change the admission standards to do that."

Edwards also presided over the move from Div. III to Div. II in the late 1990s, which was punctuated by a women's soccer team under longtime coach Brian McManus that won NCAA titles in its final year of Div. III and first two years of Div. II.

"For me, it's like watching your children grow up and go out to be doctors and lawyers, and you play a big part in that," Edwards said. "To see us go from Div. III to Div. II and what that's done for the university, I anticipate moving to Div. I it will be even more. ... But it's not like this happens overnight. People will have to be patient."

The next step is convincing a nine-member Big West expansion committee when it visits the campus, along with a Faculty Senate accustomed to working at a university without big-time athletics.

"I would never try to speak for the Faculty Senate," Edwards said. "That's pretty much their arena. Like any major topic such as athletics, you'll have people on both sides. But I'd like to think that the Faculty Senate would take into consideration that (the vote) was overwhelming. You'd like to think that would have some influence."

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