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Santa Clara University

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How technology captured the elusive murderer

Kimi Andrew
THE SANTA CLARA

Ancestry websites are a new phenomenon, with millions of people uploading their DNA online to learn about their heritage. But in April 2018, an ancestry website did more than just tell someone their country of origin—it helped law enforcement catch a murderer.

On Monday, Jan. 14, Barbara Rae-Venter, a forensic genealogist, Kelley Kulick, Deputy Public Defender for Santa Clara County, and James Gibbons-Shapiro, Santa Clara County Assistant District Attorney held a discussion in Lucus Hall about the science behind catching the Golden State Killer.

The Golden State Killer was a murderer, rapist and burglar who took the lives of at least 13 victims and committed more than 50 rapes in California between 1974 and 1986.

The well-known killer was thought to have gotten away with his crimes for over 40 years—until new science and a lucky break brought law enforcement to Joseph James DeAngelo, the suspected Golden State Killer.

At Monday’s talk, Rae-Venter discussed her time working with law enforcement on the Golden State Killer case and explained exactly how DNA was used to catch DeAngelo.

Following DeAngelo’s arrest, some people incorrectly thought that information was taken from websites like Ancestry.com to find a familial match to DeAngelo.

Rae-Venter explained that, in reality, a public data collection website called GEDmatch was used to find the killer.

This website is geared toward users who have already submitted their DNA to an ancestry website like Ancestry.com or 23andMe. Users are able to take the data they have received back from the ancestry website and upload it to GEDmatch. When uploading data to GEDmatch, users agree to make their data public in order to match them with potential relatives who have already submitted their DNA to GEDmatch.

Eventually, a GEDmatch user’s DNA turned out to be a sixth-cousin match to the Golden State Killer. Through this match of public data on GEDmatch, law enforcement officials were able to finally uncover the Golden State Killer’s identity.

In addition, law enforcement and the help of forensic genealogists like Rae-Venter, came up with the idea to upload DNA found at one of the Golden State Killer’s crime scenes—DNA they believed belonged to the perpetrator.

By analyzing the uploaded DNA, it was eventually determined that the DNA matches of the Golden State Killer found in the crime scene were actually uploaded by a GEDmatch user. In this way, the new science helped catch the Golden State Killer.

The Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office is one of the four offices in the country that have used forensic genealogy to successfully catch a murderer.

Last November, university President Michael Engh, S.J. officially announced the building of a new on-campus recreation center to accommodate the rising Division I athletic program. This latest addition will be one of the major changes constituting the university’s Integrated Strategic Plan for 2020.

The upcoming 50,000-square-foot Athletic Excellence Center (AEC) will more than triple the space available for student-athletes to thrive in training and in physical health as well as in academics, according to Renee Baumgartner, director of intercollegiate athletics at Santa Clara.

This element of the school’s development strategy—to be named the Stephen C. and Patricia A. Schott Athletic Excellence Center—aims to enhance the reputation and expand the visibility of the school nationwide, addressing the sixth goal of the Integrated Strategic Plan.

“The Athletic Excellence Center will improve the quality of our athletic facilities offered to student-athletes,” Engh, S.J. told the Santa Clara community. “As the size of our student body increases in the coming years, facilities designated to the recreational needs of our entire student body will need to grow as well.”

Lead funding of $15 million from former member of the Santa Clara baseball program Stephen Schott ’60 and his wife Patricia followed by a $10 million gift from former Santa Clara soccer player Mary Stevens ’84 and her husband Mark made the Athletic Excellence Center possible.

The remainder of the total estimated cost will also be funded by donors. Altogether, donors have raised $32 million so far for the AEC, according to Shawn Nestor, assistant athletic director of media relations.

“The AEC will be a game changer for the entire SCU Athletic Department,” said Jason Ludwig, assistant coach for Santa Clara men’s basketball. “It will offer a state of the art facility for our student-athletes to train and study. It will also enhance our ability to recruit by giving us a facility that is similar or better than the top programs on the west coast. This, along with everything else Santa Clara has to offer, will help attract the best and brightest student athletes in the country.”

Mary Stevens told Santa Clara Athletics of her own expectations, expressing confidence that the signs and displays decorating the facility with Santa Clara’s athletic history will assist in that initial attraction of top recruits.

“If you are going to build a quality Division I sports program these days, you need to have outstanding facilities, great coaching staff, a visionary athletic director and support from the Board of Trustees and the administration—all of which is contained in the AEC,” Stevens said in a press release.

See ATHLETICS, Page 7
CAMPUS SAFETY

Alcohol Violation

Jan. 11: Campus Safety investigated a report of a marijuana odor in a resident’s room. No marijuana or paraphernalia were found, but unopened bottles of alcoholic beverages were found.

Jan. 11: Campus Safety responded to a loud party in progress in a resident’s room. Several students and a non-affiliate guest were found in the room with several alcoholic beverages.

Jan. 14: A campus resident was found in possession of marijuana, paraphernalia, several cans of beer and two fake identifications in his room.

Information Report

Jan. 12: SCPD requested Campus Safety assistance regarding video coverage of a non-affiliate female while on campus. She was the victim of a crime and a sibling of a student. Limited video coverage was found and turned over to SCPD.

Jan. 12: Campus Safety and SCPD responded to investigate a battery incident. A Bon Appétit staff member was attacked by a non-affiliate female, who then left the scene.

Jan. 13: Campus Safety and SCPD responded to a Dunne Residence Hall fire alarm activation. The alarm was activated by a student cooking egg rolls with the windows and doors open.

Medical Emergency

Jan. 9: A student tripped on her shoelace and fell on the walkway by Graham Residence Hall and hit her face. She was given first aid by SCU EMS and declined further medical assistance.

Jan. 11: A staff member fell off of a treadmill and injured her shoulder at Malley Fitness Center. Campus Safety, SCU EMS and SCPD responded. She was transported to O’Connor Hospital.

Student Behavior

Jan. 10: A student was observed putting a note with racial slurs into the suggestion box in Swig Residence Hall.

Jan. 15: A female student reported receiving unwanted attention from a male student who made her uncomfortable. The male student was contacted by Campus Safety and agreed to cease and desist.

Suspicious Person

Jan. 12: A non-affiliate male was found sleeping on a bench next to the Fr. Serra statue. He was admonished and escorted off campus.

Jan. 12: A non-affiliate female was found sleeping on the lawn area of the Benson Memorial Center. Due to her ill condition, SCFD was contacted and responded. She was transported to O’Connor Hospital by paramedics.

Vehicle Accident

Jan. 9: A student on a bicycle was hit by a vehicle coming out of the driveway at Campbell Ave. The student claimed he was not injured and declined medical response.

Jan. 12: A vehicle rolled out of its parking space in the Casa Italia Residences Hall lot and struck two parked vehicles.

From Campus Safety reports.

Email news@thesantaclara.org.

News in Brief

Global

• Members of Parliament rejected British Prime Minister Theresa May’s plan to leave the European Union in a 432 to 202 vote on Wednesday.

• Islamic State claimed responsibility for an explosion in Syria that killed at least three U.S. soldiers. The bombing occurred in Manbij, Syria while U.S. military were conducting a routine patrol. The U.S. has begun withdrawing forces from Syria and plans for a full withdrawal of 2,000 American troops stationed in the country.

National

• President Donald Trump hosted the Clemson University Tigers, the college football champions, at the White House Monday night and served the team a large spread of McDonald’s, Wendy’s, Burger King and Domino’s Pizza.

• Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), California’s largest utility, announced plans to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy as it faces $30 billion in liability costs for its role in sparking wildfires. Investigators found that PG&E equipment was responsible for at least 17 major wildfires in 2017 that burned nearly 200,000 acres and killed 22 people.

Santa Clara

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• Campus Safety and SCPD responded to investigate a battery incident. A Bon Appétit staff member was attacked by a non-affiliate female, who then left the scene.

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Golden State Killer
Found with Genes

continued from Page 1

GEDmatch, law enforcement then was able to catch DeAngelo.

Rae-Venter also discussed the merits and possible drawbacks of using DNA websites like GEDmatch to catch criminals.

One issue is the prevalence of contaminated DNA.

Kulick, a public defender, explained that crime scenes can be messy and it's always possible the DNA pulled from a scene can be "dis-carded DNA," or DNA transferred from one person to the killer—through something as simple as a handshake—which the killer then leaves at the crime scene.

Kulick said law enforcement officials are able to pick up smaller pieces of DNA more than ever before thanks to rapidly advancing technology.

DNA can be as miniscule as a skin cell left on the murder weapon.

This skin cell could easily be discarded DNA, Kulick explained, and could be from someone who was never at the scene of the murder. The public is also hesitant about encouraging the use of DNA testing websites to find criminals because some think it's an invasion of privacy.

But when polls are taken to see how comfortable people are with using DNA websites in police cases, Rae-Venter explained that people are comfortable with the new technology when it comes to catching a violent criminal—someone who has committed murder or sexual assault.

Contact Kimi Andrew at kandrew@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4892.
Sweet Maple: A Savory Sample of San Francisco

Bay Area brunch spot is the perfect restaurant for oozers of all things food

Azariah Joel
THE SANTA CLARA

San Francisco has slowly been gaining a big reputation for mouth-watering and creative food spots. The food revolution happening in the Bay Area is making social media foodies go wild, with new restaurants sprouting up on every block.

One such eatery is Sweet Maple, a popular breakfast spot exclusively known for its famous “Millimarios’s Bacon.” Sweet Maple sits on the corner of Steiner Street and Sutter Street in Lower Pacific Heights, quite a ways away from Santa Clara.

But it’s easily found at least—not because of an audaciously unique exterior or garish signage. You can identify it quickly by just looking for the long line wrapped around its building. The outdoor appearance of the building looks large, but I quickly saw the illusion and dismissed the notion of a serviceable plot and let the project run its course.

As an unbelievably successful product of this assembly line formula, “Bird Box” fortunately proves that filmmakers no longer need to do anything else.

The film opens cryptically, with a stern Sandra Bullock warning two children: “Under no circumstance are you allowed to take off your blindfold.” Following her own advice, she leads the frightened and obedient children to a boat, and the trio head off into a dark and rushing river.

The action then cuts five years into the past, where a bruiting pregnant Malarie (Bullock) squabbles with her sister (Sarah Paulson) as they head to an ultrasound appointment. On the television in the background, news anchors warn of an epidemic of mass suicides in Europe and Russia.

By the time Malorie and her sister leave the doctor’s office, this faraway crisis has already spread to the United States.

Panicky frantic people dart in front of speeding trucks and cars, and up into scalding fires in a madcap game of suicidal adrenalin. The family of America are caught in a wave of extras bent on uncreative and disquieting. Shyamalan’s grammar of standard TV fare.

To her credit, Bullock and Tatum continuously applies pressure to the film’s self-inflicted wounds. Her resilient focus and natural urgency lend the film glimpses of excitement, albeit filmmaking values.

Director Susanne Bier abandoned the madness of her previous work on “The Night Manager”: filming most scenes with the cinematic grammar of standard TV fare. Her camera serves mainly to capture the dialogue and action, missing opportunities to play with and explore the visually transmitted suicides that drive the plot with a creeping and explorative camera.

Contrast this film’s handling of mass suicide with that of M. Night Shyamalan’s wrongly scorned “The Happening.” Unlike the repetitive deaths in “Bird Box,” the suicides in that film became increasingly perverse and disquieting. Shyamalan’s coiled camera creeps and lingers like a sentient jack-in-the-box, engaging viewers despite the film’s oddball sense of humor.

As a result, the suicides become disturbingly entrancing. When John Leguizamo comes to terms with his immediately impending death, audiences feel more alive than they ever do during one of the many main character suicides in “Bird Box.”

But unlike Shyamalan’s apocalyptic disaster film, “Bird Box” enjoys one of the largest movie audiences of the past year, bringing apocalypses to both the characters in its frames and the viewers at home, who will no doubt face an onslaught of similarly blander, uncinematic disasters in the near future.

You might want to get yourself one of those blindfolds.

Contact Brandon Schultz at bschultz@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.
What Dreams are Made Of

For five decades, the Board of Fellows has made dreams a reality for generations of students at Santa Clara University. Through its Golden Circle fundraiser, this dedicated group of alumni, friends, and parents has raised more than $25 million dollars for scholarships and buildings that make Santa Clara a vibrant place—from a new home for the performing arts to the University library. Thank you to the Board of Fellows for making a difference—now and for generations to come!
Harassment in the University Library

A Santa Clara sophomore who reported being harassed by a non-affiliate male while studying in the Learning Commons. The non-affiliate male was admonished for trespassing and escorted out.

I am the female student who reported this to Campus Safety. The description of the incident is accurate but incomplete. Here’s what happened: I was sitting in the library on the first floor and I felt someone’s eyes on me. A man who appeared to be in his late twenties started asking personal questions and even offered me drugs. Although I said I was busy, he continued talking and touched my shoulder. He called me a “bitch” and followed me when I left. The following day I reported him to the front desk and they called Campus Safety, who confirmed he was not affiliated with the school, even though he initially said he was a student here.

Another junior who does not wish to disclose her name said that the staring technically was not a big deal out of it.” About three weeks after my incident, on Nov. 2, I met with University Librarian Jennifer Nutefall. When asked to recall harassment, she was aware of during her six years at the university, she said only one specific incident—mine—stood out. “We get very few incidents of members of the public or non-affiliates having any sort of interaction with our student population.”

Then days after my meeting with Nutefall this incident was reported by Campus Safety.

No. 5: A non-affiliate male was reported masturbating on the third floor of the Learning Commons. Campus Safety was able to locate him and escorted him out of the building.

I felt Campus Safety took my complaint seriously but there is only so much they can do. It is the library’s responsibility to protect students from these incidents.

According to the Santa Clara website, when the Learning Commons is open between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., access is limited to Santa Clara faculty, students and staff with an ACCESS card. Visitors without Santa Clara identification were asked to leave. However, there is no check-in system to ensure that people entering the library are affiliated with the school.

We do receive government documents, so we are a government depository, and as a requirement of that to be open for people to view those documents,” Nutefall said, adding that keeping the library open to the public “is the best way of making sure we are, being a Jesuit social justice focused institution.”

But I’m not the only one who has experience this type of harassment. A Santa Clara sophomore who wished to remain anonymous said she was followed throughout the library by a middle-aged man last year. He continued to pursue her outside of the library, and she ran to another building in an effort to get away. She did not report the incident.

A junior who will be identified as Sarah also said that she had experienced uncomfortable situations with older men while studying in the library.

She noted that since her first year on campus, she has noticed a man on the first floor who stares at female students’ legs. After bringing this to the attention of Campus Safety, Sarah said they found video footage of the accused man.

“They said they were unable to do anything because he was not making any gestures or comments and that the staring technically was not punishable,” she said.

Another junior who does not wish to disclose his name said that last school year a man who appeared to be in his thirties approached her on two separate occasions, claiming he had a vegetable delivery service. The conversation quickly turned from vegetables to him commenting on her physical appearance and insisting she give him her phone number. She did not report the incident.

These stories are only a few of the ones I received. Students are reluctant to report harassment because it doesn’t result in any action.

When I asked one of the victims why she didn’t report her incident, she said she “didn’t want to make a big deal out of it.” About three weeks after my incident, on Nov. 2, I met with University Librarian Jennifer Nutefall. When asked to recall her incident, she was aware of during her six years at the university, she said only one specific incident—mine—stood out. “We get very few incidents of members of the public or non-affiliates having any sort of interaction with our student population.”

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Tia Hay drops 30, clinches Bronco victory

John Brussa
Sports Editor

LOS ANGELES—Following a loss to Pepperdine last Thursday, Santa Clara Women’s Basketball rebounded in their next matchup against LMU on Saturday. Although the Broncos succeeded in getting the 83-75 win over the Lions, the final score does not represent the hard-fought, triple-overtime contest that it was.

Junior guard Tia Hay provided the Broncos’ offense, scoring 30 points and shooting an impressive 50 percent from the field. During the second overtime, it was Hay who scored a layup with just two seconds left on the clock to put Santa Clara ahead and seemingly clinched the win. As time expired, however, the Lions successfully converted a jumpshot to tie it up at 90 all. Then, with 1:43 left in the third overtime and Santa Clara only leading 77-75, Hay knocked down four free throws to help seal the victory.

Women’s Basketball plays tonight at 7 p.m. against Pacific in the Leavey Center.

Men’s Basketball

PROVO, Utah—Despite winning seven of their last eight games, Men’s Basketball was unable to topple Brigham Young on Saturday.

The Broncos, who were playing the first of a three-game road trip, knocked down a solid 45 percent of their field goals but were eclipsed by the Cougars’ 49 percent from the field coupled with strong rebounding.

First-year players Trey Wertz (guard) and Keshawn Justice (forward), who have been asked to step into bigger roles this season due to injuries on the team, both put on strong performances. Wertz scored 20 points while Justice notched a career-high 17.

Men’s Tennis

BURLINGAME, Calif.—Men’s Tennis headed north on Tuesday to face No. 10 Stanford on the road for their season opener. The match would take place approximately 20 miles north of Stanford, however, due to rainfall which forced the contest to be relocated to indoor facilities in Burlingame.

Stanford, who has four singles players ranking among the top 10, beat the Broncos handily, sweeping them 5-0.

Senior Andrew Gu and junior Jesus Tapiador Barajas held their own for the Broncos but lost 7-6 against the Cardinal’s Axel Geller and Alexander Rutsaert on court one. In singles, Barajas took on No. 20 Geller but was taken down in three sets 6(7)-3, 6-2, 6-4. In the pre-season WCC rankings, Santa Clara was chosen to finish in second place, tied with Saint Mary’s and Pepperdine.

In the season opener, the Gaels would prove too much for the Broncos, winning 6-1.

UPCOMING GAMES

Men’s Basketball: Pacific vs. Santa Clara Thurs. 1/17 7:00 p.m.

Women’s Basketball: Loyola Marymount vs. Santa Clara Fri. 1/18 9:00 p.m.

Women’s Tennis: Saint Mary’s @ Santa Clara Thurs. 1/17 7:00 p.m.

Women’s Water Polo: USC vs. Santa Clara Fri. 1/17 9:00 a.m.

Laying the Foundation for a Strong Athletics

which are now coming together at SCU,” said Mark Stevens. “And you need to be able to recruit great athletes. All these things reinforce themselves.”

The new facility will contain academic, performance and sports medicine centers. The 4,200-square-foot Stevens Athletic Center will have numerous areas to focus on studies with an outdoor balcony, computer stations and group study rooms.

Quadrupling the size of the Malley Center facility, the 9,000-square-foot Broncos Rec Center Sports Performance Center will have additional cardio and weight training equipment and offices for members of the Santa Clara athletic department.

The sports medicine center will provide treatment and rehabilitation for athletes, medical offices and a hydrotherapy room, with hot and cold pools and an underwater treadmill.

The two-story building will also have two practice gymnasiaums, the Dick Davey and Carroll William courts and will serve as an additional venue for large school events.

The proposed Athletic Enhancement Center will be constructed adjacent to the Leavey Center, boasting both athletic and academic features available to Broncos athletes. It is a pillar of the university’s plan to expand and earn more national exposure in athletics.

Contact John Brussa at jbrussa@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

Contact Anisha Tibba at a70fina@scu.edu or call (408) 554-4852.

The much-anticipated AEC, which will be located next to the Leavey Center, is expected to break ground in 2019.
Santa Clara University Administration Refuses to Hear Us

“We urge President Engh to reverse his decision...”
— American Association of University Professors (AAUP) resolution, October 3, 2018

“I humbly ask that the university honor the faculty’s request...”
— Gov. Gavin Newsom, May 23, 2018

“I request that Santa Clara University uphold the right...to unionize.”
— Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, October 12, 2018

“[We] request that Santa Clara University support and acknowledge the right...to form a union.”
— Santa Clara University Associated Student Government, April 16, 2018

“COLA ... unanimously supports the right of adjunct faculty and lecturers to vote freely...”
— Committee on Lecturers and Adjuncts (COLA), May 19, 2018

“Our educational institutions should be at the forefront of justice... they shouldn’t have to be dragged into justice.”
— Labor and Civil Rights Leader Dolores Huerta, April 30, 2018

After hundreds of petition signatures and letters of support from students, alumni, faculty, community organizations, and elected officials calling for a fair process for adjuncts and lecturers to vote on unionization, the SCU administration is actively ignoring the will of the Santa Clara community.

The SCU administration’s refusal to hear our collective call is indicative of their lack of accountability to the larger campus community.

We Deserve Better.

Hold the SCU Administration Accountable to the SCU Community

Saturday, January 19 | 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
255 Almaden Blvd. in San Jose

RAIN or SHINE:

Meet at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts for a peaceful action and rally outside SCU’s annual fundraising gala

If you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation, please call 408-554-5542 (voice) or 1-800-735-2929 (TTY-California Relay) at least 72 hours prior to the event.

#SCULetUsVote
facebook.com/scufacultyunited
AFLOC@scufacultyunited.org