



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
GOLETA, California: February 19, 2017

Dodgeball Tournament to benefit Gaucho Alec Torchon

UCSB Recreation teams up again with the UCSB Drug and Alcohol Program's Life of the Party for the 5th Annual Dodgeball Tournament, five years after the passing of fellow Gaucho, Alec Torchon. This tournament serves every year as a memorial to him and his contributions to UCSB.

The event will be held Saturday, March 4 in the Robertson Gymnasium at 8pm and is free for UCSB students and community members to attend, with a \$5 charge for competing teams. Teams have a chance to win prizes for spirit, costume and winning the tournament. Teams of 6 players compete for the grand prize, and each team is guaranteed to play at least two rounds.

Many campus and community organizations will attend and host booths during the tournament. The goal is to encourage a sense of community while raising awareness of the dangers with drug and alcohol use, which was sadly the cause of Alec Torchon's death. The event also strives to provide a substance-free alternative to the events in nearby Isla Vista. There will be pizza, giveaways, music, and more for those who attend.

Alec Torchon was a beloved member of the UCSB community, a hardworking student, and a Recreation Department employee. To honor his life, his parents collaborated with UCSB Recreation Department and Life of the Party to create and dedicate an annual dodgeball tournament.

"As a memorial event, this is the best way I know how to honor and celebrate who Alec was and relish in his playful ways," Brenda Lear, Assistant Director for Fitness and Wellness explained. "We hope to spread the message to our students that he was just like they are, but he made one bad decision. There are hidden dangers in prescription drugs and this can happen to anyone."

This year, UCSB Health and Wellness is also participating in the event by making it part of their #TakeTheWheelChallenge. This campaign is designed to encourage students to have a healthy mind and body by awarding prizes to those who attend a number of specified events. More information on the #TakeTheWheelChallenge can be found at www.TakeTheWheelChallenge.com.

Teams can register online at the Life of the Party website <http://lifeoftheparty.sa.ucsb.edu/>. Players are allowed to choose a name and team color when registering. Check-in begins at 7:30pm and a photo ID is required for participation. Games will be played at all times throughout the night, overseen by Rec Sports referees.

UCSB Department of Recreation

The goal of the UCSB Recreation program is to inspire growth of the mind, body, and spirit through fitness, community, and fair play. Recreation provides the UCSB community with opportunities for leisure, adventure, skill-building and growth.

###

For more information please reach out to Kristy Bohnet, Assistant Director for Marketing & Outreach, at kristy.bohnet@recreation.ucsb.edu.