

Wednesday

January 29, 1997



Daily Nexus

Volume 77, No. 71

University of California, Santa Barbara

One Section, 12 Pages

Beach Heroes

Are you interested in participating in the preservation of local beach lands and any other oceanic matters? If so, check out the Surfrider Foundation's meeting tonight at 7 in the HSSB Rm. 1174!

Inside ...

Student Government

Hear about the varying issues of partnerships, changes in our very own Highway 217, and of course, pesticide warnings!

See News p. 3

Strings Attached?

Although admitting that contributions to the Democratic Party were less than squeaky-clean, President Clinton denied Tuesday that his major contributors influenced government policy.

See Headliners p. 2

Record Setters

The UCSB women's gymnastics team scored more points in last weekend's season opener than in any other season-opening meet in team history!



See Sports p. 12

Save the Parks District!

Isla Vista Recreation and Park District board Director Dave Fortson asks us to join him in battling the fallout from Prop 218.



See Opinions p. 6

That Lovin' Feeling

Are you looking for love in all the wrong places? Then check out the new advice column, "Insight 101."

See Feature p. 9

Do you think you are funny, or are your friends just being nice? Well if you are, then check out the Comedy Club tonight at 6 in Buchanan 1930. If you don't have a sense of humor, bring one!

Museum's Proposals Underway

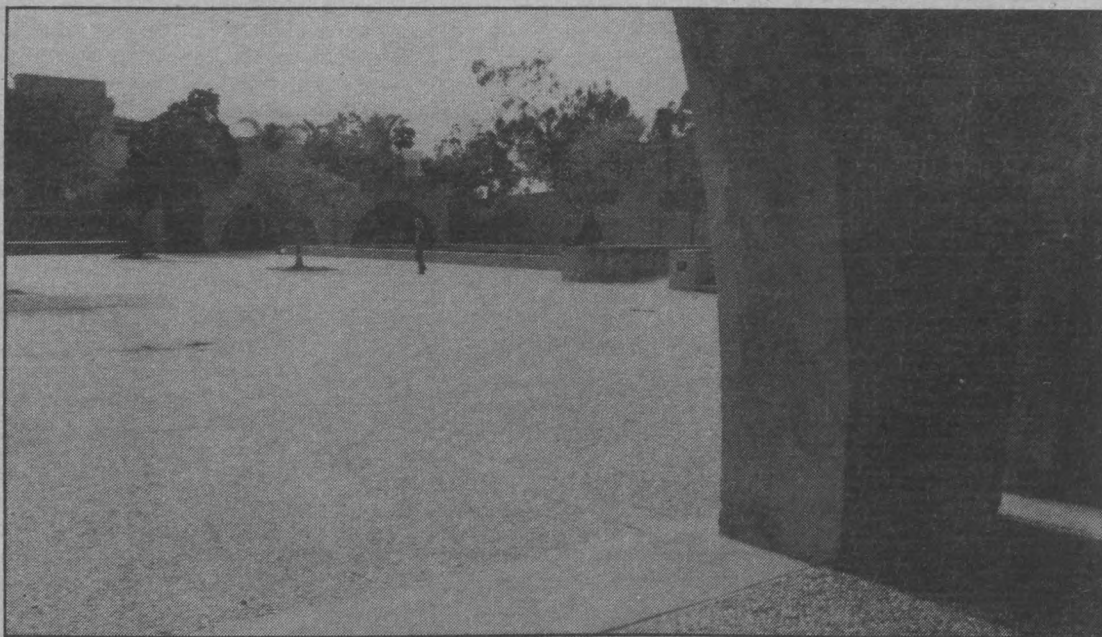
By Caryn Shapiro
Staff Writer

After two years of development, the University Art Museum is undergoing the final planning stages toward a renovation of its structure that will also change the appearance of the area surrounding the edifice.

The expansion of the museum, which is set to begin in June, will include a new entrance that faces Storke Plaza, refurbishment of the interior of the museum and a spiral handicapped access ramp that would replace Crown Court in the southwest corner of the plaza, said Art Museum Director Marla Berns.

"The ramp to Storke Plaza will provide handicap access," she said. "[Design architect Brenda Levin] felt that the best way to incorporate it would be to contrive the design of the plaza. It's the only logical place to put the ramp."

"[We will be] replacing Crown Court with the ramp, a seating area and plantings so it



BRYAN SILVER/Daily Nexus

Storke Plaza visitors will bid farewell to the seating area under the arches named Crown Court if the University Art Museum's renovation plans are approved.

will be a new Crown Court and it will continue to be called Crown Court," Berns said.

The handicapped access ramp is important to the designers of the project because they feel that access to Storke Plaza through the elevator located directly under Storke Tower is not adequate, Berns said.

"The elevator meets the [Americans with Disabilities Act] code because it provides a means for [a person with disabilities] to have access to Storke Plaza, but it doesn't meet the spirit of the code," she said.

"You need a key to the elevator and you need someone to let you in."

Another goal of the renovations proposal and the new entrance is to make the museum more of a focal point on campus, Levin said.

"The re-orientation of the entry to the south side of the building allows for a more visible presence and connection to Storke Plaza and UCen, both major activity generators on campus," she said. "The exterior space was reconceived as a major plaza [that] includes a seating area

with a view to the lagoon, a fountain and a circular ramp to Storke Plaza."

The inherent need for a new entrance to the building is clear to Berns because the museum's old doors are hardly noticeable.

"[We are] concerned that students can't find us. Having a more public face, we would be more accessible. ... [The new entrance] will create a visual identity for the museum," she said.

The Crown family, which established Crown Court for stu-

See MUSEUM p.5

Owners Association Permit Status Remains Unresolved

By Michael Ball
Staff Writer

Due to concerns over the adequacy of the proponents' application for a proposed Isla Vista seawall, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Tuesday postponed further hearings on the topic until March.

The postponement comes in the wake of the county receiving three letters last week from landowners who wish to have their names removed from the Del Playa Seawall Owners Association's application for a conditional-use permit for the seawall.

Without some sort of legal right to the property, either through easements or consent from all property owners to build along their parcels, the legal standing of a seawall could be put at risk, said county counsel Alan Seltzer.

"It appears that three landowners do not consent to the application processing. ... A permit without all landowners participating in the application can be subject to challenge," he said.

The association, a group of 38 landowners, is proposing the con-

See WALLS p.3

Oil Project Sparks Concern

By Jodie Stout
Reporter

The first onshore slant-drilling development in Santa Barbara County has overcome one of the final hurdles standing in the way of its progress after a local environmental group ceased its active opposition to the project.

The Molino Gas Project, located on the county's consolidated oil-processing site in Gaviota, may finally reach fruition after an appeal to the California Coastal Commission by Get Oil Out, the last environmental group opposing the facility, was rejected.

The project, which has been in the works for three years and suffered appeals from various opponents, has received the go-

ahead from all necessary agencies.

"The Molino project raises many significant coastal issues," said CCC Energy Permits Supervisor Allison Detmer. "We do still have concerns about the environment, but the Santa Barbara County has properly applied their local coastal program and reviewed the project to reduce any negative effect."

In order to help bring about an end to opposition, Molino made some concessions with a coalition of several environmental groups, said Molino President John Stahl.

"Though [Get Oil Out] appealed, we signed an agreement with other environmental groups in exchange for added mitigation. Since all environ-

See MOLINO p.8

Area Landowners Search for a Solution to Cliff Damage as Landscape Destruction Continues to Plague Residents



BRYAN SILVER/Daily Nexus

County authorities, landowners and property managers are currently looking into installing more seawalls like these.

By Sara Romain
Reporter

The recent rains have increased concern over the erosion along Del Playa Drive, leading property owners, managers and county officials to seek safety and restoration measures.

The cliffs have left a considerable amount of their bulk in the oceans over the years due to storms, and local dwellings along the beach front have seen more of their undersides exposed to wind and rain.

The speed of the erosion is faster than was previously expected, said Santa Barbara County building official Frank Breckenridge.

"There are several geologic projections that are used by the county. They're accurate in general but inaccurate specifically. When I came here in '77-78, the building setback was based on 6-8 inches of bluff retreat a year. The average bluff retreat is now estimated

See CLIFFS p.8

HEADLINERS

Clinton Insists Donors Had Little Clout



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton conceded Tuesday that “mistakes were made” by the White House in raising millions of dollars for his re-election campaign. But he insisted his administration was never for sale to fat-cat contributors.

“I never made a decision for anybody because they were contributors of mine,” the president declared. He said investigators will have to decide whether fund-raising mistakes were made deliberately or inadvertently.

Clinton readily acknowledged it had been wrong to have the nation’s top banking regulator meet with major bankers at a White House session arranged by Democratic fund-raisers last May. But he said there was nothing improper about his own attendance, or that of Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin.

“I think those meetings are good,” said Clinton, defending White House sessions with major donors. “I think the president should keep in touch with the people.” Clinton

“*I think the president should keep in touch with the people.*”

President Bill Clinton

said he had ordered aides to cooperate with an upcoming Senate investigation.

But Republican Sen. Fred Thompson, who will lead the hearings, said he was skeptical of White House cooperation in light of past “grudging release of information.”

A few hours after the news conference, Clinton was the featured speaker

at a fundraiser expected to bring in about \$1 million from business leaders.

The president, at the first news conference of his second term, answered questions for 55 minutes in the elegant East Room. Many of the questions dealt with suspicious Democratic fund raising,

has not yielded the progress he wanted on human rights but “I still believe that the policy we’re following is the correct one.” Clinton said he hoped China would not crack down on civil liberties when it takes control of Hong Kong in July.

• The budget he will submit to Congress on Feb. 6 will pay for all of his campaign pledges, including a capital gains tax cut of up to \$500,000 for couples who sell their homes, and the revocation of a ban on aid to legal immigrants.

• He is confident that Saudi Arabia — “in the end” — will cooperate with the FBI investigation of the Dhahran bombing that killed 19 American servicemen.

The president opened the news conference saying that with his new budget, spending for higher education will have more than doubled during his administration.

Investigators to Make Move on Software Piracy



SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The FBI on Tuesday launched operation “Cyber Strike” in eight U.S. cities in a bid to track down elusive computer software pirates who have cost game and program manufacturers millions of dollars in losses.

The FBI, which searched homes and businesses as part of the probe, would not say how many people are under investigation and no arrests were expected Tuesday.

The victims of this underground network of software pirates include major players such as Microsoft Corp., Sony Computer Entertainment and game makers Sega of America Inc. and Nintendo of America.

Perrin Kaplan, a spokesperson for Nintendo, which is based in Redmond, Wash., said the company has lost “millions and millions and millions upon millions” to counterfeiters, who are especially hungry for its Donkey Kong and Mario series games.

“Whatever’s popular — that’s what they want,” Kaplan said.

The FBI said it expects to seize computer hardware, documents and records in Atlanta; Columbus, Ohio; Miami; Oklahoma City; Des Moines, Iowa; Pittsburgh; and San Leandro and Cedar Ridge, Calif.

FBI spokesperson George Grotz, who is based in San Francisco, said agents would be questioning more than one person in each city.

The proliferation of the Internet has aided software pirates who illegally make copies of copyrighted software programs and games.

“The Internet has just opened up whole new venues,” said Chris Berg, director of security and safety for Sega, based in Redwood City, Calif. “It’s significantly added to the problems that we have.” Some pirates do it for fun. Others are making a substantial amount of money from selling bootleg software, software publishers say.

Most companies won’t say how much they’ve lost.

“It’s enough of a problem for us to put resources to chase it,” said Berg, who would only call the dollar loss “substantial.” Trade association statistics show that, in 1995, software piracy cost the industry an estimated \$13.1 billion worldwide, according to a joint survey by the Business Software Alliance and Software Publishers Association.

Jewell Files Lawsuit Against Paper, College



ATLANTA (AP) — Richard Jewell on Tuesday sued *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the college where he once worked as a security guard, accusing them of libel in linking him to the Olympic bombing.

Jewell’s lawsuit, which seeks unspecified damages, accuses the newspaper of portraying him in its stories as a man with “a bizarre employment history and an aberrant personality” who likely was guilty of placing the bomb.

Those stories quoted Piedmont College President Ray Cleere as describing Jewell as a “badge-wearing zealot” who “would write epic police reports for minor infractions,” the lawsuit said.

Lin Wood, a lawyer for Jewell, called the lawsuit “the first step in what will be a long and hard-fought battle against a billion-

dollar corporation that tried and convicted Richard Jewell for a crime he did not commit.”

Roger Kintzel, publisher of the *Journal-Constitution*, said Tuesday that he has not seen the lawsuit and could not comment. Editor Ron Martin has said previously that the newspaper’s coverage of the bombing investigation was “accurate and appropriate.” In December, the newspaper refused Jewell’s demand that it print a retraction to three stories about him while he was a suspect.

Jewell, 34, was working as a private security guard in Centennial Olympic Park when a pipe bomb exploded before daybreak on July 27, killing one person and injuring more than 100.

He initially was praised

as a hero for spotting the bomb in the Olympic park and helping to move people out of the way before the blast.

Three days after the bombing, an extra edition of the *Journal-Constitution* identified Jewell as a suspect. Jewell came under intense media scrutiny for three months, until federal prosecutors cleared him in October.

The *Journal-Constitution* report linking Jewell to the bombing was leaked by an FBI agent and confirmed by unidentified members of the Atlanta Police Dept., the lawsuit said.

Nine reporters or editors of the newspaper and officials of Piedmont College in Demorest also are named as defendants in the lawsuit.

Wray Eckl, a lawyer for the college, had no comment.

AP WIRE SHORTS

• **BONN, Germany (AP)** — Germany rejected U.S. criticism of its treatment of Scientologists, saying Tuesday it still considers church members a threat to the nation.

The U.S. State Dept.’s annual report on human rights around the world, due this week, says Germany discriminates against Scientologists.

The German government says the church — which has 30,000 members in Germany — is largely a moneymaking organization with some organized crime traits that seeks world domination and threatens democracy. Scientologists deny the claims.

Last month Germany announced it would keep people linked to the group out of public jobs such as counseling and teaching. The ruling Christian Democratic Union has also ousted party members for connections to Scientology.

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Magenta Madness!

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All letters to the editor and columns submitted for publication become property on being turned in.

Letters to the editor and columns must be limited to two pages, typed double-spaced (3,000 characters), and include the author’s name and phone number.

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To call an error to the attention of the Editor in Chief, provide a written statement detailing the correct information. The Daily Nexus publishes all corrections of errors.

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Weather

Good day sunshine! The weather, as well as my newly acquired, uplifted attitude, seems to be getting better and better with each passing day. The muddy rut was recently filled in with the tranquil sands of mental lucidity, allowing me to lay down my coat for others, so they too wouldn’t fall into the same emotional quicksand that swallowed my soul for the last few weeks.

Toward the end of this down period (yesterday), I stumbled upon a sparkling, though not entirely new, realization of how my mood psychosomatically controlled my corporal state of being, metamorphosing from simple nerve impulses to actual physical discomfort. Essentially, when I felt bad, I *felt* bad. As soon as I decided to believe this and stopped feeling sorry for myself, I purged the dirty demons of depression from my tired body. Damn, it felt good.

Clarification

In Tuesday’s article, “Memory-Loss Inducing GHB Enters I.V. Scene,” senior classical archaeology major Katherine Barbis was speaking as a concerned individual, not as a representative of the greek system. The Nexus regrets this error.

Student Rights, Highway on Agenda

By Diane Reid
Reporter

The Associated Students Legislative Council will meet tonight to discuss and vote on two position papers concerning university-owned housing and health care for student domestic partners and the possible addition of stoplights on Highway 217.

While not a new proposal, the Domestic Partnership Bill has been revised to include support for health-care benefits to unwed domestic partners. It was originally written two years ago by Erin O'Brien, student sponsor of the bill.

"It's a call from the Associated Students to have domestic partnerships on university campuses in housing and health care," said O'Brien, a senior Asian American studies and political science major.

This is an issue that may affect same-sex couples more than heterosexual couples because ho-

mosexuals do not yet have the privilege of legal marriage, she said.

O'Brien believes domestic partners deserve the same rights and privileges that married couples have.

"The reality is that queers aren't going to go away. We're here. We want to be recognized as valid. There are same-sex couples that constitute a family. We're really just trying to make our point that love makes a family ... not a piece of paper signed by the state and a blood test," she said.

Another position paper that will be discussed concerns the proposed changes to Highway 217 that are part of Santa Barbara County's Old Town Goleta revitalization plans, according to Off-Campus Rep Zack Stillings, who seconded the bill.

"[The county wants] to change it into an expressway and put two stoplights on it and close down the Hollister off-ramps permanently. It would turn

into a basic city street with intersections and they'd lower the speed limit to 45," Stillings said.

The county's proposal would eliminate a much-needed alternate route to campus, said Off-Campus Rep Jolene Price, who authored the bill.

"Basically, it'll just increase a lot of traffic ... and there's plenty of traffic and students and potholes [on El Colegio Road]. We really don't need any more reasons for people to go that way," she said.

Other agenda items include a position paper on regulations governing the size of field signs to warn against pesticide spraying and the possible approval of three new members to various Associated Students committees. The appointment of Matthew Barrall and Kristen Lynch to Judicial Council and Scott Tanaka as Investment Advisory Committee interim chair will be considered.

Leg Council will meet in the UCen State Street Room tonight at 6:30.

WALLS

Continued from p.1

struction of a 2,200-foot timber wall in four separate segments to create a continuous structure along the cliffs between 6567 and 6779 Del Playa Drive. The landlords hope the wall can slow erosion of the bluffs and ensure a longer life for cliff-top properties.

Though the board was scheduled Tuesday to hear testimony on issues such as possible loss of beach access if the wall were put in place, many board members

were cautious to proceed further until proper assessment could be reached as to what impact the landowners' withdrawals from the application would have on the processing of the permit request.

"The question is whether we have an application appropriately before us," said 1st District Supervisor Naomi Schwartz.

The board's consideration of the application has been based on the fact that there was unanimous support from DP landowners for the structure, but without consent to build along all blufftop proper-

See WALLS p.10



EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAM

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Brazil

Monday, January 27th 3:00 pm at Girvetz 1245

Mexico

Monday, January 27th 4:00 pm at Girvetz 1245

Costa Rica

Tuesday, January 28th 4:00 pm at UCen Harbor Room

Chile

Wednesday, January 29th 4:00 pm at UCen Harbor Room

South Africa

Thursday, January 30th 4:00 pm at Girvetz 1245

New Zealand

Friday, January 31st 3:00 pm at UCen Lobero Room

Australia

Friday, January 31st 4:00 pm at UCen Lobero Room

Application deadline for all countries:

April 11, 1997

TERADYNE

We're looking for world class graduates to help design high technology microprocessor and memory test equipment at our Agoura Hills facility.

We're a \$1 billion electronics company that competes in the global market, working with the world's largest companies. We want talented, bright people with new ideas and the initiative to give those ideas a shot.

Please join us for **PIZZA** and **SODAS** at our information session on Wednesday, Feb. 5 from 5-7pm in the Lobero Room at the UCen.

We'll be on campus for interviews on Thursday, Feb. 6. We will be talking to students graduating in June/August with BS degrees in EE, ECE & CS.

We will be recruiting for Hardware Engineers, Applications Engineers, and Software/Test Engineers.

Chilly Outside??



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LARGE 16" or
Medium 12" Pizza 12
with one or more toppings
928 Embarcadero Del Norte 968-6969
not good with other offers; exp. 2/15/97
Darn Valuable Coupon

Publish your own work in the
undergraduate literary magazine

Catalyst

This is an opportunity to share your talents with your fellow students and community. Copies of the publication will be circulated throughout the campus, Santa Barbara, and to a smaller degree across the nation - at no cost to the reader - so lots of people will see it!

SUBMIT WRITING AND ARTWORK--
possible entries include...

- Short Stories
- Prose
- Plays
- Essays
- Editorials
- Poetry
- Essays
- PEN & INK DRAWINGS**
- Black & White Photographs
- Paintings
- Pencil Sketches
- Computer Graphics

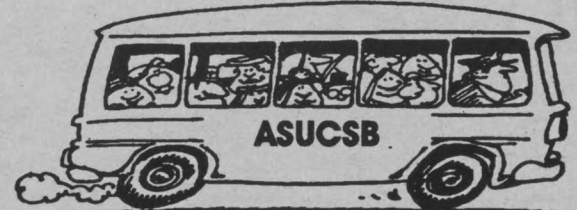
Catalyst is an interdisciplinary literary magazine. We encourage campus members from every academic discipline to submit their work. In fact, that's our goal!

Entries may be dropped off at the College of Letters and Science office in Cheadle Hall - attn. Tony Pinto or at the College of Creative Studies. Include name and phone number. For artworks larger than 8.5" x 11" please submit photographs.

For more information concerning *Catalyst* contact Aleksey Lazaryev at 562-6704 or by e-mail: ulazaa00@mc1.ucsb.edu

For questions and concerns regarding artwork you can reach Robb Gibbs at 698-6375 or ug1bbr00@mc1.ucsb.edu

Taking submissions from Nov. 18 through Feb. 14, 1997



Town Hall Meetings

On

ASUCSB Shuttle Service &
Construction Impacts of Campus Parking Structure 1.

Presented by Associated Students & Parking Services.

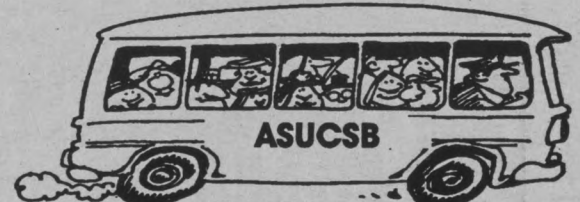
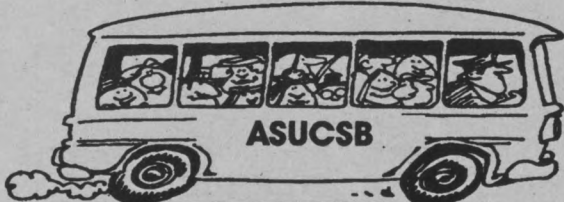
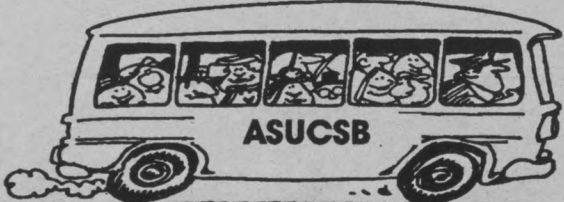
The Campus Community (students, staff, and faculty) is invited to learn about a new shuttle service and the changes affecting campus parking. UCSB will begin construction in mid-June 1997 on the first parking structure. In addition, starting Fall 1997, the ASUCSB Shuttle Service will commence, serving the campus and Isla Vista.

Please attend one of the following town meetings:

- Wednesday, January 29, 4:30-5:30pm, Flying A Studio, UCen

(Refreshments will be served)

For further information, please contact Jeff Provenzano,
A.S. External Vice President, ext. 2566, e-mail: jeffp@as.ucsb.edu



MUSEUM

Continued from p.1

dents through an endowment, has no objection to the renovations, Berns said.

"The museum and development office have checked with the Crown family and they are not opposed to the look of Crown Court changing to something else with this project," she said.

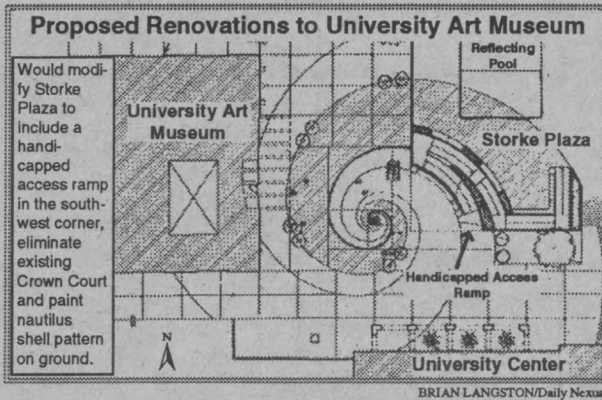
Academic Senate Subcommittee on Architecture, Planning and Environment Chair Herbert Cole is also supportive of the plans for a ramp leading to the plaza.

"It's essential that the handicap ramp be a part of the renovation because it fits in so well with the design and it meets an unmet need," Cole said. "We're very excited about it."

SCAPE approved plans for the renovation and the proposal is still awaiting support from the Campus Planning Committee, said Associated Students President Russell Bartholow.

"[SCAPE] is the major hurdle. If there is no student opposition thus far, it means it's going ahead as planned," he said.

Bartholow is also in support of the project as long as it



benefits and is accepted by the campus community.

"If SCAPE OKs it, it enhances campus in a positive way and the students are for it, then I'm for it," Bartholow said. "It brings attention to the University Art Museum, which is also important because it reroutes the entrance to it, faces a major focal point on campus and gives it a more notable position on campus."



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SURF COUNTRY SURF FAX UPDATE:

Thursday small, WNW 285°. A lot more low pressures out there. Saturday's looking promising for an increase. Blue shade surfboards shape by JOCK, starting @ \$295. Also we are the leaders in repair - always have, always will. Respect your sport, surf alone.

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LSAT

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MCAT

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TO YOU-KNOW-WHERE

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU DOWN THERE, BUT WE HAVE A LEGAL QUESTION AND DIDN'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO TURN...

NEW THIS WEEK:

- Dead Man
- She's the One
- The Fan
- Kansas City
- Il Postino
- The Trigger Effect

Silver greens

PRESENTS YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE BY LINDA C. BLACK

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is an 8 - A friend could come up with an excellent idea this morning. To get involved, you'll have to be willing to learn a new skill. If you can keep the peace with an authority figure, you may be able to achieve another goal. Don't get too riled up.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5 - You may have to cover for a ditz today, so keep your eyes open. You don't want to get blamed for somebody else's mistake. Tonight should be good for working out a compromise between stubborn individuals. It's worth the effort, so give it a try.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 10 - You are awesome! You and your friends may come up with an imaginative solution to a tough problem. Something that used to seem impossible has become merely difficult. This evening's fabulous for love, stimulating conversations and brilliant insights.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - Check to make sure you're not spending more than necessary on a domestic item today. You want the finest, of course, but not at retail. Plan a soothing dinner, especially if you're entertaining guests. That'll help if an argument breaks out.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is an 8 - Although you should be pretty effective today, there are still problems to watch out for. Your worst critic may actually contribute to your cause. Romance should go well tonight. Stick with the truth - the whole truth - and you'll get the same in return.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 5 - You are one of the few who can tell fantasy from reality. Mention it when you see it. Financial troubles could stem from wanting something that's not practical. Be careful or you'll buy it anyway. Don't let a family member do that, either.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Today is a 9 - You should be strong, eloquent and particularly good-looking today. Others will be awed by your wit, vocabulary and clarity of thought. So make sure you have all your facts straight. Be kind to a studious person tonight. You may need what he or she knows.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) - Today is a 4 - The opposition is gaining strength and even your own advisors could be suggesting major concessions. Give up something you don't need anymore to get something better. Tonight, catch up on your reading. If you study, you'll find the answer you're seeking.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - There will be a lot of wild talk bandied about today. Your humorous insights can keep things in perspective. Don't let a domestic disagreement impair your objectivity. A group outing should go well, especially if it involves education.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - You may need to learn a few things so you can adjust to a change that's underway. Trust your experience, too. If you're considering a major purchase, do a little more research first. A friend may be able to get you a better deal.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 9 - Today, gather a bundle of other people's ideas and work them into your own plans. That includes the competition, too, by the way. Build on the framework that's already in place. A drive would be relaxing. Go as far as you can in the time you have.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You'll be plenty busy today. There's a whole bunch of stuff that has to be done before quitting time. Unfortunately, a lot of it may be paperwork. Tonight, finish up your taxes. You'll benefit emotionally as well as financially by having them out of the way.

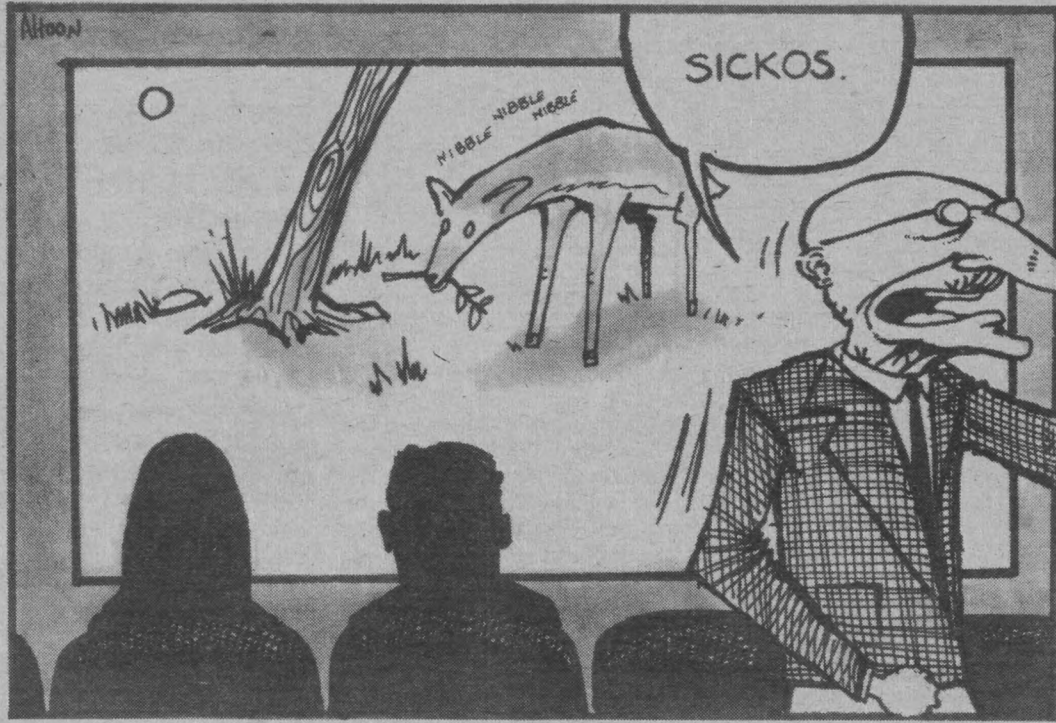
Today's Birthday (Jan. 29) - Make imaginative plans for this year, starting now. The old way's best in April. From May through July are good for romance and putting down roots. Choose a partner in August to build what you design. In October, send your manuscript to the publisher and/or travel to exotic lands. Give something special away in December. A brilliant scheme set in motion now could pay off next January. You'll benefit from working with a woman.

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sandwiches

I.V., 961-1700

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL



RYAN ALTOON/Daily Nexus

You Might Be a Pervert

Sen. Hatch's New Anti-Kiddie-Porn Law Ridiculously Overbroad

In the movie *Big* a 13-year-old boy is transformed with the help of an arcade-game gypsy into an adult within the space of minutes. The catch is, the transformation changes only his body, leaving him with a boy's mind.

Among other firsts of adulthood, his first encounter with sex focuses on the innocence and perspective of the boy inside the man. To most, this scene has largely been regarded as "magical" and "cute," a far cry from pornography of any sort. In fact, the movie received a PG rating.

But a new law, introduced by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) last year and attached to an Oct. 1 spending bill, qualifies this particular scene as "child pornography" and makes it a crime to own any movie that depicts sexual intimacy involving minors, even if the adult actors are only *pretending* to be underage. Owning a plethora of mainstream Hollywood movies, including *The Exorcist*, *Dirty Dancing*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *Risky Business* and *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* could result in jail time of 10 years to life.

Jeffrey J. Douglas, a criminal defense attorney for the Free Speech Coalition, argues that Hatch's bill was so shoddily written that it turns teen flicks and screamfests into a new category of kiddie porn. Although the original intent of the bill was to stop child pornographers, Douglas maintains that the wording of the law results in a confused definition.

The law was a botched attempt to control kiddie cyberporn, which has presented some of the most difficult issues of free speech and censorship that our nation has faced. New digital technology allows the imposition of children's faces onto adult bodies engaging in porno-

graphic acts — part of the new atmosphere of porn that fostered Sen. Hatch's concerns.

We certainly support Hatch's efforts to put an end to child pornography, yet the legislation itself has some major problems. Its vagueness results in absurd legal definitions of what constitutes pornography, and while defining pornography is always an extremely difficult undertaking with many shades of gray, no rational person would label *Big* as child pornography.

Blurring this particular problem of definition to an even greater degree is the intermingling of film-generated and computer-generated images. If cutting-edge technology allows the imposition of Forrest Gump onto footage of JFK, some sicko is bound to transfer these capabilities into a less wholesome sort of film. If the government is going to make a serious effort to crack down on Internet kiddie porn, they are going to have to stay on top of breaking technology.

Hatch's bill, for example, will likely be overturned in the (in)famously liberal 9th District U.S. Court of Appeals precisely because of its round-'em-up mentality of shooting down any image that suggests minors have sex.

In order to be effective in combatting child pornography, the government must realize that we are living in a multimedia world that demands regulations in each category, and the film and Internet mediums require differentiation under the law. The ever-evolving state of the Internet must be treated as a separate — and potentially more insidious — purveyor of kiddie porn.

Save Your

➤ Help I.V. Defeat Prop 218's Fallout

David Fortson

Following the end of the tumultuous November elections we saw politicians and measures pass and fail. As one of the measures that passed, Prop 218 now threatens to eliminate 78 percent of the funding from the only governing body in Isla Vista, the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District.

I know many people voted for this proposition — and why not? It claims to be the "right to vote on taxes" act. Sounds like a good deal for everyone, right? Well, let's analyze what this measure will do to the IVRPD.

This measure says that property owners will have the final say on whether or not the IVRPD will have funding for the next fiscal year and that each property owner vote is weighed to the amount of land that each individual property owner owns. Although



compliance with Prop 218 is being explored, we have already found it to cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per year just to formulate the reports. The legalities are untested and the legal costs could be horrendous. Regardless, the IVRPD just hopes to ensure a stable funding mechanism.

To get an idea of the potential problems with 218, look at the situation in Isla Vista. Although I know a few longtime Isla Vista residents who own a house and a small parcel of land, 90-95 percent of this town is made up of renters. So not only does this measure grant a relatively small vote to small-time home and property owners, it does not give a single vote to the renters in Isla Vista.

You will hear the argument, "This is fair because the property owners are the people paying the taxes." Don't think for a minute that anyone is going to spare passing on the tax cost to you, the renters. I would sure hope that I am paying taxes considering I am currently sharing a room and paying \$325 a month.

It's not that all property owners want to stop funding for the district, some appreciate the IVRPD while others — well — don't like us. Nevertheless, the major property owners, most who do not even live in this town, could determine the fate of your parks.

The Isla Vista Recreation and Park District provides a huge service to this community as well it should. The IVRPD maintains and enhances the most valuable re-

source Whether playing out the vern listening Aniso' town wh all this, creation ery wee

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So wh Recreation with, we and impu the Univ mino Pes regarding tax meas All of property another v Vista's Pa to learn a about the Isla Vista

Please @as.ucsb campus. are one o that be h damned David IVRPD.

Letters to the editor should and MUST include the author's name and address.

The Reader's Voice

SECOND AMENDMENT SAVES A LIFE

Editor, Daily Nexus:

I am very thankful for Alan Arthur's column on why we all need guns (Daily Nexus, "15 Reasons Why We All Need Guns," Jan. 27). I believe it is a great example of what is still good with America. It is refreshing to see the First Amendment of the United States Constitution protecting the sarcastic thoughts of the misinformed.

To be quite honest I do not have the time to write a lengthy letter arguing about the merits of private firearm ownership. I would just like to point out that the same day Arthur's column was printed, the *Los Angeles Times* printed a story about a reason why competent, law-abiding citizens, who understand the great responsibility of owning a firearm, should be al-

lowed to ("Pizza Deliveryman Shoots and Kills Would-Be Robber," Jan. 27). For those of you who do not subscribe or just do not have the time to go to the library and look at the back issue (I understand busy schedules) I will summarize it for you.

A pizza delivery man was stabbed by a would-be-robber with a "large" knife in the chest. In the struggle for survival that ensued the victim killed his attacker with a handgun he carried legally because of his concealed weapons permit. A detective involved in questioning the delivery man said, "The guy's pretty lucky he's in here talking to us."

I think we are all pretty lucky the delivery man lived. We are also lucky not only for the First Amendment but the Second Amendment as well. For those of you who do not know which one the Second Amendment is, it is the one that says, "The Right of the People to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed...."

MARK MOORE

ANOTHER LETTER ABOUT MALE ASSHOLES

Editor, Daily Nexus:

I was deeply disturbed by Mr. Carr's account of his journey through assholeism (Daily Nexus, "I Am an Asshole," Jan. 23). What gives you the right to make such character calls? Do you really think that just because deep inside a jerk there MIGHT be a "wonderful human being" gives them a license to treat people (especially women) like shit?

It's hard enough for women in this world, especially in college and high school, to gain self-esteem and respect for themselves without assholes (like you, from your own words) to degrade what we are trying to build. Just because you are really "the original good guy" does not mean it is OK, as you seem to think it is, to act without regard to other people's feelings.

See, there is this thing called self-

confidence respect. No acteristics w away in the cuses for su

Since you vice to offe what to tell long, hard l your outwa tistical self, hurt you be all in the na

RE: SH MILITAI Editor, Daily What I d noise.

Editorial Policy

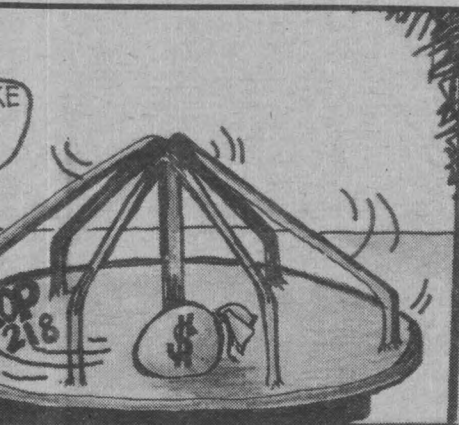
The *Daily Nexus* opinion section is an arena of thought for the UCSB community. The Editorial Board meets daily to discuss current issues. A board majority chooses a topic for discussion, and the result is written up as the Staff Editorial by an opinions editor. Columns can be submitted by anyone and should not exceed three pages. The Reader's Voice is a public forum for those wishing to respond to or comment on anything current. All material must include a name and phone number. Drop off letters and columns at the Nexus office below Storke Tower, fax them to (805) 893-3905, or e-mail us at: nexus@mcl.ucsb.edu.

r Parks!

source in this town, OPEN SPACE. Whether you're throwin' the Frisbee or playing basketball at Estero Park, checking out the waves at Window to the Sea, studying vernal pools at the Del Sol Reserve or listening to bands and drinking a beer in Anisq' Oyo', it is you the residents in the town who are using these parks. On top of all this, the IVRPD provides fabulous recreation programs for hundreds of kids every week.

When the new board was approached with this problem of losing 78 percent of our budget, we wondered what we could do to ensure that our staff could keep their jobs, that the parks could continue to be maintained and that recreation programs could continue to grow. So what did we do? We decided to cut taxes and give the registered voters a chance to decide whether or not IVRPD receives funding.

Let me make this clear: There is going to be a measure on the ballot on June 3, 1997 called Measure A. What this will ask the voters of Isla Vista only is whether or not the voters believe that the IVRPD should keep the majority of its funding at a lower



DEBI RAMOS/Daily Nexus

level than current funding. Now understand, if you vote yes, you are not voting on additional taxes or higher taxes — you would be voting yes on lower taxes and financial stability for the IVRPD.

The current board has already attempted to save the IVRPD by fulfilling our campaign promises and volunteering. We now pick up our agendas instead of spending the \$20 to mail them and even decided to mix the idea of a chain-link fence out at Estero Gardens and save the district a couple thousand dollars by building it ourselves.

So what can you do to help the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District? To start with, we could use your support, criticisms and input this Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the University Religious Center (777 Camino Pescadero), where input will be taken regarding the final working for the special tax measure for the June 3, 1997 ballot.

All of you, whether you are a renter, property owner or landlord can help in another way also by joining Friends of Isla Vista's Parks. This is for anyone who wants to learn about the parks, spread the word about their value and help us preserve the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District.

Please contact me at davidf@as.ucsb.edu or flag me down in I.V. or on campus. Isla Vista's parks and the IVRPD are one of the only things that the powers that be have granted this town and I'll be damned if I am going to see it taken away! David Fortson is a director of the IVRPD.

.....
should be no longer than 500 words
author's name and phone number.

confidence and another thing called self-respect. Nobody with either of these two characteristics would ever be so cowardly as to run away in the middle of the night or to make excuses for such behavior.

Since you apparently don't know what advice to offer fellow assholes or don't know what to tell yourself, let me: I suggest taking a long, hard look in the mirror and see beyond your outward appearance, beyond your egotistical self, and realize the actual damage and what you bestowed on others (mostly women) in the name of being an "asshole."

LIZ TAN

RE: SHERIFF JIM THOMAS'

MILITARY HELICOPTERS

tor, Daily Nexus:

What I dislike about helicopters is their noise.

HUGH MCGUIRE

On the Road to Hell: Viva Las Vegas, Baby

➤ *Screwed, Blued and Tattooed in the City of Sin*

Tom Brickner

Last weekend, my friend Greg and I decided to jaunt over to Vegas for an 18-hour binge of excess in honor of our friend's 21st birthday. We slept too little, gambled too much and drank way too much. While in the grips of this Bacchanalian orgy of gambling,

"Vegas preys on our worst instincts, promising things it has no intention of delivering."

greed and drinking, I came to an understanding about the dark soul of this strange town.

Vegas interests me — in the same way a person with Tourette's syndrome is interesting. Both have a magnetic attraction that simultaneously fascinates and unnerves me. Both remind me just how human I am.

From a tourist's point of view, Las Vegas is filled with a thousand majestic palaces. Every one targets a different part of our consciousness and so seems unique. Each hotel/casino sells an attitude and promises an experience.

For old-timers reminiscing of the days when men still broke kneecaps and Frankie Sinatra was king, there's the Stardust. The more moderately aged head to the Flamingo Hilton — a touch of the old mob Vegas with all the sterile sleekness of new Vegas. The yuppie family goes to the Luxor, a horrendous black pyramid with a great beam of light (harnessed mystically from the center of the Earth) shining into the heavens and screwing up air traffic. It doesn't have elevators, it has *inclinators*, running up the sides of the great pyramid.

For the family of average means big on spectacle there is Treasure Island — complete with a live-action pirate battle on an authentic duplication of an old clipper every half-hour. The young and superhip are at the Hard Rock Hotel, where the signed guitars and copious amounts of rock 'n' roll memorabilia are eclipsed only by the high proportion of scantily clad babes.

Each of these hotel/casinos appears to sell you a unique, exciting experience and hopefully, a good time. *Spectacle* is what brings you in. However, in the words of Neil Young, you pay for this and they give you that. The experience Las Vegas promises is as elusive as the shimmering silver mirages that litter the desert highway — leading you to the land of gin and money. The real experience Vegas provides is one of losing money. Regardless of what its chamber of commerce has done to redefine its image, the fact

"It doesn't take long before the beast saturates our consciousness and the money lust takes hold."

remains that Vegas' bread and butter is sin, sin, sin, baby. They've done their best to repackage it for wholesome family fun, but the only families that go there leave their kids in the video arcades while the parents hit the tables. It's the only family town where nudie bars outnumber schools.

As I was driving home with Greg at 4 in the afternoon on five hours of sleep, we realized that Vegas preys on our worst instincts, promising things it has no intention of delivering — much like the people running our country. Of course, it's our responsibility to recognize this, yet when greed mixes with unchecked optimism, the results can leave you screwed, blued and tattooed. By the time we left Vegas, both Greg and I had \$5. And my \$5 I borrowed from Greg.

The promise of money is what keeps people coming, not a theme park or a "Siegfried and Roy Spectacular!" or big-name enter-

tainment, but *money*, baby. Upon crossing the state line, the highway is littered with roadside propositions and promises of loose slots. Once in the city, the constant emphasis on winning money and the pictures of happy white people with \$100 bills flying out of their asses sufficiently whets the appetite. A dormant beast begins to stir.

Then there are the giant electric palaces, all trying to out-build and out-huge one another. Each is adorned with finery, enticing shiny colors and gigantic electric signs, all designed to intimidate us into submission — it makes taking our money easier. The promise of winning lurks everywhere.

It doesn't take long before the beast seizes our consciousness and money lust saturates every pore of our bodies. With all this cash flying around, we *know* some of it will end up in our pockets. Sometimes it actually does.

Drawn by the size and might of their electric entreaties, we descend into the clock-free, climate-controlled bellies of these glittering beasts. The same sounds that greet us in one casino are belching within all of these giants. They all sell something different on the outside but the only truly unique thing about each is the color of their chips. Walking into a casino is the same in every hotel in Vegas — the flashing lights atop slot machines, the cries at the craps table and the thin, vulgar smell of cigarettes burning everywhere. The *ping-ping-ping* of the slots giv-

"We need a place that stands as an icon of wasteful, voracious appetite — a place that stands as a symbol of a land where we can be superconsumers 24 hours a day."

ing some poor sucker back a tenth of what he just spent.

Within each of these palaces lies the soul of Vegas: cash.

Las Vegas is an experiment gone totally haywire, the result of combining the solitude of desert life with gambling, in a town where anything is legal 24 hours a day. You can drink on the goddamn *streets*, for cryin' out loud. Vegas has always been a town controlled by the vices that pay its bills. Sure food, booze and lodging are cheap, but the hookers and titty bars will kill ya (if blackjack hasn't already). One way or another, Vegas gets your money.

Regardless, we need a place like it. We need a place that stands as an icon of the wasteful, voracious appetite which is unfortunately a daily part of American life. We need a place that not only encourages it but stands as a symbol of a land where we can be superconsumers 24 hours a day. Vegas not only provides a place to do this, but shows us the kind of people we would become were this a daily reality.

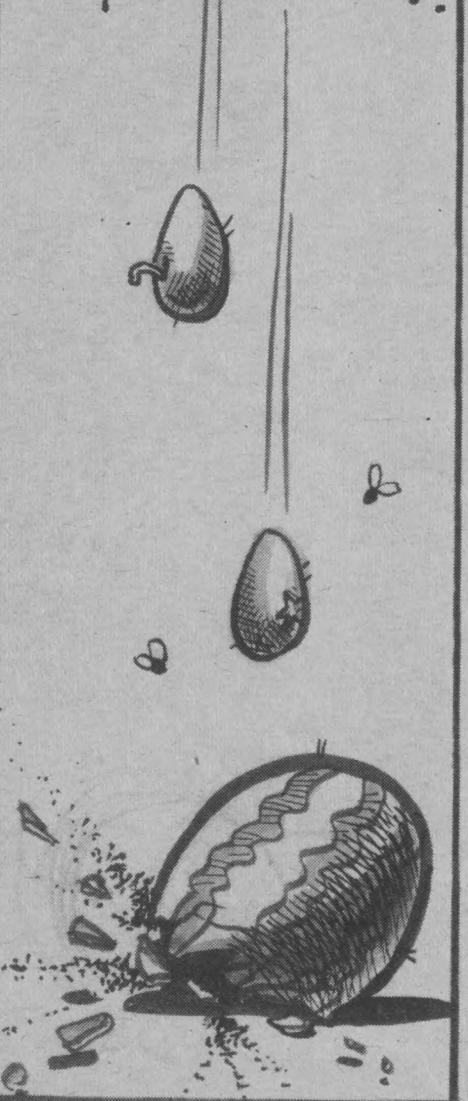
For all its insanity, I *like* Vegas — in minute doses. My girlfriend's family lives there and I think they're great. Yet I regard them with the same curious bewilderment as I do people who work at Hot Dog on a Stick. My view of Vegas is mainly a tourist's — I know there are many great things about it tourists never experience. At least I've *heard* that.

Regardless, Vegas can be a good thing in small amounts. Not only because it allows us to stay up too late, eat too much buffet food and drink entirely too much booze, but because we don't have to *live* there. We can visit the place, indulge, depart with our dignity intact (hopefully) and leave it to the vultures afterwards. We can enjoy the fruits of excess without utterly destroying ourselves. That's what America is all about. Viva Las Vegas, baby.

Tom Brickner is a senior English major and a columnist for the Daily Nexus.



the
Las Vegas
experience..



KEVIN GLEASON/Daily Nexus

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CLIFFS

Continued from p.1

to be 1 foot a year, and greater than that in some areas," he said.

Del Playa properties are checked annually in the spring, or on request from a tenant or owner, Breckenridge added.

"We do inspections based on a couple of points. If we get a call from an owner or tenant we go out based on the information we get and do a visual inspection. If there is a problem we contact the owner and tell them repairs need to be made. ... We usually go by in the springtime after the rains and visually scan the bluffs and see if we have any hangers," he said.

Erosion under decks has been a problem in the past since pieces of decks have broken and fallen down the cliffs, Breckenridge said.

"We've had people call and say the deck outside after a party is drooping. We've had pieces fall, but never the whole deck," he said.

Many property managers and owners have voiced support for any preventative measures that might decrease the erosion. Valerie Sweatt, owner of Sfm Vista Del Mar Property Management, believes a proposed DP seawall would be useful in preventing cliff erosion, adding that caissons and French drains would also be effective protecting blufftop properties.

"You've got erosion at the top and at the bottom. The erosion at the bottom we can't stop except for the seawall, and Mother Nature will still win. The erosion at the top we could slow with the French drain and stop it from undercutting the decks," she said.

While the seawall may be a good idea, French drains, which would channel water off the top, are a plausible alternative, said Norma Guyer of Embarcadero Company. There are still other methods to prevent erosion, she added.

"I've tried to ... plant plants that are receptive to the ocean environment," she said. "There is a certain kind of grain that ancient Indians used to use that a biologist has discovered and crossbred. I think if I could get something like that it would help."

MOLINO

Continued from p.1

mental concerns were addressed, we're going to go right ahead and do it," he said.

Because Molino was willing to reduce pollution from the project, the coalition, which included the Environmental Defense Center, felt they won their fight to protect local air quality, said EDC Senior Staff Attorney Linda Krop.

"The county got [Molino] to mitigate a portion of their emissions, [and] we got them to complete mitigation," she said. "Molino will redesign their own equipment to total mitigation — therefore there is no net rise in air emissions."

GOO, which had been in the coalition with the EDC, was completely opposed to the project and did not agree with the concessions. This sparked their appeal with the CCC, said GOO intern Zachary Wright, who said the group no longer wanted to be associated with other environmental factions.

"The EDC made a deal with the oil company and GOO didn't support it, so we withdrew from our legal coalition with them," he said. "As for the coastal commission, that was the last straw. ... [GOO] could try to appeal again, but it costs too much money. Despite GOO's attempts, the Molino Project has been approved by all major agencies. GOO lost."

The Molino project will affect the air quality in the Gaviota area and risk the existence of the Gaviota tar plant, a species native to the drill site, Wright said.

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Insight 101

By Michelle Deen MFCC

Q: I find myself getting into situations where I just hate myself the next morning. I meet guys at parties, and in spite of everything I tell myself over and over again, I end up going to bed with them. Then I regret it. Help!
— Ho'n around

A: Hating yourself is not productive and it feels lousy. Rather, try to understand yourself. Your problem is not that unusual, especially for young adults.

I would venture to say that you're not liking yourself even before getting into these situations. Being overtly promiscuous may give you a brief sense of being wanted or desired, enabling you to feel "OK." But, as you know, this feeling doesn't last long.

Women who find themselves in these situations

tend to have a difficulty saying "no" or asserting what they want. The fear is that they will be rejected, a pain they do not want to face.

The problem is that you

“
Being overtly promiscuous may give you a brief sense of being wanted or desired.
”

are disregarding yourself, even though it may seem like the men you become involved are.

My suggestion is to begin valuing yourself as a person; not as a person who must take care of other people's feelings. Stand up for what you believe, in spite of the feared reactions.

Once you begin doing

this you will come to have a greater sense of personal dignity. This is one of the strongest ways to genuinely like yourself. When you do this, your standards for what is important to you in a relationship will change. And you will view your sexual relations with men very differently.

You didn't mention if you are getting high before having sex you later regret. If so, you'll have to get a handle on this first. You may have an alcohol or drug problem that you'll need additional help with. **Michelle Deen is a licensed psychotherapist practicing in Santa Barbara and specializing in young-adult development. Please send your questions to insight101@aol.com. We regret all questions cannot be answered.**

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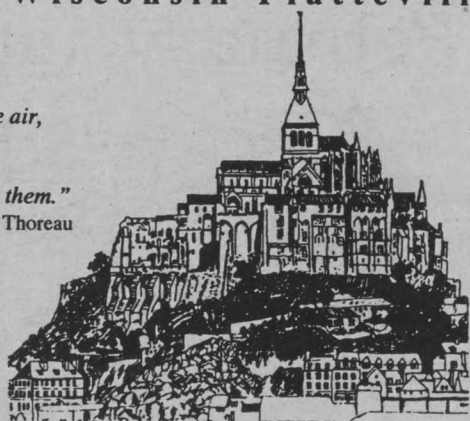
LAW—FEB 9	MEDICINE—FEB 9	MANAGEMENT FEB 9
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FINANCE (SALES)—FEB 9	MUSIC EDUCATION—FEB 9 & 12	

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—Henry David Thoreau



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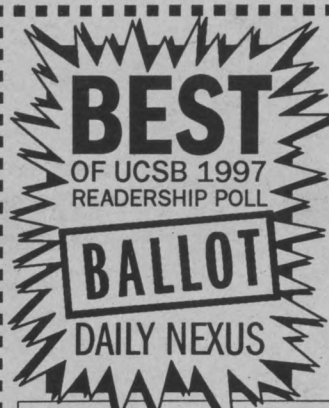
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THE DAILY NEXUS' 1997 UCSB READERSHIP POLL

It's Time For Your Best!

We're leaving it all up to you!

Rules: 1. NO PHOTOCOPIED BALLOTS. 2. Ballots must be dropped off at the Daily Nexus Ad Office, underneath Storke Tower, by **Wednesday, February 19, at 5pm.** 3. The "Best Of" issue will be published on Friday, February 28. 4. ONE Ballot per person. 5. Ballots must be filled out with reasonable completeness. Ballots with less than half of the blanks filled will be recycled with alacrity. 6. NOTE: The Nexus' "Best of UCSB" is intended to be a good-natured contest among business groups and others in the community. In other words, this is not a cutthroat competition whose results are somehow of deep and lasting significance. Please do not take it as such. 7. Decisions of Ballot referees are final.

- Best 3 a.m. Activity
- Best Asian Food
- Best Atmosphere in I.V.
- Best Bar
- Best BBQ Joint
- Best Beach
- Best Bike Shop
- Best Bookstore
- Best Breakfast Place
- Best Brush-off Lines
- Best Burger
- Best Burrito
- Best Car Repair Shop
- Best Cheap Beer
- Best Class to Sleep Through
- Best Class to Wake Up For
- Best Club
- Best Coffeehouse
- Best Graffiti
- Best Hair Salon
- Best I.V. Park
- Best Lines to Get in Front of the Keg
- Best Local Band
- Best Men's Bathroom
- Best Mexican Food
- Best Music Store
- Best One-Liners
- Best Pasta Place
- Best Pizza
- Best Place to Get Free Food
- Best Place to Have Sex on Campus Without Getting Caught
- Best Place to People-Watch
- Best Place to See a Concert
- Best Place to Shop
- Best Place to Sleep Outdoors
- Best Place to Watch the Sunset
- Best Professor
- Best Radio Station
- Best Restaurant (When Parents Pay for It)
- Best Sandwich Shop
- Best Surf Shop
- Best Surf Spot
- Best Time to Go Grocery Shopping
- Best Vegetarian Food
- Best Video Shop
- Best View
- Best Way to Break Up
- Best Way to Get Tar Off Feet
- Best Ways to Avoid Studying
- Best Women's Bathroom

Name: _____ **Check One:**

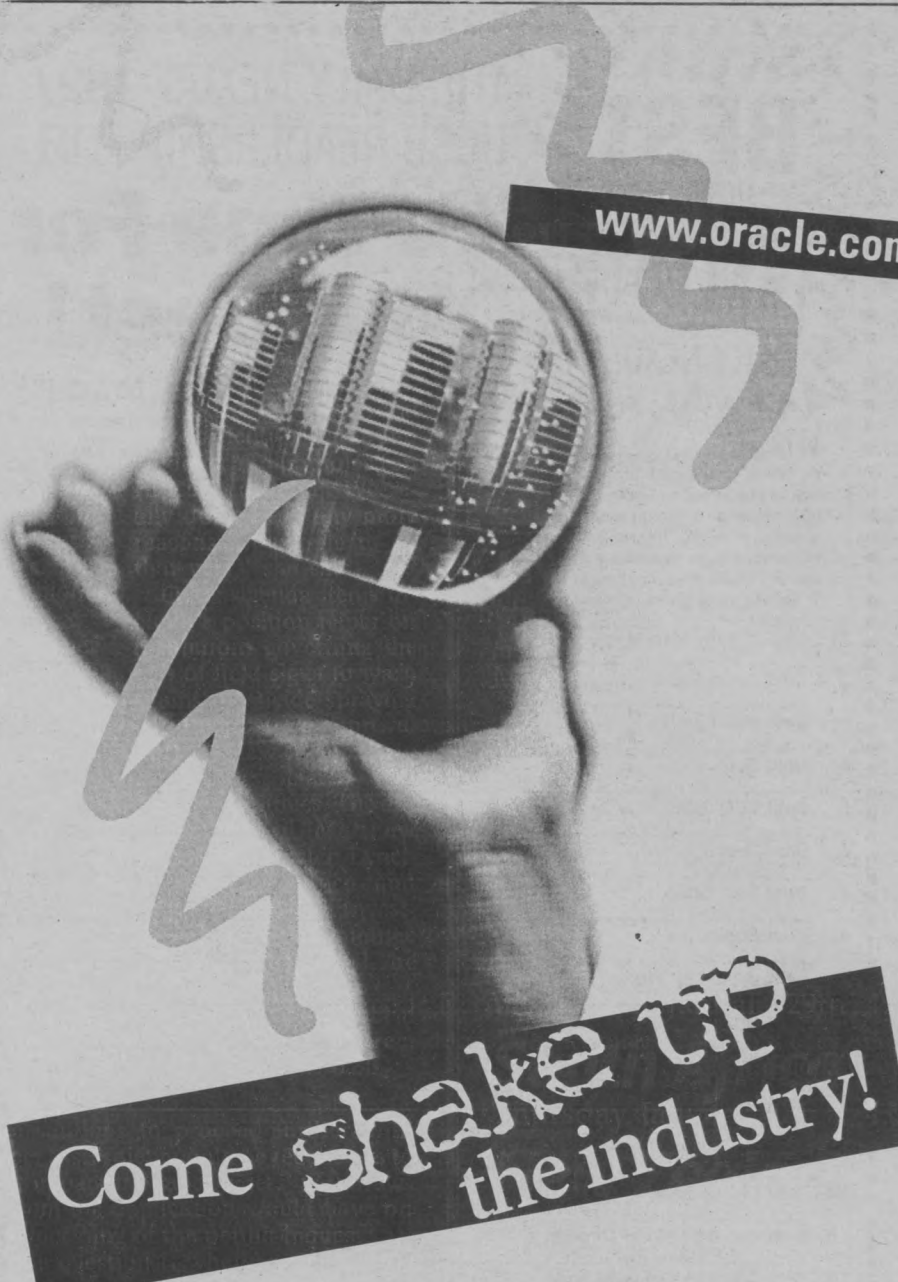
Address: _____ Student

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Fill out and bring in to the Nexus Ad Office, under Storke Tower, by Wednesday, February 19, at 5pm.



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WALLS

Continued from p.3
ties it is difficult to continue processing the application, said 3rd District Supervisor Gail Marshall.

"I think we have some grave questions here, such as who is the applicant and how can we consider the application if it is unclear who the applicant is," she said.

But association attorney Kathleen Weinheimer believes the processing of the application should be allowed to go forward while the concerns of the three property owners who have asked to be removed from the project are addressed by association representatives.

"[One landowner's] concern was she didn't want to pay for the seawall," Weinheimer said. "These issues will resolve themselves... if we can talk to these property owners and find out exactly what their concerns are."

The board will resume consideration of the seawall on March 11, when the owners association has been asked to present the supervisors with a list of all participating property owners stating their consent to participate in the project.

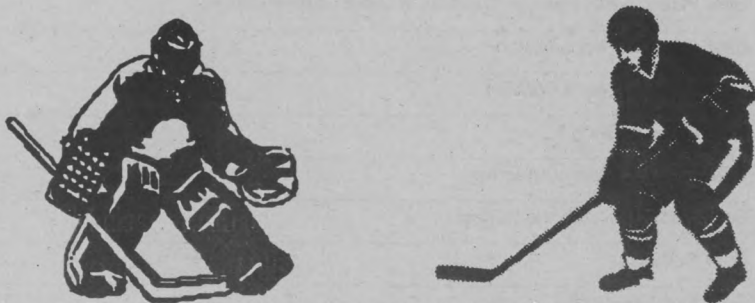


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UCSB RUGBY TEAM VS UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

Sunday, Feb. 2nd 1pm @ HARDER STADIUM



The Latest Line...

A weekly look at the sports world!

Okay, I was wrong the first time, but I'll try again. The UCSB women's basketball team will beat all its remaining Big West foes by at least 10 points.

- Each UCSB men's basketball game seems to shed light on a new problem. First it was the rebounding, then came the turnovers, and now it's the size of our big men. It's a long road to respectability!

- Super Bowl Sunday's much-anticipated commercials were not up to par with past years — maybe I'm just spoiled by all the Miller Lite "Dick" commercials.

- One thing is for sure about the Super Bowl outcome — there are a lot of unhappy people in Vegas. The oddsmakers were able to hit the point spread of 14 dead-on this year, which meant not many won nor lost on the game.

- Travis Knight is fast becoming a Laker favorite — his hustle and attitude are reminiscent of Kurt Rambis in the glory years of the purple and gold.

- What's with all the old coaches coming out of retirement in the NFL? Dick Vermeil in St. Louis and Mike Ditka in New Orleans? Isn't anybody worried about the attitude adjustment with today's athletes?

- The Packers did have an unfair advantage when they took the field on Sunday — God was on their side. Green Bay defensive end Reggie White doubles as an ordained minister. He had three sacks on the day.

—By Yier Shi

UCSB Gymnastics Sets School Record in Meet

■ Team Holds Head High in Face of Loss

By Steven Large
Staff Writer

In any other sport, a season-opening loss might spark a sigh of despair from the average coach, who might gesture above as if to say, "So this is what I have to look forward to this year?"

But this is gymnastics and for the UCSB women, their opening-day loss at Cal State Fullerton on Saturday was also the school's best season-opening performance of all time,



Margie Hoeffler

sparkling Gaucho smiles all around.

Santa Barbara scored 185.275 points in the meet, the highest a UCSB women's gymnastics team has ever scored on opening day. The loss is of no consequence.

"It's just the nature of the sport that the win and loss totals don't have an impact," Assistant Coach Megan Fenton said.

That the Titans scored 191 points in the meet is only a footnote that will go down in the Gaucho history books.

"I felt we were more prepared for the opening of this season than we had been in the past couple of years," said UCSB co-captain Margie Hoeffler, the only senior on the Santa Barbara

roster. "It started us on a positive note."

UCSB has one goal this season: to make the NCAA regionals. The top seven teams (based on point totals, not wins and losses) in the western region get the go-ahead. Santa Barbara has not been to regionals as a team since 1993, but after the Gauchos' performance Saturday, the road there this year seems a little smoother.

"I was really pleased with how we did," junior co-captain Kim Weigle said. "We had a lot of freshmen there making their first [collegiate appearance] ever. They did really good."

Of crucial importance in the Titan meet was the opening event: the uneven bars. All six Gauchos competing in the event completed their routines without a single fall. That set the tone for the rest of the meet.

"Probably our floor team and then the balance beam are our best events, but we did really well on the bars," Weigle said. "It was really good to have all six hit."

Leading the way for Santa Barbara on the bars was sophomore Georgina Lillich with 9.525 points. Freshmen Dawn Taniguchi and Fairouz Azzam, competing in their first-ever event on the Division I level, scored 9.275 and 9.250, respectively.

Four Gauchos competed in the all-around. Hoeffler scored 38.35 points, good enough for second place behind Fullerton's Katy Maty, who scored a 38.4. UCSB's Taniguchi, Lillich and sophomore Alison Giorgetti had scores of 36.575, 36.825 and 37.275 points, respectively.

Santa Barbara has six freshmen on its roster and all will play a meaningful role on the team this season.

"It can be a major strength or weakness to have as many freshmen on our team as we do,"



Daily Nexus FILE PHOTO

FLYING HIGH: The UCSB women's gymnastics team is hoping for a jump to an NCAA regional spot at season's end.

Head Coach Randy Lane said. "When they get a couple of competitions under their belts they will be a major factor."

Those competitions will come this weekend when UCSB travels to Boise State for a meet on Friday and then to Los Angeles on Saturday for the UCLA Invitational. The Bruins are the top-rated gymnastics team in the nation.

"It's going to be a long weekend, but it should be a lot of fun," Weigle said. "I'm hoping that we'll do better in each meet that we have."

Lane is slightly more specific in his goals for the weekend. "I would like to go up three

points in our score this weekend," Lane said. "If we can eliminate the falls as much as possible we should be able to score in the 187-188 range."

The UCLA Invitational will also feature top-20 schools Louisiana State University and University of California, Berkeley. Lane does not believe that the wealth of talent will in any way overwhelm his team.

"When you go up against competition like that you have to just play your own game," Lane said. "Don't watch the other teams. Otherwise things can't go your way and you can lose focus. Our goal is to just stay in that 187-188 range."



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